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Will Obama's Re-Election Ensure World War III?
A Coming Showdown Over Restoring Glass-Steagall
NASA Seminar: Asteroid Defense and Fusion Propulsion

A New Paradigm for the Survival of Civilization

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EIR

From the Managing Editor

In a sobering, but ultimately, optimistic speech, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, presented the 300 participants at the Schiller Institute conference in Frankfurt, Germany last weekend, with a clear choice for the immediate future: Either walk blindly over the precipice toward economic and strategic catastrophe which has been created by the British financial empire, or move quickly to adopt the Great Projects development perspective which the LaRouche movement has been fighting for, for the last four decades.

Zepp-LaRouche posed the question this way: "Can you help us, and be part of a mobilization to convince the governments of the world to abandon a narrow-minded, geopolitical confrontation, and make the kinds of the changes which are necessary to guarantee the survival of the human species?" She added: "I know that this is possible. I know that the human mind is absolutely capable of making such leaps, of thinking things in the imagination like a great composer, like a great poet, like a great artist."

In this issue, *EIR* begins coverage of that conference, including, this week, Lyndon LaRouche's videotaped message, "The Crucial Issue of This Crisis."

If you still need convincing that we are indeed on the edge of World War III, see our lead story in *International,* "Will Obama's Re-Election Ensure World War III?" by Nancy Spannaus. In the same section, Ramtanu Maitra contributes two articles: "Afghan Warlords Prepare for Another Civil War," and "Russia Remains a Target of MI6-Aided Londonistan Terrorists."

Economics leads with Paul Gallagher's "A Coming Showdown Over Restoring Glass-Steagall": Behind the nation's obsession with the "fiscal cliff," Wall Street is very worried about the drive for restoration of FDR's Glass-Steagall Act. A review of UN food expert Jean Ziegler's latest book, *We Let Them Starve,* makes clear that worldwide hunger is the result of deliberate policies that must be defeated.

Two special sections round out the issue: In *Science*, a report from two members of the LaRouche Basement research team interview participants at the Fall 2012 NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts Symposium; and in *History*, Anton Chaitkin uncovers long-lost evidence of FDR's commitment to economically develop Iran, as a model for America's intention to end British and other imperialisms around the world.

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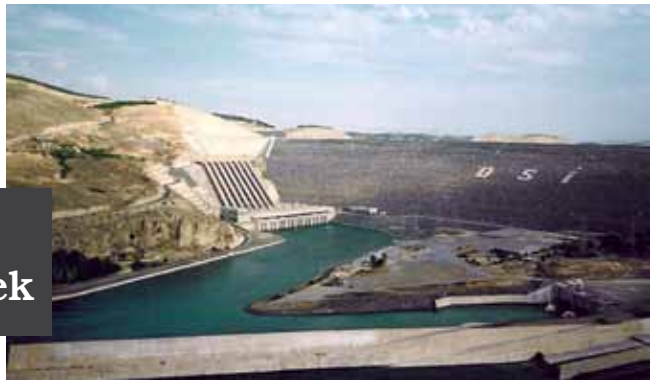

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SCHILLER INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

A New Paradigm for the Survival of Civilization

Nov. 26—The Schiller Institute held a two-day international conference near Frankfurt, Germany, on Nov. 24-25 to discuss "A New Paradigm for the Survival of Civilization." Some 300 participants from 25 countries in Europe, the Middle East and the United States came together to seek solutions to the two major crises of today.

First, are the growing global tensions, especially in the Middle East and Gulf region (Southwest Asia), which threaten to escalate into a new world war, one which would involve deployment of nuclear weapons, and potentially, wipe out human civilization in a global conflagration. The second major crisis is the accelerating collapse of the Western financial system, and emphatically, that of the Eurozone.

The president of the Schiller Institute, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, in her keynote address on Nov. 24, stressed the importance of economic development for all of Southwest Asia, over and above any religious or ethnic conflicts. Only the immediate perspective of a "Marshall Plan" for the entire area stretching from Central Asia to the Arab Gulf, and from Afghanistan to the Mediterranean, would introduce a higher level of reason, from which to guarantee survival and a future for all. What we need, she stressed, is nothing less than a new Peace of Westphalia.

The acute danger of global war can be averted, Zepp-LaRouche proposed, by focusing on the common aims of mankind. Of such a nature is the proposal made by Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitri Rogozin for a common Russian-American anti-missile defense system (Strategic Defense of the Earth—SDE) to defend against both missile attacks and global threats coming from space, such as large asteroids.

Zepp-LaRouche also called for the development and installation of early warning systems against earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and extreme weather conditions (such as the recent "Storm of the Century," Sandy, on the East Coast of the U.S.).

The high-level participation in this conference, which was brought together on short notice, reflects the intense awareness of how close mankind is to a crisis of such cataclysmic proportions that it threatens civilization itself. What made it unique, however, is the emphasis on the *solutions* available to address that crisis through international cooperation of sovereign nation-states on economic development.

Development, Not War

Following Zepp-LaRouche's address, the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Germany, Ali Rheza Sheikh Attar, presented Southwest Asia as the geographical and cultural bridge connecting three continents: Asia, Europe, and Africa. Cooperation among the peoples in this key region is crucial for the well-being of all the others on these continents. The ambassador went on to present some of the leading cross-border infrastructure projects in Iran, such as the water

route from the Caspian Sea to the Persian Gulf, the rail link from Northeast Iran to Central Asia through the city of Mashhad, and a pipeline going from Tajikistan through Afghanistan and into the Northeast of Iran. The Islamic Republic, Sheikh Attar said, is putting substantial means into these projects.

Future-oriented great infrastructure projects as a way out of the current breakdown crisis, in particular for Southwest Asia, North Africa, Central Asia, and the Mediterranean were presented by Hussein Askary, the Iraqi-born president of the Swedish European Labor Party. He was followed by Bassam Tahhan, professor of Arab Civilization in Paris, who refuted, in particular, the enormous inaccuracies in Western media of the crisis in Syria, and of the nature of the forces fighting the regime. Ghoncheh Tazmini of the Institute for Strategic Studies in Lisbon then spoke on "Re-Reading Iran: a Friend Rather than a Foe," showing that Iranian leaders are in fact rational actors.

Manned and unmanned space exploration was the theme of the next session, featuring Didier Schmitt, a space expert from Paris, and Dr. Antonio Güell, a space medicine specialist from Toulouse. They presented future technological perspectives for mankind, for example with the European-Russian ExoMars project and the application of satellite technologies to greatly improving public health.

Overcoming the Breakdown Crisis

Jacques Cheminade, former French Presidential candidate and founder of Solidarité et Progrès, opened the Nov. 25 proceedings with warnings on the war danger, and the disastrous political and social consequences of the current financial meltdown. He underlined the need to introduce a new paradigm in politics, putting a definitive end to the geopolitical tradition which is reflected in the imperial role of London, as financial capital, in globalization, and in the monetarist design of the euro policy.

Such methods, Cheminade said, could never save the euro, but they do ensure the destruction and ruin of Europe. Rather, we need to open the way to a new and just world economic order, one which is not in the service of the fictitious claims of financiers, but of man, and the economic and social progress of all mankind. The essential building blocks of such a just world order are the separation of banks, along the lines of the U.S. Glass-Steagall Act, which was repealed in 1999, and needs to be re-enacted today, and the creation of a system of productive credit for the real economy, as well as outlawing of wars of any kind.

That was also the message brought to the conference in a video presentation by U.S. statesman Lyndon LaRouche, who issued a stark warning on the danger of thermonuclear war. Peace and development are not an "option," LaRouche stated, but an absolute necessity, if mankind is to have a future (see transcript below).

The speakers who followed showed how in-depth economic development is key to solving the current strategic crisis. Aiman Rsheed, an engineer from Cairo, presented the groundbreaking "Africa Pass" project for linking the heart of Africa in Burundi, to the Mediterranean at Sidi Barrani. The Ethiopian Consul General in Frankfurt, Mulugeta Zewdie Michael, spoke of the importance of the "Grand Millennium Dam" project for Ethiopia and the entire region. He was followed by American Michael Billington, an advisor to Lyndon LaRouche on Asia, who read a message to the conference from the former executive director for Japan at the IMF, Daisuke Kotegawa, before presenting the historical development of Asia from the standpoint of the Eurasian Land-Bridge.

The disastrous consequences of the euro policy were described by: Theodore Katsavenas, economics professor at the University of Piraeus, and author of a new best-selling book on how Greece should return to the drachma; George Tsobanoglou of the Greek International Sociological Association; Prof. Wilhelm Hankel, one of the lead plaintiffs in challenges to the euro, the EFSF and the ESM at the German Constitutional Court; Daniel Estulin, an investigative journalist from Spain; and Lorella Presotto, of the National Civic Confederation of Florence, Italy. Conference participants also heard a message in favor of a Glass-Steagall type of bank separation from Álfheidur Ingadóttir, member of the Icelandic Parliament.

Closing the conference, which had been enriched with classical music offerings throughout, was a panel on the need for a cultural renaissance. The high point of the two days was a concert on Saturday evening, with a trio by Lachner, a friend of Schubert, as well as the "Va pensiero" from Verdi's *Nabucco* and selections from Beethoven's opera *Fidelio*.

EIR begins its coverage of this crucial conference with transcripts of Zepp-LaRouche's keynote address, followed by the message from LaRouche. We will present other contributions in future issues.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Only a Complete Change in Paradigm Can Avoid Catastrophe

This is the keynote speech to the opening of the conference on Nov. 24. We include a selection of the graphics here. The video of the speech will be posted as soon possible at http://www.schiller-institut.de/.

Ladies and Gentlemen, dear guests of the Schiller Institute, let me welcome you to this conference. It is a rare event that a conference of this scope and international attendance is called on such short notice. As a matter of fact, the preparation for this conference only took place over four weeks. But the reason is, that the international situation, especially in the Middle East, and the possible dangers coming from that region for the rest of the world, made it necessary to have such an emergency conference.

All of you know that the situation in Southwest Asia, or the Greater Middle East, right now, is a complete and total powderkeg. As a matter of fact, one can compare it to the situation of the Balkans before World War I. And you can easily see that just one more incident, and it could explode into a new Third World War, which, this time, in all likelihood, would be a thermonuclear war, and we are literally on the edge of it. If it would happen, it is our best estimate that this would lead to the extinction of the human race, because if only a small percentile of the available nuclear weapons would be used, that would lead to a nuclear winter, and after one and a half hours, most life would be extinct, and after a few weeks or maybe years, the likelihood is that nobody would survive.

This is only one of the existential dangers. The other one is that the trans-Atlantic financial system is also about to collapse, and it is on the verge of a hyperinflationary explosion. The euro system is about to blow, and if you look at the absolutely devastating situations in Greece, in Italy, in Spain and Portugal, you have a foretaste of what could happen in terms of an uncontrolled social explosion and collapse in all of Europe.

Now, for any thinking person—and unfortunately there are not so many around these days—it should be obvious, that if this present trend of politics is continued, mankind is about to crash at full speed into a brick wall. The present policies have brought about the most existential civilizational crisis in mankind's history, and if they continue, mankind will have proven not to be one iota more intelligent than the dinosaurs.

The purpose of this emergency conference, therefore, is to propose a complete and dramatic paradigm shift, to end the paradigm of geopolitical confrontation and conflict resolution by war, and have, instead, a paradigm where the oligarchical financial system of profit-maximizing for banksters and speculators, which right now is threatening the lives of literally billions of people, is replaced with a new paradigm, where the focus is on the "common aims of mankind" and overcoming those threats which could lead to the extinction of civilization.

This new paradigm shift must address the axioms underlying these policies, and must be as fundamental as that axiomatic shift which separated the Middle Ages from modern times, with all its breakthroughs in natural science and Classical artistic composition. The Middle Ages, which was characterized by scholasticism and superstition, was replaced by a focus on modern science and modern culture.

The Mideast: Shift the Axioms

Now, if you look at the Middle East situation, it is good that this ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, mediated by the Egyptian President Morsi, supported by Hillary Clinton and UN chief Ban Ki-Moon, did occur, and hopefully, at least for the time being, it put out one of the many fuses; but it does not, at all, fundamentally change the situation between Israel and Iran, which is still set on a course of confrontation, and it unfortunately does not change the regime-change policy against the Assad government in Syria.

EIRNS

Helga Zepp-LaRouche addresses the conference. "Can you help to convince the governments of the world to abandon a narrow-minded, geopolitical confrontation, and make the kinds of the changes which are necessary to guarantee the survival of the human species?"

On Nov. 20, there was an article in *Ha'aretz* written by a Druze-Israeli poet, Salman Masalha, who, in my view correctly, said that the attack by Israel on Hamas was part of a well-defined plan to take out, before the attack on Iran, the so-called "wings" in the Gaza Strip and in Lebanon, which would be activated in case of an Israeli attack and an Iranian counterstrike. And this attack on Iran is still scheduled to occur if things remain as they are, because one should not forget that only very recently, at the UN General Assembly, Prime Minister Netanyahu presented this very strange sketch of a nuclear bomb, with a red line, and this red line was supposed to be crossed in six months.

Two months of these six months have passed already, and Netanyahu also made a speech in the Knesset in March, where he said literally, and this is quoted by the *Ha'aretz* article, "Sooner or later, Iran's forward positions in Gaza must be eliminated."

Now, just to say this as a clarification, and you will have the opportunity to hear from His Excellency, the Ambassador of Iran, his views on the matter, but, according to our best knowledge, according to the National Intelligence Estimate put out by all the intelligence organizations of the United States, as well as the German BND, there is no evidence whatsoever that Iran has resumed its nuclear weapons program, which it discontinued in 2003. But that, naturally, given the volatility of the whole situation, Iran is pursuing very actively a policy to be nuclear capable, so that if some attack occurs—which also in the general estimate would not eliminate the nuclear program of Iran entirely—it could proceed very quickly to develop a nuclear bomb. But that is a big difference from having an active nuclear weapons program right now.

What else was the intention behind the targetted killing of the military leader of Hamas, Ahmed Jaabari, on Nov. 14? This set an escalation into motion, leading to a boiling rage among many people in the Arab world. Hopefully, by the ceasefire, this has calmed down a little bit. But that alone is not enough to put out the fire which is already burning.

Look at what Turkey is doing. They are obviously a member of NATO, and they have officially requested the deployment of Patriot missiles and approximately 170 Bundeswehr soldiers at the Turkish-Syrian border. For what?

Germany seems to be capitulating to it, because there is gigantic pressure being applied that Germany, which did not participate in the Iraq War or in the Libya War, must now be involved in any new NATO campaign, out of loyalty to the Alliance.

So far, nothing has been coming from Syria in terms of weapons against which the Patriots would be effective. So far, only grenades and artillery were fired, and it is also not so clear from whom; it could have been the rebels, it could have been provocations; it could have been the Syrian Army. But the *cui bono?* has to be asked on this, as well.

NATO chief Rasmussen assures us that the deployment of these Patriots is only for defensive purposes. But, what about the statement of British Prime Minister Cameron, that sooner or later the British government would be involved in establishing a no-fly zone over

some territory of Syria? And what about the statement of the Chief of the Defense Staff of Great Britain, Gen. Sir David Richards, that it's just a question of time, when British forces will intervene in Syria, if the so-called "humanitarian" situation worsens?

Once these Patriots are deployed, what counts is not words, but in military terms, what counts is capability, and once this capability is there, if then you have an escalation, they will be used, and the Patriots do represent the capability to participate in the enforcement of a no-fly zone over parts of Syria, and *that is absolutely unacceptable* for Russia and for China. And that is why the Russian government immediately, after this announcement of the Patriot deployment, warned that this leads to a very dangerous destabilization of an already extremely unstable region.

As a matter of fact, if this happens, we are on the course to a third, thermonuclear, world war.

And I don't know what is causing the German government and some of the opposition parties to follow this insane policy, because it will lead to the destruction of Germany! Germany is in this Alliance, and therefore a target of everything that will happen.

And I want to really appeal to all of you, to help us to make that an issue. Because the thing which is really extremely upsetting, is that civilization is on the verge of World War III, and there is no debate about it! If you remember, 50 years ago, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, there was extensive discussion what would be the consequence: President Kennedy, at that time, warned that the people who would die within the first minutes, would be better off than those who died weeks later. When there was a middle-range missile crisis in the beginning of the 1980s, there were hundreds of thousands of people in the street. And now, we are in a much, much worse situation, and neither the media nor the politicians have anything to say. The general population doesn't know that we are on the edge of extinction.

A Policy of Empire

The question is, how could the world come to this point? When the Soviet Union disintegrated between 1989 and '91, there was the historical chance to create a peace order for the 21st Century, because there was no longer an enemy. It would have been possible to completely reorganize the world and establish a development perspective. Unfortunately, at that point, in the United States, the neo-cons emerged in the old Bush, Sr. Administration, and they decided, together with the British—Margaret Thatcher at that time, to run the world as an empire, based on the "Anglo-American special relationship." The first step was to turn Russia from a superpower, into a Third World raw-materials-producing country, during the Yeltsin period: This was done with the help of the shock therapy, privatization; the Russian productive potential collapsed, between 1991 and '94, to only 30% of its previous levels.

At the same time, the policy of regime change was established against any country which would not submit itself to this idea of an empire. This led to the first Gulf War, which started on Aug. 2, 1990, supposedly by the attack by Iraq against Kuwait, but remember the treacherous words by U.S. Ambassador to Baghdad April Gillespie, who encouraged that, and therefore contributed to this war. This drive was then interrupted for eight years of the Clinton Administration, in which, among other things, the Oslo Accords occurred.

But in the background, the neo-cons, all the time, continued with this policy. In 1996, a policy document was written by a study group led by Richard Perle, for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, which was called "Clean Break," and this was a complete rejection of the Oslo Agreement, which demanded a comprehensive peace with the entire Arab world; the Perle document suggested that Israel should work instead, with Jordan and Turkey, to "contain, destabilize, and roll back, the governments of the neighbor countries, of Iraq, Syria, Iran, and Lebanon."

Then, from February 1998 on, the Tony Blair government, in league with Netanyahu, put pressure on President Clinton for a regime change in Baghdad, which supposedly had weapons of mass destruction. President Clinton initially rejected that, but then, when he was under the impeachment threat because of the Monica Lewinsky affair, he basically authorized Operation Desert Fox, in December 1998. Then, one year later, in 1999, Blair made the infamous Chicago speech, where he announced the Blair Doctrine, which basically said that from now on, it would be justified everywhere in the world, to have humanitarian interventions. This was the same year in which globalization really went into high gear with the financial deregulation—which he had also demanded in his speech, which led to the repeal of Glass-Steagall—full, unregulated free trade and environmentalism, also the health policy of the National Health System of Great Britain, which has

a euthanasia/triage policy. All of this was announced in this speech by Blair.

Blair, in his speech, praised the long history of British relations with "Chicago-land," and maybe that is also the reason why he was the election advisor to President Obama for the entire present year.

Now, on Jan. 3, 2001, my husband, Lyndon LaRouche, made a prophetic webcast, that the Bush, Jr. Administration which was coming in, three weeks later, would be confronted with such problems of the financial system, that they couldn't handle it, and that they would therefore be tempted to create a new "Reichstag Fire" incident. Now, this was prophetic, indeed, because exactly eight months later, September 11th occurred.

There was a commission which investigated the events of Sept. 11, and included members of both the Congress and the Senate, and the leader of this commission, Sen. Bob Graham, recently pointed out that the classified 28 pages of the report were never published—the pages that President Obama had promised to immediately declassify, once coming into office—and this was a demand by the families of the victims at the World Trade Center, that that file should be opened, because it pertains to the role of Saudi Arabia.

Now, we have published extensive documentation of the role of the British BAE in the so-called al-Yamamah deal, which pertains to the British-Saudi financing of Sept. 11th, and all of this is documented very well. And in this official document from the U.S. Congress, these 28 pages are suppressed; and Senator Graham gave an interview to the *Huffington Post* on Sept. 11 this year, where he demanded that they be published, and explicitly talked about the role of Saudi Arabia.

Then, the second Gulf War started on March 20, 2003. This had no UN mandate; it was done by the "coalition of the willing." Now, this was all based on a memorandum by MI5, which basically said that Iraq had "weapons of mass destruction"; that they would have the ability to reach any major city in 45 minutes around the world, that Saddam Hussein had relations with al-Qaeda. You remember the yellowcake story of supposed nuclear material from Niger. And Colin Powell, the then-U.S. Secretary of State, used this memorandum to justify, in a speech to the United Nations, the attack on Iraq. And it turned out it was all a lie, and Colin Powell is on record for having said that this speech was the biggest mistake of his life.

Then, you had in the Fall, last year, the so-called humanitarian intervention against Libya, and at that point, the Obama Administration was in full gear to continue the regime-change against Syria, against Iran, but really, against Russia and China, *but* for the international mobilization Mr. LaRouche initiated, which the Schiller Institute did worldwide, *and* very importantly, but for the Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Dempsey, who intervened again and again. When Susan Rice, for example, said, "Now all options are on the table," then he would intervene and say, "No, Iran has a rational government and we can negotiate"; or he warned against military intervention against Syria. And the reason is very simple: that the U.S. military knows fully well, what an outbreak of war would be. And you can judge it yourself, and compare the reasonable statements by the U.S. military, and the bellicose statements by the Obama Administration.

At the recent conference of the National Council of U.S.-Arab Relations, the former U.S. Ambassador Chas Freeman gave a devastating account of this policy. As a matter of fact, he sent his speech to this conference, and probably we can read a short excerpt from it. From a strictly internal American point of view, he points to the complete failure of this policy, and that it did not serve American interests, but to the contrary, that the Iraq War was not a "cakewalk" which would pay for itself, which was the line before it happened, but that it killed 6,000 U.S. soldiers, wounded more than 100,000—I'm not even talking about Iraqis—it cost $3.4 trillion, and now Iraq doesn't have a pro-American government, but a government which is more leaning towards Iran and where you have the danger of a Shi'ite-Sunni confrontation.

The U.S. influence in the region is not enhanced, and AmbassadorChas Freeman also makes the point that it has not demonstrated the power of the United States, but the limitations of the U.S.'s ability to accomplish its aim. Now, if the aim was, he says, to demonstrate the U.S. rule of law, and the superiority of U.S. liberties, well, unfortunately, the world has experienced Abu Ghraib, the denial of the Geneva Convention protections for its enemies, and it leaves the United States morally diminished. The Afghanistan War, after 11 years, has killed 2,000 Americans, has wounded 16,000, and the only thing left now is a more or less shameful exit, because the people who are being trained to take over security are now turning around and killing those who are training them.

The "Arab Spring," at best, was not an Arab Spring,

but a Salafist awakening. The drone war has killed 5,000 people without legal process, without accusation, without recourse to courts; and al-Qaeda is not finished, despite the rather bestial perpetration of killings before running video cameras, but al-Qaeda is strengthened, and has spread to Pakistan, Yemen, North Africa, the Sahel zone, and other places in Europe and Asia. So the U.S. influence has not been strengthened but weakened, and what is left is mere military power as such.

The Blair Doctrine in America

The United States unfortunately, has, as of now, completely taken over this Blair Doctrine, and it's called the "responsibility to protect." The Obama Administration has instituted something called the Atrocities Prevention Board, which draws up lists of countries in which humanitarian violations occur, and which are scheduled for intervention.

Then, you have to take into the picture that the NATO and U.S. missile defense system, which is being built in Eastern Europe and some of the Mediterranean, is regarded by Russia as an encirclement, together with NATO's eastern expansion; and General Makarov, former Chief of the General Staff, said Russia cannot accept that, because it destroys the Russian nuclear second-strike capability, and therefore, destroys the strategic balance.

China has reacted in a similar way to the new alliances which the United States has formed in the Pacific.

Now, if you look at the immediate situation concerning Syria: While in the case of Libya, Russia and China still were neutral, but after they saw that the so-called "humanitarian intervention" in Libya was really a full-fledged war, with the bestial assassination of former President Qaddafi, who did not enjoy the protection of the Geneva Convention, they are now vetoing in the UN Security Council, and therefore, you have, in the case of Syria, the immediate clash of the Putin Doctrine versus the Blair Doctrine. The Blair Doctrine says the Peace of Westphalia of national sovereignty is over, humanitarian interventions are allowed; the Putin Doctrine, which he deliberately sent to all the governments when he came back as President this year, says that Russia absolutely upholds the UN Charter, which guarantees the national sovereignty of every country.

These could clash while we are talking here.

Secondly, the situation with Iran has equally has the potential to lead to war, because it is very clear that Israel alone cannot really carry out such a mission, because of the distance, the refueling, the various other limitations, and therefore, the aim is to pull in the United States. If this happens, then it is really the end of civilization.

The whole problem is aggravated by the fact that we are right now seeing the collapse of the trans-Atlantic financial system, which is the end result of the same imperial policy caused by the repeal of Glass-Steagall and the full deregulation of the financial markets.

The absolute desperation of the people in Greece, in Spain and Portugal, and also Italy—which is not so much reported—but the suicide rate in all of these countries has tripled, quadrupled; people are just completely desperate, and this gives you a foretaste for what could come.

I'm in contact, and the Schiller Institute in general, we are in contact with many economists, who privately tell you that what these governments are doing with their EU austerity policy and bailouts, is completely irresponsible, because it could come to a sudden collapse of the banking system, with incalculable social consequences. And it is quite telling that both the EU and Great Britain, and also the Swiss government, all have made contingency plans for the collapse of the euro, and the total collapse of the international financial system.

The question therefore, is, if you look at these two mortal dangers—the danger of thermonuclear war and the danger of a financial collapse—the question is, when we are in mortal danger of extinction as a human species, do we have the moral fiber and the intellect to change the paradigm in time? Or, will we prove no more intelligent than the dinosaurs?

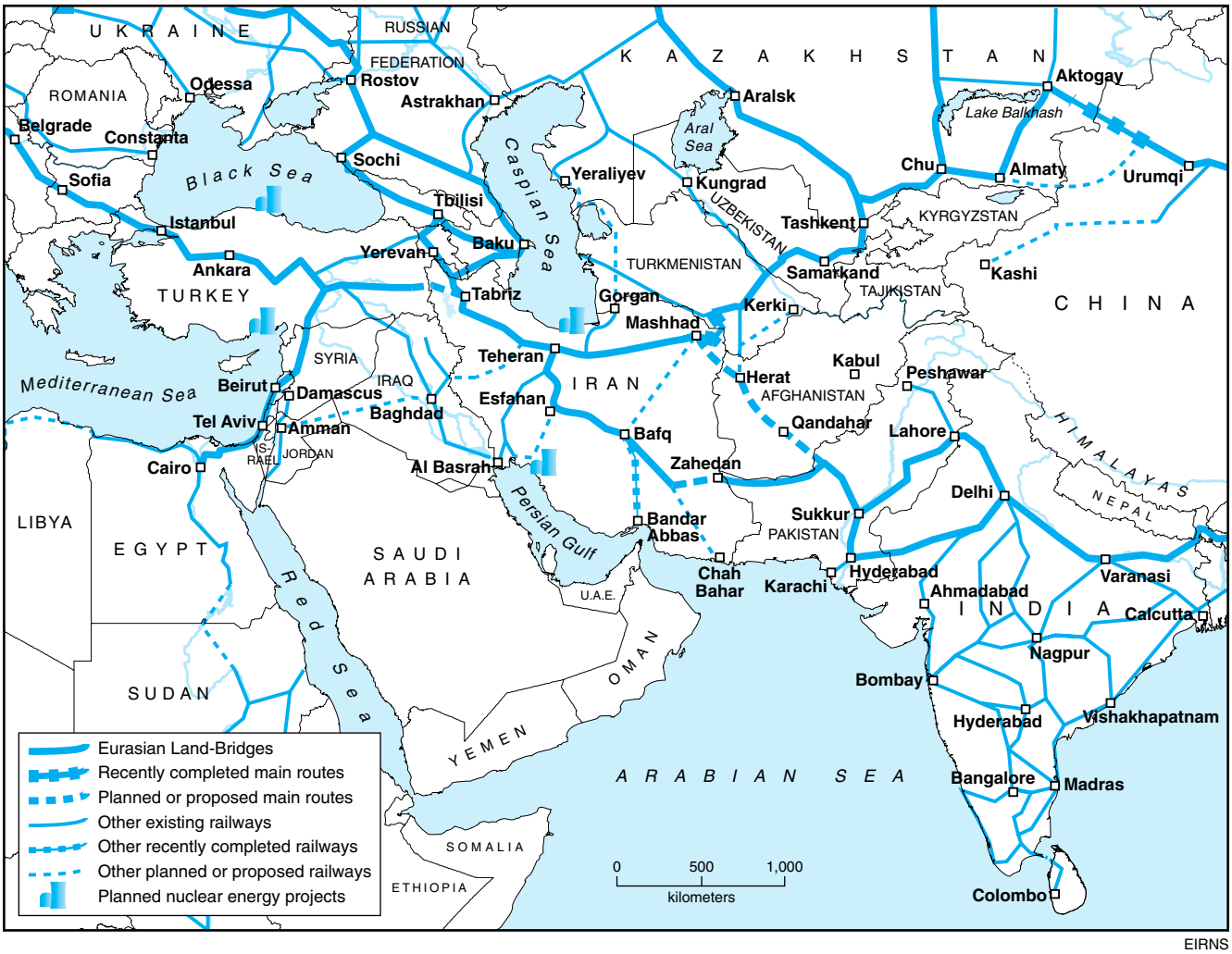
Restore the Peace of Westphalia

What we need to do, is to introduce a complete new perspective into the international discussion, and propose a solution on the level of reason, on a higher plateau than all the different historical, ethnic, religious conflicts represent. Something everybody can recognize as more beneficial to themselves and future generations, than the pursuit of the present supposed self-interest.

We have to do exactly the opposite of the Blair Doctrine: We have to reestablish the principle of the Peace of Westphalia, which, after all, was only accomplished because 150 years of religious warfare and the Thirty Years War on top of that, had destroyed large parts of Europe, up to a point where it was clear that the con-

FIGURE 1

Southwest Asia: Rail Routes and Nuclear Energy Projects



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tinuation of the war would leave nobody to enjoy the outcome. That was the condition under which the people of the Peace of Westphalia sat down for four years, and developed this accord, which became the basis of international law and the UN Charter.

Now, let's recall the first principle of this Peace of Westphalia. For the sake of peace, it says, all crimes committed by one or the other party must be forgiven and forgotten. If that is not applied, there will never be peace.

The second principle: For the sake of peace, all policy, from now on, must be in the interest of the Other. That is the foundation on which peace can function.

And thirdly, not in the document as such, but as a consequence, in the aftermath, it was the formulation of the importance of the sovereign nation-state, and the role of that state in the reconstruction of what was destroyed by the war, on a more advanced level than it had existed before. And that was what led to the beginning of physical economy, in the form of cameralism.

What we propose concretely is an economic development plan for the entire region of Southwest Asia. The Greater, Near, and Middle East, and I want you to imagine the entire region [**Figure 1**] of the Caucasus, Central Asia, Afghanistan, Iran, the Gulf States, the Arabian Peninsula, Israel, Palestinian National Authority, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, and Iraq, as one space, as one integrated space. So, rather than this area becoming the cockpit of the thermonuclear de-

FIGURE 2

struction of the planet, we should make it one of the most prosperous and well-developed regions of the world.

Now look at the desert areas **Figure 2**: You see an enormous area of desert, which starts, really, from the Atlantic coast of Northern Africa and stretches all the way through the Arabian Peninsula into western China, and it encompasses a region of 13 million km^2.

Just imagine now—you have seen it many times on television—the bombed-out cities of Gaza, of Baghdad, of large parts of Syria, and we see a region which is completely devastated, where the average income of many people is $800, but not per month, but per year. This is the reason why it is not easy to have peace, because if you have that poverty, and you see what is going on, the recruitment to terrorism is not so difficult.

But, this picture does not have to be the only vision, because this region did not always look like that. At the end of the last Ice Age, it was mostly covered by vegetation. Now, in your mind, if you condense the last 20,000 years since the last Ice Age, into a five-minute computer animation, you can see how the desert expanded. And the desert is still expanding! Five years ago, the United Nations was warning that if the desert expansion were not reversed, soon it could lead to the displacement of 50 million people or more.

A Golden Age

But there was also a period where this region of the world was almost the high point of the entire globe! This was the period of the Silk Road, the period when, in this region, you had the largest exchange of goods and cultures, flourishing of trade, urbanization, architecture. Baghdad during the time of the Abbasid dynasty was the most developed city in the world. You had more literate people, more books, more libraries.

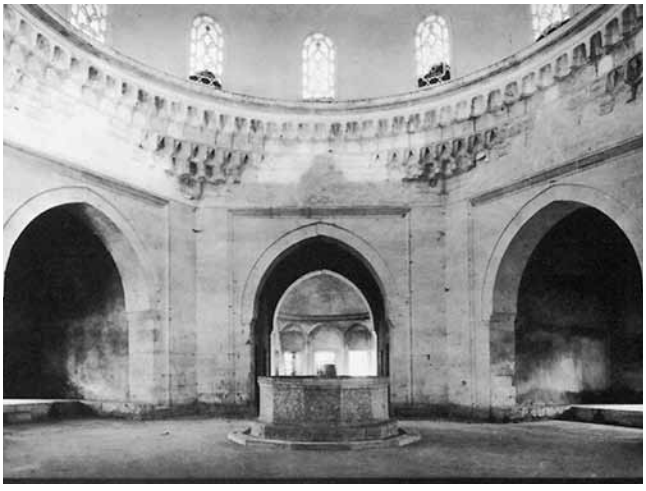
Figure 3 shows Caliph Haroun al-Rashid meeting with Charlemagne; and in that period, they collected all the knowledge of the Mediterranean, from Egypt, from Greece, from Italy, from Spain, and emissaries would bring the knowledge to the different caliphs, like al-Mansour, or Haroun al-Rashid, and they would weigh them up with gold for what they found. When Europe was destroyed, after the collapse of the Roman Empire, much of the knowledge of the high period of Greek civilization or other advanced periods was lost, and it was only through the connection of Haroun al-Rashid with Charlemagne that Europe could rediscover its earlier roots!

FIGURE 3

Harun al-Rashid Receiving Charlemagne in Baghdad

Painting by Julius Kockert, 1864.

FIGURE 4
The First Hospital, in Baghdad



Here you have the first hospital [**Figure 4**]. This is Haroun al-Rashid playing polo [**Figure 5**]. Now, I find this very amusing, because, you know, it just shows you, they had leisure to do these things. **Figures 6 and 7** show the House of Wisdom in Baghdad.

FIGURE 6
Students Taking an Exam at the House of Wisdom

FIGURE 5
Haroun al-Rashid Playing Polo

FIGURE 7
The House of Wisdom in Baghdad

FIGURE 8
Ibn Sina

FIGURE 9
Ibn Sina's Canon of Medicine in Latin and Arabic

Canon of Medicine (Latin)

Canon of Medicine (Arabic)

Here is Ibn Sina [**Figure 8**], who is not from Iraq, but from where Iran is presently. And there were many thinkers: al-Farabi, al-Kindi, Ibn Sina, who were really in the tradition of Plato, and carried on the work of Plato. Ibn Sina was also a master of medicine, and he had very advanced studies of the body. Here [**Figure 9**] is his work translated into Latin. Here [**Figure 10**] you see how his influence spread. As a matter of fact, Ibn Sina was so famous, and so advanced in terms of his medical studies, that it took until the 17th Century in Europe, before his knowledge was surpassed.

So, there is no reason why this Golden Age of the Persian and Arab Renaissance should not be revived. I mean, in the same way that European cultures are disconnected from their high points—Italy is not on the level of the Italian Renaissance; Germany is not on the level of its own Classical period; but there is no reason why not only Europe, but also the Arab, Persian, Islamic world cannot revitalize on a modern level, but by connecting with the roots of its earlier Golden Age.

There is just a tremendous lack of infrastructure and industrial development; there is almost no agriculture, because of a total lack of water. You can fly for five, six, seven hours over this area of Northern Africa and the Greater Middle East, and you can look out the window and you do not see one green spot. I did this once, and I was looking, where are the oases? And there were none!

A World Land-Bridge

So therefore, what we have to do, is treat this whole region as a part of the World Land-Bridge. This is a

FIGURE 10
The Islamic World and the Spread of Ibn Sina's Influence

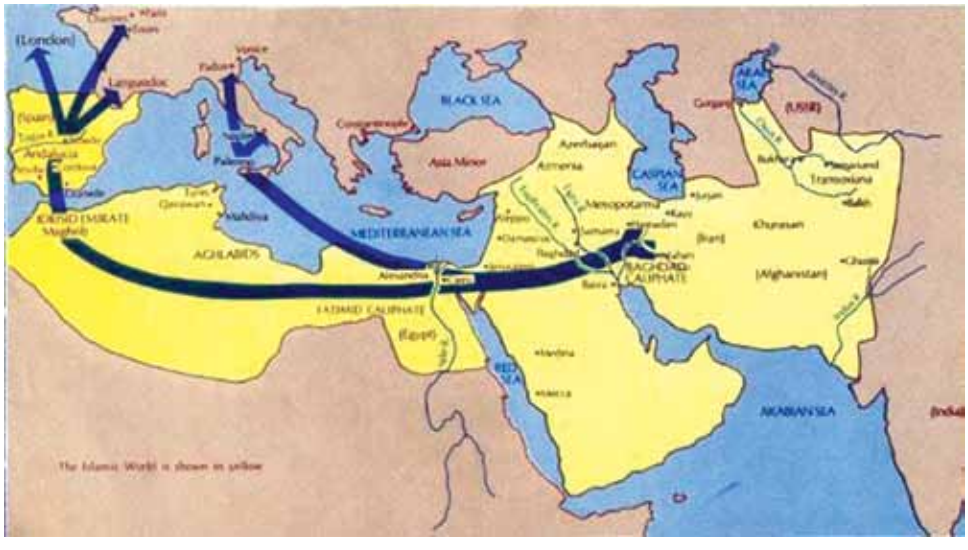
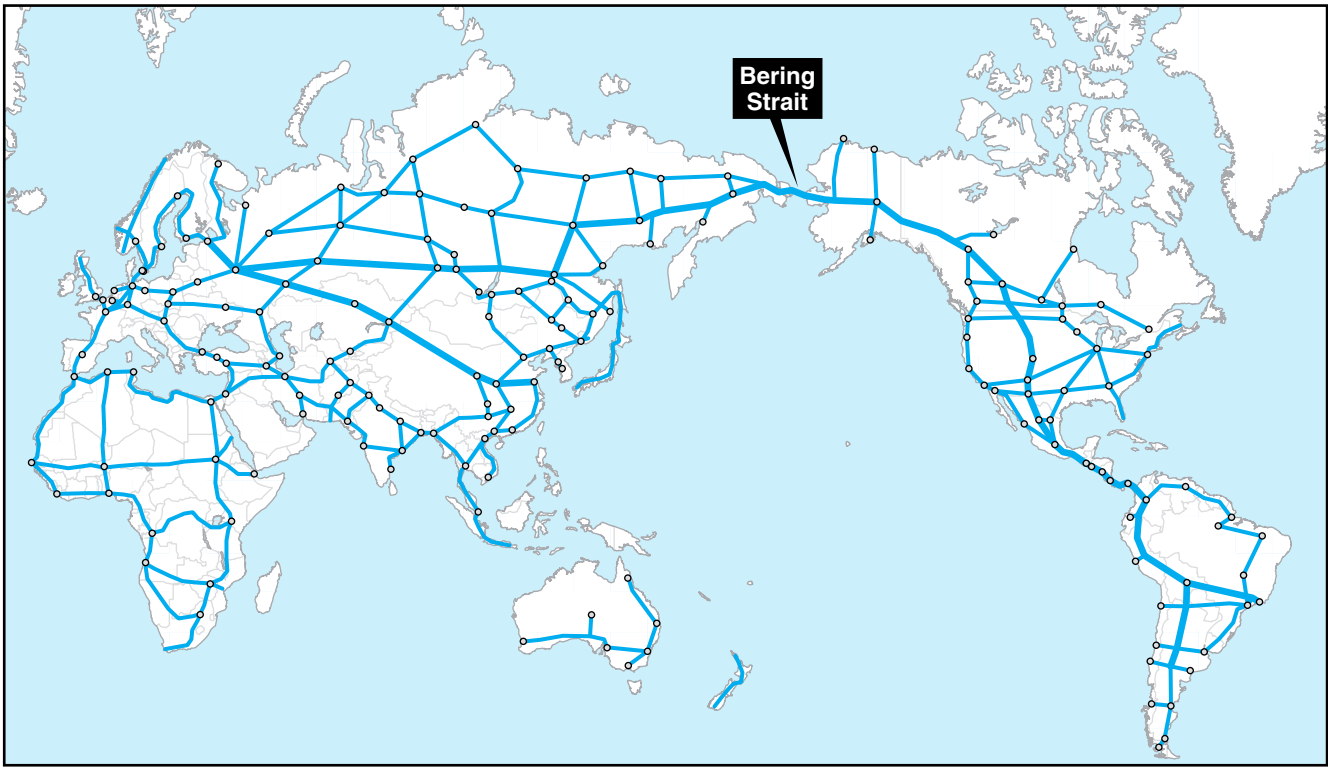


FIGURE 11
Main Lines of a World Land-Bridge, as Sketched by H.A. Cooper



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concept, which grew out of a proposal which was made by Mr. LaRouche and myself in reaction to the collapse of the Soviet Union, and our first proposal, which we presented in 1991, was the idea to connect the population and industry centers of Europe with those of Asia, through so-called "development corridors." And we used, after studying it in depth, the existing lines of the Trans-Siberian Railroad and the old Silk Road, because they, for geographical reasons, were just the optimal locations; and we proposed to have intensive cooperation of all the countries of the Eurasian Land-Bridge.

This was our idea of a peace order for the 21st Century. In the beginning, and we had literally hundreds of seminars and conferences about it. People said, "Yeah, this would be a nice ide0a, but it's utopian. Who should finance it?" But it grew into the World Land-Bridge [**Figure 11**], which is right now developing, is being realized, and what was only an idea in the beginning, is now in different degrees of realization by the governments of China, Russia, South Korea, and others. And basically the idea is to take the Middle East development program, as an extension of this World Land-Bridge.

Because, what I'm saying here, and what will be developed further, also later by Hussein Askary, can only work if we can convince the governments of Russia, China, India, Iran, hopefully some European nations—and hopefully a United States which has abandoned the policy of Anglo-American special relations, and returned to the policy of John Quincy Adams, of a perfect alliance of perfectly sovereign countries—and then it can be realized.

War on the Desert

Now, the first priority has to be a war on the desert, because one of the biggest problems in this region is the lack of freshwater, and for that we have to focus on three key problems: One is the diversion of the Arctic to Central Asian water flows, but also such projects as the Turkish GAP project [**Figures 12a-b**], and the Peace Pipeline of Turkey, which was never realized. It must include the Oasis Plan, which has been proposed by Mr. LaRouche since 1974. It must especially focus on nu-

clear-powered desalination, and underground water reservoirs.

The approach has to be the same as what we proposed with the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA), which would be the largest infrastructure project ever undertaken by mankind. The idea is to take the waters flowing into the Arctic Ocean and bring them, through a pump system, along the Rocky Mountains all the way into Mexico. That would immediately create 6 million jobs. This is under active consideration right now in the U.S. Congress as a result of our work.

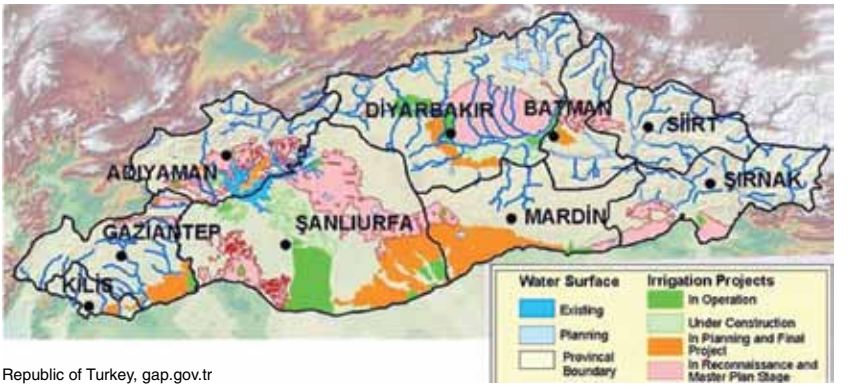
Now, the idea about it, is to have a human intervention, to upgrade the biosphere through the redirection of the flows of water in great amounts, causing vegetation to develop, and then, with the aid of the work of photosynthesis, water evaporates from the vegetation, it affects cloud formation, new rain patterns, and new regional weather patterns.

I only want to identify some key projects which will be later elaborated by Hussein, but just to set the framework for what I'm going to say afterwards: First, we want to have the Aral Sea basin developed, because the Aral Sea has shrunk to 10% of its former size, and this presently is an acute problem for all the countries of Central Asia [**Figure 13**]. This was the result of depletion through the monocultures in the Soviet era, and it has turned most of these countries into salt wastelands, where wind storms redistribute salt in the lands of Kazakstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and hurts agriculture and the health of human beings.

Secondly, we want to have a major river diversion project, for example, to redivert the water from the Pechora River, which flows into the Arctic Sea, into the Volga River via Kama. And this will eventually pump 19 km^3 of water into the Caspian Sea system of canals, into the Caucasus region. This was a project already on the drawing boards during the Brezhnev era, and at that time, the cost estimate was only $4 billion, which obviously is not a lot. But this project was then totally killed during the Gorbachov period.

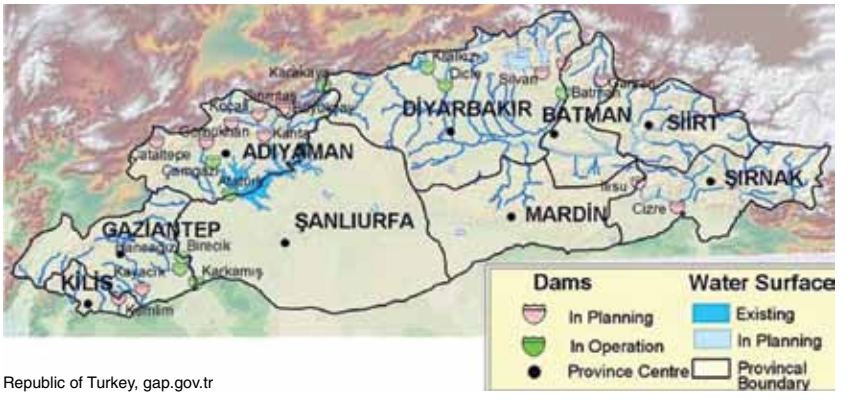
We also want to have the Rivers Ob and Irtysh redi-

FIGURE 12a
Turkey's GAP Region Irrigation Projects



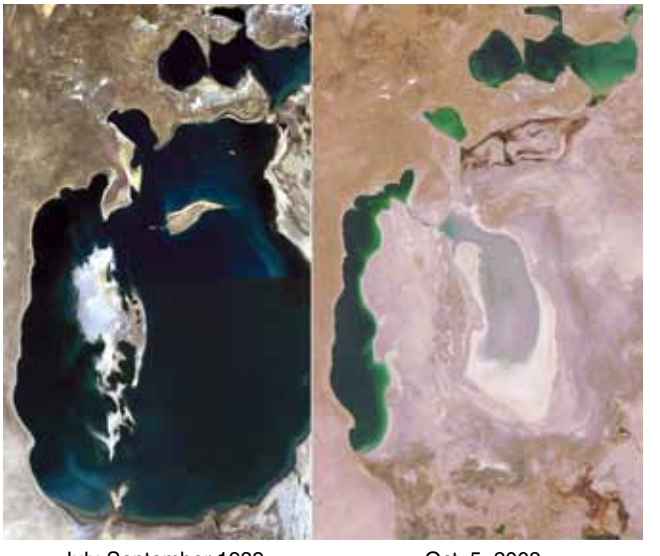
Republic of Turkey, gap.gov.tr

FIGURE 12b
GAP Region Dams and Water Surface



Republic of Turkey, gap.gov.tr

FIGURE 13
The Aral Sea, 1989-2008



July-September 1989 Oct. 5, 2008

Wikipedia Commons

FIGURE 14
Turkey's Atatürk Dam

Republic of Turkey

rected through a 2,550-km canal, lifted 300 meters up through a system of six pumps into the Aral Sea. This will then also go to the Sib-Aral Canal. At the beginning, only 7% of the discharge of these two rivers will pump 27 km^3 of water into the Aral Sea, and in the second phase, 60 km^3 through enlarging the canal to be able to carry larger ships.

Then, following the Turkmen Canal, for ship travel from the Black Sea via the Don-Volga Canal, we want to build the Eurasian Canal across the Russian part of the Caucasus, to Afghanistan and the Aral Sea. Then, Central Asia will be connected to the Atlantic via the Mediterranean, and to the Indian Ocean and through the Suez Canal and to the Atlantic through the Mediterranean. This then, will not only function for shipping, but also for diversified agriculture, because cotton is the most water-intensive crop, which really should not be grown in these areas.

If this happens, the Aral Sea will be rich, filled with fish populations again, as it used to be, and irrigation of the area will also moderate the climate.

Another project is an underground pipeline, of 4-5 meters in diameter, which will draw water from the Turkmen Canal into the very fertile Caspian central area of Iran. Water should be pumped over the Alborz Mountains into central Iran, to central Iranian cities west of Mashhad. This pipeline can be built rapidly, since this region is already well connected to the Eurasian rail line which goes through Mashhad. The Iranian government already has initiated several of these projects, to fight the spread of the desert, and is working with the Central Asian countries. The Iranian government wants to build waterways for ships between the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf, and there are other well-defined projects, some underway, some in the drawers, and some only in the minds of engineers.

For example, there is this project called the Turkish GAP, which goes through southeastern Anatolia, and this is modelled on the Tennessee Valley Authority project. It started 22 years ago, and eventually will have 22 dams for electricity, water management, irrigation, and flood control. It will be in the southeast of Turkey, and it will include 10% of the land area between the Euphrates-Tigris Basin and the southeastern plains. Eventually it will make possible 1.7 million hectares of land for agricultural use.

This area is located on the borders of Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran, with a heavy Kurdish population, and this is obviously now one of the crucial hot spots of the crisis. But the development perspective is the only way that peace can come to this region, and it is a very, very impressive project.

The centerpiece of this GAP is the Atatürk Dam [**Figure 14**], which is one of the largest in the world: It brings water into the plains of Harran, Mardin, and Ceylanpinar, making possible enhanced production of agriculture and industry.

In 1993, during the Oslo Accords, there was an Arab-Israeli peace process going on, and the idea came up of the Turkish Peace Pipeline. This never materialized, but it was the idea of moving water from Turkey to Israel and Palestine, Jordan, to the Arabian desert states of the Gulf region, and then a western pipeline into the Seyhan and Ceyhan rivers, which are now flow-

FIGURE 15
Features of the LaRouche 'Oasis Plan'

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ing unutilized into the Mediterranean at Adana, through separate pipelines. One would be in the west, through Syria, Jordan, Israel, Palestine, and one to Saudi Arabia, which will eventually be 2007 km long; and one in the east, through Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, and other Gulf States—altogether, 3,900 km long. And they will carry 16 million m^3 of water a day.

Now, in 1975, Mr. LaRouche travelled to Baghdad for an annual celebration of the Ba'ath Party, where he had the opportunity to talk to many leaders of the Arab world, and he toured some of the previous irrigation systems of Iraq, and he came back with the idea of the Oasis Plan [**Figure 15**]. This is the crucial idea of using nuclear power plants for large-scale desalination of large amounts of ocean water.

Presently the International Atomic Energy Agency, the government of Iran, the Gulf Cooperation Council, and France have made various studies of the cost and efficiency of having desalination plants run by nuclear energy, rather than by gas. Iran presently is the only country in the region (other than Israel) which has a large civilian nuclear power plant, in Bushehr, which was worked out through the collaboration of Iran and Russia. The original design by Siemens from the early 1970s also had the idea of large-scale water desalination plants, which are not yet included, and Iran is planning several new nuclear reactors, including for desalination of seawater.

The United Arab Emirates have presently an agreement—the Emirate Nuclear Energy Corp. (ENEC), established in 2009 in Abu Dhabi, has a deal with South Korea to build, together with the Korea Electric Power Corp. (Kepco), four nuclear plants; that would bring 1,400 MW nuclear energy to be ready by 2020. The first one was started in July 2012. The Saudi government has plans to build 16 nuclear plants by the year 2030. The United Arab Emirates-South Korea cooperation includes the training of Emirati engineers in South Korea. In Saudi Arabia, the original intention of the King Abdullah City for Atomic and Renewable Energy included a training program, and this is not really continuing as far as I know; presently, the Achilles' heel of Saudi Arabia is the almost total reliance on foreign labor and expertise.

It is very obvious, that if the LaRouche Oasis Plan of 1975 had been implemented, a lot of bloodshed and misery would have been prevented. At different times, leaders of both Israel and Palestine agreed with LaRouche to go in this direction. For example, then-Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, in 1985, launched a campaign for a Marshall Plan for the Middle East. In '93, when the Oslo Accords were signed, the world came very close to the potential realization of these plans. But, there was

a big problem: As Lyndon LaRouche had emphasized, this peace plan could only have success, if immediately, the population in the impoverished region, especially in Palestine, would immediately see earthmoving machines begin to work, so that the population could have a perspective of a better future.

This was totally sabotaged by the World Bank and the international community. The World Bank had a conference on Sept. 20, 1993, and explicitly refused the funding for large infrastructure projects, water, and energy. Peres and Rabin at that time talked about a budget of $50 billion to get this program going. Now, $50 billion, compared to the approximately $25 *trillion* which was used to bail out the American banks alone, shows you the proportion of these things!

What we have to do, is, we have to have the extension of the World Land-Bridge into this region, and it must go together with other crucial infrastructure projects, such as greening the deserts through water management and building transport lines. The Gulf Cooperation Council states are already building internal railway networks, which are supposed to be finalized by 2017, and there are studies to connect Saudi Arabia to Egypt, through the south Aqaba Gulf, through Sinai. This had been underway for years, but was interrupted by the crisis.

The objective of this project is to build rail connections, among other reasons, for the travel of Muslim pilgrims from North Africa by air, sea, and land. Another project is the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait Bridge between Yemen and Djibouti. This plan was made by a Danish firm; it basically collapsed with the collapse of the Dubai real estate bubble, but it could be the most important land connection between Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. The idea is also to build a bridge or a tunnel across the Strait of Hormuz, and to renew the more than 100-year-old conceptualized Ottoman-German al-Hejaz Railway, which connects the holy cities in western Arabia, to Turkey and through Jordan and Syria. The Berlin-Baghdad Railway does exist, and the idea is to extend it to the Gulf province of al-Hejaz, but it must be urgently modernized. Saudi Arabia has plans to connect to the Iraq railway, and Iran has already connected a rail line from Bandar Abbas, the port in the Gulf, to Turkmenistan through the Mashhad-Sarak connection, which was established in 1996, which reestablished the old Silk Road.

This connection from 1996 was a major breakthrough.

This occurred when, in Beijing, there was the large conference with 34 countries participating, discussing projects for the 34 regions along the Eurasian Land-Bridge, and at that time, Beijing declared that to be the long-term strategic perspective for China. It was then interrupted because of the Asia crisis in 2007-08, but the Eurasian Land-Bridge is now fully back on the agenda.

Another line between Russia, Iran, and Azerbaijan, through the Caucasus to Europe, is underway.

Presently, individual countries have various projects in progress. Some are collecting dust in the drawers, and others are not even yet worked out in feasibility studies.

Take It from the Top

How do you solve the problem, that you have some rich countries which have a complete lack of developed labor; some countries are very poor; some have an educated workforce but a lack of resources—how do you get development for the region as a whole? What you have to start with, is a unified conception, a vision of how this region should look in 20, 40, or even 50 years. And then, decide among all the governments involved, to pursue this development as a conscious war-avoidance strategy. There have to be preparatory conferences by the transport and science ministries, and they have to work out the details of this plan, which we only sketch out here, and then it has to be announced to the people of this region, as the intention.

There should be a declaration in the tradition of the Tehran Conference of 1943, where Franklin D. Roosevelt had his personal representative, Gen. Patrick Hurley, present a declaration regarding Iran, which promised independent sovereignty and territorial integrity to Iran.[1] FDR also commissioned an economic development plan and assistance in the building of the economy afterwards.

I take now a quote from this Tehran declaration, but I change it so that it does not concern only Iran, but the whole region, and I'll only change three words:

"The inauguration in all the countries of the *Greater Middle East*"—instead of Iran—"of the American pat-

1. See *History* section in this issue—ed.

tern of self-government and free enterprise, will be an insurance that the proceeds from development of the resources of the countries of the region will be directed substantially to the building of schools, hospitals, sanitary systems, irrigation systems and improvement of all facilities contributing to the health, happiness, and general welfare of the people of the region. This plan of nation building may be improved through our experience in the region, and may become the criterion for the relations of the United States towards all the nations which are now suffering from the evils of greedy minorities, monopolies, aggression, and imperialism."

All that is necessary is that the United States goes back to its tradition of the Founding Fathers, of Benjamin Franklin, of Lincoln, of John Quincy Adams, of Franklin D. Roosevelt, and there *is* a strong tradition of that in the United States!

A Credit System, Not Monetarism

The question naturally arises, who should finance this? One could polemically ask the question, what is it worth to avoid the extinction of civilization, which would occur if this is not implemented? I can assure you, it will never be built in the world of the old paradigm of globalization, because that system is about to disintegrate in a hyperinflationary explosion.

Therefore, this system has to be replaced by a credit system in the tradition of Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, and by the formation of a National Bank.

This policy was echoed by the Reconstruction Finance Corp. of Franklin D. Roosevelt; it was used by the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau to develop the Marshall Plan in Germany in the postwar period, and with the help of this policy, Germany was turned from a rubble field in 1945 in only a few years, into the famous German economic miracle, which has been admired by the whole world.

What needs to be done, therefore, is that each participating nation establishes a National Bank, which give credit lines for these clearly defined projects. And then you need a multinational, long-term agreement between the governments, and that multinational agreement does represent the new credit system. The credits must be long-term and low in interest rate, and they must be entirely determined by criteria of physical economy, and lead to the maximum increase of energy flux-densities, which automatically means that, for example, oil will not be used for fuel purposes, but as a resource for chemical production.

We are not looking, explicitly, for foreign investments, but the credit system will provide credit for future production of real physical goods. This is a concept understood by almost nobody, but this policy of credit lines for future production, as compared to bailouts for past debt, is very crucial to understand.

There is a very good chance that in this interim period, between now and the new year, when the new Congress comes into office, that the chance exists that in the United States, the Glass-Steagall law will be reimplemented. There is presently motion in the whole country, not only in the U.S. Congress, in the Senate, but also among many regional savings banks; even the Republicans have a big drive; some people from Wall Street, even some people in the City of London, have recognized that all these rules—the Volcker Rule, the Vickers Commission, the ring-fencing—all these watered-down versions have not functioned, and that only a full-fledged return to Franklin D. Roosevelt's Glass-Steagall Act, can solve the problem.

If that happens, the commercial banks will be put under state protection, and the investment banks will have to clear their books on their own, without having access to the savings accounts of the commercial banks or being bailed out by taxpayer money. And then, it is very likely that some of these banks will have to declare insolvency.

At that point, you need a credit system, because there will not be enough liquidity around for the economy to function. Credit lines for future production, as compared to hyperinflationary bailout packages for past debt, will come into play.

This goes back to the conceptual policy of Friedrich List and the Customs Union, German economic development in the 19th Century. And it was Friedrich List, who in his writings made the very clear difference between the British and the American System of economy. The British system, as he describes, at great length, is based on monetarism, free trade, "buying cheap and selling dear," which is the present system of the World Bank, the IMF, the WTO, and all the leading financial institutions, and they are about to go bankrupt.

The second system, the American System of economy, is totally different: It goes from the assumption

that the only source of wealth is the increase in productivity of the labor force, and that it is therefore in the interest of the state to develop the cognitive powers of its citizens, in the best possible way.

This American System was then continued and elaborated further by Henry C. Carey, who was the economic advisor of Lincoln, which he outlined in his *Principles of Political Economy*. And also, almost not known, is the fact that through the influence of the U.S. ambassador in Berlin, George Bancroft, and the friend of his youth, John Lothrop Motley, and Wilhelm von Kardorff, who was the founder of the Central Association of German Industry, German Chancellor Bismarck became a believer in the American System of protectionism, and became a follower of Carey and List.[2]

The reason Germany developed in the end-period of Bismarck and after that, very quickly, from a feudal economy to one of the leading industrial nations in the world, was because of that: Bismarck rejected free trade, rejected monetarism, and went into state protection of the building of the state.

The same thing occurred in Japan, with the Meiji Restoration. Japan was isolated for many centuries after it had kicked out some Jesuit and other monks, and was completely cut off from the rest of the world. But then, in the middle of the 19th Century, some economists travelled to Germany and to Holland, and they got acquainted with the writings of Friedrich List and Henry C. Carey, and they implemented it in the Meiji Restoration. And in a few years, also Japan became one of the leading nations of the world.

Also the industrialization of Russia, under Count Witte, who was an avowed follower of Friedrich List, occurred exactly in the same way.

What I'm saying now goes totally against the present policies, and it goes totally against the so-called *1980s Project* which was launched actually in '75, by the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Trilateral Commission, which had a project on "the controlled disintegration of the world economy." They worked on about 22 studies, which were all published by McGraw-Hill, and the basic thesis was to never allow the Japan model again. At that time, they said, one has to prevent socialism from merging with mercantilism, which was the key-and-code word for industrialization of Third World countries.

The Strategic Defense of Earth

The problem is, if we don't stop this kind of colonialist thinking, we are not going to make it as a species. Therefore, what we have to do, is to make a conscious jump in the evolution of mankind: Rather than squabbling over limited resources, and pursuing supposed "geopolitical interests," we have to, at this grave hour in history, define the common aims of mankind.

While the Middle East is one area where this paradigm shift has to occur, the second large area is other threats which are threatening the planet as a whole. You have the danger of thermonuclear weapons, the U.S.-NATO missile defense system, which is regarded as unacceptable by Russia; and that has to be approached in the way that the present Deputy Prime Minister of Russia, Dmitri Rogozin, has formulated it, with the Strategic Defense of the Earth.

Now, LaRouche and a team of young scientists have worked out a conception which is in the tradition of the Strategic Defense Initiative, which my husband had proposed at the end of the 1970s into the beginning of the '80s, which was a comprehensive proposal for the replacement of nuclear weapons, through [anti-ballistic-missile defense] weapons based on new physical principles, which later became the SDI. As a matter of fact, President Reagan announced it to be official American policy on March 23, 1983. It was rejected by the Russian government at that time, with the argument that it would bring more advantages to the West; but since Reagan had proposed two times that there be American-Soviet cooperation by the application of these new physical principles in the civilian economy, therefore, the argument of Russia at that time was not valid.

At that point, Mr. LaRouche had said, if the Russian government sticks to the rejection, it will disintegrate in five years. Nobody believed that, but history has proven it: The Soviet Union did disappear as a result of this rejection.

Now, this SDE proposal, LaRouche has now, with his team, developed into a strategic defense of the planet, not only from thermonuclear missiles, but also from the growing danger of the impact of asteroids and comets, where mankind does not have yet a feasible

2. See Helga Zepp-LaRouche, The American Roots of Germany's Industrial Revolution, *EIR*, Sept. 12, 2008.

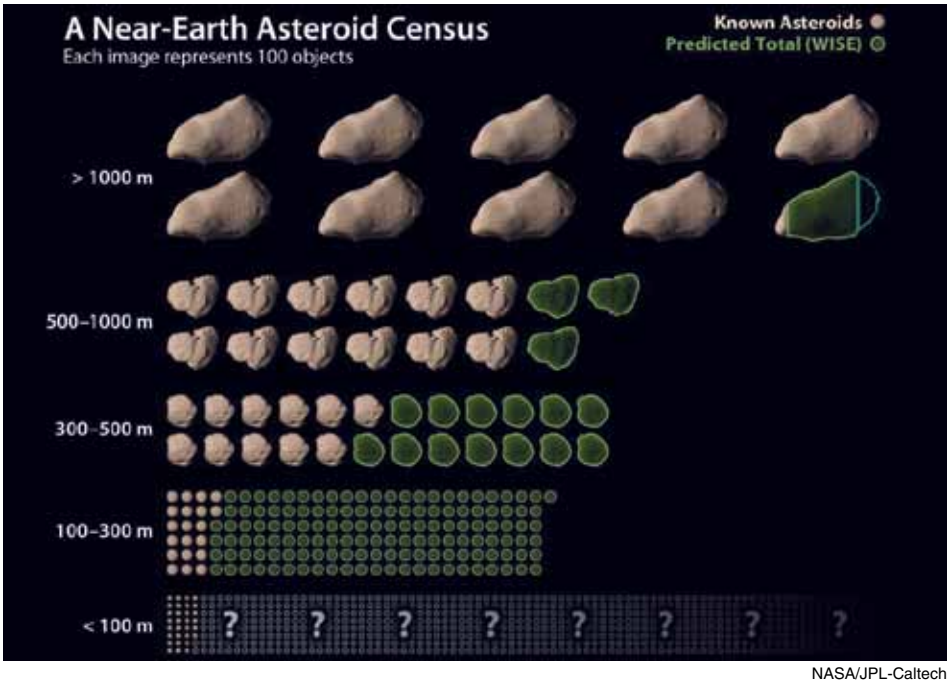
FIGURE 16

Power of Asteroid/Comet Impact on Earth

Asteroid /Comet Size (Meters)	Energy Released (Megatons TNT)	Effects of Impact or Comparable Events
30	2	Fireball, Shockwave, Minor Damage
50	10	Comparable to Largest Thermonuclear Weapon in Existence
200	600	Destruction on a National Scale
500	10,000	Destruction on a European Scale
1,000	80,000	Global Effects, Many Millions Dead
5,000	10 Million	Global Climate Change, Billions Dead
10,000	80 Million	Complete Extinction of the Human Species

NASA/JPL-Caltech

FIGURE 17a



NASA/JPL-Caltech

FIGURE 17b

Near-Earth Asteroids

This chart shows the percentage found (tan) of the estimated total population (green) of near-Earth asteroids of various size categories. Image credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

Size Range	Estimated Population	Number Found	Percentage Found
1 km+	900	850	94%
300m to 1km	4,800	2,400	50%
100 to 300m	21,000	2,100	10%
30 to 100m	~500,000	~1,950	0.4%

NASA/JPL-Caltech

technology to avoid that, but also early warning systems against earthquakes, extreme weather, volcano eruptions, and so forth.

All of these are threats which are not specific to any one nation. But the survival of the entire species depends on our ability to either control or adapt to these processes.

Earlier this year, two small asteroids flew by the Earth at only a 14,000-km distance. This coming February 2013, the asteroid with the name 2012DA14, which has a diameter of approximately 45 meters and weighs 14,000 tons, will also fly by relatively closely; it probably will not hit Earth, but it can become a real danger for the very many satellites which are circling the Earth.

Now, a larger rock, 2011AG5, will pass Earth in 2023 and 2028. In 2040, it could come to an impact of an asteroid with 140-meter diameter, which could lead to the destruction of a middle-sized nation.

Now, the impact of an extremely large object, of about 10 km diameter, created a 180-km diameter crater in Chicxulub, in the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. It is a good hypothesis that this impact created the conditions for the elimination of not only the dinosaurs, but over 80% of all species. The most recent large impact occurred in Tunguska, Siberia, in 1908: This was only an object of about 30-50 meters across, but it created a crater larger than the area of greater New York City.

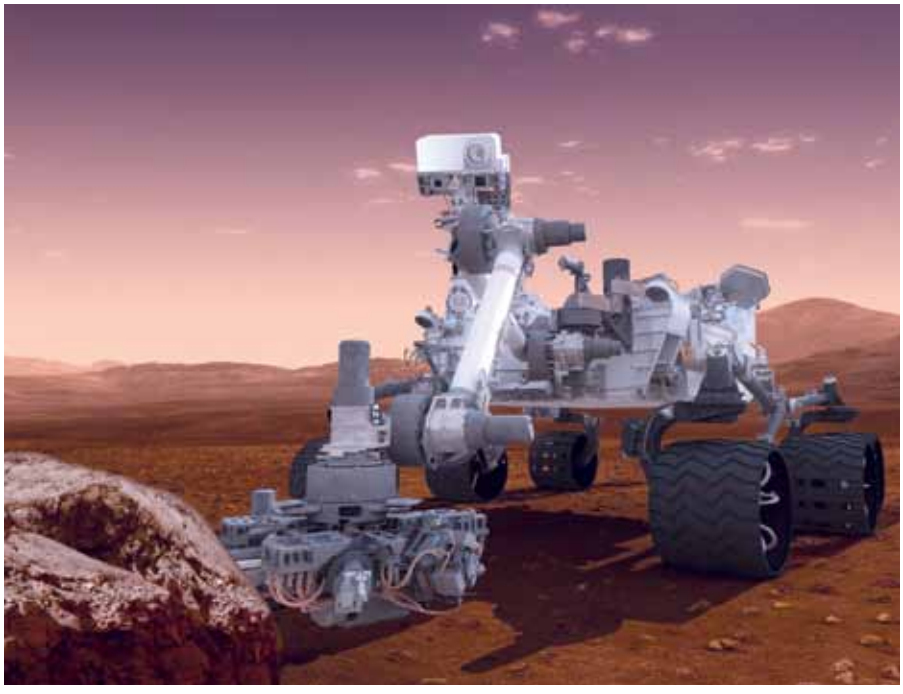
Here you see **[Figure 16]** the asteroid size as compared to the energy released, and the effect of the impact, or comparable events, and you can see that already with 10,000 km, you have the complete extinction of the human species. And, here **[Figures 17a-b]** you see that only a certain small

number of these asteroids are known. There are many asteroids whose location is not yet on the radar screen.

As of now, as I said, there is no method to protect the planet Earth, and it is obvious that these asteroids don't respect the Schengen agreement,[3] or other border agreements, so does it not make sense to form an international cooperation to defend mankind against such threats?

This afternoon, we will have the opportunity to hear from the one of the participants in the IGMASS conference, which took place in September in Ukraine; IGMASS stands for International Global Monitoring Aero-Space Systems, and we will hear what is the status of research at that point.

FIGURE 18
The Curiosity Mars Rover



Artist's rendition, NASA/JPL-Caltech

Now, following the earthquake and tsunami hitting the area of Fukushima on March 11, 2011, obviously, not everybody in the world reacted so insanely to this event as the German government. Rather than exiting from nuclear energy, without adequate replacement, and going into the utopia of "decarbonization of the world economy," which is the formulation used by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Research and Mr. Schellnhuber, the Commander of the British Empire, as he proudly calls himself, a decarbonization of the world economy—meaning, getting rid of not only nuclear but also gas, oil, and so forth—would only mean a carrying capacity of 1 billion people!

Contrary to this insane German policy, many nations increased their research into seismic precursors for earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, but also spotting large fires, extreme weather, and integrating the investigation into the interaction of different effects, which occur before such earthquakes. For example, anomalies in gravitation, special effects in the ionosphere, exit of gases from the Earth's crust, changes in the temperature of this crust, instability of the rotation of the Earth, and other such geoeffective phenomena, like the activities of the Sun, and so forth.

The Extraterrestrial Imperative

Obviously, we need an integrated system of such early warning systems, and the next leap in the evolution of mankind also requires, for that same reason, manned space travel, for the same reason that rocket scientist Krafft Ehricke, who participated in the Apollo program, proposed what he called the "extraterrestrial imperative." Now, he had this beautiful development, showing how evolution occurred by life developing out of the oceans, and conquered the land with the help of photosynthesis, and then, when man appeared, the first settlements occurred on the coasts of the oceans and the mouths of rivers. Then, with the help of the development of infrastructure, man started to build roads, canals, and conquer the interior of the land. Then with the invention of railways, mankind was able to more deeply penetrate the continents, a process which we are still in the middle of, as we saw concerning the lack of infrastructure in the Greater Middle East.

3. The 1985 agreement in Europe on the gradual abolition of Customs checks at the borders. It was later incorporated into the European Union's legislation—ed.

FIGURE 19
Man's Domain

NASA

Krafft Ehricke had the conviction that the next necessary step for this evolution has to be the colonization of space, especially manned space travel: at the beginning, in the so-called Near Abroad, Moon and Mars, but later in the future, beyond that. Now, with the landing of the Mars rover Curiosity [**Figure 18**], we have a fantastic preview of the future capability of mankind. With only 14 minutes delay—that is, the amount of time it takes for the signals on the Earth stations to arrive at Mars—we can now have sense-impressions on Mars. We can see, hear, speak, we can have experiments with lasers, we can investigate the properties of Mars, we can now see the experiments of this rover, and this gives us a tremendous reason for optimism. An optimism which has not existed since the Apollo program, when, if you had asked young people at the time what they wanted to become, many times, they would have answered, "I want to become an astronaut, a cosmonaut. I want to develop these things." And this can now be put back on the agenda.

Mankind is the only species capable of discovering ever new physical universal principles, universal principles in science and Classical art, and the truth does not lie in so-called sense-experience, but in the process of the progress in the knowledge of these principles. What enables man to continuously perfect this process, is his innate capacity for creativity. Nicholas of Cusa, the great philosopher of the 15th Century, called this the *vis creativa*, the creative power of man: When man is creative, he discovers new principles which correspond to the real laws in the physical universe, and he can upgrade the biosphere through the intervention of the noösphere, as Vladimir Vernadsky put it.

The fact that man can discover these principles is the proof that there is a coherence between the lawfulness of the creative mind, and the laws of creation of the

physical universe. Because if an immaterial idea, a hypothesis, a thought, leads to changes and improvement of the physical universe, then such a cohesion must exist; otherwise, it would not work.

This is also called natural law, and you can violate this natural law, the order of the universe, for certain periods, but you cannot do it for an extensive period, or the laws of the universe will strike back at you! We are now at such a point, where a continuous violation of the laws of the universe, the nonapplication of creativity as the basis for our daily procedures, is becoming a threat.

We now face the total moral test of mankind: Are there enough human beings, in light of the possible extinction through thermonuclear war, who are capable of responding in this way?

We are being tested: Do we have enough people who are working together for a plan which clearly shows a way out? Can you help us, and be part of a mobilization to convince the governments of the world to abandon a narrow-minded, geopolitical confrontation, and make the kinds of the changes which are necessary to guarantee the survival of the human species? I know that this is possible. I know that the human mind is absolutely capable of making such leaps, of thinking things in the imagination like a great composer, like a great poet, like a great artist. And I think that we need to have the collaboration of the wise people of the planet, of the scientists, of the artists, for a common purpose, and the common survival of civilization.

I don't want to belittle the danger, because the danger is absolutely gigantic. I think if most people knew how close we are to the edge of thermonuclear war, they would not sleep. And I don't want you to go away from this conference, and sleep! I want you to be upset! I want you to be *totally* upset and worried, because only that will give you the energy to help us, to try to change this.

And the reason I am optimistic anyway, and in spite of this, is because if you would have shown the picture of Curiosity to a Stone Age man, the Stone Age man would have probably said, "Bah! You are crazy, it does not exist!" Well, this is only a couple of thousands of years ago, and if we do these projects, what I laid out to develop a level of reason in international politics, a plateau of cooperation among nations, then, I think if you just think where mankind can be 1,000 years from now [**Figure 19**], mankind can be more developed than the comparison with the Stone Age man, today.

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

The Crucial Issue Of This Crisis

LaRouche gave this videotaped address to the Schiller Institute Conference in Germany, on Nov. 25, 2012.

My subject is "The Crucial Issue of This Crisis," and I proceed as follows:

The set of trans-Atlantic nations, and beyond, is now gripped, by the most immediate and most menacing crisis in modern history. There are three, physical qualities of economic issues to be considered:

First, we must end the current commitment to an accelerating, monetarist hyperinflation.

Second, we must end an already deep and still-deepening collapse of physical economy.

And third, we must end the presently immediate threat of the outbreak of a general thermonuclear war. That would be a war, which, if it occurs, is already an early and immediate threat to destroy civilization worldwide. Such a war, during such a brief required lapse of time, of approximately an hour and a half of thermonuclear warfare, would send the leading powers of the world to an obliteration of civilization.

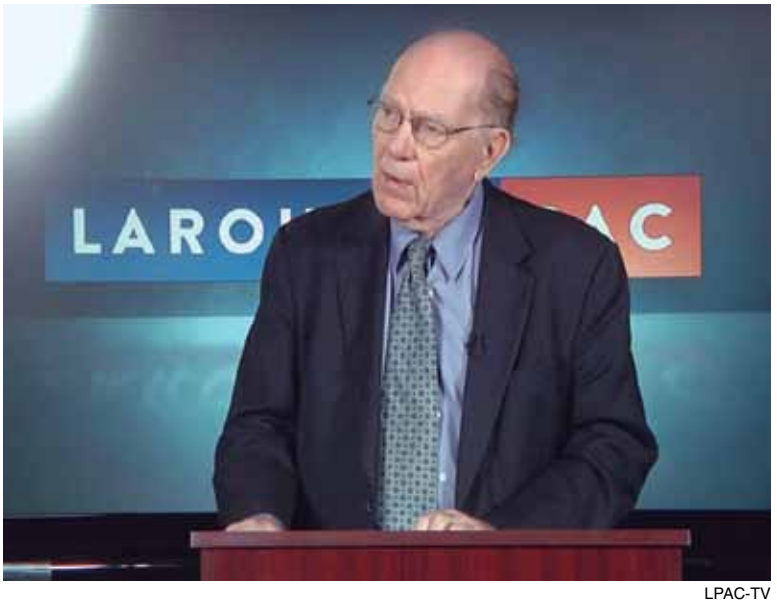
These three categories of present threats to mankind are to be traced to the effects of the presently continuing, and presently accelerating, hyperinflationary policy of the United States, and the nations of the Western and Central European regions. These present trends in North America and Europe have created a presently hopelessly accelerating, hyperinflationary system. And this leads to a consideration of three conditions.

There are first, therefore, three conditions which must be adopted immediately, if the danger of an early outbreak of a thermonuclear phase of the present acceleration of a march to war is to be prevented, and if true economic recovery is to be launched instead.

The first of the three essential preconditions for recovery is that the relevant, combined leading nations of both the United States and the leading parts of Eurasia, must immediately enact the Glass-Steagall law, which is to be modeled on the successful economic recovery

action launched originally by United States President Franklin Roosevelt, during the 1930s. The enacting of that Glass-Steagall law, will suffice to halt the hyperinflation which is now leading the principal nations of the north trans-Atlantic region. This will prevent them from leading into a hyperinflationary collapse, and an increasingly probable certainty of thermonuclear warfare.

Second: A recovery of the economy of the relevant nations depends upon the actual creation of a set of systems based on the principle of national credit, among respective nations. This means that the future investments must be those rightly deemed physically worthy of the credit which is uttered under the authority provided by the credit systems of the respective sovereign nations. The presently accelerating rate of trans-Atlantic-centered hyperinflation must be terminated with the appropriate full force of appropriate measures of physical reforms.



LPAC-TV

Lyndon LaRouche addressed the Schiller Institute conference by video, calling for a commitment among the trans-Atlantic nations to revive the space program, as necessary for the continued existence of mankind.

Under such a reform, the composition of national funding of sovereign national economies, will be composed of a combination of existing and supplementary modes of credit extension of the physical-economic advances for, and by, the respective nation-states as such. Think this through as follows: There exists presently a widespread practice which locates wealth, mistakenly, in money as such, or in terms of similarly fictitious assets, rather than the physically effective credit systems of the economy.

Whereas, any actual recovery will demand that presently hyperinflationary practices among nations, must be superseded by national systems, of national physical credit, from both within and among those cooperating nations.

Third: It must be recognized, that it is the increase of physical wealth which must be made practicable by the respective nations' extension of systems of public credit. This must be a system of credit, which is duly warranted as an investment in the creation of future, physically productive, rather than merely nominalist forms of monetarist wealth, per capita and per square kilometer. The future wealth of nations and of the enterprises must warrant the extension of national credit, within and among cooperating nations. That economic policy shall serve for both the public and private investment, in the creation of that which will exist only through the means of the productive future of the nation and mankind in general.

The Unique Quality of Mankind

Now, as to essential facts for mankind on this question. The essential fact, which must be added to economic reforms among nations, is that mankind can no longer isolate itself to life on Earth alone. Furthermore, the known history of the evolutionary process of all manifest imaginations, viable ones, of living species, has thus always depended upon the relative increase of the characteristic energy-flux density of the existing categories of surviving species. The fact is, that mankind is the only living species known to us, as depending for its power to exist, through the willful development of progressively higher evolutionary states of existence of leading creatures.

The relative fact is, that for mankind, the successful future of any living species, depends absolutely on perpetual and accelerating increases in the energy-flux density, per capita, as this is expressed by the progress of the human species, to higher levels of energy-flux density. Mankind is the only known species whose existence is defined by the controlled use of fire. Mankind's prospect of a continued existence depends hereafter on progressing beyond the limits of mere sense-perception to increasing power to command mankind's growing, willful role, within regions beyond

Earth and Mars, to other planets in the Solar System and beyond. Any contrary policy would promise to lead our human species, implicitly, through the hazards of asteroids and comets, toward the prospective human species extinction.

Now, there are certain economic trends to be considered. In the meantime, during the period since the launching of the worse-than-useless U.S. war in Indo-China, a war which was launched by means of the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy—even despite the progress which had been embodied in President John F. Kennedy's launching of the famous space program of the U.S.A—since that war in Indo-China, the general trend in the United States, and the economies of Western and Central Europe alike, in particular, has been the increasingly downward movement in net effects, measured per capita, over the course of the subsequent decades.

The loss of physical-economic potential by formerly leading nations, has been accelerating in terms of loss of actively productive skills, as measured in crucial terms of what is known as energy-flux density, over the entire span, since the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. That has produced the effect of a greater rate of net decline of physical productivity in nations, per capita, than in useful additions to productive employment made by a total labor force.

A Strategic Defense of Earth

In addition to those considerations just stated, mankind's existence is now in peril from the threats from the roles of both asteroids and comets, within the region between the orbits of Mars and Venus. We must create the needed means of program defense.

Russia's scientists have properly referenced the need for intention of a Strategic Defense of Earth, the SDE policy, on this account. These just indicated challenges typify the necessity for those kinds of specific, physical-economic reforms, on which the avoidance of thermonuclear warfare, and that of more general kinds of threats and economic catastrophe for mankind, must be included, because they are to be considered as matters of primary means for both the defense and the improvement of the conditions on which the continued existence of human life now depends.

In particular, it is now urgent that the United States, among others, return to an expanded version of a space program, not only for reasons associated with an improved space program including defense as such, but, with the urgency of a great, and early, great leap forward in technology, in physical space generally.

Progress is not an option. The continued survival of the human species demands it, now, more than ever.

Beyond Sense-Perception

In conclusion, our policy must be as follows: Science is no longer to be limited to operations within the bounds of sense-perception. We must enter that higher domain of physical principles, which exist only beyond the reach of mere sense-perception, and thus, into the true domain of the human mind, into the domain of the discovery of true principles as such, those which reign beyond the reach of mere sense-perception. We must now enter, as Bernhard Riemann had emphasized in the closing sentence of his habilitation dissertation, into the inclusive quality of the domain of mind, as proposed by the collaboration on that specific subject, of an all-inclusive physical conception of mind, which had been implied in the pioneering collaboration between Max Planck and Wolfgang Köhler.

Thank you.

A Strategic Defense of Humanity

Were the United States to eject Obama, and reciprocate Russia's offer for an SDE (Strategic Defense of Earth), we would not only avert the danger of thermonuclear war in the short term, but we would eliminate the reason for humanity to ever go to war again. Peace, is not the negation of conflict; it's an active commitment among all peoples to "the common aims of mankind."

An LPAC video presented by Natalie Lovegren (12 minutes).

http://www.larouchepac.com/node/20616

Will Obama's Re-Election Ensure World War III?

by Nancy Spannaus

Nov. 27—The ongoing preparations by NATO to intervene with military equipment on the border between Turkey and Syria, on the blatantly lying excuse that the deployment is necessary to defend NATO member Turkey, represent the most dramatic escalation toward a strategic confrontation between NATO and Russia in recent memory. But no one can say that he or she had not been warned.

For months prior to the Nov. 6 U.S. Presidential elections, U.S. statesman Lyndon LaRouche laid out the strategic danger clearly: If President Barack Obama, a tool of the British Empire, is re-elected, that will represent a major step toward World War III. And so it has occurred. Within a mere three weeks after that election, the NATO grouping of which Obama is the decisive part, has escalated its efforts to arm the Syrian terrorist opposition; lent its support to the Israeli government's latest genocidal assault on Gaza; and now, all but determined to deploy Patriot missiles on the Turkish-Syrian border, which military experts—and the Russian leadership—understand to be the first step toward creating a provocative no-fly zone in northern Syria.

Russia and China have long indicated their determination to oppose such a "new Libya" scenario, even if such opposition requires military means. But now that Obama has been reconfirmed in office, his British controllers have decided to test the limits of what they will tolerate, and are thus driving the world to the edge of a thermonuclear confrontation.

Indeed, British Prime Minister David Cameron himself launched the escalation in Syria the day after Obama's re-election, a move that was linked to that event by a spokesman for the British military think tank the Royal United Services Institute. Analyst Shashank Joshi told AP: "With the re-election of Obama, what you have is a strong confidence on the British side that the U.S. administration will be engaged more on Syria from the get-go."

Could such a confrontation happen between now and the inauguration? If the U.S. Congress and independent patriotic leaders decide to sit back and let Obama do what he wills, as they have indicated they will, it may indeed. Despite the fact that the President is in a weakened political position, due to his lying incompetence or worse on the murder of the U.S. Ambassador in Benghazi, Libya, Congressmen, particularly Democrats, are by and large acting as idiots with their heads in the sand.

If leaders internationally do not change this behavior, and soon, we could be headed for global suicide.

The 'Patriot-3' Gambit

NATO foreign ministers will meet on Dec. 4-5 to make the final approval for the Turkish-requested deployment of a battery of Patriot-3 missiles on the Tur-

Lockheed Martin

NATO foreign ministers are to meet Dec. 4-5 to approve deployment of Patriot (PAC-3) missiles on the Turkey-Syrian border. Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov warned, "Any provocation may trigger a very serious armed conflict."

key-Syria border. There is virtually no chance the approval will be denied. NATO officials have already arrived in Turkey to survey for possible sites, and NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen has repeatedly stated that NATO will treat the request as urgent, and give it the highest priority.

The only countries which have the Patriots to deploy—along with skilled personnel—are Germany, The Netherlands, and the United States. Attention has focused on Germany as a prime supplier, and the German cabinet is scheduled to approve the deployment next week as well. While there is a political uproar among some parties in Parliament against the deployment, which might involve as many as 170 German personnel, no one expects the Parliament to veto the move.

The provocative nature of this deployment is transparent. There is *no* Syrian military threat to Turkey which the Patriot defensive batteries could defend against; the only potential use for the Patriots is against Syrian aircraft or missiles *within* Syrian territory—thus as enforcers of a NATO-policed no-fly zone with Syria. While NATO spokesmen have repeatedly denied that this is their intention, that is the only purpose which makes any sense of the deployment.

But the Patriot deployment cannot be seen in isolation from two other aspects of potential upcoming NATO involvement.

First, Hurriyet DailyNews.com reported Nov. 23 that Turkey has not "excluded" the use of NATO's Airborne Warning and Control Systems (AWACS) aircraft with respect to Syria. "If the Supreme Allied Command Europe of NATO calls for air surveillance of Turkey, there would be no need for an additional official request to the alliance," an unnamed Turkish Defense Ministry official told Hurriyet. The official highlighted a line in the Nov. 21 Foreign Ministry statement on the request to NATO that said, "A decision has been taken to formally request NATO to support the augmentation of our national air defense by allied air defense elements." This is a pretty broad statement that could cover just about anything that is deemed necessary to "protect" Turkey.

Second, NATO has made known that it is about to consolidate two commands that formerly had jurisdiction over NATO land operations, based in Germany and Spain, into a single Allied Land Command that will be based in, of all places, Izmir, Turkey.

Lt. Gen. Frederick "Ben" Hodges, U.S. Army, the chief of the new command, explained to *Stars & Stripes* Nov. 24 that the new command is responsible for ensuring readiness of NATO forces, conducting land operations, and synchronizing land force command and control. One of its prime focuses will be harnessing all of the war experience that NATO ground forces have accumulated in Afghanistan to ensure that the lessons learned won't get lost.

As for placing the new headquarters in Turkey, Hodges says this just makes good strategic sense. "Turkey's location from a geographic standpoint—adjacent to the Middle East, nearly adjacent to Russia—it's an important location," he says. "It sends a signal not only to Turkey and the rest of the alliance. It sends a signal to the other neighbors."

Russia Gets the Message

NATO, in following the British imperial doctrine of demanding an end to national sovereignty, is indeed sending a signal to Russia (and China), and they have gotten the message, loud and clear. Russia, in particu-

lar, is vigorously exposing NATO's lies, and demanding that it step back from the brink.

"Our concerns are rooted in the 'Chekhov's gun syndrome' that says that if a gun appears on stage in the first act, it will definitely fire by the third," Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Nov. 22, the day after NATO's defense ministers met on the Turkish Patriot request. The emergence of weapons at a time when attempts are being made to resolve a conflict, creates risks not necessarily due to the scenario, but because any stockpile of weapons naturally creates threats, he explained, *Russia Today* reported. "Any provocation may trigger a very serious armed conflict. We want to avoid this," he said.

In a Nov. 23 press conference in Moscow, TASS reported, Lavrov further warned that "any arms stockpiling creates risks and is tempting to those who would like to bring outside forces into play." Lavrov also expressed his concerns about the deployment in a telephone conversation with NATO's Rasmussen that same day. According to a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry, Lavrov also discussed Russia's proposal to establish a direct line of communication between Ankara and Damascus "to avoid incidents."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Lukashevich had stated earlier, after Turkey made its formal request for the Patriots to NATO, that "this would not foster stability in the region," warning Turkey against "building muscle or putting the situation on such a dangerous track."

Russian commentators have been even more specific in identifying the provocative nature of the Patriot deployment. "The planned deployment by NATO countries of Patriot air defense systems on Turkey's Syria border will actually amount to an imposition of a no-fly zone for Syrian aircraft in circumvention of the UN Security Council." This is according to Vladimir Kudelev, a research fellow of the Russian Institute for Oriental Studies, reported *Voice of Russia* Nov. 24.

Kudelev argues that the mere presence of the Patriots will "drastically" influence events on the ground in northern Syria, because the insurgents will automatically get a 200-250-km-wide "umbrella" along the Syrian-Turkish border (Kudelev's numbers aren't quite right. The maximum range of the Patriot PAC-3 missile is actually on the order of 160 km). More importantly, the deployment of the Patriots would undermine the role of the UN Security Council, by taking another step towards creating a no-fly zone without UNSC authorization.

Another Russian analyst, journalist Stanislav Tarasov, told the *Voice of Russia* Nov. 24 that NATO was originally strongly against intervening in a conflict between Turkey and Syria. He argues that Turkey originally wanted to invoke Article 5 of the NATO Charter, "which means that they wanted to drag NATO into the conflict and thus ensure its military presence in the region," but NATO said "No." So, Turkey resorted to Article 4 consultations, instead.

Commentators have pointed out another dimension to the Patriot deployment that has nothing directly to do with Syria. "Moscow believes that in the case the Patriot Missile Air Defense Systems are deployed to Turkey, they can be used as one of the elements of the early warning system—that is, as one of the elements of the European missile defense system which the USA is ardently defending by now," said Turkish political analyst Barysh Adybelli Nov. 24.

The Long-Term Objective

Well-informed Washington sources have emphasized to *EIR* that the series of decisions being taken by NATO should be seen as part of a long-term reconfiguration of NATO's forces, which would be prepositioned to carry out operations into Africa, Eurasia, and Southwest Asia, over the long period ahead. Another way to characterize this redeployment would be as an escalation of the British imperial policy of "rings" of containment around Russia and China, with the ultimate objective of emasculating their capabilities as sovereign nation-states, and assuring the dominance of the global financial-imperialist regime into the indefinite future.

Such dominance would, as the British monarchy's spokesmen have repeatedly stated, lead rapidly to a drastic decline in the world's population, making the lives of most of humanity, as the British Empire's hired hand Thomas Hobbes once put it so concisely, "nasty, brutish, and short."

Should the leadership of Russia and China not capitulate, however, the result could very rapidly be the outbreak of thermonuclear World War III. The surest way to avoid that possibility is *still* to remove British tool Barack Obama from the U.S. Presidency. How much closer do we have to come to a shooting war before American patriots get the courage to act?

Afghan Warlords Prepare For Another Civil War

by Ramtanu Maitra

Nov. 26—On Nov. 1, Mohammad Ismail Khan, a big warlord, a former mujahideen commander in western Afghanistan, and now Afghanistan's energy and water minister, told his supporters at a gathering in Herat, that they needed to re-arm to defend the country from "foreign conspirators." Prior to Khan's call to arms, there were reports that the anti-Taliban United Front, comprising all of Afghanistan's ethnic groups, has begun to arm itself against the revival of the Taliban once the bulk of the U.S./NATO troops leave the country in 2014.

After waging war for 11 years, a period during which thousands were killed, hundreds of thousands were maimed, and trillions of taxpayers' dollars and euros were spent to achieve nothing, the United States and its NATO allies will leave behind in Afghanistan a country which resembles the same condition it was in in 1989, when the defeated Soviet troops trudged their way back home. Following that, Afghanistan went through a decade of hell before the Saudi-financed and indoctrinated, and the Pakistani military-trained, Afghan Wahhabites, who call themselves the Taliban, took control of Kabul in 1995, and institutionalized that hell-like situation.

In other words, Afghanistan is about to be plunged into a new civil war—with the major difference being that the Northern warlords, who were previously the allies of NATO and the U.S., will now be the opponents of NATO's new allies, the Taliban.

Failed Promises

In 2001, following 9/11, an event with which the Afghan Taliban had absolutely nothing to do, the United States attacked Afghanistan. Its stated objective, spelled out over a period of time, was rooting out terrorism by killing or capturing Osama bin Laden; eliminating al-Qaeda and its network; and destroying the Taliban or making them ineffective. During the following 11 years, Washington and Brussels continued to make promises—all of which they later buried in the sands of Afghanistan. What happened in the subsequent period?

Well, the Taliban were quickly removed from Kabul, but they returned over the next three years of occupation, grew in strength, and prevented the 150,000 foreign troops from securing control over Afghanistan. Now, the Obama Administration is running from pillar to post seeking help from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Pakistan to open talks with the Taliban, so that the U.S. troops and their war-fighting equipment can be removed "peacefully" in 2014, when most of the foreign troops are scheduled to leave.

True, the "super-terrorist" bin Laden was eventually killed, but ten years later in Pakistan, where, isolated from the entire world, he was living out his life under the protection of Pakistan's security apparatus. Pakistan, incidentally, is Washington's main ally in the latter's alleged "war on terror."

On the dismantling of al-Qaeda, many lies have been delivered and are still being propagated. First, it has been said repeatedly that the U.S./NATO duo has succeeded in giving al-Qaeda a fatal body blow in Afghanistan. That may be true, but it is a fact that al-Qaeda, a generic term applied to a gallimaufry of various Salafi and Wahhabite Islamic terrorists seeking an Islamic Caliphate, provided a significant amount of muscle-power to the democratic West to dismantle and kill Muammar Qaddafi, thereby creating a rule of terror and anarchy in Libya. The same variety of Salafi and Wahhabite terrorists is now being funded by the West's best allies in the Arabian peninsula to dethrone and dismantle the Syrian regime, and, in essence, usher in full-fledged anarchy and terror in Syria as well.

Beyond these three promises, many others have been made. President George W. Bush, at one point, wanted to carry out a Marshall Plan to bring Afghanistan into the modern era. That was quickly shoved

aside. Then came the promises to usher in peace, stability, and democracy, and "winning the hearts and minds" of the Afghans. That litany of the Obama Administration was soon abandoned as well to put on the table the next promise, which was to provide Afghan women with equal rights.

All those eventually turned out to be nothing more than empty words from those who dared not explain why they were in Afghanistan to begin with, or were staying for years and years. Now, 11 years later, those who invaded Afghanistan with the ostensible intent to do the Afghans a world of good, have only one policy left in their grab-bag: target killings of "terrorists" inside Afghanistan and Pakistan, using remote-controlled drones.

Al Arabiya News Channel

After being expelled from Afghanistan in 1995, the Taliban have returned with a vengeance, and grown in strength, preventing the U.S./NATO troops from securing control over country. Shown: Afghan Taliban in southern Afghanistan.

"The foreigners sidelined those who had fought for ages," Ismail Khan said during his speech in Herat in November. "They collected all our weapons, our artillery and tanks, and put them on the rubbish heap. Instead, they brought Dutch girls, French girls, they armed American girls.... They thought by doing this they would bring security here, but they failed." Khan added he had the full backing of Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

Long before Ismail Khan made clear what to expect once the foreign troops leave Afghanistan, the arming of warlords had begun. Khan's idea to re-arm local militias is nothing new. Writing in the *Atlantic* monthly of Nov. 15, 2012, in an article titled, "What's Behind Former Afghan Warlord Ismail Khan's Public Call to Arms?", Frud Bezhan pointed out that "in fact, the United States has made it its policy in recent years to re-arm many of the same militias it disarmed and demobilized at the beginning of the war. Since the U.S.-led invasion in 2001, Washington has spent millions on a Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration program for former mujahedin, members of Western-backed jihadist groups who fought the Soviet Union and later the Taliban. Former mujahedin commanders like Ismail Khan were given high-ranking positions within the government in a nod to national unity."

In September 2011, when Taliban fighters hijacked two NATO fuel tankers in the northern Kunduz province, along the newly established northern supply route into Afghanistan, and the German troops based there ordered an airstrike that killed scores of Afghan civilians and fighters, it was wake-up time for the northern warlords. They realized that these foreigners will not be able to control the rise of the Taliban and that northern Afghanistan, which had been the bastion of the anti-Taliban United Front, could very well end up under Taliban control.

Going Back Full Circle

Speaking at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in London, as quoted in the *Guardian* April 16, 2012, Ahmed Rashid, the Pakistani author and journalist, said "the West has failed to jump-start a sustainable economy, and the job losses triggered by the 2014 withdrawal will be a huge blow to many Afghans' livelihoods." The *Guardian* continued, "That will be compounded by the US military policy of arming militias and community police forces around the country, which he [Rashid] predicts will constitute a destabilizing pool of guns for hire for warlords and drug kingpins, when their American paymasters are gone." Rashid added that the "Northern Alliance forces are arming themselves as a hedge against a resurgent Taliban."

Bezhan, in the April 12 *Atlantic*, quoted Ryan Evans, a research fellow at the Center for National Policy, an independent think tank based in Washington. According to Evans, Ismail Khan's comments hint at a wider remobilization of former local and regional militias. "Evans says the international presence has kept a lid on ongoing tensions between the country's long-warring factions, but he expects that to change as Western soldiers get closer to their expected withdrawal date."

"The conflict in Afghanistan is an aggregation of small local and regional conflicts. Counterinsurgency has not solved any of these conflicts," Evans told Bezhan. "So, what we're seeing from Ismail Khan is a very natural reaction to that. We're going to see more of it as we get closer to 2014, and after 2014 as local communities begin to arm themselves."

In the Nov. 14, 2012 edition of the Indian news daily *The Hindu*, Graham Bowley, in his article "Afghan Warlords Regrouping," wrote that Khan is not the only voice calling for a renewed alliance of the mujahideen against the Taliban, and some of the others are just as familiar. For instance, Marshal Muhammad Qasim Fahim, an ethnic Tajik commander, who is President Karzai's first vice president, said in a speech in September, "If the Afghan security forces are not able to wage this war, then call upon the mujahideen," Bowley noted.

Ahmad Zia Massoud, another prominent mujahideen fighter and brother of legendary now-dead Tajik warlord, Ahmed Shah Massoud, said in an interview in Kabul that people were worried about what was going to happen after 2014, and he was telling his own followers to make preliminary preparations. "They don't want to be disgraced again," Massoud said. "Everyone tries to have some sort of Plan B. Some people are on the verge of re-arming." Bowley said he pointed out that it was significant that the going market price of Kalashnikov assault rifles had risen to about $1,000, driven up by demand from a price of $300 a decade ago. "Every household wants to have an AK-47 at home," he said.

Other prominent potential participants in the upcoming civil war, who have put up resistance against the U.S./NATO-led occupation, are: Hizb-e-Islami, and the Haqqani Network/Group, along with a number of smaller groups, who have their own local areas of influence. Even amongst the Taliban, there exist various groupings. While most of them are now cooperating against the foreign occupiers, they can easily turn against each other.

Foreign Conspiracy To Bring Back the Taliban?

When Ismail Khan spoke of "foreign conspirators," he was referring to the ongoing efforts by Washington and Brussels to open up a dialogue with the Taliban. The purpose of that dialogue, at least in the minds of the anti-Taliban United Front in Afghanistan, is an active attempt by the Obama Administration to provide the Taliban a slice of power in Kabul as a "bribe," while the U.S. withdraws a large number of troops and equipment from Afghanistan.

What is for certain is that Khan was not whistling in the dark. Obviously, the Obama Administration is getting pretty desperate to open up talks with the Taliban, and has reportedly sought help from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Pakistan to get talks started. This has worried the anti-Taliban groups within Afghanistan.

It has been noted in Afghanistan that the Taliban, led by Mullah Mohammad Omar, are open to a general ceasefire, and are willing to accept the U.S. military presence in Afghanistan up to 2024, but will not negotiate with President Karzai or his administration, claiming he is corrupt and weak. This was reported in a briefing paper published by the Britain-based think tank, Royal United Services Institute (RUSI).

RUSI had long been a handmaiden of British intelligence, and, in fact, one of the writers of this briefing paper, Michael Semple, was kicked out of Afghanistan by President Karzai in December 2007, when Kabul learned that this MI6 agent was negotiating covertly with the Taliban in southern Afghanistan, along with another MI6 agent and the British ambassador.

The briefing paper also said that the Taliban representatives welcomed the prospect of a U.S. military stabilization force operating in Afghanistan up to 2024, out of the five primary military bases—Kandahar, Herat, Jalalabad, Mazar-e-Sharif, and Kabul—as long as the U.S. presence contributed to Afghan security and did not constrain Afghan independence and Islamic jurisprudence.

The RUSI writers pointed out that during their discussion with a Taliban leader, it was "revealed for the first time the emerging consensus of the Taliban leadership, a far more pragmatic picture of the Taliban than has previously been made public, with the Taliban willing to take part in peace negotiations in exchange for political leverage after 2014."

DOD/Cpl Reece Lodder, USMC

U.S. troops are scheduled to leave Afghanistan in 2014, after 11 years. What has been accomplished? What will happen to the country after that? Mostly likely, civil war. Here, U.S. Marines and Afghan border police land in Helmand province, Feb. 10, 2012.

What the briefing paper pointed out, and what the Afghan warlords are concerned about, is surely a process in progress. Washington demanded that the Taliban denounce al-Qaeda. Since the Taliban had never really any connection with al-Qaeda, that was not difficult for Mullah Omar to agree to. The Taliban representatives told the RUSI that denouncing al-Qaeda can be built into a larger comprehensive peace settlement in exchange for some form of political recognition. The Taliban propose that they would then act, with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and Afghan government representatives on a Joint Monitoring Commission, to ensure that al-Qaeda is no longer able to operate on Afghan soil.

While the Obama Administration has made some progress in its efforts to resume talks with the Taliban, the Taliban leadership has made it clear that it would not take part in any fresh negotiations, unless and until its five leaders who are detained by the U.S. at Guantanamo Bay prison are set free.

The Taliban in Focus

The Obama Administration had in fact agreed to accept that demand, and had conveyed to the Taliban that it would hand over the detainees to Qatari authorities, in return for the release of Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, the only American soldier known to be held by the Taliban insurgents. The U.S., however, later, showed reluctance to hand over the Taliban detainees to Qatar, a move that led to the suspension of the peace dialogue with the Taliban in March.

Pakistan Today, in its article "Taliban still not ready to talk to US sans prisoners' release," filed from Qatar Sept. 3, 2012, reported a Pakistani diplomat saying that it was true that the U.S. had been seeking the help of Pakistan and other friendly states for the resumption of talks with the Taliban, but it seemed that American efforts were not acceptable to the Taliban leaders unless and until the prisoners were released. The diplomat said another development that could hurt U.S. efforts to restart negotiations was the designation of the "Haqqani network" as a terrorist group, by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Sept. 7, 2012.

Meanwhile, to facilitate talks, Pakistan has released 13 Taliban leaders from jail, and is now considering the release of the Afghan Taliban second-in-command, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar.

On the other hand, the Taliban, aware of the Obama Administration's strong dislike of Karzai, have made clear that they are not ready to talk to Kabul. A political settlement between the Afghan government and insurgents is widely seen as the best way of delivering stability to the country before most of the NATO combat troops pull out at the end of 2014. But since the Obama Administration wants to cut a deal with the Taliban, they want to push aside President Karzai, who has wanted involvement of the regional powers to ensure stability in the post-2014 Afghanistan.

The special U.S. envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan, Marc Grossman, is spending more time in Islamabad pursuing negotiations with the Taliban. According to at least one Pakistani analyst, Washington thinks negotiations with the Taliban could lead to a negotiated political settlement. But what will be next, in reality, will be more war.

Russia Remains a Target of MI6-Aided Londonistan Terrorists

by Ramtanu Maitra

Nov. 25—On Nov. 16, Russian police charged nine men with organizing cells of a banned Islamist group, Hizb ut-Tahrir (HuT), and illegal possession of guns, explosives, and counterfeit euros and U.S. dollars. According to the Russian Interior Ministry, five of the nine men are leaders of the Russian cells of the U.K.-headquartered HuT, operating under protection of the British Secret Intelligence Service (BSIS), also known as MI6, to establish a Caliphate throughout the Islamic world and undermine nation-states.

The Russian Supreme Court officially outlawed HuT on Feb. 14, 2003, designating this organization as a terrorist group, along with 15 other organizations. Despite the ban, HuT remains active inside Russia. HuT's official website said that the police conducted searches on a much larger scale than was officially announced. According to the group, the police searched 40 locations in Moscow and Moscow Oblast (province), as well as 30 locations in the city of Ufa. In Russia, the group had long been active in the mainly Muslim regions of Bashkortostan and Tatarstan, where several men were convicted last year of belonging to the extremist organization and sentenced to lengthy prison terms.

So far, so good. But, a decisive blow against this terrorist capability requires that Moscow—is some elements in Pakistan have done—identify the British roots of this jihadi assault, as part of broader steps to shut down the London-based financial empire.

HuT: MI6's Long-Standing Assets

The HuT has been organizing Central Asian Muslims (who are generally not devoutly religious), for at least two decades, using the "peaceful" means of distributing free Qurans and food to the poor. This ground force, financed from the Persian Gulf, particularly by the Wahhabite Saudis, and trained in Britain and Pakistan, have created a segment within Central Asia which considers the governments to be corrupt, dictatorial, and anti-Islamic.

A number of terrorist groups, such as the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), Islamic Jihad Union, and the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM), have made known their presence, since the collapse of the Soviet Union. The HuT, which uses the "peaceful" means of evangelism, is one of the major providers of fighters to these various terrorist groups. As a result, HuT is banned in most of the "stan" nations as it is in Russia, among some other nations, yet it continues to gain strength throughout Central Asia, particularly in the densely populated Ferghana Valley, where Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan meet.

In 2008, the U.S. State Department's annual report pointed out that the threat posed by Islamic militant groups in Central Asia, especially in the Kyrgyz and Tajik portions of the Ferghana Valley, appears to be growing. Over the last four years, as Afghanistan and Pakistan became more unstable, and the drug flow out of Afghanistan remained undisturbed, the terrorists have added quite a bit of muscle.

While these terrorists operate in Central Asia, Russia, Pakistan, and China to undermine sovereign nation-states, the British objective, which has been undersigned by the Obama-led United States, is to use these Islamist terrorists to keep Russia and China off-balance and prevent them from exerting their economic influence in Central Asia.

Does the HuT, besides providing the fighters, have an armed wing of its own? Many observers believe that it has begun to move away from its policy of non-violence, in order to accomplish its ultimate goal, which is to establish the Caliphate. HuT has made clear that it believes that the Central Asian countries will use force to protect themselves, and the HuT would respond under those circumstances with force as well.

The question has been raised whether, following the capture of armed HuT members en route to a planned attack on the U.S. military base in Kyrgyzstan, the BSIS

will lead HuT to form a military wing by further radicalizing itself.

There are indications that the process is well on its way in the troubled Arab lands. For instance, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, founded by Shaykh Assad Bayyoud Tamimi, a "former" HuT member, also founded a second splinter group in 1982, the Islamic Jihad Organization (also known as the al-Aqsa Battalions). Islamic Jihad poses a threat to Hamas in Gaza.

Another indication of such development is the formation of the Islamic Movement of Central Asia (IMCA): In 2002, the region's Islamic radicals, ostensibly under orders from "Londonistan," decided to unite under a new underground organization called the Islamic Movement of Central Asia, which would bring together the IMU, Kyrgyz, and Tajik radicals, and Uighur separatists from China, whose East Turkestan Islamic Movement had broadened to include Afghans, Chechens, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks, and Kazaks who share its new goal of forming an Islamic state in Central Asia.

Kyrgyzstani authorities expressed their belief that the IMCA was indeed formed in 2003, with the immediate goal of creating a Caliphate in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan, while reserving expansion to Kazakstan, Turkmenistan, and northwest China for a second stage. The headquarters of the IMCA, which is led by Tohir Yuldashev, are believed to be located in Afghanistan's northeastern Badakshan province, bordering Pakistan and China. The main insurgent targets are the American bases in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, as well as the embassies in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakstan.

How would Britain's intelligence services accomplish the seemingly impossible task of directing the Caliphate-seeking jihadis? To understand this, one has to reflect on Britain's control over the Islamic nations during its imperial days. Following the physical collapse of the British Empire, Britain, because of its historical control over financial institutions, illicit drug trades, and various dissident groups deployed to undermine opposition to its colonial rule, set up a nest of terrorists which has been named by some analysts "Londonistan."

Who Controls Londonistan?

Londonistan is a hydra-headed monster, fed and harbored by British intelligence. One of the major staging grounds for the terrorists had long been the barely governed Federally Administered Tribal Area (FATA) of Pakistan, bordering Afghanistan. Following the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in 1989, most of the Arab and Central Asian mujahideen who had worked with al-Qaeda, and later with the Afghan Taliban who took over control in Kabul in 1995-96, growing Islamic militant groups, mainly located in Uzbekistan, under the leadership of Tohir Yuldashev begun to grown in numbers. These terrorists procured the support of a number of intelligence agencies, including the CIA, Pakistani ISI, British MI6, and Saudi Arabian intelligence.

However, MI6's interest in unleashing HuT was not confined to undermining Central Asia, Russia, and China; but the HuT was also deployed to undermine what was Pakistan's prime source of stability, it military. In June 2011, Dr. Jassim Taqui, writing in the *Pakistani Observer,* reported that Pakistan's Inter-Services Public Relations spokesman, Major. Gen. Athar Abbas, had disclosed the arrest of Brig. Ali Khan and four others. The report said, "They were detained for questioning on their links with London-based Islamist party Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HuT)."

Pakistan had banned the HuT in 2003, Taqui said; "however, experts believe that the party enjoys close ties with MI6, which stood with the party despite complaints from Arab and Central Asian countries about its link with the militant parties that seek to destabilize these countries. Former President Gen. Pervez Musharraf also complained to the British authorities that HuT was engaged in a propaganda drive against military leadership."

On March 7, 2012, Pakistan's news daily *The Express Tribune,* in an article titled, "Bigger plot: 'HuT has formed a shadow govt for Pakistan,'" cited the BBC to point out that Brig. Ali Khan (ret.), one of the Pakistani military officials accused of plotting to topple the democratic government and mount attacks on the army headquarters, had met the chief of the HuT for the Palestinian Territory, while he was conspiring to overthrow the government and create an Islamic Caliphate.

The banned terrorist group Hizb ut-Tahrir (HuT), based in London, calls for the establishment of an Islamic Caliphate throughout the Muslim world, and even beyond. Shown: a HuT demonstration in Dhaka, Bangladesh, January 2011.

According to Brig. Amir Riaz, the head of the 111 Brigade, Ali had disclosed that the HuT has prepared a new constitution and a shadow government for Pakistan, and that the group was ready to take over any time. Pakistan's 111 Brigade is based in Rawalpindi and had played a pivotal role in almost all of the many coups in Pakistan that allowed the Pakistani military to wrest power from popularly elected governments.

"Brig Ali told me that HuT could establish a real caliphate which could also ensure good governance in Pakistan. He also told me that HuT has prepared an alternative constitution and a shadow government which could take over anytime," said Brig. Riaz, who has been named as a witness by the prosecution. In his statement, Riaz further said that Ali had told him that some elements in the Pakistan Air Force were part of the HuT conspiracy, and that they would mount an air raid on the General Headquarters with F-16 fighter jets during a corps commanders' conference, to eliminate the army brass. He claimed that Ali had asked him to take over key buildings in Islamabad following such an attack. But he said that he had turned down the offer to become part of the conspiracy and to cooperate with Ali.

Tony Blair and the HuT

While the Pakistani media, in particular, reported that the HuT works as an operational arm of the BSIS, it was never very difficult to discern this linkage. As noted, the main goal of the HuT movement is to recreate the Caliphate, the Islamic state formally brought to an end in 1924, following the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, and to use that pretext for commiting violence in the Islamic world and beyond, for example, in Russia. Although it claims to be nonviolent, HuT acknowledges that violence may eventually be necessary to overthrow the regimes standing in the way of the Caliphate. It is viciously anti-Semitic and anti-American, and disseminates a radical Islamist ideology fundamentally opposed to democratic capitalism and to Western concepts of freedom. And yet, it flourishes in Britain as well as some of the sheikhdoms of the Gulf.

Looking at the players who have helped Tony Blair and his wife Cherie to launder the HuT as a "peaceful" evangelical group, it becomes clear that the BSIS is not especially discriminating in whom they are dealing with. Take the Quilliam Foundation, for example: It was created by Blair & Co., when the British Prime Minister was under pressure to outlaw the HuT, which had already been banned in Germany, and all the Central Asian "stan" nations, among many others. Since HuT is an asset of Londonistan, Blair, and Gordon Brown later, hemmed and hawed about lack of evidence needed to brand it a terrorist outfit, and then set up Quilliam, run by "ex-HuT" senior members.

The key person at Quilliam is Norman Benotman, who was a senior figure in the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG), which had ties to al-Qaeda, and worked hand-in-glove with Blair-MI6 in the plot to assassinate Muammar Qaddafi of Libya in 1995. And, Bentoman was more than just a LIFG fighter. Wikileaks documents provided narratives from a detainee, al-Afghani, about how Osama bin Laden, surrounded by American troops, escaped from the Tora Bora area of Afghanistan in early December of 2001. In addition to this account, CNN terrorism analyst Paul Cruickshank said that he was given an account of this by Benotman, then, a senior figure in the LIFG. Benotman was in phone contact with Abu Leith al-Libbi, a Libyan al-Qaeda official

close to bin Laden, after 9/11. No matter how much filtering of this story has been done, it is evident that Benotman was involved in the effort to find a safe passage for Osama.

Benotman is a senior analyst of the Foundation, established by Maajid Nawaz, Ed Husain, and Rashad Zaman Ali. Both Ali and Nawaz are "former" members of the HuT, and Husain studied with the group or group members. The creation of the Quilliam Foundation by Blair & Co. was aimed at legitimizing the HuT. Now, the funds and donations to this foundation are surely finding their way to the HuT, and at the same time, Quilliam, an MI5/MI6 front, functions ostensibly as the watchdog, so that the HuT never gets blamed for any terrorist act.

What Are the HuT Plans for Russia?

It is unlikely that the HuT will be recruiting Russian military officers the way it did in Pakistan. According to the Russian human rights organization Memorial, Hizb ut-Tahrir did not perceive Russia as a country where Islamic rule should be established. However, it points out that hostile moves by the Russian authorities may force the leaders of the organization to review their position, and declare Russian authorities to be their enemy, which will allow its members to go underground and act according to new rules.

The Russian Interior Ministry noted that HuT had caught the authorities' attention back in 2010, when members of the group from the North Caucasus and Central Asia were connected to illegal activities, including calls to overthrow the Russian government and to establish an Islamic Caliphate. To strengthen the case against the Islamic organization, Russian news agencies further reported that its members had plotted to derail a train back in 2010 and had recently rented apartments "near transportation hubs." The Russian media also connected this organization to the attempt on the life of Tatarstan's mufti, Ildus Faizov, and the murder of his deputy, Valiulla Yakupov, on July 19.

Through the arrests of these activists, Moscow has officially recognized that Hizb ut-Tahrir al-Islami exists and operates inside Russia. The organization has not stopped its activities in the country since it was first designated a terrorist organization, but has even expanded its activities. "Five out of nine suspects are leaders of the Russian and Moscow cells of the Party of Islamic Liberation," the police statement said.

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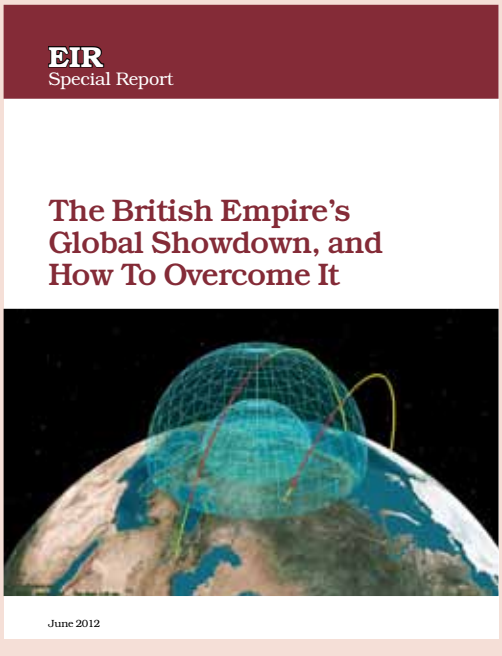

A Coming Showdown Over Restoring Glass-Steagall

by Paul Gallagher

Nov. 25—The intermittent Congress may appear obsessed now with the suicidal "fiscal cliff" austerity drill assigned it by Obama and Wall Street's various "debt commissions." Yet Wall Street spokesmen are giving clear signals that they are worried about the sudden emergence of a showdown over restoration of the Glass-Steagall Act, the real key to turning around the economic collapse, which was supposed to be dodged by passing the Dodd-Frank "Wall Street Reform" Act in 2010.

The impossibly, deliberately complicated Dodd-Frank Act is not really being implemented; is showing no sign of either breaking up or reforming the behavior of the dozen or so huge banks which control two-thirds of U.S. bank assets; and is being sabotaged by Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner, as in his recent move to exempt entire foreign-exchange and credit-derivatives markets from regulation.

And Dodd-Frank, along with Helicopter Ben Bernanke's zero-interest-rate policy and the looming global capital rules known as "Basel III," is now threatening the nation's community banking sector, still the deepest in the world, and a lifeline for many businesses during the crash years. Some 60 smaller commercial banks have failed through October of this year, after 92 failures in 2011, thus continuing the rate of failure at two-thirds that of the worst rates of 2009-10.

There is no sign of the credit in the economy—certainly not coming through the global monster banks—which could turn around mass unemployment, rescue agriculture from drought and disasters, or fill the large and desperate needs for new economic infrastructure. That's true not only for the United States, but for the entire trans-Atlantic economic-financial system, now in its death throes.

In this situation, any move for introduction in the U.S. Senate of legislation to restore Glass-Steagall—matching H.R. 1489, the bill with 85 sponsors in the House—will set off a showdown over potential fast passage, with widespread support from both parties in both Houses.

Obama Said 'No'

President Obama personally reflected the financial powers' fear of this potential when he brought up Glass-Steagall, unsolicited, in order to oppose it, in an interview with *Rolling Stone* magazine Oct. 25. The "arguments" Obama gave against Glass-Steagall were so transparently false that the interviewers debunked the President in a blog post the next day. On Nov. 14, *Business Week* reported the remarks of Commodity Futures Trading Commission member Bart Chilton under the wishful headline, "Volcker Rule Should Prevent Glass-Steagall Return." Chilton reportedly said, "I don't know if we need to go back to Glass-Steagall," and hoped to get "enough" bank reform from the so-called Volcker Rule—not to be implemented until 2014, at best!—to hold off Glass-Steagall reenactment. Indeed, the panel of the Bloomberg News foreign-exchange conference Chilton spoke at, was entitled, "Banking Under Fire: A look at the on-going debate about, whether or not, it is time to reinstate Glass-Steagall and break up Wall Street's biggest banks. Which banks

should be broken up and how? What are the risks?"

A growing number of community bank representatives are publicly calling for Glass-Steagall to be restored, as for example Connecticut Banking Association chairman Martin J. Geitz on Oct. 29. So are former bank overseers like Neil Barofsky, and current FDIC vice chairman Thomas Hoenig. Others, such as Federal Reserve governors Daniel Tarullo and Richard Fisher, are advocating that large banks be "broken up" by other forms of regulation.

It is notable that three newly elected U.S. Senators advocated Glass-Steagall during their campaigns: Democrats Tammy Baldwin (Wisc.) and Elizabeth Warren (Mass.), and Republican Dean Heller (Nev.). But the fight to restore Glass-Steagall could break out even during the remaining month of the lame duck 111th Congress.

American Banker, in reporting the pace of bank failures Nov. 6, said that, aside from the years-long zero-interest-rate policy of Bernanke's Federal Reserve—which makes both the banks' lending business less profitable and their customers' savings accounts and CDs much less desirable—the Dodd-Frank law was written to regulate, but also to protect and preserve, the big banks. With the implicit guarantees of the Act that no big banks will fail, the "cost of capital" differential between big banks and small, has grown to double (0.78% average for institutions of less than $1 billion in assets, vs. 0.34% average for those with over $1 billion, and 0.30% average for banks of over $50 billion assets). Prior to the 2007-08 crash, the differential went in the opposite direction, because the big banks' activities to acquire capital and assets were more costly than the straightforward deposit-taking of the community banks.

Congressional offices are now taking heat from agitated community bankers, and some of that heat is focussed: Restore Glass-Steagall now.

'Shadow Banking' Dominates Again

A clear signal of the continuing speculative sickness of the big "universal bank" sector is the rapid ballooning, once again, of the so-called shadow-banking sector. The European Commission's Financial Services Board (FSB) reported on Nov. 19 its estimate that the global "shadow banking sector" has ballooned back up to $67 trillion in assets as of Dec. 31, 2011, a bigger speculative asset bubble than in mid-2007, just before the world financial blowout. The Nov. 18 report, while admittedly just an estimate of unregulated debt, gives an indication of what the trans-Atlantic financial institutions have been doing with the tens of trillions in bail-out money-printing by central banks—they have clearly not been lending any of it into the real economy.

"Shadow banking sector" is a general term referring, as the fellow who invented it said, to "the whole alphabet soup of levered-up non-bank investment conduits, vehicles and structures," such as hedge funds, private-equity funds, mutual and money-market funds, and the banks' special investment vehicles whose sudden illiquidity collapse helped trigger the financial crisis. It first became clear what this shadow sector could do to regulated banking 25-30 years ago, when the U.S. savings-and-loan banking sector was wiped out, after money-market and other mutual funds seized the savings banks' mortgage-lending market with an earlier real estate bubble, which then collapsed by 1989, and triggered a deep recession. But in the 1990s, with Alan Greenspan's gradual destruction of Glass-Steagall, the commercial banks themselves were tempted to lend their deposit bases to feed "shadow banking" operations, until the "shadow sector" was larger than the banking sector itself just before the crash began in 2007.

A recent New York Federal Reserve Bank study, "Peeling the Onion: The Structure of Large Bank Holding Companies," showed that the Glass-Steagall destruction-and-repeal period, 1994-99, started a massive proliferation of non-bank, speculative securities-dealing structures *by the big commercial banks themselves*. This reached the point that a full one-third of Citigroup's $2 trillion-plus assets, for example, migrated from commercial banking into securities operations during that period to 2011.

Now "shadow banking" has ballooned back larger than banking again. In the past four years the Federal Reserve has printed $2.5 trillion to buy overvalued securities from big banks which refuse to deleverage or recognize losses, and continues to print $40-80 billion/month. Other major central banks have done the same thing—a total of nearly $9 trillion in money-printing in four years. During that entire period, net lending by those banks into the real U.S. economy has declined.

The shadow banking system in the United States was back up to $23 trillion in assets at end-2011, FSB estimated, the euro area at $22 trillion, the U.K. alone at $9 trillion.

Sixty years' enforcement of Glass-Steagall prohibited precisely this. The ballooning of money-market mutual funds is new, and they were wrongly given commercial bank-like FDIC insurance in late 2008. But the House Glass-Steagall bill H.R. 1489 cracks down on them, as does Hoenig's proposed restoration.

The so-called Volcker Rule section of the Dodd-

Frank Act, which may prevent some kinds of bank securities dealing when implemented, is fading further into the future distance and becoming more irrelevant to the ongoing bank crisis. The Volcker Rule was put in Dodd-Frank, in the first place, to keep Congress from re-enacting the Glass-Steagall Act, but is unworkable as written. Even the writing of the "final" Volcker Rule is now being further delayed by a dispute among the bank regulators, and may not be completed this year; July 1 was the most recently hoped-for date. So the implementation of the rule, which supposedly will bar banks from owning in-house securities-dealing operations, will be kicked at least into 2015—long after the banking crisis will have exploded again.

The huge gaps in this regulation—being industriously widened by Wall Street's boy Geithner—were highlighted by the JPMorgan Chase "London Whale" case, where Morgan's London traders were able to manipulate the global credit derivatives market, and also lose $6-7 billion, while technically in compliance with the theoretical Volcker Rule. Former FDIC Chairman Sheila Bair calls it "a 320-page Rube Goldberg contraption."

The regulators' latest inability to formulate the Volcker Rule drew a letter of strong criticism Oct. 25 from Democratic Senators Carl Levin (Mich.) and Jeff Merkely (Ore.), who are afraid the chances of ever enforcing an effective Volcker Rule are slipping away. Despite Levin's and Merkely's protests, the idea that "something else is needed, different from Dodd-Frank," to save the economy from Wall Street, is spreading.

Meanwhile, the severe lack of credit in the economy is about to get worse. While facing a true "physical-economic cliff" crumbling underneath them, the nation's elected officials are debating what shape of "fiscal cliff" to dive off. Obama's verison, the Simpson-Bowles Commission's, the Supercommittee's—all will bring mass layoffs, economic austerity, at least a 2% contraction even in the phony GDP measure. This, when the United States desperately needs food-production support, drought relief, new water-management "great projects," and flood protection; not to mention investing trillions in replacing other crumbling infrastructure platforms.

A new national-banking credit system is immediately needed; but for five years, all "credit" being issued in the name of the United States, whether by Fed or Treasury or FDIC guarantee, has been going straight into the financial sector's black holes of speculation. Restoring Glass-Steagall ends that. It's the essential first step.

Lyndon LaRouche on Glass-Steagall and NAWAPA:

"The greatest project that mankind has ever undertaken on this planet, as an economic project, now stands before us, as the opportunity which can be set into motion by the United States now launching the NAWAPA* project, with the preliminary step of reorganizing the banking system through Glass-Steagall, and then moving on from there."

"Put Glass-Steagall through now, and I know how to deliver a victory to you."

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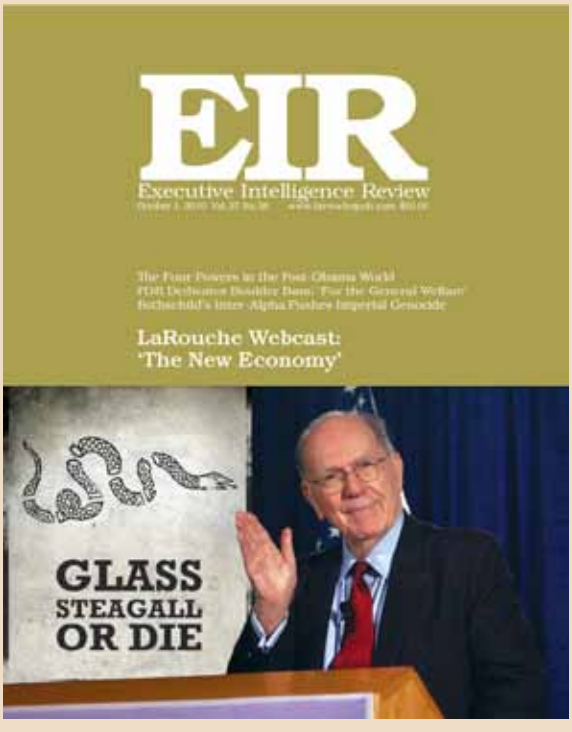

*The North American Water and Power Alliance

Book Review

'We Let Them Starve'

by G. and E. Neudecker

Wir lassen sie verhungern: Die Massenvernichtung in der Dritten Welt (We Let Them Starve: Mass Extermination in the Third World)
by Jean Ziegler
Gütersloh: C. Bertelsmann Verlag, 2012
hardbound, EU19.99

Jean Ziegler, an advisor to the UN on food issues, is known for his no-holds-barred representation of reality. His new book about world hunger leaves no doubt where the roots of the problem lie.

The Swiss author begins by breaking a taboo: Going against the *Zeitgeist*, he asserts that there is enough agricultural land on Earth now to feed 12 billion people. But lack of technology, waste, wrong-headed ecological insanity, and disregard for the rights of the rural population in the developing world are making the hunger situation worse. Ziegler enrages the "overpopulation" fanatics by excluding the theme of family planning, and relies on tried-and-true strategies.

Jean Ziegler

Like the plague in the Middle Ages, famine was often considered an inevitable scourge, to halt the growth of population. Thomas Malthus's theory has been used to ease the consciences of the ruling class and to maximize profits.

Ziegler describes how humanity has freed itself from such fatalism, such as how the horrendous consequences of World War II were overcome. In his view, the situation today can also be solved with enough material, logistical, and financial support, and above all by collective action: "Why should this not also be possible for the problem of hunger in the world?" It is mankind's responsibility to eliminate this disaster, he writes, and there is nothing fatal or inevitable about it.

Ziegler points to the work of Josué de Castro, who detailed the catastrophic consequences of monoculture for the rural population of Brazil. Castro was a doctor in the 1930s in the Recife region, one of Brazil's largest sugarcane-growing areas, which had previously been a prairie with a great diversity of agricultural uses and fertile red soil. But with the increasing cultivation of sugarcane, traditional crops disappeared, such as maize, beans, cassava, and other vegetables. The food supply has declined so much, that today, 85% of the food needs of the state of Pernambuco, where Recife is located, have to be imported. Castro also recognized such effects of the increasing monoculture as malnutrition, hunger, and stunted development of children.

He recorded his experiences in his book *Geography of Hunger* (1946), which was translated into many languages and became the practical handbook for the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which was founded in 1945. Later the book was retitled *Geopolitics of Hunger*, based on the realization that it is not geography that is key, but the interests of people, politicians, and companies, in the utilization of agricultural areas.

What It Takes To Stop Famine

With reference to an FAO report, but mainly to his own experience in traveling around the world, Ziegler uses many examples to show that it is not sufficient to provide food to fight hunger: Sometimes only the very specific addition of minerals, vitamins, etc., to provide a long-term balanced diet, can prevent disease.

He describes a terrible disease called Noma (*cancrum oris*), which especially affects malnourished young children. Its cause is the collapse of the immune system. Germs and bacteria easily enter the mouth, where they cause inflammation of the gums, then mount a massive attack on the oral mucosa, and eat holes in the jawbone and the cheeks. This can lead to immobility of the jawbone and disfigurement of the face.

As horrible as the effects of this disease are, it can just as quickly and easily be cured, using antibiotics, a

proper diet, and rigorous oral hygiene. The Swiss foundation Winds of Hope says that a cure for one child costs only EU2-3 and takes about ten days. This is a further example of Ziegler's thesis that mass extermination by starvation is anything but inevitable.

Ziegler shows why, despite increasing food production, it has not yet been possible to eliminate hunger. It is not only the failure of the aid agencies that bothers him—and as Vice President of the Advisory Committee of the UN Human Rights Council, he could give a comprehensive picture of this—but also the control by the food cartels and the politics of biofuels, just to mention some additional factors.

The Earth's population has almost doubled in the last 40 years, from 3.7 billion people in 1970 to more than 6.7 billion today. Although food production has increased enormously, along with the increase in population, we have not been able to eliminate the problem of hunger. Nearly a billion people are still suffering from it, and every five seconds a child under ten years of age dies of starvation.

As already mentioned, Ziegler sees food control as an important reason for starvation, describing how only five companies control 85% of world agricultural trade. After the collapse of the financial markets, speculators rediscovered the food market as a field for their activity. He calls them "tiger sharks," who are deliberately driving prices for wheat, rice, corn, and soy into the stratosphere in order to maximize profits, and are making food unaffordable—and not only for the people of the "Third World."

Another field of operations for the modern robber barons, he writes, is colonization by the purchase of land by investment companies and countries such as China and Saudi Arabia. These land areas are then often used to produce biofuel, making the hunger crisis even worse.

This policy has resulted in an outcry for change, not only in the developing countries, but also in developed countries. That is where Ziegler sees a glimmer of hope: that by collective rebellion, one of the greatest horrors of this century can be defeated.

Hopefully, more and more people will not only endorse the argument of his book, which unmasks the "enemies of the right to food," but will adopt our slogan, which has often been discussed in this publication: "The world needs more people!"

Translated from German by Susan Welsh.

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THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE OF EARTH

Asteroid Defense and Fusion Propulsion

by Ben Deniston

Nov. 25—Two members of the LaRouchePAC Basement Research Team, Benjamin Deniston and Jason Ross, attended the Fall 2012 NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) Symposium, Nov. 14-15, 2012, held in Hampton, Va. NIAC operates under the NASA Office of the Chief Technologist, and provides funding for studies of advanced and innovative space technologies critical for NASA missions in the next 10 to 100 years. The future perspective of NIAC brings together many interesting participants, with applications ranging all the way from exploration of the Solar System, to investigations pertaining to fundamental physics, to innovations in materials and production. Videos from the symposium can be found on NIAC's website.

Deniston and Ross interviewed three of the participants on their work on asteroid defense and on fusion propulsion, areas of vital concern for the defense of Earth and the expansion of mankind into the Solar System.[1]

Professors Bong Wie (Iowa State University) and Brent Barbee (NASA Goddard Space Flight Center) spoke about defending planet Earth from small to medium-sized asteroids when we have relatively little warning time before impact. Their "Hypervelocity Asteroid Intercept Vehicle" concept would be a two-part spacecraft, designed to operate at very high intercept speeds, utilizing a thermonuclear explosive device to break apart the threatening asteroid.

Dr. John Slough (President and Director of Research at MSNW) discussed new designs for a fusion-powered

LPAC

Professors Brent Barbee (center) and Bong Wie (right) are interviewed by LPAC's Benjamin Deniston at the Fall 2012 NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) symposium.

1. See the LaRouchePAC reports, "The Strategic Defense of Earth" and "IGMASS: Towards International Collaboration in the Defense of Mankind."

spacecraft. Using current chemical propulsion systems, a round-trip human expedition to Mars would take two to three years. On such missions, astronauts would lose both muscle and bone mass, and would be exposed to large doses of cosmic rays and energetic solar particles. The cargo required for such a mission would require nine launches of the largest-class rocket for a manned Mars mission. Dr. Slough's team of researchers at the University of Washington and MSNW, believe they have a unique solution to this problem by using nuclear fusion. The high energy density of fusion fuel means that such a rocket could reduce the trip time to 30 days, while requiring only a single rocket launch per Mars-bound spacecraft.

The interviews follow.

Interview: Brent Barbee and Bong Wie

SDE: Hypervelocity Asteroid Deflection

Professors Brent Barbee and Bong Wie were interviewed at the NIAC symposium by LaRouchePAC Basement scientific researcher Benjamin Deniston on the question: "Asteroids and comets will strike the Earth in the future, so what can mankind do to defend itself?"

Brent Barbee: My name is Brent Barbee, and I'm a flight dynamics engineer at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. I also teach astrodynamics at the University of Maryland at College Park.

Bong Wie: And my name is Bong Wie. I'm the Vance Coffman Endowed Chair Professor of Aerospace Engineering at Iowa State University.

Ben Deniston: To get started, maybe you could discuss the general concept of asteroid defense. First, why is it an area of concern? Why is it something we should be studying now, as an interest for the scientific community and the population generally?

Barbee: Well, asteroid defense is a very important topic because we know that our planet has been struck in the past by large and small impacters that have done damage to the ground. At present I think there are on the order of 170, 180 confirmed impact structures that have been found all over the world. Of course, most of our planet surface is covered with water and weathering and geological processes that have obscured the signs of impact, but we're discovering them; we know that they're there. So we know that it's a threat that is out there, that we're going to have to deal with.

So, it behooves us to be prepared ahead of time, so that we're not scrambling to slap together some sort of hastily prepared defense at the last moment, when we discover a threat. It's much, much better to have investigated the solution, tested it, done many dress rehearsals, so that we're very, very comfortable and very adept at doing it, when the day comes that we have to call upon those systems to stop an asteroid impact.

Deniston: Because there are a few layers to the discussion, correct? There's observation, detection, finding all the possible threats. And then there's also the issue of mitigation, of doing defense against something that might be a threat to the Earth. Is that correct?

Barbee: That's right. Absolutely. In fact, you could say that planetary defense rests on a tripod of detection, characterization, and mitigation. So, if we have wonderful mitigation systems that are highly capable, but our detection capabilities are poor, then we will be well able to do something about the problem, but we won't know that it's coming. Whereas if we have wonderful detection systems, but no preparation for mitigation, we may very well see it coming, but be unable to act.

So, it's important to have both systems; and historically, up to this point, we've invested a lot more in detection, because it's something that we could do from the ground, using telescopes, and it's been a very successful effort, but now the time has come to begin appropriately, devoting appropriate resources, to the mitigation/preparedness problem as well.

Wie: If I may emphasize that for mitigating the impact threat of asteroids, detection is a necessary condition, but it's not sufficient. And we do need to develop mitigation techniques in order to be ready whenever needed.

The Asteroid Threat

Deniston: Here we are at the NASA Advanced Innovative Concepts conference, and so what exactly brought you here to present something to this particular audience, relating to the asteroid threat?

Wie: We proposed a concept called Hypervelocity Asteroid Impact Vehicle, to the NIAC program, and this proposal was selected, because NASA felt that it is

NASA

To counter the threat to Earth from asteroids, meteors, and comets, both detection and mitigation systems are needed. Shown: an artist's concept of a Multi-Mission Space Exploration Vehicle (MMSEV) approaches an asteroid.

the next logical step to move forward to develop our own national protection system against the impact threat of asteroids. So, we are here to present our concept, and my Co-I [co-investigator] Barbee and myself, we were very pleased to receive constructive comments from our colleagues who are attending this conference.

Deniston: Maybe you can describe why you need to do the work you're doing. Because most people might think, well, we'll just throw a bomb up there and hit it with a bomb—but as you presented earlier, it's not quite that simple. There's actually highly complex science involved in this question, this challenge. So maybe you could present a concept of what exactly you're bringing to the discussion here.

Barbee: Sure. The reason that it's not as simple as just throwing up a bomb—the reasons are multifold. On the one hand, you have the orbital mechanics, so orbital mechanics means that you can't just send the spacecraft to the asteroid for a rendezvous mission whenever you like. There are going to be certain times when you can launch, and have a low relative velocity, naturally, when you get to the target, and thereby effect rendezvous using a reasonable amount of propellant.

So, for our study, we're saying that we want to be ready to deal with short warning-time scenarios. We want to be able to launch essentially at just about any time. So that means that our system has to be designed to come in fast at the asteroid, [at a] high relative velocity at the time that we intercept the asteroid. So, we're not going to carry a propellant to slow down, because physics dictates that that amount of propellant would be huge.

So, our system is designed to come in at an excess of 5 kilometers per second—5, 10, 15, 20, up to 30 kilometers per second—relative velocity at impact. So, what that means is that we're coming at the asteroid really fast.

Deniston: For our audience, that's tens of thousands of miles per hour, correct?

Barbee: Oh yes, tens of thousands of miles per hour. So, I think, as a reference point, 7 kilometers per second is on the order of about 20,000 miles per hour—something like that, so yes, that's right. And as we're coming in, the asteroid starts off as this little tiny dot that the cameras on the spacecraft can just barely see, a few million kilometers away; and then, within a matter of hours, we're down to the last few minutes, and the last few seconds, and we cover hundreds of kilometers within a matter of a minute or so.

So, there's very little time for the spacecraft to react. So, we have to design robust on-board guidance, navigation, and control systems that can successfully hit that relatively small asteroid out in the huge volume of space, traveling at such high relative velocities.

What's more, is that in order to effectively disrupt the asteroid, our design calls for a two-body vehicle: an impacter and a follower. The impacter excavates a small crater, shallow crater, on the asteroid's surface, and then, within perhaps a millisecond after that crater is excavated, the follower spacecraft, which is just

behind it, enters that shallow crater, and at that moment, must detonate the explosive device in order for it to be effective. If the explosive device were to strike the surface of the asteroid before detonating, it would be destroyed, and the mission would be a failure.

So, there are some very precise timing [issues] and a key sequence of events that will have to happen at hypervelocity, driven by robust, cutting-edge new sensor technology, to make all of that happen, and make it happen in a reliable way, so that we know that we can build five, six, seven of these systems, and deploy them, and have high confidence that they would work as designed.

Hyper-Fast Speeds

Deniston: So, you're talking about just incredibly fast speeds and incredibly accurate timing, to be able to have this go off, in just the right fashion; and obviously, this is something where, if we were to encounter a situation where we needed this to work, *we would need it to work!* We couldn't—we would need to make sure this is 100% effective, and have the effect we need.

Barbee: These relative velocities that we're talking about are beyond what we can currently test in terrestrial laboratories. I mean, there are facilities with rail guns and light-gas guns that can get up to the range of 3 to 5 kilometers per second, maybe a little bit more.

But for the regime of speed that we're talking about, it's a very unexplored region. What happens to the materials that the spacecraft is made of? What are the consequences of those materials' effects on the payload that we're trying to deliver to the target? There's a whole host of issues that we have to research. The materials science, the structural design, the hypervelocity-impact physics, and of course, the robust guidance navigation control happening on a very, very short, almost infinitessimal time frame.

So, there are several aspects to this research that are really pushing the boundaries of what's been done.

Wie: But to give the feeling of that high speed, let's say 10 kilometer per second, or even 11 kilometer per second, on someone flying an airplane, that will be more like landing an airplane from a cruising altitude of 36,000 feet, which is about 11 kilometer altitude, in one second, and landing on the runway. That is the kind of speed we don't usually talk about for airplanes. But in space, that is a common speed.

So, currently, we do have guidance navigation-control technology which can provide a reliable precision of an impacter against asteroids. But we have not demonstrated our capability against a small target—50-meter or 100-meter small size. I mean, that is our research goal. The goal is to develop flight-proven technology to be ready to be used, for a small 50-meter, 100-meter target, with a very short warning time.

Deniston: I know when it comes to a discussion of mitigation, there's a complex number of scenarios and questions. You mentioned that you are specifically looking at short warning times, because the idea is, if you have a longer warning time, there's an array of methods you might be able to use. You might be able to kind of bump it, or impact it with a non-explosive device. You might be able to pull on it gravitationally, or by various other means. But you're focusing on a very specific scenario, where we might only have months, in the range of months, warning time, right?

Barbee: Even up to several years. Really, anything less than ten years falls into the range of scenarios where you would need to use some kind of a nuclear solution. The NRC [Nuclear Regulatory Commission] report that was released several years ago, sort of identified that range of warning time, from ten years down to zero, essentially, as being the regime in which you need to have some kind of a nuclear solution. Because of the energies involved.

Deniston: And that's why I want to ask, just to illustrate for people: Because when you're talking about the energies needed to have an effect on these bodies—you're talking about mountains, basically, mountain-sized rocks and debris flying around in space—the energy density you get with nuclear and thermonuclear capabilities is just orders of magnitude more than you get otherwise. Is that correct?

Wie: Yes, that's correct. Also, I'd like to emphasize that we don't have correct definitions of a short warning time. Everyone has a different time scale. So, as we said, even a ten-year warning time, we consider short. So let's assume that we have ten years lead time, but if it takes nine years to make a decision for the launch, then we have only one year engineering lead time, that is not sufficient.

So that's the situation right now. We don't have a clear definition of what do you mean by warning time. Does it include political decision time? Or do we have a system to be launched right now? Do we have to find a launch vehicle, or do we need to design a satellite? So,

that is an open issue to be further studied, to be discussed.

International Collaboration

Deniston: I wonder if you also could speak to the idea of international collaboration, because obviously, the first thing that comes up with this, is—these asteroids, they don't distinguish between NATO countries and non-NATO countries, or which economic bloc it's going to impact somewhere on the Earth. This is a global threat that transcends a lot of national boundaries, obviously.

You know, we're interested in collaboration with, especially Russia and China, for example. This should be an effort where we should be pooling the scientific capabilities of the best nations of the world, and I was wondering if you had any thoughts on the importance of that aspect of the threat.

Barbee: Well, planetary defense, for all the reasons you just said, would be a wonderful thing for all the people of the world to cooperate in. That would be fantastic. But until that day comes, there are going to be some pretty thorny issues that have to be dealt with.

For example, if you have an object whose diameter is 1 kilometer or larger, when asteroids get to be that big, or bigger than that, that's when you really have the threat of global consequences from the impact. For things smaller than that—when you're talking about a several-hundred-meter asteroid, maybe a 100-meter, 50-meter asteroid—the effects of those impacts, while still devastating, are on a more localized scale. We'll know ahead of time, when we've spotted the asteroid coming, what are the possible impact locations on the Earth. And so, if it's going to be impacting one region or one country, and it's only going to affect them, then who's responsible for building and deploying and managing the deflection mission, if that country's not capable of doing it themselves?

Those are the kinds of questions that are going to be asked.

And then there's the question of liability. Who's liable if the effort fails, or if it makes the problem worse than it was to begin with? So, the questions of responsibility and liability really rise to the top, when you're talking about this small several-hundred-meter, down to maybe 50-meter, asteroid size in range, which is difficult to deal with, but it's something that really has to be thought about, because the smaller asteroids, between 50 and several hundred meters in size, are more numerous than the very large kilometer-sized and larger asteroids.

So, it's much more likely that, within any given time frame, we're going to be faced with the threat by one of the smaller asteroids than one of the very, very large ones. So, it's something that we should... I don't know what the answer is, but these are some of the questions we need to start thinking about for the first steps in international collaboration.

The Big Picture

Deniston: As a last question, let's take it to the big picture. Say, we live on this planet. If you look at it on the scale of the Solar System, it's a relatively small location. Our Solar System is located in this entire galactic system. Here, we've got records of the history of life coming and going on this planet, mass extinctions, major extinctions; some we think are related to asteroid impacts, others maybe to other events—global climate changes, maybe supernovae, all kinds of things that go on in our environment that tend to be in an area that's, say, above the heads of most of the general population.

But it seems like taking on this issue has some rather profound philosophical, cultural implications for what this means for mankind, to actually consciously take on a challenge like that. And I wanted to know if you wanted to speak to any of these bigger-issue pictures that are related, when you bring in questions of tackling these types of challenges.

Wie: Yes, I agree with you that there are many other natural disasters that we cannot do anything about, to prevent those events, but the impact threat by asteroids can be detected in advance, and probably such an impact threat can be prevented, because we have the technology. But the technology is not quite ready. And we need to develop those technologies which can be used when they are needed, at the right time, in the future.

Deniston: Any last comments?

Barbee: Well, it's true that asteroid impact is probably one of *the* most serious natural disasters that is, in principle at least, preventable. And so, it seems to me that for any species that's going to survive for a very long period of time, such a species would almost certainly have to make the deliberate choice to learn to protect itself from any extinction-level event, and that, if we, as human beings, are able to make that jump, and make that decision, and make that choice, that bodes

really well for long-term survival.

Not just because of stopping the asteroid from hitting, but for what that means about us as a people, and us as a species, that we're able to have the forethought and be willing to behave cooperatively towards that end—that, in and of itself, regardless of the technology to deflect the asteroid, that decision, that choice, means a lot for our future.

Interview: John Slough

Developing Fusion Rockets To Go to Mars

Jason Ross of the LaRouchePAC Basement scientific research group interviewed Prof. John Slough, president of MSNW, on his firm's proposal for a fusion-powered rocket, with the ability to get man to Mars much more quickly, without exposing astronauts to the hazards of space and other dangers.

Jason Ross: I was hoping you could just share with our viewers a general idea of what your idea is, with your fusion rocket.

John Slough: We perceived that the problem with why we're not on Mars now, is that it costs too much, and it takes too long. So, the only way that those two problems can be addressed, is if we manage to have a rocket, where the ratio of the mass of the rocket to the power it delivers is very small. And at the same time, the exhaust velocity must be much higher than what we can achieve with chemical energy, in order to shorten the trip time.

So both of those are required to reduce the amount of material that you need to bring into space, and the time it takes to get there.

There's probably only one energy source that has that kind of energy density, if you want to call it that, and that is nuclear. And now nuclear fission has been a problem for space transportation, but there, they can only use thermal energy that's derived from the fission due to the nature of the reactor/reactions itself. [But] fusion has always held the promise of being able to generate particles at very high energies, and we can then use these particles which have a very large exhaust velocity.

LPAC

Prof. John Slough (left) is interviewed at the NIAC conference by LPAC's Jason Ross.

What we've decided is that the fusion process itself, can create a tremendous amount of energy, and that if it were surrounded by a different propellant, other than the fusion plasma itself, that we could then transfer that energy to that material, and then achieve both the high velocity that we need for rapid transportation, and reduce the mass cost, because we actually use the propellant to compress the plasma to fusion conditions. So, we kind of do double duty there.

So the energy that's released by the fusion event goes directly into propulsive motion, rather than passing through some kind of an energy-conversion system, such as a boiling-water reactor, or a boiling-lithium reactor, or whatever you might imagine for space.

It's a very simple system. It is really kind of based on nuclear devices that were developed in the '50s for much different purposes, but the challenge was to not have high yields, like you would see in a hydrogen bomb, but to bring that down to a scale where essentially that energy could be created and transferred to the rocket ship without damage to the rocket ship.

And we believe that we can do this for two reasons. One, we reduce the energy by about a factor of a billion over a hydrogen bomb—you may not even think that's quite enough, but actually it is. The other thing that's very important about the way we proceed to make the fusion event, is that we use a magnetic field to induce this lithium, the preferred material, as the shell that implodes our plasma, and creates fusion conditions. We

use magnetic fields to do that.

The good part of that is that after we've created this large burst of fusion energy, and transferred it to the lithium propellant, the lithium propellant becomes an ionized gas itself. And the magnetic field then guides it out the end, so that it can't restrike against the rocket surface. All chemical rockets depend on the wall transmitting the impulse in the nozzle to exit in a specific direction, so here, we avoid the energy transfer to the rocket, and we protect the rocket, all done at the same time.

So, all these things coming together mean that we can now have a rocket ship mass that is, compared to the power produced, a very small number. So, we don't spend much mass in producing the energy. So, that's sort of the basis behind the fusion-driven rocket.

MSNW

The only reason we are not on Mars now, Slough said, "is that it costs too much, and it takes too long." His firm, MSNW, is developing a fusion-powered rocket, shown here in a artist's concept, to solve that problem.

The Low-Hanging Fruit of Fusion Reactions

Ross: Okay. Let me ask you, in regards to the fusion process itself, your plan uses DT [deuterium-tritium] fusion.

Slough: That's right.

Ross: There was some talk about using helium-3 as a potential source for aneutronic fusion reactions. What are your thoughts on that, in space and here on Earth?

Slough: One thing we found—and this has always been sort of a bias against fusion using DT—it's obviously the easiest and most energy-productive way to create fusion energy. The DT reaction has the largest cross section, has the lowest plasma temperature, so it's what I call the low-hanging fruit of all fusion reactions. And all conceptual designs for Earth-based reactors are always based on DT for that reason.

Now, helium-3 would be an interesting alternative propellant, but the problem there is, it doesn't exist naturally—it's only produced by the decay of tritium. Tritium itself is also only produced by man-made reactions, but the process that's required for making it aneutronic requires a much more difficult fuel to actually convert into fusion energy.

But the real problem that I see is that, having neutrons is only a problem in an Earth-based reactor, in that you need to shield it. In space, in all but the small direction that the spacecraft takes in terms of the solid angle, the neutrons just fly off into space, harmlessly.

So, neutrons aren't bad. Neutrons are actually good, in that they're volumetrically absorbed, meaning that when we try to heat our propellant, in this case the imploding shell that surrounds our plasma to bring it to the fusion condition, the whole body of that absorbs it, and so we can heat the entire mass, and that way convert it all into an ionized gas.

If it were trapped in the form of particles, the particles themselves would be retained in the plasma, and then you have the problem of, how do you get the heat out? So, maybe for a terrestrial reactor, it might have some benefit—I'm not sure about that either. So, neutrons are good as far as I'm concerned.

Ross: Okay, so they're overly maligned.

Slough: Yes, that's right. Well, they obviously can modify and transform materials, and that is good, because that means you can create the fuel that you need, the tritium fuel, from the reaction itself. The other reason people fear neutrons is that they are the means by which a chain-reaction occurs in a fission reactor, so I think they've gotten a bad reputation from fission, but not so much from fusion. So, we'll see.

But transforming materials could be another application, using waste from fission reactors.

The Orion Project

Ross: Right. Your proposed design uses a pulse-propulsion technique similar to, say, the Orion project that was studied earlier in the U.S. What could you say about Orion as an inspiration, or about international work on nuclear rockets of this sort?

Slough: It's true: There was a lot of time and energy spent in trying to use nuclear energy in a way that they knew would produce the copious amounts of energy required for space travel. And the Orion project, unfortunately, at that time, was too close to the concept of an atomic bomb to find any widespread acceptance. In fact, it was banned by all countries.

But the main problem with fission is that, in order to get enough fissile material together to have a chain-reaction that will produce these sort of energies, it requires a very large amount of mass, and therefore a very high amount of energy release. So, the amount of energy release couldn't be reduced by a billion the way we'd like to do with the fusion reaction.

A fusion reaction can really occur at any scale, and that means it's scalable down to a level that we can use it. So, the only successful demonstration of fusion has been with the pulse systems, so we felt like it's got a firm grounding there in the fact that, at least there are several countries that know the process.

Now this is slightly different in that we intend to use a magnetic field to confine it, and that allows us technologically to make it much simpler. So, there have been studies done in terms of the implosion technique that we intend to use with magnetic fields in other countries, particularly back in the Cold War days. So a lot of that information, I think, is now lost, because of the retirement and death of the Soviet physicists, but also, just simply, these things were not written down. But there's a great body of knowledge, worldwide, on how to maybe do this.

So, I think if we can have a demonstration of its potential, through a successful implosion, which we can do in our laboratory, that we'd probably find worldwide interest increased in this process. Because you could also, needless to say, use it for terrestrial energy generation.

Under the Radar

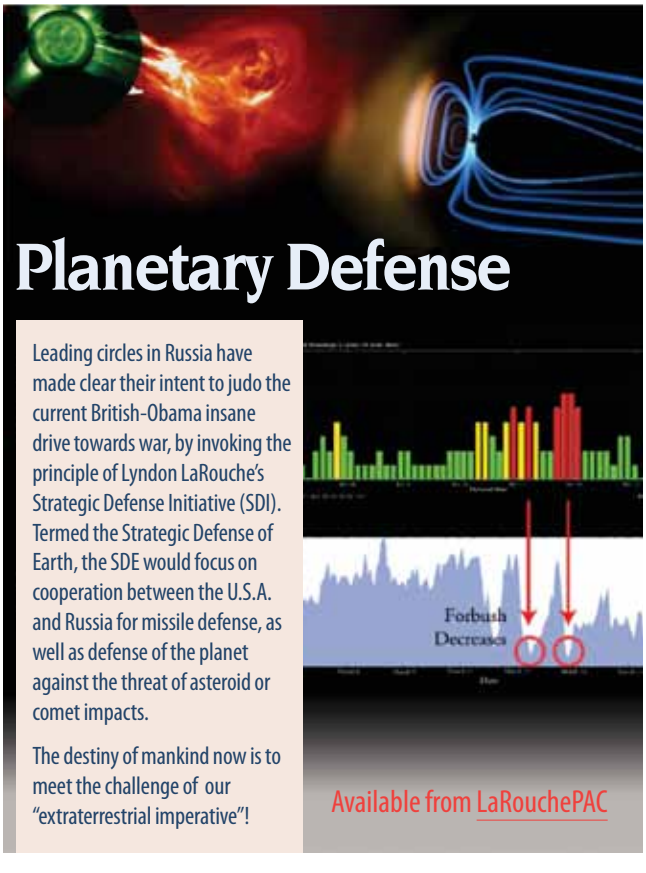
Ross: Let me ask you one last thing, then. Sometimes these projects are discussed, as to whether it's a question of the scientific feasibility versus the political will, which means funding.

Slough: That's right.

Ross: Those might not actually be different questions, since scientific breakthroughs occur when you have funding, but what do you think about the political climate around all this?

Slough: I think we're under the radar right now, as regards to what we can demonstrate. So I think that we have, fortunately, from other fusion experiments that I've conducted in the past, a large amount of equipment that we can apply to this particular task. So that allows us to actually get much further along in this process. We were even thinking that we might be able to achieve breakeven, which is something that hasn't occurred yet in controlled nuclear fusion. Even with a simple experiment conducted by very few people, in this manner.

So, that part of it is fortunate for us, that we can achieve that. But obviously, future development, and particularly with the sophistication and the repeatability rating and all the other aspects of space travel, will require significant investment by NASA. But we hope we can interest the world with the fact that fusion isn't always 40 years away, and doesn't always cost $2 billion.



FDR'S HURLEY MEMORANDUM

Free Iran from British Imperialism

by Anton Chaitkin

As the second Obama Administration, under control of its British imperial masters, takes shape, continuing its illegal wars and murderous drone attacks, it is well to recall that exactly 69 years ago, another U.S. Administration, that of Franklin D. Roosevelt, was engaged in plans to liberate the world, especially the nations of Asia, Southwest Asia, and Africa, from the deadly grip of that same British Empire. A key part of that effort was FDR's plan for post-war Iran.

National Archives

Following the Tehran Conference in November 1943, in which Stalin, Roosevelt, and Churchill outlined the strategy for the conclusion of the war, FDR determined to free Iran from the oppression of the British Empire. Churchill was furious.

Following the war-time Tehran Conference, Nov. 28-30, 1943, of the "Big Three"—President Franklin Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin—FDR circulated a proposal to bring modern conditions to Iran, and thereby free that country from the oppression of the British Empire.

The memorandum was drawn up on Roosevelt's instructions by his personal representative, Gen. Patrick J. Hurley, in December 1943, and has lain in archives, unpublished since it was declassified in the 1970s.

General Hurley had made the arrangements for the meeting in Tehran, to agree on plans for completing the World War II victory over the Axis powers.

Following the conference, Roosevelt asked Hurley to compose a report on how the United States could help Iran to overcome its terrible backwardness; how we would then use Iran's success as the model for how America would aid poor countries everywhere. Hurley traveled through Iran for three weeks, interviewing people of all ranks and conditions. His report con-

Truman Library

Following FDR's death, Truman (left) and his Secretary of State Dean Acheson, operating on behalf of British imperial interests, schemed to restore Britain's control of Iran's oil. They are shown here in 1947.

demned British tyranny over Iran, looking forward to an American global showdown with the British imperialism in the post-war period.

Roosevelt proudly circulated the Hurley memorandum in the State Department, with a cover letter affirming it as his policy. He was "thrilled with the idea of using Iran as an example of what we could do by an unselfish American policy," and ending the "bondage" of "99% of the population to the other 1%."

The President also copied the memo to Churchill, as a merry form of torture. The fuming Churchill waited three months to reply with outrage over the insult.

British Empire supporters within the United States, led by Dean Acheson, attacked Roosevelt's proposal inside the State Department, labeling it "hysterical messianic globaloney."

The pro-British Vice President Harry Truman, who became President upon Roosevelt's death on April 12, 1945, elevated Acheson to the post of Secretary of State. In 1951, when Mohammed Mossadegh became Prime Minister of Iran, and nationalized the British Petroleum company, Acheson coordinated with the British ambassador and a joint CIA-British Intelligence team, to plan a coup d'état against Mossadegh, and restore British control of Iran's oil. The coup was implemented in 1953 during the Eisenhower Presidency, under CIA Director Allen Dulles, whom Truman and Achseon had previously put in charge of CIA covert action.

In 1945, and again in 1951, Hurley testified at Senate hearings, exposing Acheson's treachery in wrecking Roosevelt's plan for cooperation and friendship with a sovereign Iran.

Here are the Hurley memorandum; Roosevelt's cover letter circulating it; and excerpts from the exchange between Roosevelt and Churchill.

FDR's Memorandum to Secretary Cordell Hull

President Franklin Roosevelt sent the following memorandum, dated Jan. 12, 1944, to Secretary of State Hull. Following the memo, is the President's cover letter, forwarding the Hurley memo to British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Churchill's reply.

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Enclosed is a very interesting letter from Pat Hurley. It is in general along the lines of my talk with him.

Iran is definitely a very, very backward nation. It consists really of a series of tribes and 99% of the population is, in effect, in bondage to the other 1%. The 99% do not own their own land and cannot keep their own production or convert it into money or property.

I was rather thrilled with the idea of using Iran as an example of what we could do by an unselfish American policy. We could not take on a more difficult nation than Iran. I would like, however, to have a try at it. The real difficulty is to get the right kind of American experts who would be loyal to their ideals, not fight among themselves and be absolutely honest financially.

If we could get this policy started, it would become permanent if it succeeded as we hope during the first five or ten years. And incidentally, the whole experiment need cost the taxpayers of the United States very little money.

Would you let me know what you think I should reply to Hurley? He is right that the whole lend-lease administration should take complete control of the distribution of our own lend-lease supplies in the Middle East.

[signed] F.D.R.

Here is FDR's cover letter to Churchill...

Private
February 29, 1944

Dear Winston:

The enclosed memorandum was sent to me by Major General Patrick Hurley (former Secretary of War) whom you saw at Teheran.

This is for your eyes only. I rather like his general approach to the care and education of what used to be called "backward countries." From your and my personal observation I think we could add something about cleanliness as well.

The point of all this is that I do not want the United States to acquire a "zone of influence"—or any other nation for that matter. Iran certainly needs Trustees. It will take thirty or forty years to eliminate the graft and the feudal system. Until that time comes, Iran may be a headache to you, to Russia and to ourselves.

National Archives

FDR forwarded the Hurley memo to Churchill, who strongly objected to Hurley's characterization of the British Empire, claiming that under the Empire, "democracy" was flourishing.

You will remember that I suggested to Stalin that a free port could be set up at the head of the Persian Gulf, the management of the railroad internationalized, providing a through route for Russia and for the developing areas of Iran herself.

Would you let me have this copy back, as I have no other?

With my warm regards,
As ever yours,
[signed] F.D.R.

and Churchill's reply to Roosvelt, nearly three months later...

10, Downing Street,
Whitehall.
May 21, 1944.

My dear Mr. President,

Many thanks for letting me see General Hurley's memorandum on Persia, which I am returning to you herewith as requested.

I am sorry to have delayed answering it, but several Departments of State had to be consulted on the points which it raised. The General seems to have some ideas about British imperialism which I confess make me rub my eyes. He makes out, for example, that there is an irrepressible conflict between imperialism and democracy. I make bold, however, to suggest that British imperialism has spread and is spreading democracy more widely than any other system of government since the beginning of time.

As regards Persia, however, I do not think that "British imperialism" enters into the picture. It is true that we, like the United States, are inevitably concerned about our strategic supplies of oil, the more so because, unlike the United States, we have no metropolitan sources. From the same security point of view, we have responsibilities which we cannot at present abandon for the western frontier of India and the eastern frontier of Iraq. Apart from this we have the same wartime interest as the United States in the safety of the trans-Persian supply route to Russia. For all these reasons we want a strong and friendly Government in Persia, and have no wish to see the establishment of foreign "zones of "influence...."

Yours sincerely,
Winston S. Churchill

Gen. Patrick Hurley To President Roosevelt

General Hurley sent this letter to President Franklin Roosevelt from Tehran, Iran, on Dec. 21, 1943.

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

On your departure from Tehran you outlined to me, during our conversation at the airport, a tentative basis for American policy in Iran which might be used as a pattern for our relations with all less favored associate nations. In response to your suggestion and the directive which I received from the Secretary of State, I wish to submit the following for your consideration.

Gen. Patrick Hurley was tasked by FDR to develop an American plan to aid the nation of Iran to overcome its economic backwardness; FDR intended that Iran would become a model for U.S. foreign policy throughout the world.

Part I

It is the purpose of the United States to sustain Iran as a free, independent nation and to afford the Iranian people an opportunity to enjoy the rights of man as set forth in the Constitution of the United States and to participate in the fulfillment of the principles of the Atlantic Charter.

The policy of the United States toward Iran, therefore, is to assist in the creation in Iran of a government based upon the consent of the governed and of a system of free enterprise which will enable that nation to develop its resources primarily for the benefit of its own people. Iranian resources are adequate to sustain a program to help Iran to help herself. By this program of self-government and well directed self-help Iran can achieve for herself the fulfillment of the principles of justice, freedom of conscience, freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom from want, equality of opportunity, and to a degree freedom from fear.

To accomplish the above, the United States will furnish, upon invitation of the Iranian Government, expert advisors in any or all of the fields of government. All experts and advisors furnished to Iran by the United States will be paid by the Iranian Government and implemented in their operations by authority of Iranian law, and will not be a financial responsibility of the American taxpayer. The United States will not ask or receive any special privileges for these services.

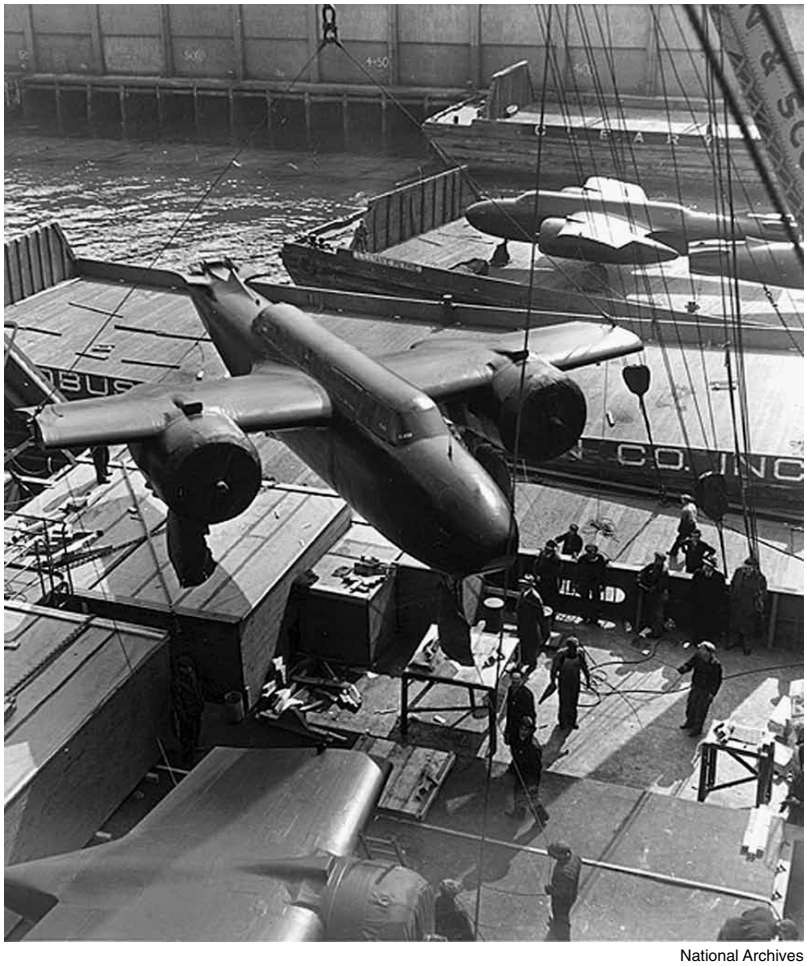
American advisors will be fully indoctrinated in the policy of our own government toward Iran and shall make regular progress reports to our State Department. This indoctrination and requirement of reporting will provide a vital element of coordination which is essential to direction of our policy and protection of our interests.

[The] [m]odern history of this country shows it to have been dominated by a powerful and greedy minority. The people have also been subjected to foreign exploitation and monopoly. In extending American assistance to the building of an improved society in Iran there must be imposed a sufficient degree of supervision and control over free enterprise and personal aggression to protect the unorganized and inarticulate majority from foreign and domestic monopoly and oppression.

Inauguration in Iran of the American pattern of self-government and free enterprise will be an assurance that proceeds from development of Iranian resources will be directed substantially to the building of schools, hospitals, sanitary systems, transportation and communication systems, irrigation systems and improvement of all facilities contributing to the health, happiness and general welfare of the Iranian people.

This plan of nation building may be improved through our experience in Iran and may become the criterion for the relations of the United States toward all the nations which are now suffering from the evils of greedy minorities, monopolies, aggression and imperialism.

The American people, single-mindedly devoted to independence and liberty, are fighting today not to save the imperialisms of other nations nor to create an imperialism of our own but rather to bestow upon the world the benevolent principles of the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms.



National Archives

In his letter to FDR, Hurley noted that the British were highjacking America's Lend-Lease program, even using its supplies to establish a trade monopoly in Iran. Shown: A U.S. bomber is loaded onto a ship bound for Allied ports, ca. 1943.

Part II

The foregoing is a rather simple plan designed to promote the building of free nations. The job that confronts us is not an easy one. The success of the recent conferences in Moscow, Cairo and Tehran indicates that the major powers can cooperate in the prosecution of the war. The reaffirmation of the Atlantic Charter indicates that there is a basis for post-war cooperation. Notwithstanding these evidences of good will I think that now is the time for us to attempt to analyse the opposition that the building of free nations will be likely to encounter.

Without any opposition from other nations and with the co-operation and support of the intelligent and patriotic leaders of Iran it will take generations to achieve in Iran free enterprise and a government based on the consent of the governed. The population of Iran is approximately 90% illiterate and it is composed, to a large extent, of disorganized and separated tribes. The intelligence and vigilance which will support liberty of the masses must be created. The education of the tribesmen and the establishment of a unity of purpose will require time, patience, diligence, efficiency, and a crusading spirit on the part of our advisors. Above all, the advisors must have the continuous support of the American people which in itself may be difficult to assure.

In addition to the obstacles within Iran, the principles of the above formula are in conflict with the principles of imperialism. Free enterprise may also come in conflict with any forced expansion of communism. Advocates of both of these doctrines may resist the proposed spreading of democracy.

In all the nations I have visited, I have been told, usually by British and Americans, that the principles of imperialism already have succumbed to the principles of democracy. From my own observations, however, I must say that if imperialism is dead, it seems very reluctant to lie down.

The imperialisms of Germany, Japan, Italy, France, Belgium, Portugal, and The Netherlands will, we hope, end or be radically revised by this war. British imperialism seems to have acquired a new life. This appearance, however, is illusory. What appears to be a new life of British imperialism is the result of the infusion, into its emaciated form, of the blood of productivity and liberty from a free nation through lend-lease. British imperialism is also being defended today by the blood of the soldiers of the most democratic nation on earth.

The names of the imperialistic nations are sufficient to indicate that a large part of the world's population is still committed to the principles of imperialism. These names also indicate the opposition that will be encountered by any effort that has for its purpose the establishment of democracy in nations that are now subjected to the rule of imperialistic nations. We are approaching the irrepressible conflict between world-wide imperialism and world-wide democracy. It is depressing to note how many of our real friends in the world seem to be irrevocably committed to the old order of imperialism.

Woodrow Wilson's policy for America in the first world war was designed "To make the world safe for democracy" and to sustain Britain as a first-class world power. Sustaining Britain as a first-class power has for many years been the cornerstone of America's foreign policy. Personally I have supported that policy. I have long believed and have many times stated publicly that the ultimate destiny of the English-speaking peoples is a single destiny.

We did sustain Britain in the first world war as a first-class power but we did not succeed in making the world "safe for democracy." Instead, when we backed away from the League of Nations and failed to make the peace terms an instrument of democracy, we made the world safe for imperialism. In the quarter of a century which has intervened the processes of both eastern and western imperialism set the stage for this new world war.

An effort to establish true freedom among the less favored nations, so many of which are under the present shadow of imperialism, will almost inevitably run counter to the policy of sustaining Britain as a first-class world power. This leads us to the conclusion that Britain today is confronted by the same condition that confronted our nation when Lincoln at Gettysburg said "That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom." Britain can be sustained as a first-class power but to warrant this support from the American people she must accept the principles of liberty and democracy and discard the principles of oppressive imperialism.

Soviet Russia has earned for herself an assured place as a first-class world power. Friendship and cooperation between the United States and the U.S.S.R. are essential to peace and harmony in the post-war world. There must, therefore, be a mutual understanding and acceptance of the post-war patterns for freedom which the great powers among the United Nations are to offer to their less powerful associates. Without such agreement there would be jealousy, suspicion and conflict.

Part III

In considering the present status of relations between Iran and the United States it must be remembered that although American troops have been here more than a year their presence has not yet been officially recognized by the Iranian Government. Many Iranian officials believe that American troops are in Iran on the invitation and for the purpose of serving as an instrumentality of Britain. For a year or more we have had under negotiation with Iran a treaty wherein Iran would recognize the presence of American troops as an American operation. The ineffective presentation of the treaty has not been helpful to American prestige with the Iranians.

It is the responsibility of the State Department to effect the consummation of the treaty. The necessity for promptness in the negotiation of this agreement was pointed out by me in my report to you of May 13, 1943. I have not personally participated in any of the treaty conferences with the Iranians.

I think it important that we understand that since our troops entered Iran on the invitation of the British without advance notice to the Government of Iran, it was natural for the Iranians to look upon us as a British instrumentality. In addition to this the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation which was first engaged in preclusive purchasing in Iran has since been selling American lend-lease supplies to civilians and to the Government of Iran. Largely through our lend-lease supplies, paid for by the American taxpayer, the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation has been attempting and, to a considerable degree, succeeding in establishing a complete trade monopoly in Iran. The United Kingdom Commercial Corporation achieved this position by virtue of being on the scene when American lend-lease supplies began entering Iran. United States

representatives in Iran engaged the British Corporation, government-owned but profit-making, to serve as handling agent and middleman for the American goods. This arrangement, which evidently had the approval of the Lend-Lease Administration and the State Department, has been profitable to the British Corporation.

There has been a United States Commercial Corporation, government-owned, with offices in Tehran. When I was here a year ago, Mr. Philip Kidd was in charge of the corporation. Later Mr. Erik Eriksen was in charge. If we were going to enter the commercial field with lend-lease goods, I do not know why we did not use our corporation instead of the British Corporation. I refer again to my report to you on Iran dated at Cairo, May 13, I943 and my report on lend-lease in the Middle East dated at Delhi, November 7, 1943. Your Minister, Mr. Landis, has made great improvement in the administration of lend-lease in the Middle East. Notwithstanding this I am still of the opinion that the present debate between the Americans and British on lend-lease will be ended only when America has taken complete control of the distribution of our own lend-lease supplies in this area.

FDR Library

Hurley spent three weeks in Iran, assessing conditions and gathering material for his report; while there, he met with Shah and his ministers. Here, FDR meets with Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi during the Tehran conference, Nov. 30, 1943.

The Iranians believe that the post-war monopoly plans of the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation now have the support of the United States Government.

In addition to all this there have been conflicts between the British and American Ministries that have been evident to the Iranians. This situation has been damaging to both American and British prestige. To offset this impression the Iranians have witnessed the efficiency of the American operations of railroad and road transporation in passing war supplies to Russia. Finally they have been deeply impressed by your masterful handling of the three-power conference and especially by your skill in procuring from the conference the declaration of policy of the United Nations toward Iran.

Meanwhile, Soviet prestige has benefited from their own well ordered conduct and by their direct and positive relations with the Iranians.

Part IV

In a conversation with his Majesty, the Shah and certain of his ministers a few days ago, I was informed that from one source or another the tribesmen in the outlying provinces of Iran have acquired at least 50,000 rifles and ammunition. This the Shah thought made it imperative that our advisors to the Iranian Army and to the Iranian Police Force hasten the organization of the forces for security against internal disorder. He stated that certain foreign influences are being brought to bear on the tribesmen to cause internal disorder in Iran. While on this subject I informed His Majesty that I had heard that Russia had agreed to furnish the Iranian Army with a number of tanks, rifles and airplanes. The Shah admitted that there was such an offer but how much equipment Russia would give he was unable to say. I remarked that we were furnishing Russia equipment under lend-lease because Russia did not have enough equipment for her own war necessities. His Majesty said that he understood that fact but that Russia had offered to give his government this much needed equipment. He said he had hoped to acquire the equipment from the United States but had been unable to obtain satisfactory action. In my opinion Iran is able to pay for the equipment which she needs for both her Army and her Police Force.

It is a fact, however, that Britain is furnishing lend-lease material to other nations at a time when she is being sustained in her war effort by American lend-lease. Now Russia seems to be about to embark on a

similar program. Britain has been giving and now Russia is about to give our lend-lease supplies, or supplies that have been replaced or released by our lend-lease supplies, to other nations in return for concessions or to strengthen their own ideologies in the countries to which the supplies are given. The least we should demand is that we be permitted to do our own giving.

Part V

Iranian officials have expressed a desire to establish a closer commercial relationship with the United States.

Under conditions now prevailing there will no doubt be a great rush on the part of American businessmen to get oil, mineral and other concessions in Iran. I suggest that the State Department, with the assistance of the other agencies of our government should be prepared to advise the Government of Iran definitely concerning the character and other qualifications of every applicant for a concession.

In proposing to commit you to a world-wide plan of building associated free nations, I am not unmindful of the problems that confront you on the home front.

We should, of course, consider the effect of the present and future high taxes and of the expenditure of great amounts of our economic reserve. Our greatest danger, however, lies in the creation of a stupendous bonded indebtedness. If the war and our post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation commitments continue for a long period this indebtedness may become so overwhelming that it will create hopelessness, lethargy and despondency on the part of the world's freest and most resourceful people. We may again have soldiers being mustered out to disillusionment and unemployment. We may again have people shouting that "We can't eat the Constitution." They may even add to the non-edibles the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms. This might lead to panic, bankruptcy and revolution. It is needless to add that if anything of this nature occurred at home, all our plans for the future of the world would be futile. Tyranny and oppressive imperialism would again be dominant.

I think the broader aspects of your world diplomacy are now in excellent form. But we can damage that position if we fail to be realistic in whipping the details into conformity with your general plan.

Respectfully yours,
Patrick J. Hurley
Brigadier General, U.S.A.

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Editorial

Will We Let Insanity Reign?

The dominance of so-called political discussion in the United States after the election, by the charade known as the "fiscal cliff," should prove to any sane person that the criminal lunatics have taken over the asylum. As former Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan admitted recently, the whole purpose of the negotiation is to "get U.S. lawmakers to accept spending cuts to entitlement programs"—i.e. slash Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security payments to those considered "not worthy of life."

Indeed, President Obama is back to his old murderous mantra from 2009, talking about cutting "excess," "useless" spending from the Medicare budget, by measures ranging from penalizing hospitals for readmissions, to reducing the amount of spending at the "end of life." Where that's going is writ large in Britain, where Tony Blair's Liverpool Pathway program is leading to a cheap death for tens of thousands of elderly patients considered not worth the money to keep alive.

Such cuts will definitely kill people—but do *nothing* to revive a moribund economy, being crushed by the worthless debt obligations run up by banking institutions whom the taxpayer is still supporting.

But to get the full picture of insanity, you have to look at the bigger picture. Leaving aside the U.S.-British-NATO provocations toward thermonuclear war in the Middle East for a minute, just take note:

• A British countess has just launched a new international drive for drug legalization internationally—i.e., a "debate" on "decriminalization." In a world where hundreds of millions of lives and minds are being destroyed by narcotic drugs, and drug-financed terrorism, Countess Fielding was nonetheless able to lure seven former presidents from various nations (including Jimmy Carter), twelve Nobel Prize winners, six British MPs, and others to sign on.

• British ex-Defense Minister Lord Gilbert (under Callahan and Blair's first government), has called for dropping neutron bombs on the Afghan-Pakistan border, in order to create "*cordons sanitaire* along various borders where people are causing trouble." Never mind that there are people trying to live and raise families in these areas; the British oligarchy finds them inconvenient.

• The British-spawned Green movement is rapidly dismantling the remaining industrial capacity of Western Europe, so necessary for reviving the world economy, and sustaining civilized life. The latest two examples are the moves toward the shutdown of Europe's largest steel plant (Ilva in Italy), and the threatened collapse of Germany's energy grid, due to its insane policy of shutting down its nuclear power plants.

Can these lunatic British imperial policies be stopped? The alternate policies for economic growth and war avoidance—Glass-Steagall, a credit system, and huge infrastructure projects—are obviously available. We in the LaRouche movement have presented them for years, and many world leaders clearly agree.

But to defeat this lunacy will take more than the right ideas. A relative handful of leaders must find the courage and the passion to step forward and champion them, against all public opinion to the contrary, and inspire their fellow citizens to join them. People will follow sane leadership, but will we find those leaders in time?

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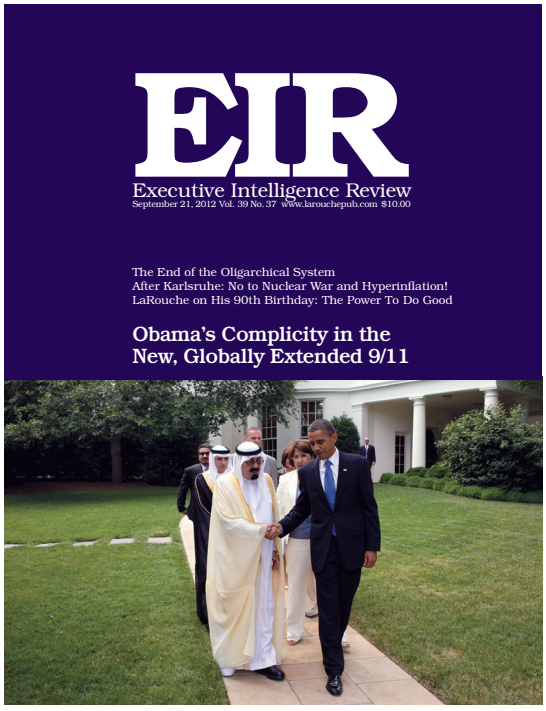

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