

British Ops Create Ring Of Chaos Around China

by Michael Billington

A glance at the map suggests that someone is trying to overthrow the governments of many of China's neighbors to the east, south, and west. Exactly so! Some nations, like Vietnam, are under merciless economic attack from abroad. In Thailand, South Korea, and elsewhere, masses are taking to the streets, demanding "throw the bastards out," often over local issues. The raging food and fuel crises symptomatic of the exploded world financial system, provide plenty of grounds for mass anger and outrage.

But who is it who wants to weaken or destroy these governments? Would that help overcome the food and fuel crises? Just the opposite: it would leave Asian populations totally unprotected; they will be decimated. Some of the grievances may be local, but the falling dominoes game is global, and it's being played from London.

London is trying to line up Europe and America for a war against Eurasia, especially against Russia and China. London's attempted overthrow of these Asian governments is part of the war plan.

Lyndon LaRouche was asked recently to comment on the fact that "most of the neighbors of China, to the east and south, are fighting, basically, extinction, fighting day to day to exist as governments." LaRouche pointed to the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy, which views Asia, where the majority of the human race resides, as a primary target.

"If you are Prince Philip," LaRouche said, "and you are campaigning to reduce the world's population from 6.5 billion to 2 billion—and many people are out for a 1 billion target—then what the hell do you think is going on? I mean, people who are sympathetic to the British monarchy have to be really degenerates. You have Prince Bernhard, who is now dead (we hope!), who married the Dutch princess. His qualification was that he was a member of the Nazi SS, and since he was marrying a Dutch princess, he had to give up his membership in the SS. So, he sent a letter of resignation from the SS personally to Adolf Hitler, and signed it, *Heil Hitler!* What do you expect from this guy?"

Identifying Al Gore as a lackey of the same British policy, LaRouche continued, "So, when you get rough on these guys, as I do sometimes, and somebody comes up and screams about, 'you can't attack respectable people!' I say, 'I think your morality is defined by what you think is respectable.' And turn it around that way. This is what's lacking: People always make apologies for these things."

So, without apologies, here is a brief report on the British operations to destroy the nation-states of Asia, with China as the ultimate target.

1. Vietnam: Assault by Speculators

In a move which closely parallels the 1997 attack on the Thai baht and other Asian currencies by George Soros and his hedge fund cohorts, the British financial locusts have launched an assault on the Vietnamese currency, the dong, driving it down by 29% on the futures markets. Vietnam Finance Minister Vu Van Ninh announced that the government would defend the dong, while also trying to slow the runaway inflation, now at 25%.

As in the 1997-98 so-called "Asian crisis," the speculators have more money than their targetted governments; in this case, they plan to wait until Vietnam runs out of foreign reserves defending the dong, then collect a fortune on their futures contracts when the dong collapses. Such a collapse could spark a "run on the bank" across Asia, as in 1997—only this time the entire world banking system is bankrupt and could explode from such a spark.

Vietnam still has certain controls over its currency, although these were loosened when the country joined the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2006. Speculators are now working primarily with "non-deliverable forward futures" in the currency derivatives market. At the forefront of the locust horde is Morgan Stanley, which has forecast (better to say, "announced") that the dong will be devalued, with forward contracts betting on a 29% drop over the year. The "hit men" from the rating agencies have joined this criminal attack, with Standard & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch all lowering Vietnam's credit rating to negative, thus further driving up borrowing costs. A primary target is Vietnam's huge state-sector industries, which the speculators want privatized so they can be bought up on the cheap.

Vietnam's Central Bank has increased borrowing costs three times this year, to 14%, the highest in Asia, trying to squeeze out inflation. The stock market has collapsed by 60% this year—the largest fall of any market in the world.

The government has resisted lifting fuel subsidies, retaining a safety net for its population and thus preventing, so far, the kind of social explosion taking place in other Asian nations. But this is a huge drain on the budget and currency reserves. The trade deficit tripled in the first five months of the year, from \$4.25 billion one year ago, to \$14.42 billion, further draining reserves, and increasing Vietnam's vulnerability to the locusts.

2. Thailand: Anarchy Looms

The same motley crew of anarchists who brought about a military coup in Thailand in September 2006, against highly popular Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, are at it again against the newly elected government of Samak Sundaravej. Under the leadership of Sondhi Limthongkul, a publishing



tycoon, and former Gen. Chamlong Srimuang, now the head of a Buddhist cult, both professional anarchist organizers who hide under the banner of “democracy,” about 25,000 demonstrators marched through police lines to surround the Government House (the office of the Prime Minister) on June 20, where they plan to stay until Samak resigns. Similar demonstrations in 2006 (although much larger) provided the cover for the military coup which overthrew Thaksin. After two years of military rule, an election in December brought supporters of Thaksin back into power, under Prime Minister Samak.

The only complaint the demonstrators have against Samak, is that he is too close to Thaksin, who is himself officially out of politics while fighting scurrilous legal charges. Wrapped in royal colors and claiming to support the King, the mob was confronted by 8,000 police, but the police were ordered not to use force to stop the illegal demonstrations.

As in 2006, the demonstrators are mostly from the urban middle class, but this time students are largely absent—the youth apparently now recognize that the “pro-democracy” demonstrations are a cover for yet another military coup. However, the anarchists enjoy the full support of the Dow Jones (i.e., Rupert Murdoch) rag in Bangkok, *The Nation*, as they did in 2006.

The labor unions and farmers have not joined the demonstrations—the majority were strong supporters of Thaksin’s pro-growth policies and his general welfare support for the poor, and believe Samak will continue those policies. But the fuel and food price hikes are provoking protests which could intersect the anti-Samak demonstrations. Already fishermen in the South held a public boat-burning, claiming that fuel costs made every trip a losing venture. Truckers had a similar complaint and threatened to protest with their trucks in Bangkok. The government calmed the waters with fuel subsidies, but this is clearly a temporary solution.

Rice farmers, too, threatened to set up camp in Bangkok. Despite the huge rise in rice prices, the profits went to the corporate exporters, and rice farmers got little or nothing. The government placed a floor on the price paid to farmers, and began issuing food stamps to the poor—all necessary and humane, but as the hyperinflation grows, such subsidies could prove impossible to sustain.

Meanwhile, Chamlong can be expected to attempt a repeat performance of his 1992 coup effort, when he marched his followers into the military lines, provoking a bloody confrontation which brought down the government. Political analyst Thitinan Pongsudhirak of Chulalongkorn University con-

curred with the government party's assessment that the mob under Chamlong's direction is "agitating for blood. They are going for broke every day to bring down the government."

The 1992 demonstrators were exposed at the time by *EIR* to have been funded and trained by USAID, the Asia Foundation, the AFL-CIO, and the National Endowment for Democracy, all with U.S. government money and approval. This operation set Thailand up for the assault by George Soros and his fellow hedge fund thieves, leading to the mass looting of Asia in the 1997-98 "Asian crisis."

The opposition party has taken advantage of the crisis to hold a no-confidence debate in the Parliament, although it has no chance of passing. Prime Minister Samak has refused to back down from his electoral mandate, and has warned that the those occupying the streets will have to be removed. The government has thus far succeeded in calming angry truckers and fishermen, who are being crushed by fuel costs, with subsidies and pay raises, but this has obvious limits.

3. Effort To Destroy Malaysia

Former Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia Anwar Ibrahim, wholly owned by London and London's U.S. assets Al Gore, Paul Wolfowitz, and George Soros, was deposed and imprisoned in 1998, at the same time that then-Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad saved his nation from Soros and his fellow speculators by imposing currency controls on the Malaysian currency, the ringgit. After his release from prison in 2004, Anwar was sponsored by Wolfowitz and his cohorts, providing him several lucrative positions at universities in Washington and Oxford, at the World Bank, and at foundations in Washington and London. The warchest thus accumulated is now being put to work, to buy his way into becoming prime minister, the position he had been denied by Dr. Mahathir in 1998.

While the global food crisis exploded over the past year, Malaysia, which had allowed itself to be more than 50% dependent on food imports, was faced with both food inflation and potential shortages. This, coupled with the spiking fuel prices, provided a crisis environment for Anwar to launch his attack on Malaysian sovereignty, on behalf of his Western sponsors. He pasted together a "strange-bedfellows" opposition alliance, which cut into the government's majority in Parliament during the recent elections. Anwar began bragging that he would "persuade" MPs from the government party to defect, and that he would soon be prime minister.

Although most Malays hold Anwar in contempt for his subservience to the British financial oligarchs, the population is being crushed by the hyperinflation caused by those same oligarchs. To the extent the government fails to rally the nation to fight those oligarchs, it could further lose popular support.

Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi has implemented a series of necessary measures to double food production, and has initiated serious discussion on the development of nuclear power. He also truthfully identified the speculators as being

behind the hyperinflation, noting that "if our own financial institutions were involved, I have no doubt that we would have been subject to vociferous criticism." He added that "each country faces a different situation, but we should share recognition" of the cause, and work internationally for a solution.

4. Philippines: New 'People's Power' Scam?

The Philippines never recovered from the "regime change" of 1986, which deposed President Ferdinand Marcos, on orders of neocon godfather George Shultz and his deputy Paul Wolfowitz. With that coup, the Philippines' leading role in Southeast Asia was systematically dismantled: The fully completed nuclear power plant was put in mothballs (although the country had to pay every cent of its construction cost); the Green Revolution which had made the nation self-sufficient in rice was dismantled, in favor of the globalization of food; and industrialization was scrapped in favor of process industries and the export of labor. The nation now suffers the highest electricity costs in Asia, and is the world's largest importer of rice. Hyperinflation is driving the Philippines to the brink of catastrophe.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo owes her job to the same crew who overthrew Marcos in 1986, and is herself complicit in the current disaster. Nonetheless, she has taken some steps to break from the globalization dictatorship. She has expanded relations with China, and, with Chinese help, made efforts to revive the Green Revolution. That program stalled in 2004, but in the desperate conditions of the current rice crisis, she is attempting to get it started again.

Most importantly, the government is seriously moving to reopen the mothballed nuclear plant. This would be both a victory for the nation, and a symbol to all of Asia that the anti-science, anti-production globalization process unleashed in the 1980s can be reversed.

But the government is fragile. Desperate and hungry people are lining up for hours every day in Manila to obtain small amounts of subsidized rice, while food shortages also threaten other areas of the country. President Arroyo has been under threat of various coups continuously since she took office in 2001, and has only stayed in power through extra-legal means. Only an extraordinary commitment to return to the economic vision of the Marcos era can put the Philippines in a position to weather the global storm, and to join other nations in building a new world economic order.

5. South Korea Pushed to the Brink

South Korea is facing a series of revolts which threaten to topple the newly elected government, despite its overwhelming victory in the December Presidential election and the April parliamentary election.

Demonstrations began soon after President Lee Myung-bak travelled to the United States in April, aiming to repair strained relations which developed during the former admin-

istration of Roh Moo-hyun. As a concession to Washington, Lee had agreed to lift restrictions on beef imports from the U.S., which had been imposed during the “mad-cow disease” crisis in 2003.

The demonstrations expanded rapidly, driven by other issues than beef imports: soaring food and fuel costs; President Lee’s perceived aloof CEO-style of governing (he was once CEO of Hyundai); and historic anti-Americanism, which has grown stronger during the Bush/Cheney years.

A strike of truckers in June nearly closed the ports, just as the daily demonstrations peaked at several hundred thousand. President Lee has since changed course drastically, granting significant subsidies and pay raises to the truckers and others affected by soaring fuel prices, removing nearly all his top advisors, promising cabinet changes, negotiating a compromise agreement with Washington on the beef issue, and apologizing to the Korean people.

Seoul is also fighting a potentially existential battle with the hedge funds that have moved into South Korea since the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis. Efforts to prevent the looting of national industries, and to stop the intended British break-up of the huge *chaebol* conglomerates which have made South Korea the 12th-largest economy in the world, have had only partial success.

The immediate crisis has been contained, but tensions remain high. The government hopes that new, strengthened relations with its Asian neighbors, especially joint development projects with Russia in the Russian Far East, can revive the economy and restore the administration’s popular base of support. This is precisely the Asian alliance which the British wish to disrupt.

6. British War Plan for Myanmar

Cyclone Nargis, which laid waste to much of Myanmar’s rice production area in May, was immediately seized upon by the British as an opportunity to implement their new colonial scheme, known as a “League of Democracies.” The argument: The UN is now worthless, since Russia and China use their veto power to prevent military interventions against nations that refuse British dictates; therefore, a new “coalition of the willing” must take over, to effect regime change where desired—militarily, if necessary.

A related concept to be tested in the planned “humanitarian” invasion of Myanmar was a concept called “responsibility to protect,” recently adopted by the UN for countries deemed guilty of genocide against their own people.

Myanmar’s ruling junta had no difficulty recognizing the intention, and refused to allow U.S. or European military forces to deliver aid to cyclone victims, insisting that all aid be turned over to the government for distribution by the people of Myanmar themselves.

Two crucial actions stopped the British colonial scheme. First, the United States—at least its military leaders—rejected it absolutely. Pacific Command chief Adm. Timothy Keating

accepted the conditions laid down by Myanmar, arranged for over 100 C-130 transport flights of aid to be delivered to Yangon and turned over to the military government, while the British and the French military ships sat off-shore threatening to invade.

Second, the ten members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which includes Myanmar, accepted Myanmar’s request to coordinate all foreign aid for the cyclone victims and for reconstruction, thus effectively telling the British they would have to deal with all of ASEAN if they chose to invade.

The immediate threat has passed—the British have shifted their focus to Zimbabwe. However, Myanmar remains a favorite target of British subversion, in large part because its geography makes it a strategic hub for India, China, and its fellow Southeast Asian countries. As these nations continue to participate in the development of Myanmar, especially its regional transportation grids, facilitating economic cooperation and expansion, the British must be expected to escalate their plans for destabilization.

7. Break-Up of Pakistan and Afghanistan

The long-standing British plan for the break-up of Pakistan and Afghanistan has reached critical mass, as the border regions between the two have fallen under militant control, both the southern Afghan region around Kandahar and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas of Pakistan. A full report, “Afghanistan, an Unwinnable War to Meet Colonial Geostrategic Ends,” by Ramtanu Maitra, was published in *EIR*, July 4, 2008.

8. British Destabilization of Mongolia

Mongolia sits strategically between Russia and China, with extensive ties to both. The country was thrown into chaos when thousands of supporters of the Mongolian Democratic Party (MDP) launched violent protests against the ruling Mongolian People’s Revolutionary Party (MPRP), claiming fraud in the June 29 elections. Mongolia has large uranium reserves, and is in the process of developing a close relationship with Russia around the development of its nuclear power. During his visit to Moscow in April, Prime Minister Sanjaa Bayar reiterated that Mongolia is interested in building nuclear power plants with Russia’s help.

The controversial issue on which the elections were contested was the Minerals Law. The government party insists on retaining government majority ownership of joint ventures with the international mineral giants in the development of the vast mineral deposits in the Gobi Desert, while the opposition Democratic Party wants to turn the mineral wealth over to private ownership.

The Democratic Party is led by former prime minister Tsakhiagin Elbegdorj, who is a protégé of former Russian prime minister Mikhail Gorbachov; Elbegdorj is also a patron of the neoconservative Henry Jackson Society based in London, and a rabid promoter of free trade.