

# Obama's Asia Trip Had Only One Purpose: War on China

by Mike Billington

Nov. 20—The self-imagined Emperor of America Barack Obama, while planning new wars against Syria and Iran, which are recognized by a growing number of international leaders to be a certain spark for global nuclear war against Russia and China, has completed a nine-day tour of Asia which served one and only one purpose: to launch a new strategic confrontation with China, intended to prepare the world for the coming war.

The so-called “justifications” for this global confrontation are as vacuous and deceitful as those used to launch the wars on Iraq and Libya, or for the proposed wars on Syria and Iran. It is the British Empire, through its puppet Obama, which is out to destroy any possible opposition to the world dictatorship of the bankrupt financial oligarchy, and to carry out the demands of the British monarchy to rid the world of its “excess population.” The huge population of China, and Asia generally, are a primary target for their genocide.

The Obama tour included both military and economic confrontation with China; deploying new strategic U.S. forces in Australia and the Philippines to solidify a strategic “ring around China”; coercing Southeast Asian nations to join in a U.S.-guided confrontation with China over territorial disputes in the South China Sea; threatening China over the sovereign control of its currency; and forging an anti-China “free trade pact” among a “coalition of the willing” in the Asia-Pacific region.

In the course of three summits of Asia-Pacific nations over the nine-day period, Obama succeeded in hijacking the proposed agenda of the majority of the Asian nations—which focused on the disastrous global financial-economic crisis in the trans-Atlantic region and its impact on Asia—imposing instead the imperial stamp of the lunatic emperor on his subject nations.

Multiple source reports from people who attended

the various meetings indicate that Obama's imperial demeanor and delusional belief in his own infallibility were even more frightening than the content of his threats of war.

## ‘Grow Up and Play by Our Rules’

The first of the three conferences, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting, was hosted this year by the United States, in Hawaii. Obama, in several speeches to the heads of state and to business leaders, portrayed China as a primary cause of the economic crisis in the West, ranting that China must “grow up” and “play by the rules.” In a private meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao, Obama “made it very clear that the American people and the U.S. business community were growing increasingly impatient and frustrated with the state of change in China's economic policy and the evolution of the U.S.-China economic relationship,” according to senior White House aide Michael Froman.

Hu responded that in a time of massive economic crisis, confrontation was not wise, but that the U.S. and China must “increase their communication and coordination.” Pang Sen, the Deputy General of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, was more direct: “Whose rules are we talking about? If the rules are made by the international community through agreement and China is part of it, China will definitely abide by them. If rules are decided by one or even several countries, China does not have the obligation to abide by that.”

Obama also used the APEC Summit to push U.S. allies to join the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) free-trade pact, gloating that Japan (as well as Mexico and Canada) had agreed to discuss participation in the TPP during the APEC Summit. Making clear that Obama intends the TPP to be part of a strategic confrontation with China (which is not “qualified” to

join it, according to U.S. officials), Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda told the Upper House of parliament upon his return to Japan that the TPP, supposedly a trade pact, would "stabilize the security situation" in the region.

Obama concluded the Summit by instructing China to revalue its currency by 20-25%, stating that the (substantial) revaluation carried out by Beijing over the past years was only due to "U.S. pressure," but that it "hasn't been enough," and that "the U.S. and other countries feel that enough is enough." He even pointed to the lunatic bill passed by the U.S. Senate in October to launch a full-scale trade war with China if it fails to revalue its currency to the Emperor's liking, as proving that China's policy is "out of kilter."

The Emperor, of course, made no response to the constant cry from China and others that the U.S. bailout of the worthless trillions of dollars in gambling debts in the Western banking system is degrading the dollar, driving global hyperinflation, and threatening the economies of every nation on Earth.

### **Australia and the Ring Around China**

Obama's next stop was Australia, where he demonstrated that the new U.S. strategic posture known as "Air-Sea Battle" is in fact aimed at confronting China. The "Air-Sea Battle," designed by the China-phobic Andy Marshall at the Pentagon's Office of Net Assessments, is based on the concept that China's strategic policy is to deny the U.S. access to the strategic regions surrounding China, especially the South China Sea, through the development of anti-ship missiles and quiet submarines (i.e., modernization of their military capacities).

Obama announced that the U.S. will establish a massive military presence in northern Australia, at the Bradshaw Field Training Area near Darwin, with 2,500 Marines, nuclear aircraft carriers and submarines, B-52 bombers, F-18 fighter aircraft, Global Hawk drones, facilities for training exercises, pre-positioning of military supplies, and more. Military officials and others pointed out that the permanent presence in Australia (which is not being called a "base" for political reasons) will be out of reach of Chinese strategic missiles, unlike the U.S. bases in Japan, Korea, and Guam.

U.S. officials do not attempt to hide the fact that the purpose of the base is to prepare for military confronta-

tion with China. Obama, in announcing the new facility, said, "The notion that we fear China is mistaken," and repeated his warning that China must "play by the rules of the world." "My world," he could have added.

The new "non-base" in Australia will give the U.S. a straight shot through the Indonesian islands, only 500 miles away, into the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean.

The Australian Citizens Electoral Council associates of Lyndon LaRouche, issued a statement warning their countrymen that their governments had participated in "every neo-con venture that the British trap America into, from Vietnam to Afghanistan, but now that involves painting a target on itself also, just as Obama is provoking a nuclear showdown."

China agreed. The *People's Daily*, official paper of the Chinese Communist Party, posted an editorial Nov. 16 which said: "Apparently, Australia aspires to a situation where it maximizes political and security benefits from its alliance with the U.S. while gaining the greatest economic interests from China. However, [Australian Prime Minister Julia] Gillard may be ignoring something—their economic cooperation with China does not pose any threat to the U.S., whereas the Australia-U.S. military alliance serves to counter China. Australia surely cannot play China for a fool. It is impossible for China to remain detached no matter what Australia does to undermine its security. But one thing is certain—if Australia uses its military bases to help the U.S. harm Chinese interests, then Australia itself will be caught in the crossfire. Australia should at least prevent things from growing out of control."

The Citizens Electoral Council also succeeded in prominently displaying an "Impeach Obama" poster, with the now-famous Hitler mustache on Obama, at a joint press conference held by the U.S. President and the Australian Prime Minister, in Darwin. The Australian Associated Press, the country's main news agency, sent out a wire photo of the poster, coupling the image in split-screen format with a picture of Obama and Gillard, which was then carried as the lead photo across Australia on [Yahoo.news.com.au](http://Yahoo.news.com.au).

While making his announcement in Australia, Obama deployed Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to the Philippines to release the updated Philippines-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty, which henceforth will function as a cover for U.S. military targetting of China.



White House/Pete Souza

*Obama's Asia tour was intended to target China, both military and economically. Here, Obama reviews the Tri-Service Guard of Honor at Parliament House in Canberra, Australia, Nov. 16.*

in Manila Bay with Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Albert del Rosario to sign the new agreement. A senior State Department official travelling with Clinton told the press that the Obama Administration was “now in the process of diversifying and changing the nature of our engagement. We will continue those efforts in the south, but we are focusing more on maritime capabilities.” Clinton told the press that the U.S. policy will be to “provide for greater support for external defense, particularly maritime domain awareness, defensive ones, maritime boundaries ... knowing that there are new challenges and new opportunities for us to be working together.”

Obama, in his speech to the Australian Parliament, referenced the new arrangement with the Philippines as an expanded port for naval operations to confront China's supposed threats in the South China Sea (now called the West Philippine Sea by the Aquino government in Manila). He also referenced expanded basing rights for U.S. naval warships in Singapore and Vietnam.

The Philippines shut down the U.S. bases there in the 1990s, and added a ban on foreign bases to their Constitution. But the U.S. has had a “permanent presence” of troops, drones, supplies, ships, and aircraft in the south of the country since the early 2000s, to support operations against Islamic insurgents in the region. To circumvent the Constitutional ban, the presence is not called a “base”—which is the model being used for the non-base in Australia.

Also, the U.S. has covertly used the Philippine Trench to conceal the U.S. nuclear submarine fleet. The Philippine Trench, which lies within Philippine territorial waters in the Pacific, is one of the only sea trenches in the world deep enough to conceal submarines from detection. Now, the U.S. military presence in the Philippines will shift from a focus on counter-insurgency to confrontation with China.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton appeared on the U.S. guided-missile destroyer *USS Fitzgerald*

## Southeast and East Asian Summits

Obama's last stop on the Asia tour was Bali, Indonesia, where two related conferences were held sequentially: the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit, including side meetings with the “Plus 3” (China, Japan, and South Korea) and with India and the U.S.; and the East Asian Summit (EAS). Obama's effort to divert the ASEAN meeting to a brawl with China over the South China Sea was countered by several of the ASEAN nations themselves, especially Indonesia, whose President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said that, against the backdrop of world economic difficulties, “ASEAN is not in favor of discussing detailed political and security issues at the Summit.”

The *Jakarta Post* also reflected the danger inherent in the U.S. military deployment in Australia: “For Indonesia, or for most Southeast Asian nations for that matter, the move is not exactly the kind of signal that they are looking for in terms of greater U.S. engagement with Asia. The presence of the U.S. base just south of Indonesia is simply too close for comfort.” Indonesia also rejected Indonesian participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade talks.

Obama was more successful in bringing up the South China Sea dispute at the East Asian Summit following the ASEAN meeting, despite efforts by Chi-

nese Premier Wen Jiabao to keep it off the agenda, by insisting that territorial questions be addressed bilaterally between the countries involved. With Philippines President Noyoy Aquino providing local cover, Obama tied up most of the meeting with a debate on the issue. Wen responded by repeating his call for Asians to handle the issue without U.S. meddling, through ongoing discussions for a Code of Conduct agreement while the territorial issues are peacefully worked out.

Obama's National Security Advisor Tom Donilon told the press after an unscheduled, informal sidelines meeting between Obama and Wen that Obama was "making clear that Washington was determined to play an active presence in the region to help ensure its stability and peace," and that the "territorial dispute in the South China Sea" is of the greatest interest. He covered his threats by claiming that the United States did not have a view on sovereignty, but was only concerned with "freedom of navigation."

This is a bogus claim. Were it not for the intention to prepare for the global confrontation with China and Russia, the "freedom of navigation" issue would have been moot. There have been no incidents of that type in the South China Sea. There are disputes about fishing rights, ownership of small offshore islands, and underwater resources; and fishing boats and petroleum exploration rigs have been stopped—by other claimants as much as by China—but not in regard to free passage.

"Freedom of navigation has no bearing on disputes among countries concerning maritime sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction over certain sea areas," Lu Yang, scholar of international relations explained in a recent *China Daily* exposition of the concept of freedom of navigation. "Any attempt to force a connection between these two issues will only restrict freedom of navigation and undermine its independent and open nature."

Not only has China declared multiple times that it has no intention to interfere with legal, free passage, but it has no incentive to do so. Its lifeline—its commerce—is dependent on freedom of the seas.

### **LaRouche: Remove Obama Now, or Face War**

Chinese sources told *EIR* that their public response to the Obama threat has been moderated, but that internally, the leadership and the population are deeply concerned. One source said that a report called "Asian Al-

liances in the 21st Century" issued in July by the Project 2049 Institute, a neoconservative think tank in Washington, has called for an Asia-Pacific version of NATO, to confront China, as NATO was designed to confront the U.S.S.R. The report says that the new alliance is necessary to confront the "geopolitical competition" which is the unavoidable consequence of "the sharp divergence in Chinese and American strategic goals."

A leading Chinese strategic analyst also referenced this Asian NATO, adding that the economy in the West is in a state of collapse, but that President Obama is "not at the wheel." Instead, he is pursuing a strategic confrontation with China which could lead to war, destroying both countries and taking the world with it.

LaRouche released a statement on Nov. 14 stating clearly the motivation behind Obama's insane Eurasian war policy:

"If Barack Obama is not thrown out of office soon, civilization is in mortal danger. The British Monarchy is out to destroy the United States as we know it, and Obama is their puppet instrument for accomplishing exactly that. The overall objective of this London-centered oligarchy is to reduce the world's present population from the current official level of seven billion to less than one billion.

"The British are controlling Obama as their puppet. They are engineering the crisis in Europe to impose dictatorships, and they are behind the wars and threats of global thermonuclear war. They know that their entire trans-Atlantic financial and monetary system is dead. They know that the leading nations of the Asia-Pacific region—Russia, China, India, Japan, and the Koreans—are growing, relative to the rapid trans-Atlantic disintegration. This is totally unacceptable from the British standpoint, and so they are using their puppet Obama to prepare for the United States to use nuclear weapons in a global conflict, already set in motion in the new cockpit for war—the Persian Gulf and Eastern Mediterranean region."

LaRouche concluded: "If a few people in positions of authority step up to the plate and demand action along these lines [removing Obama—ed.], this will already weaken Obama and greatly reduce the immediate danger of world war. This is the true measure of patriotism today."

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