

# The Empire Puts Russia and China In Its Immediate Line of Fire

by *EIR* staff

Feb. 1—Having been slightly derailed in the timetable for its post-Libya scenario, i.e., moving for an immediate confrontation with Russia and China over the so-called issues of Syria and Iran, the British Empire is currently pushing forward hard on both those fronts. The Empire has been destabilized by the resistance to war from sections of the U.S. military establishment, and Russia and China, but by no means deterred. The British intention, as Lyndon LaRouche continues to emphasize, is to force Russia and China to bend to their will, or to use their puppet Barack Obama to proceed to a thermonuclear confrontation which has the potential to carry out the virtual extermination of the planet.

Yet, the delay has created new problems for the Empire. Thanks to the international mobilization of the LaRouche movement and others against the war drive, the fraudulent pretexts for “regime change” wars against Syria and Iran have been increasingly attacked. Increasingly, the governments of Russia and China are openly exposing that fact that *they* are the actual targets of the U.S.-NATO drive for confrontation, in what LaRouche has called the Middle East Cockpit.

Once the Obama Administration is revealed to be going for a direct, ultimately thermonuclear confrontation with the two other major thermonuclear powers on the planet, will it be able to “stay the course?” Will the cowards in the U.S. political establishment still be able to justify their refusal to remove this psycho from the position of power where he can destroy the world?

## Open Targeting

The main arena at present for British Empire-inspired targeting of Russia and China is the United Nations, where the British have succeeded, through their burnoused agents, in putting a new resolution for regime change in Syria on the table. Indeed, the British and the fighters they sponsor have worked aggressively to ensure that no peaceful solution to the Syria conflict could occur—as shown in their promotion of armed

conflict through the London-based Syrian National Council, the groups of guerrilla fighters transferred from Libya to Syria, and other support for a military revolt against the Assad government.

Nominally, the resolution calling for Syrian President Assad to step down is sponsored by Morocco. But, in fact, since Britain, France, and the Obama Administration have known for months that the Russians (and likely the Chinese) have determined never again to be burned the way they were with the fraudulent Libya operation, and will never authorize such a resolution on Syria at the Security Council, the transparent intent of the move is to heighten the “enemy image” of the Russian and Chinese governments, as supporters of dictators.

British Prime Minister David Cameron and de facto British agent, U.S. UN Representative Susan Rice, are churning out statements blasting Russia, in particular, for refusing to authorize regime change, and potential military intervention on its southern flank.

The transparency of this targeting has brought an increasingly open response from the Russians and Chinese. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, and his deputy Nicholas Gatilov, have repeatedly stressed that the measures being put forward against Syria are moving in the direction of a war, if not another barbaric assassination of a head of state, as in Libya, and that they will not tolerate it.

In China, while the official statements have been more circumspect, there have been a number of commentaries from high-level military figures which reflect awareness of the targeting, and the fact that Russia and China are in the same boat. One of the most interesting was in the Jan. 31 Russian edition of the *People's Daily*. Written by Dai Xu, a senior colonel in the Peoples Liberation Army, the article bluntly states that the “American strategy” is the isolation and surrounding of Russia and China, and therefore Russia and China must work together to restrain the U.S. He then notes that together, the two nations have the



White House video

*Georgian President Saakashvili's agenda for his meeting at the White House on Jan. 30 with President Obama (they are shown here in the Oval Office), was to include his nation's cooperation with a U.S. or Israeli attack on Iran.*

strength to withstand the U.S. moves, and that their nuclear status should serve as deterrent.

The weakness in Dai's argument, of course, is that he doesn't identify the British control over the Obama Administration strategy—and the British intention to provoke thermonuclear conflict, if they can't get their way otherwise.

### **The Libya Model in Syria**

The intensive push for the new resolution against the Assad regime at the UN Security Council that began this week, allegedly comes from the Arab League, and is backed by the British, French, and U.S. regimes. The authors were at pains to pretend that this resolution not *look* like the one which authorized the Libya War, and it contains certain phrases geared to keep that appearance. But the charade is totally exposed by action on the ground.

For example: The resolution calls for Assad to step down, and for his deputy to take over, and engage in talks with the opposition, including the Syrian National Council (SNC). Yet, the London-based SNC has steadfastly refused to engage in any discussions with the Assad government, including those which the Russian government once again offered to host last week. What makes anyone think they would do so with Assad's deputy?

Second, the resolution pays lip service to the idea of an arms embargo against *all* armed groups, not just the government. Yet, the actual behavior of leading nations, especially Britain and its allies such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar, has been to funnel armaments to insurgent groups, while demanding that the Assad regime abstain from

using military force against them. This is precisely what happened in Libya, with the known result. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Gatilov was correct when he said, "pushing this resolution is a path to civil war."

It should be noted that the reason for the abandonment of the Arab League monitoring mission in Syria was primarily the pull-out of the Saudi/Qatari forces. The League in fact wanted to extend the mission, and, according to Syria's UN Ambassador on Jan. 31, the Monitors' report, which has not been given to the public, or Security Council members, contains much information supporting the Syrian government's assertion that it is under attack by armed fighters, and is suffering extensive casualties. There is also, as reported by the

Monitors, a systemic bombing campaign against Syria's vital infrastructure, such as electricity sources—a known tactic of London-backed terrorists such as Peru's Sendero Luminoso.

### **Is Iran Next?**

The British use of the Mideast cockpit against Russia and China also involves Iran; and the assault on that nation has been greatly intensified over the last week. Economic strangulation through sanctions on its oil exports has been a major British goal; and a boycott was rammed through the European Union on Jan. 23. However, the Obama Administration is carrying out a planetwide campaign to cut off Iran, using a provision in the National Defense Authorization Act, which calls for a U.S. boycott of central banks and others who fund oil business with Iran.

So far, some crucial nations, such as Turkey, India, and China, have balked at implementing sanctions.

Another potential track against Iran is the long-standing threat of an Israeli attack on its nuclear facilities. Due to strong opposition within the Israeli military establishment, and pressure from U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff head Gen. Martin Dempsey, the Israeli threat level has been toned down lately. But, at the Davos World Economic Forum last weekend, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak again claimed that "time was running out" to stop the Iranian program for a nuclear bomb.

In fact, U.S. and Israeli intelligence *know* that Iran is nowhere near having a bomb. Even the Washington-based Institute for Science and International Security, a

group which shamelessly hyped the latest IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) report to say that Iran was pursuing a bomb, came out on Jan. 26 with a new report, saying it had no evidence that Iran had decided to pursue making a nuclear weapon, or that it were likely to do so.

The good news is that Iran is currently hosting a new mission of the IAEA. In addition, Iran is working closely with Turkey through which it is attempting to restart talks with the P5+1 group (nations of the European Union, Russia and the United States) on the nuclear issue, to come to a peaceful conclusion. A well-informed Washington insider has confirmed to *EIR* that these discussions are indeed moving forward, and could result in talks this Spring—although they are not guaranteed to be successful.



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*Although warhawk Dennis Ross resigned as a White House Middle East advisor in November, he continues to serve as a backchannel between Obama and Netanyahu.*

## The Obama Administration

On all these fronts, the Obama Administration is working overtime on a confrontation course against

Russia and China. In some cases, as in the appointment of Michael McFaul as Ambassador to Russia (see *Investigation* p. 51), Obama is bypassing Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and undercutting all her work. In other cases, the Administration is simply beating the war drums.

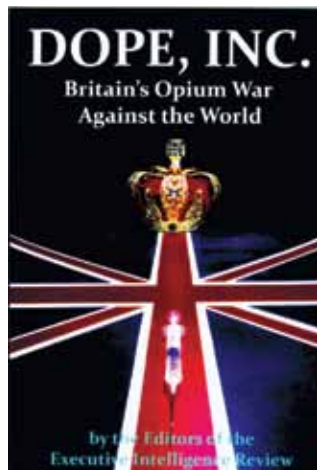
The latter is likely to have been the case in Obama's private meeting with Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili at the White House on Jan. 30. According to former Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze, Saakashvili's agenda was to include his nation's cooperation with a U.S. or Israeli attack on Iran. Georgia is known to have an air base where the Israelis train, and Russian military writers have already reported that the Kremlin is deploying against such a potential threat to its southern flank. Saakashvili, who is even more openly a creation of British-Rothschild agent George Soros than is Obama, is rabidly anti-Russian, and, according to Shevardnadze, is spoiling for a war to help his reelection campaign.

And then there's the case of Obama's use of known war hawk Dennis Ross as his personal emissary to Israeli warhawk Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Ross allegedly resigned as a White House Middle East advisor in November, but the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* on Jan. 27 reported that he maintains his security clearance, and is serving as a backchannel between Obama and Netanyahu. "Obama is subverting his own government in collusion with a foreign power," commented LaRouche.

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