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EIR

From the Managing Editor

What would the United States do if Russia built a ballistic missile defense system (BMDS) on, say, Cuba, and claimed that it was not aimed at the United States but at, maybe, Brazil?

It seems almost unbelievable that NATO leaders, meeting in Chicago on May 20-21, cavalierly dismissed Moscow's strongly stated and restated concerns about the forthcoming U.S. BMDS deployments in Poland and Romania. As usual, it was London that gave the marching orders, with an article in the *Economist* on the eve of the summit, titled "Rethink the reset: NATO should not give in to Russian aggression." NATO should not negotiate with Russia on the BMDS deployment, the *Economist* argued. "America's missile-defense plans are aimed at Iran, not Russia. . . . *Russian sabre-rattling is not militarily significant*. . . . Russia is no military match for a united NATO. But it does signal unpleasant thinking at the top, and a desire to bully" (emphasis added).

"Not militarily significant"?? In our last two issues, *EIR* documented in detail the statements by Russian political and military leaders that such a deployment by NATO risks an escalation to nuclear war. This week the warnings crescendoed, as Prime Minister Medvedev warned that such moves, as well as wars under the pretext of "humanitarian interventions," are becoming a tripwire to thermo-nuclear war. Our *Feature* provides the documentation and analysis, as well as the text of an article from the Russian website Terra America on Lyndon LaRouche's influence in Russia.

EIR will soon release a 104-page Special Report, in print and online, titled "British Empire's Global Showdown and How To Overcome It." This is essential reading, especially for those who are still inclined to believe that the Russians are bluffing. Get one for yourself, your Senator, and your Congressman!

Elsewhere in this week's issue, we have a report on the substantially increased public calls for restoring the Glass-Steagall law, which, as readers of *EIR* know, is essential for reversing the deepening economic/financial crisis. We also have analyses of the scandal over alleged HSBC drug-money laundering, and the water crisis in the American Southwest.

