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From the Managing Editor

In this week's post-election assessment of the world situation, we focus on the clash between *the imperial, oligarchical mind* and *creative discovery*, with Lyndon LaRouche's *Feature* story bringing it all together. He defines the Strategic Defense of Earth (SDE)—the Russian offer of international cooperation to defend our planet from devastating strikes by asteroids and such cosmic bodies—as the leading challenge facing “truly serious minds” in the coming years. This threat is as real as its timing is currently unpredictable, and as our knowledge of what to do about it is currently non-existent. The Defense of Earth will depend on the Mars exploration program, LaRouche writes: This “must be recognized as the indispensable aperture which would enable the human species to overcome the deadly threats presently lurking, in sundry ways, for all among us.” Breakthroughs in scientific mindset will be required to make progress on this huge challenge, by dumping our reliance on mere sense-perception.

Documentation accompanying LaRouche's *Feature* includes his program for recovery (excerpted from his Friday Nov. 16 webcast), and a discussion of the British oligarchical mindset, through the words of some of its principal representatives, ranging from Thomas Malthus to Bertrand Russell and Prince Philip.

Our news coverage elaborates “The Calamity of the Second Obama Administration” (we hope our cover photo does not upset your appetite for Thanksgiving dinner!). The *International* section analyzes the imperial drumbeat for war in the Mideast and the tumult in the Eurozone, as social unrest builds there against the disastrous austerity policies of the European Union. *Economics* reports the growing outrage among livestock, poultry, and dairy organizations in the United States against Obama's refusal to allow corn to be used for food rather than ethanol, under current conditions of scarcity.

The *Science* section is a fascinating report on a conference at the Dubna University of Nature, Society and Man (near Moscow), in which LaRouche and several of his representatives took part by video. This grouping of some 200 people represents a core of those in Russia who will work with us for the Strategic Defense of Earth.

