

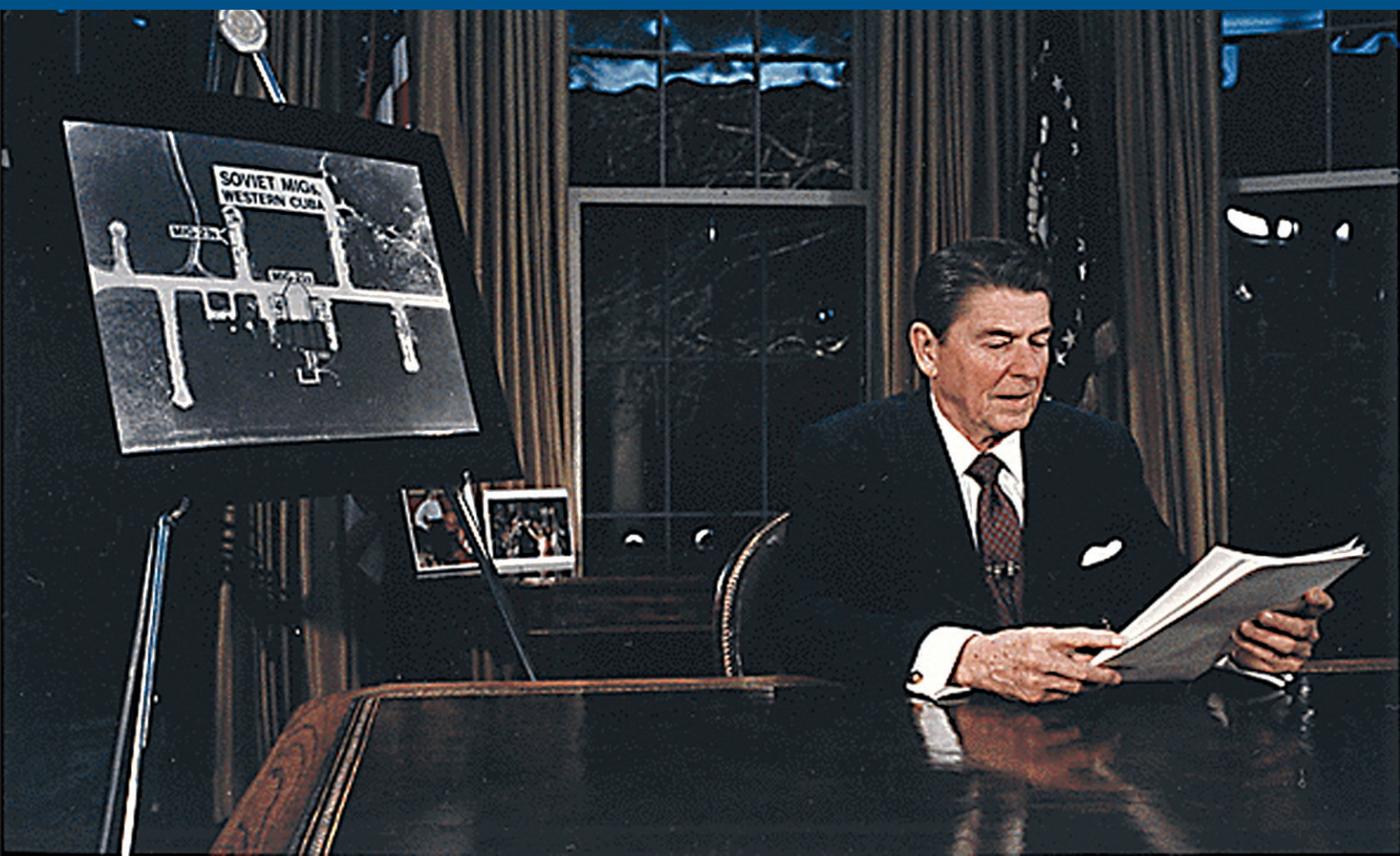
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Russia Escalates Effort for 'Defense of Earth'
Party System Fractures as Congress Challenges Obama
Cyprus Theft Shows, It's Glass-Steagall or Chaos!

**On 30th Anniversary of SDI:
A New System Among Nations**



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EIR

From the Managing Editor

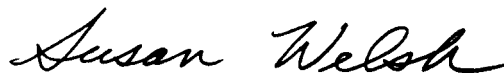
The 30th anniversary of President Reagan's March 23, 1983 announcement of a Strategic Defense Initiative poses a painful irony. Reagan, inspired by Lyndon LaRouche, offered the Soviet leadership *cooperation* in a system that would defend both powers against nuclear attack. "We seek neither military superiority nor political advantage," he said that evening. "Our only purpose—one all people share—is to search for ways to reduce the danger of nuclear war." But Soviet leader Yuri Andropov rejected the offer, and, as LaRouche warned at the time, the result was the collapse of the Soviet Union a few years later. The Reagan-LaRouche conception of the SDI was swept aside. Today, 30 years later, it is the Russians who are making an offer for a cooperative Strategic Defense of Earth (SDE): joint efforts to protect the planet from the threats of asteroids and other space objects. And today, it is the U.S. Obama Administration that is saying "nyet!"

LaRouche's *Feature* article on "A New System Among Nations" references the policy fight around SDI, in the course of laying out what he calls "The New Prospect Before Us!"

In *International*, we report on a Moscow development that has been almost completely blacked out of the American press: a conference at the Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, at which scientists, political figures, government officials, and corporate leaders outlined what an SDE will require. We include a chronology of earlier Russian offers of cooperation with the United States in these areas of high technology for mutual benefit.

The West's failure to accept such offers derives from British determination to destroy nation-states in favor of a world empire run by the financier oligarchy. We see this today in the threat of war spinning out of control over Syria (*International*); the devolution of Iraq toward a dark age, ten years after the U.S. and Britain invaded (*National*); and also in the escalating collapse of the banking system (*Economics*), and the cash-grab by desperate international bankers in Cyprus.

However, there are also positive developments to report from the southeast corner of Europe: China is doing what the EU refuses to do: building infrastructure in Greece and the Balkans (see *Economics*).



by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. The death of Franklin Roosevelt, and his replacement in the White House by Churchill's patsy Truman, represented a downward paradigm-shift in the U.S., whose aftereffects are still being felt. Among those aftereffects is the continued threat of thermonuclear world war, a threat which must be ended now, with a renewed commitment to the Westphalian principle of peace among nations based on respect for each other's sovereignty. This demands the overcoming of the tyranny of sense-perception, and a return to Classical scientific and artistic principles.

17 International Cooperation Sought: Russia Escalates Effort for ‘Strategic Defense of Earth’

20 No Way To Stop Asteroids For at Least 3-4 Years

22 Putin's Russia Offers Cooperation in Space

24 Empire's War Drive Is Hurtling Ahead

Over the past week, the potential for a blunder into general war has increased dramatically on several fronts, including in Syria, North Korea, and Iran.

26 French Ministry Grabs Funds: Cheminade Strikes Back with Political Drive

28 What Have We Learned Since Fukushima?

Economics

30 As Cyprus Theft Shows, Glass-Steagall, or Chaos!

With the planned expropriation of the Cypriots to save the banks, the Eurozone bank collapse, which officials said had “ended” in late 2012, has exploded again. In their panic to save the system, the London-centered banks are resorting to outright *theft* from citizens to support the bankrupt bondholders—and setting the world on a course for chaos.

32 North Dakota Banker Calls for Glass-Steagall

33 China Develops Balkan Infrastructure that the EU Won’t Build

The Chinese have made a strategic decision to invest heavily in the Balkans, earmarking a \$10 billion low-interest credit line to fund infrastructure projects and industrial enterprises to facilitate both land and sea transport.

National

40 Austerity, Drones Opposed: Party System Fractures as Congress Challenges Obama

The aftershocks of Sen. Rand Paul’s filibuster against Obama’s determination to run an imperial Presidency, has brought to the surface some of the simmering rage against Obama among Democrats.

43 On the 10th Anniversary: Correcting the Evils that Led to Iraq War

45 The Destruction of Iraq Goes On

Ten years after the invasion of Iraq, which took the lives of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis, the destruction continues unabated, and has now ushered in an era of sectarian and ethnic civil wars throughout the region, thus fulfilling a longstanding British imperial plan.

Science

49 Curiosity Discovers Mars Could Have Supported Life

The most recent data sent to Earth from the Curiosity rover indicate that at least at some time in its past, Mars could have been a habitable planet.

51 Ukraine Celebrates Vernadsky Anniversary

A seminar sponsored by the Embassy of Ukraine, in honor of the 150th birthday of the great Ukrainian-Russian scientist Vladimir Vernadsky, was addressed by *EIR*’s William Jones and *21 Century Science & Technology*’s Benjamin Deniston.

Editorial

54 End the Business of Warfare!

GRASPING THE FUTURE!

A New System Among Nations

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

March 16, 2013

An ugly era for the United States had begun in fact, with the election of Harry S Truman as Vice-President. That is to say, that, as a candidate, Truman was clearly suited to await the early removal of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Truman did not actually invent evil; he merely wore the shoes.

In large part, the blame for this evil which Truman represented, was well suited to the schemes of Winston Churchill. For example, it had been the British empire's Churchill, who had contrived to postpone a potential Allied landing for victory in Europe for the equivalent of the greater part of a year, at the least. As for Truman himself, he was, essentially, a "Wall Street maven." All leading factors for consideration taken into account, once Harry S Truman had replaced the deceased President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in office, everything which had been right about the United States, went, suddenly, shockingly wrong at an accelerating rate, and into very bad, new directions. The prompt insight stated by O.S.S.'s William Donovan, as he had left President Roosevelt's office for the last time, was soon borne out: "It's all over!"

Sadly, for as long as the British empire has still lived on since that time, our United States had often fallen prey to "a next U.S. President," each time for reasons which had been already experienced all too many times, earlier. The replacement of President Franklin Roosevelt, by Harry S Truman, had come, for me, and also many others of both our higher and lower ranks, like a fall into the torment of some Satan's pit. One lives on, despite almost everything. Even the election of an excellent leader such as President Dwight D. Eisenhower (for two terms), had not been sufficient to undo the wrecking already done to our United States during the Truman years.

It would be the election of President John F. Kennedy which, for a memorable, seemingly mere moment, returned us toward what had been the intended strategic legacy of a Franklin Roosevelt, as so of a Douglas MacArthur, and also of a Dwight Eisenhower. The wonderful, but uncompleted intentions of our Presidency under President Kennedy, while they lasted, were ruined to a large degree, not only by the assassinations of both of the two Kennedy brothers, but, even uglier, by the effect of the official suppressions, still today, of the truth about those two murders.

In the meantime, my own sense of my obligation to a personal mission of a future duty in the course of history, had begun for me, at the same moment when I had received, in India, the announcement of the death of President Franklin Roosevelt.



National Archives

“Truman did not actually invent evil; he merely wore the shoes,” LaRouche writes, adding that Truman’s evil “was well suited to the schemes of Winston Churchill.” The two are shown here cozying up together on the President’s yacht in January 1952.

Chapter 1:

The Thermonuclear Challenge

I was among those who were delivered from California, to Bombay, aboard what had been intended, earlier, to have been a luxury-cruise Matson liner, but had been completed, instead, as a high-speed, stoutly armed troop-ship, the *Admiral Benson*. I was shipped, thus, across the Pacific, by way of Melbourne, to Bombay, and, thence, by rail, from Bombay, across India, to a Bengal military camp in Kanchrapara. It was in Kanchrapara that the news of President Roosevelt’s death was delivered freshly to those of us who were located, temporarily, in India’s encampment there.

It was then, and there, that my assent to what had been proposed to me as a quiet, dusk meeting for a few soldiers, brought me, in effect, to what would be remembered later as my first, later validated inkling of a foresight into what would become my own future.

Their question presented to me by my fellow-soldiers, in that evening there, was, simply, and explicitly, “What is going to become of us, now?”

My reply was literally remembered by me to the present day: “I don’t know,” I had replied. “We have lived under a great President, and the new President is a very little man. I am worried about our future now; but, we will continue through whatever comes for us, because we must.” I was speaking as much to myself, as to them. My own remarks, exactly so spoken, had had the peculiarly indelible effect of a freshly spoken oath, for me.

My brief reply to my associates’ question there, then during my first visit to Kanchrapara, was a very modest event; but, between then, and, thereafter, when I had, still later, departed Calcutta for a return to our post-war United States, in the Spring of 1946, on the U.S.S. *General Hershey*, my personal outlook on life had already acquired, more and more, the quality of a prescience of something prophetic: that effect came on, as in lurches, step, by step, and beyond, over the decades which had then followed, and continues in a like fashion, still today.

What has it all meant?

I have now lived for more than ninety years: obviously, seventy of those years as an adult. The passing decades, had come on, still, as if in intervals. That had been the case since the fateful first notice of the death of Franklin Roosevelt, in April 12, 1945. This had come on as a pattern in an experience continued throughout the continuing years of our world’s entry into the successively ever deeper realm of, first, nuclear, and, then, in Autumn 1946 a prospect of a now-threatened state of thermonuclear warfare.

Since those times, now about sixty-seven years ago, up to the present moment of my writing here, the history of the planet has been shaped, for me, by what was, in fact, at first, President Truman’s and Winston

Churchill's unnecessary resort to nuclear warfare, a warfare which led, as if almost immediately, into a permanent state of preparations for the future continuing state of threatened nuclear warfare, under President Harry S Truman, both since then and beyond, up through the present date. With Truman's accession to the Vice-Presidency, and, then, the death of President Franklin Roosevelt, we had then soon entered into the chronic proximity of a thermonuclear "end game," the same which menaces mankind still today. It is the system which presently reigns over the planet as a whole—unless we might succeed in willfully changing that, now: we in our United States, most emphatically.

An improvement would not be met by a merely simple sort of change; it would now be, presently, an extremely radical, and hopefully profound and sudden change for the better: it must be nothing less than a hope-filled change in the destiny of mankind. That must still become our efficiently adopted intention now: it is a change which must now occur before it were too late to change what had been continued as the seeming endlessness of perpetual war since the death of President Franklin Roosevelt.

Once society had actually launched a first use of nuclear weapons in war, as Winston Churchill and his American stooge, Harry S Truman, had done, the world's commitment to an entire, global era of domination by a theme of thermonuclear warfare, had begun—somehow, and somewhere beyond this immediately present moment. Therefore, there is an intervening history which must be considered betwixt then and now.

Douglas MacArthur's Outlook

At the beginning of our republic's actual crafting of nuclear weaponry's development: from the opinion where I had sat, had been the pledged intention, to avoid any unnecessary presentation, or deployment of such weapons. The opinion in fact of General Douglas MacArthur, in ending the war with Japan, then, and related roles performed by him later, was that the nuclear bombardment of Japan had been unnecessary, and, in fact, a



Department of the Navy

Gen. Douglas MacArthur believed that the nuclear bombardment of Japan had been unnecessary: Japan had already been defeated before Hiroshima. The bombing was a nuclear threat-message, LaRouche writes, to the Soviet Union and other future targets. Shown: MacArthur (at microphone) observes the signing of the surrender document by Japan, Sept. 2, 1945.

useless violation perpetrated against humanity. The evidence since that time, had already verified General MacArthur's judgment against that use of nuclear weaponry: Japan had already been defeated before Hiroshima, in all but name: the use of nuclear weapons then, had never been justified at that time. The actual motive for the nuclear attacks on Japan, had nothing to do with Japan as such. The Churchill gang's launching of a threat of war against the Soviet Union, was virtually an intended act of treason against our United States; the proper intent of unavoidable warfare, especially nuclear and related warfare, is to seek an appropriate, and, hopefully, a durably crafted peace. The bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, were a nuclear threat-message to the Soviet Union and other future targets over the course of decades to come.

That intention of good will for the cause of humanity, which I have just described as the case for the intentions of General Douglas MacArthur, was never the kind of intention of a Roman or British empire: an empire whose essential roots had been planted, and had persisted as the likeness of the legacy of the horribly evil, ancient Rome and its still persisting New Venetian expression. The Seventeenth Century's launching of a "New Venetian Party's" so-called "British empire" had

always been the adversary of the birth of our United States in fact, an adversary whose very model and nature had been propagated, and defended, as by the evil legacies of ancient Rome, earlier. We who were actually patriots of our United States, had sought peace with the British empire, but never submission; nor had we been confident that the British empire would willingly repudiate its wicked ways—in fact, to the present day of Tony Blair, it actually never did.

Our republic's inherently existential quality of strategic policy, had been, simply stated: "war-avoidance, if possible." We had been created as a new republic, not to become entangled in quarrels with the wars of the nations of old Europe, but to create a new world. This we had even applied to what had been our own most vicious traitors, such as the British spy and rampant murderer Aaron Burr, a killer who had given us the British-created President Andrew Jackson whom Burr had given to the United States, a Jackson thus associated with what was intended to become the British-created Confederacy. All of that evil had been directed under British bankers planted among us, all associated with the legacy of the vicious traitor Aaron Burr and the British banking system's agents who gathered, like vultures, around what would become known as the British-created swindlers on Wall Street and kindred locations.

A presently new condition for mankind's habits has been therefore required, now as then; but, now in the context of mankind's dedication to applications and development of thermonuclear technologies, and beyond. We must not seek thermonuclear warfare as such; however, if the use of thermonuclear warfare were prevented, bold, new, thermonuclear advancement of creative "peacetime" technologies must come somewhat freely into play for peaceful outcomes within our Solar system, instead. This latter outcome, if it occurs, will have the hopeful characteristics of mankind's reign over relatively nearby regions of the Solar system, and beyond. There, an entirely new destiny of mankind awaits our arrival.

The evidence of the options for a qualitatively distinct, improved, new order in human conditions, already exists, at least implicitly so. It will be sufficient for us, now, to act upon the prompting of those premises now. The principle on which that improved outlook for mankind must be premised, was already defined, implicitly, since the beginning of man's dependency, not on the flames of an Old Europe, but on the progressive use of fire, a continuing dependency which is the essen-

tially natural distinction of man from beasts, as this has been the case since such instances as primitive man's creative use of the controlled flames of a fireside.

The time has long passed, since a time when mankind's required conditions of life did not include the prerequisites of what might be identified as increasing reliance upon an emphasis on artificial preconditions for mankind's mastery over what had been long since the "artificial" circumstances of managed climates. When our attention is focused upon the requirement of creative thermonuclear preconditions, rather than thermonuclear weaponry as such, attention is quickly turned toward matters belonging to the same general classification as an urgently needed defense of mankind's role in nearby Solar space, and beyond. Therefore, our laymen, and our foreign neighbors, should be informed, that threats to mankind from asteroids and comets, typify this category of urgent requirements for the defense of mankind's existence.

Consequently, the difference between the present time, and the errors of the past, lies, essentially, in the presently awaiting, next stage of thermonuclear development within the societies of mankind. This prospect is located not so much in thermonuclear technology as such; it lies in the nature of the steering of those technologies' applications to the inter-planetary and further domains of mankind's control over relevant developments of mankind's increasingly extended role within, and beyond nearby Solar space. The definition lies not in particulars, but, rather, in the broad scope and qualitative implications of the applications. That means, speaking broadly, and also practically, that we now require a policy of upward leaps in the application of the relative scales of "energy-flux density" engaged.

The considerations respecting the need and search for peaceful progress of mankind as a species, which I have now placed before us, here, must be attributed, less to the nature of science as such, than to the degree to which science had been essentially, heretofore suppressed, in one or another degree. In the main, progress had been suppressed under the long reigns of what are properly identified as those "oligarchical systems" traced from the ascent of that putatively oligarchical form of rule attributed to the evil doctrine expressed in the tracing of the principle of evil from the legendary Olympian Zeus, through the reigns of ancient Rome and such depraved successors as William of Orange's New-Venetian, and presently British, actually global forms of pro-genocidal, imperial systems now.

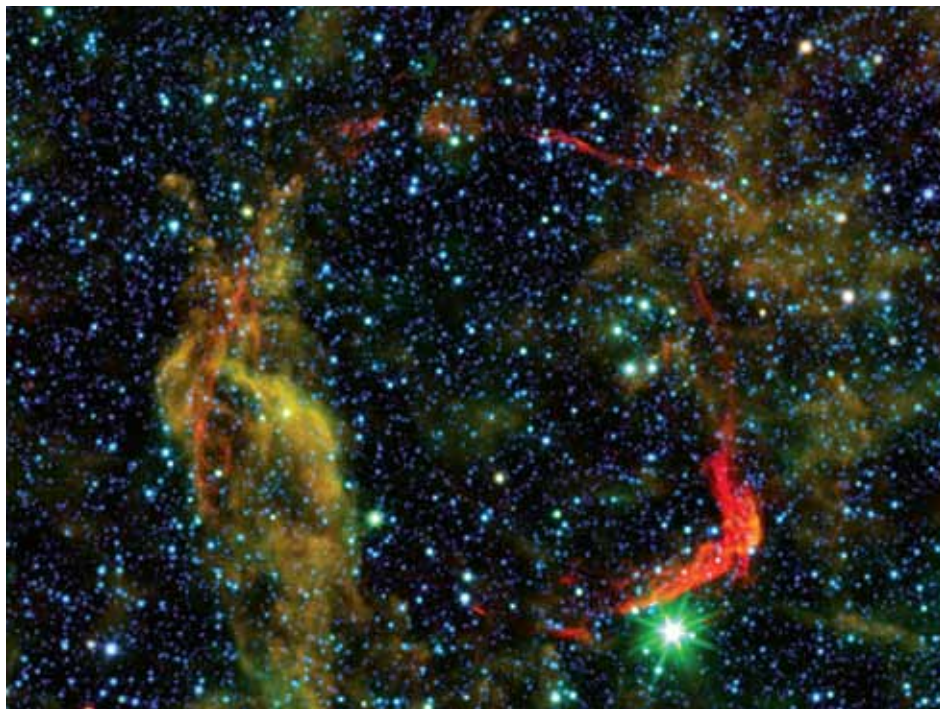
Presently, the explicitly and emphatically stated, genocidal intention of the British empire of Queen Elizabeth II, has been clearly and repeatedly stated, as by her, to rapidly reduce the human population, from about seven billions living persons, to about one billion, or perhaps less, speedily. That must be recognized as a span of mass-murderous intentions which has been a recurring feature of what has been associated with the depraved Mediterranean oligarchical cultures of more than about three thousand years, and also longer, presently.

Therefore, the following point bearing on what were better identified as a “Brutish tradition,” is to be emphasized as crucial.

The current system of the British empire and its European and other lackey-cultures, must be recognized for its recurring moral degeneracy, as contrasted with those nobler cultures which have willfully increased their rates of energy-flux-density characteristics, those characteristics as distinct from oligarchical (e.g., “degenerate”) cultures which had tended to dominate extended regions of populations for spans as long as millennia, as since the emergence of the specific variety of maritime culture associated with the inherently evil figure of an Olympian Zeus.

The monstrousness of the oligarchical tradition which the implicitly global, presently British imperial system, continues to perpetuate to the present date, is now combined with “radical population control,” and with the division of the human population between, on the one side, a limited portion of anti-humanity oligarchs, all matched against virtual mass-extinctions intended for the ranks of the “common folk” also sometimes known as “the underlings.”

Thus, there is nothing actually new in Queen Elizabeth’s presently ongoing determination to bring about her avowed early extinction of six billions from among the present level of approximately seven billions of the



NASA/JPL-Caltech/UCLA

If, as forecast, the Sun will blow up in about 2 billion years, “we must look forward, in terms of leaps into the prospects for future generations, as measured in the order of four human generations born per century.” Shown: Infrared images of the dusty remains of the oldest documented example of an exploding star, or supernova.

total human population: a policy of practice which the British monarchy has already set underway in concert with the now-launched second Administration of President Barack Obama, as through aid of a prescribed program of massive cut-backs, such as programs of sequestration.

The New Prospect Now Before Us!

For an indication of presently practical considerations, we might presently estimate the expected useful survival of the Solar system to be brought to an end for us, long before two billions years ahead. Consequently, when that fact is taken into account, we must look forward in terms of leaps into the prospects for future generations as measured in the order of four human generations born per century. That measure, demands, in turn, a certain estimated, rising rate of “creativity” per capita, per generation, and per century, as the progress of successive generations is to be measured in generations counted out in increased rates of “energy-flux densities.”

If, as we have been forewarned, the Sun has about two billions years before actually blowing up, that does

not signify that we have two billions years for dalliance along the way. Nonetheless, if that “yardstick” which I have proposed for measuring human progress applies, then, there should be adequate “leg-room” available between now and the time when a dying Sun turns very nasty for us. In that case, the prospects for the human species need not be a matter of desperation, provided that we eradicate the present tendency for oligarchical dilly-dallying of the type to be expected from the reign of the presently, extremely decadent, British imperial system.

Nonetheless, despite what fools such as the British empire may have produced, we dare not permit the continuation of the oligarchical system, such as that of the British empire-in-fact presently. However, we must take certain precautions, as much on our part, as theirs, on precisely that account.

On the Reign of Metaphor

As I have emphasized during the course of my related writings delivered over, approximately, the course of the recent two years, the human species is closely nearing a stage of its fresh developments, when science must abandon what has been a naked sort of customary devotion to the means represented as “mere sense perception.” As I have stressed recently, the dubious practice of relying on sense-perceptual measurements for defining the “measure” of physical principles, must be now superseded by notions of essential increase of energy-flux density of population, per capita unit of productivity, and of rising energy-flux density of action.

As I have included these considerations among my recently published writings, the presumption that “evidence” with the characteristics of mere “sense-perception” corresponds to a real action in physical space-time as such, is a belief which must be urgently superseded by a notion derived from an appropriately deep insight into the actual meaning of the subject of “Classical Metaphor.” I mean that metaphor as expressed in the “shadow-form” of the Classical stage—but only for what may be identified as the Classical stage—as in the case for the recognition that the action moved by the playwright, director, and actors on stage, embodies the reality of the effective action, rather than abstract and fixed measures of lapsed physical time. In other words, the emphasis must be placed on a notion of effective action measured in the language of a physically actual quality of *true metaphor*, instead of per unit of clock-space “space-time.”

The distinctions which I have just proposed here, are the reality of the action as, primarily, an experience of the human mind, rather than a sense-perceptual event in what is usually considered as the mere “clock-space-time” of sense-perception as such. So, I have recently presented my view of the realization of “the chorus principle” of metaphor employed by the inherently future-oriented poet William Shakespeare for his **King Henry V**. That view points toward the reality of an experienced future physical space-time, that as we must proceed in considering action within the lapsed, relative space-time of the near regions, or broader scope of actions within the realm of the Solar system.

Chapter 2:

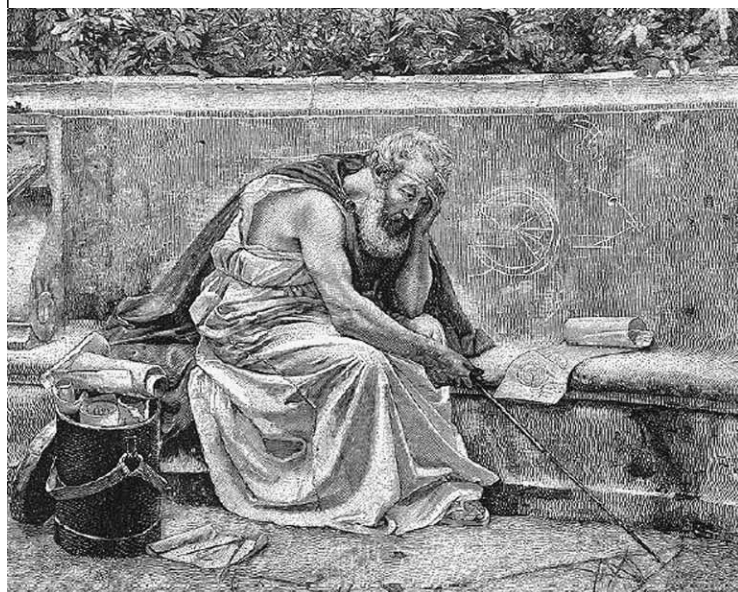
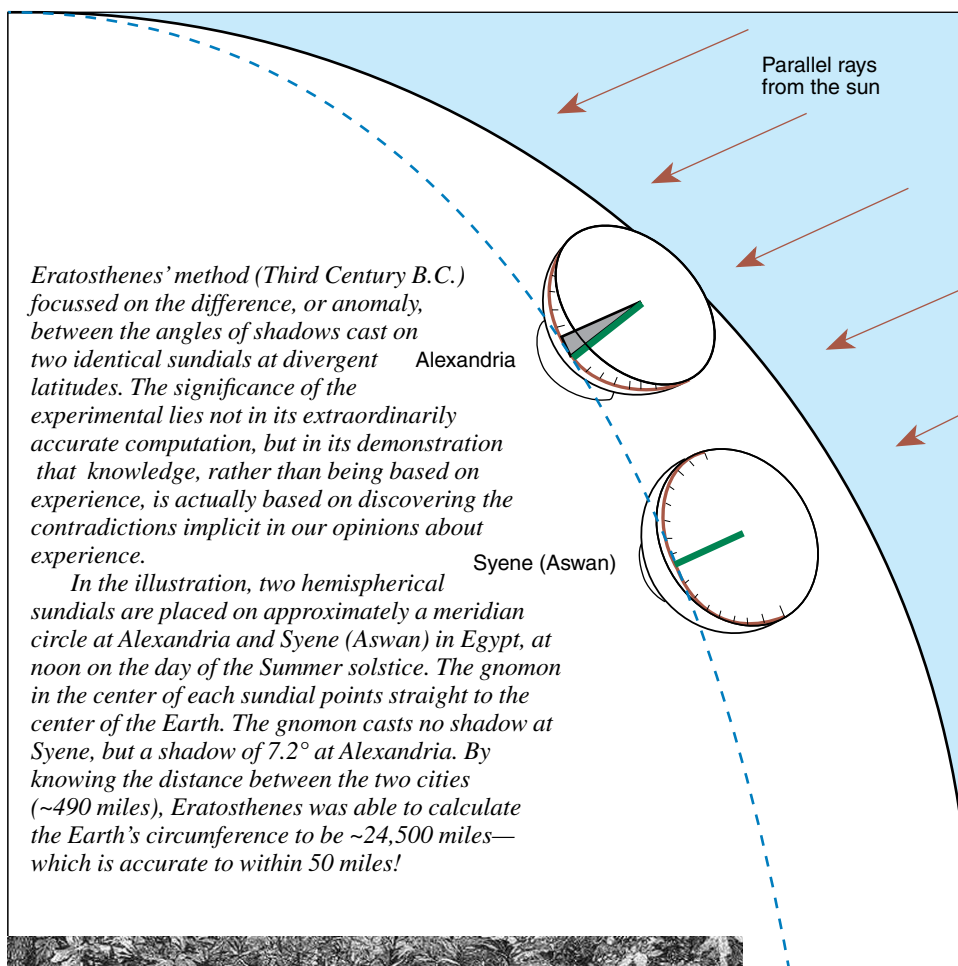
“Eratosthenes! Let Us Build the Future for. . .”

Much of the ignorance shown by mankind this far, even putatively learned mankind, can be traced, at least in large degree, to what have been considered as some long-standing venerable and durable, but silly habits. The general assault on that tradition, respecting the subjects of measurement, features the work of the engineer Archimedes and the great Alexandrian Library’s Eratosthenes. Eratosthenes’ measure of the Earth by the Sun, was, in terms of strictness of scientific practice, the greatest achievement in refinement of physical principles up to that time. The most important successor of Eratosthenes on this account, was the school of Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa, a Cusa whose discoveries had been crucial in leading Christopher Columbus to his discovery of the Americas—as if for us.

Another, related great leap in discovery within the bounds of that exact-same process, was that by a great student of Nicholas of Cusa, the discovery of the principle of the system of Solar astronomy by Johannes Kepler, as respecting his stated principle of **vicarious hypothesis**. The crucial discovery came through the medium of Classical artistic composition and its performance, in the domains of Classical composition in the truly Classical arts of such as music, painting, poetry, and drama. *The principle of vicarious hypothesis is found as a complement in metaphor. I had recently emphasized the connection to the drama of Shakespeare to that connection. As I shall show here,*

FIGURE 1

Eratosthenes' method for measuring the size of the Earth



"Eratosthenes' measure of the Earth by the Sun, was, in terms of strictness of scientific practice, the greatest achievement in refinement of physical principles up to that time."

the results of exploring this realm can be stunning—and wonderfully useful—for mankind today.

Unless the British empire prevents this.

In a long, and originally, often obscured tradition, the human species has become apparently accustomed, but mistakenly, to employ a notion of time and space based on the premises of what had been mere sense-perception. The folly of continuing that originally crude tradition of mankind, had reached a critical stage of practice, at a juncture occurring during a time in which scientists have often based definitions of universal physical principles, mistakenly, as depending upon mere human sense-perception.

A notable challenge to the persistence of that simplistic practice, presented itself at the point at which universal physical principles

respecting universal physical space outside planet Earth, were defined on the basis of human sense-perception attributed to processes within the bounds of planet Earth: the future of mankind now demands primary emphasis on the use of the practice of defining experimental principles which must be applied, more emphatically, to regions of our Solar system beyond the realm of Earth.

Insofar as some among us have been apparently enabled to see aspects of the work of such as Nicholas of Cusa and his inspiration, as to be seen in the work of Johannes Kepler's *vicarious hypothesis*, and, also, the related principle of *metaphor*, and, to see still beyond that merely apparent limit: we are, thus, confronted with the actuality of the need for discovering an efficiently defined foresight into the future of our



Dante Alighieri and his heirs, such as Filippo Brunelleschi and Nicholas of Cusa, established the foundations of modern European art and science. This portrait of Dante by Luca Signorelli (ca. 1500).

mankind, as within, first, looking at Earth from the space enclosing the relatively nearby regions of our Solar System. My own experience of life since my adolescence, has been filled, increasingly, with an insistent, virtual “*knocking-at-the-door*” for such an outlook.

Considering my age, and the conditions that go with that, I have adopted no personal prospects for travel beyond residence on Earth. Nonetheless, for me, there is nothing alien to me in an outlook which features actually scientific outlooks for Solar, or even Galactic missions alike: nearby Solar space in mankind’s evident destiny as a species is also a matter of presently urgent priorities.

In the experience of mankind, the slave dwells within the bounds of an apparently pre-assigned course of life; whereas, essentially, the free creative human individual, is naturally impelled to recreate the future of his or her society, but, perpetually, always at an higher level; he, or she, like a good mother, adopts the making of a really foreseeable future for society as such, as being his, or her essential profession. Yet, there are people who are ostensibly freed, even influential in society, but whose soul remains chiefly locked within a

tradition of the descent from slaves.

That issue of true freedom, is the subject to be elaborated during the remainder of the present chapter of my report.

Recreating the Actual Future

So far, we have had the modern history dated since the births of such as those of the heirs of Dante Alighieri (1265-1321), and of Renaissance geniuses such as Filippo Brunelleschi (1378-1446), Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa (1401-1464), and the latter’s followers in the process of launching the creation of the best in modern European science.

That, then new-born tradition was partly inspired by, but did not begin with the followers of Dante Alighieri; it was already inherent in the Christianity of the Apostles, as reflected also in the work of Philo of Alexandria (ca. 20BC-50AD). The fact of that matter is, that the monstrously “dark age” created by the now preceding Twentieth Century and its wicked oligarchical outcomes, had required the actuality of a Fifteenth-century rebirth of the civilization of the so-called “Golden Renaissance:” a fresh outlook across the great waters, on the future of mankind, a fresh devotion and outlook which has been indispensable for the continued existence of civilization presently.

So, to sum up that brief lesson, the outcome to-be-desired from our presently tortured, new century of mankind, requires the recapture of the same quality of inspiration traced to the roots of such as Filippo Brunelleschi and Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa, thence, to both the Christopher Columbus who was inspired to great missions by devotion to his adopted mission of Nicholas of Cusa, and to the same great mission of progress by Cusa which had inspired the magnificent scientific achievements of Johannes Kepler, and also those of the United States of Benjamin Franklin. For both of these, the great mission is to resist the evil of what is presently known by the witting as the British empire still today.

My point of emphasis here and now, while also implicitly theological, is located by me in what I write here, from a viewpoint in the subject of an urgently needed redemption of the pledge to the mission adopted during Europe’s Fifteenth Century, to the principle of modern physical science traced from, most notably,

Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa's **De Docta Ignorantia**. The contrary cultural current, has been that of the same, ancient evil typified by the virtually Satanic imagery of the Olympian Zeus, his attributed devotions, his oligarchical habits, and those among his traditions spawned as if of his own past evil times.

The "New Dark Age" of a genocide intent on reducing the human population from seven to approximately one billion human individuals, which the Queen of England has demanded for the people of this planet now, is that darkest of all modern evils known to the existence of mankind in known world history this far. This is not to be treated as a matter of "religion" as such. It is, rather, the urgently needed rejection of something inherently "Satanic," which must be repudiated in a more practical, and also more profound way, as we must despise the evil of that Olympian Zeus which was the evil worshiped by those who demanded the death of Socrates, and the evil of the Satanic Emperor Nero.

The Prospect Before Us Now

The present epoch's notion of a "Prospect Before Us," that since the Peace of Westphalia, was put forward, according to the best information which I recall as having been delivered to me in its time, as a musical theme from the impact of the Peace of Westphalia on the culture of England, in particular. Both the music, and the stated theme, are properly appreciated for that reason, as having existed up to the presently dismal times of the wretched Tony Blair. The proposed return to the evil which had reigned prior to the Westphalian peace, would be the worst imaginable evil, the truly Satanic, which could be done only by those among the most evil of men, such as, for example, the British Empire's Tony Blair, or Blair's ostensible under-study, Barack, the Queen's own Barack Obama.

That Blair is truly an ideal modern man of evil, as the policies of genocide presented by the British Empire's Elizabeth II have shown in the extreme nature of her schemes for reducing the human population of this planet from approximately seven billions, to approximately one billion persons. It is a prospect fit to bring shudders to the thoughts of even a Satan. The fact of the matter is, that, from a physical-science standpoint, the Queen's scheme, when presented as practice, means not a mere reduction of the human species, but that species' self-extinction virtually in its entirety.

Why should the Queen be so shameless as to espouse such an evil publicly?

The Principle of Life as Such

The generality of known forms of life, is marked out in fact by what some reference as "natural selection." What that term means, in being passed from ear to mouth and mouth to ear, varies; nonetheless, certain of the implications of such a stated policy are efficiently clear for our meeting our present duties respecting this topic for discussion. In terms of what is identified as a principle of "energy-flux density," sets of species which drop down on the relative scale of evolution in its total representation, go extinct. In the matter of the case of policy at hand, the Queen's stated policy means the self-inflicted extermination of the human species.

I would emphasize that the Queen is not telling the truth about this matter — *Why should she—since it is not in her particular interest to encourage opposition to that which she views as her interest to destroy billions of present human beings? Her publicly stated interest, as she, herself, has repeatedly defined it, is genocide: the reduction of the human species, from about seven billions persons, to about one, and that, now, as rapidly as possible.*

The relevant evidence on that account, is that the actual policy which the Queen is peddling to the stupefied credulous, is by no means new to the experience of the human species overall. "Mass extinctions" of entire social categories, are, like cannibalism, recurring expressions of utter depravity, of unfitness to exist, as in the related case of the practices of ritual mass murder by the Roman empire in the imperial Roman arena. No Nero was ever actually fit to live on "its" own account; it has always been intrinsically *an expression of depravity per se*. Essentially, the point is, that the Roman empire and its like, were systemically unfit to continue to have existed, under any conditions.

More to the underlying point: the universe itself is driven toward higher orders of "energy-flux density." The continued existence of our human species depends upon our meeting the effect of that challenge of development from relative backwardness, as in opposition to higher energy-flux densities of organization. In fact, the appropriate conclusion, is that the British empire has been, morally and otherwise, unfit to exist. That is, speaking practically, a law of life. If that empire is not terminated, then, it were likely that humanity itself would threaten its own continued existence.

"That much" on this subject, should be recognized as "clear."

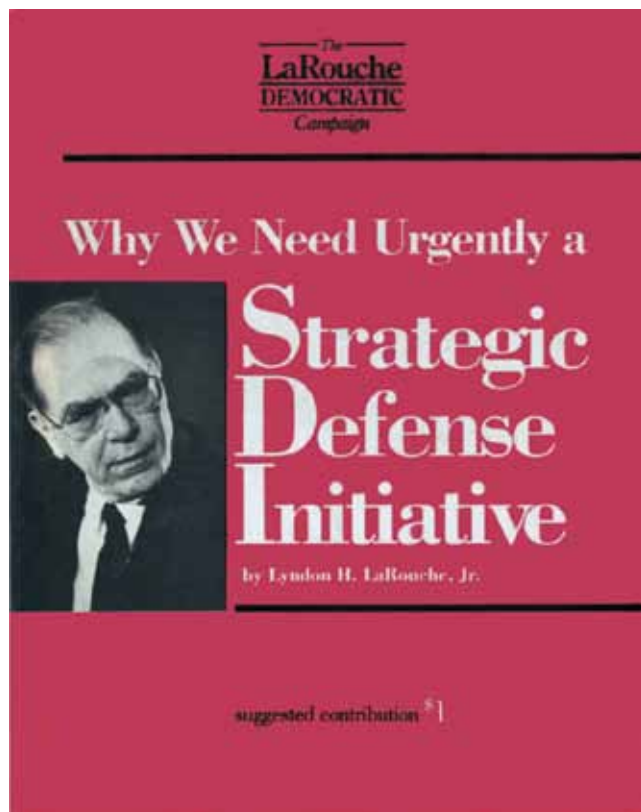
An Interlude: Where do the Nations Go Now?

The great moment of opportunity for the trans-Atlantic world, came with the election of the United States' President Ronald Reagan. Between the election of President Reagan (November, 1980) and the inauguration of a British-tied, relatively new Soviet head of state, Yuri Andropov (November, 1982), was a great moment in history, an interval during which an agreement among the United States, leading nations of western and central Europe, and the Soviet Union, was on the verge of the feasible realization of a great renaissance in the history of mankind. As events have demonstrated, the installation of a British monarchy-tied Yuri Andropov in the Soviet Union, led, as if inexorably, into the British-empire-directed collapse of not only the Soviet Union, but the entire system of both western and eastern continental Europe, and, then, passed into the presently looming threat of the early extinction of mankind.

As a result of Andropov's own blocking-out of what has turned out to have been the last chance for a constructive agreement between the United States and that Soviet Union, an agreement which depended, in significant part, on my own initiatives and the crucially leading role of President Ronald Reagan's agreement to lead, the former Soviet Union was not only virtually dumped into an irreparable physical-economic collapse, but into a wide-scale state of collapse and relative misery. The net effect of that action by Andropov and his accomplices, has become the fact that the entirety of the planet presently hovers at the brink of a threatened thermonuclear extinction.

The Soviet Union is now long dead, killed in fact mostly by its own failure to meet the urgently needed, available solution represented by the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). What, therefore, is the next comparable mistake to be avoided, among the northern trans-Atlantic nations, most emphatically? *More nations are destroyed by their own folly, than by their ostensibly external adversaries.*

I had worked with some considerable significance, for the relatively successful emergence of a state of readiness for bringing together the collaboration of most among the leading nations of the planet, over the



LaRouche "had worked with some considerable significance," over the period 1975-83, "to bring together the prospective means of agreement needed to bring about the avoidance of general thermonuclear conflict." The result was President Reagan's announcement in March 1983 of the SDI.

interval of 1975-1983, to bring together the prospective means of agreement needed to bring about the avoidance of general thermonuclear conflict. The agreement of President Ronald Reagan to this intention in his March 1983 televised address had been a great hope for the world.

Among the other effects of the opposition to the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), has been the virtual extinction of the sovereignties of the nations of Europe under the inherently tragic so-called "Euro" system, and a state of economic despair among the present population of the trans-Atlantic region of the planet which has been now plunged into a state of general economic and cultural disintegration of the Trans-Atlantic world—in particular. Many from around the world, especially those in relatively high places, would have very good reason to feel a sense of shame about their own role in their own national history, on this account, this far.

The leading theme for the present moments of crisis, is “If, by a miracle, civilization actually survives, ... even during the short term... I have done my duty on this account,” and, you? How many among you are guilty of what you had *not* done when you had had the relevant opportunity to take relevant action. If most among you, continue either to do, or not to do, when you might do, or have done, civilization as we have known it, is nearly finished as trends stand now. The effect could now readily become thermonuclear.

However, let us proceed as intended, not forgetting what I have just emphasized. Given, the fact, that the global society as we have known it generally over the course of recent generations, has been an awful failure. Which were the worst, the crimes of commission, or omission, could be debated, probably without any resulting sort of useful outcome for mankind generally. What, therefore, is the change in relations within and among nations, which must be understood and supported as relevant and sweeping changes in the systems of policies and policy-making among nations?

Look back to the Dec. 2, 1971 Queens College debate between me and leading Keynesian economist Abba Lerner. He lost, and the fact and manner of Lerner’s self-disgrace on that occasion, has had significant repercussions internationally, to the present day. That debate was both a consequence and continuing factor in what became the “SDI” up through the present date, even internationally.

Interlude: The Case of Abba Lerner

If any partisan of the December 2nd, 1971 Queens College debate had thought, as had Professor Sidney Hook, that I had caused the defeat of Hook’s adopted champion, that I had defeated Professor Abba Lerner in that debate, they were greatly mistaken, the essential fact is, that it was Lerner’s own foolishness which had defeated him. Indeed, at the close of the debate, that point had been made very clear: “the official conquering hero who had been brought on stage from England for the occasion, Lerner, had demolished himself—on the Queens College stage. In fact, the entire Wall Street gang has continued to do the same to itself, and to the virtual entirety of the U.S. population, and that of Europe, too, ever since. I was, in effect, hindering their efforts at self-destruction, not only that of themselves, but society generally.

The fallacy of the Queens College rooters for Abba Lerner had made not merely a crucial mistake of judg-

ment, but a colossal one. I recall a World War II-vintage witticism, which runs approximately as follows.

The subject of that tale was situated during the U.S.A. of “World War II” vintage. Men had repeatedly left a high-security site with filled wheelbarrows of sand, and carried it off the premises. Where was the profit? The scheme was stealing wheelbarrows.

All day, day after day, British and kindred economists are conducting a routine; they are carrying out virtual “sand” as a form of income, but losing the wheelbarrows in which the sand was carried.

The Queen of England’s notion of “a margin of profit,” lies in the process of destroying the physical economy. That is otherwise better known as “the sickly-green policy” of a form of “profit” based on the destruction of vast quantities of looted wealth, thereby, ultimately eliminating most of the human population, some way down the line. That was very much the same policy which I witnessed in the advent of the great U.S. financial collapse of the 1954-1958 recession, and, the effects of going to a looting of the U.S. economy by the fruitless, unnecessary war covered over by the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert.

Similarly, thus, in the debate at Queens College of Dec. 2, 1971, I was winning the victory in a contest for higher net rates of physical productivity, while Abba Lerner “was carrying out the wheelbarrows.” Which was whose definition of measurable net profit?

In a once-famous debate among rival Islamic scholars, the end-game issue turned out to be, for the moment, who would gain the victory of “the destruction of the destruction.” The same old contest appears to be in progress in certain quarters of statecraft and economy generally, under Queen Elizabeth II presently. Whose, therefore, would be the victory in such a silly design of contest?

The Paradox of Actually Being Human

There are, effectively, two, respectively contradictory definitions of a human identity relative to all animal species. One, the popular, but essentially failed opinion, attempts to measure the nature of human identity by a humanoid definition of animal sense-perception. The alternative is proof of practice of the effects caused by the *actually noëtic capabilities* demonstrated as being the cognitive powers of the human mind.

The actually human behaviorisms absent from the non-human domain include the discovery of universal physical principles and, also, several most relevant categories of human Classical modes of artistic composition. The latter include truly “Classical,” but not “Romantic,” nor still lower forms of musical composition, the Classical as most clearly represented by the work of Johann Sebastian Bach, but also by Classical drama as merely typified, with a certain excellence, by Shakespeare, as well as Classical composition of visual art, and so on.

The relatively most efficient approach to distinguishing Classical artistic composition, from virtual human noise, is located essentially in the notions of Classical artistic composition: anything which is proffered as a substitute for Classical artistic composition—or for Classical physical-scientific discoveries such as those of Nicholas of Cusa, Johannes Kepler, and so on, is, essentially, trash.

These definitions which I have roughly outlined in this chapter so far, distinguish the specific kinds of noëtic functions unique to Classical science and artistic composition. Focus, for the moment, on the cases of validated discoveries of universal physical principles and Classical artistic composition. Physical-scientific discoveries such as those effected by Cusa, or, later Max Planck and Albert Einstein, Kepler, Leibniz, et al., are functionally interactive with Classical artistic drama. The hallmarks for these stipulated categories of both physical-scientific principles and Classical artistic principles of composition and physical-scientific discoveries, all have the common characteristic of being “categorically outside” the simply defined domain of sense-perception otherwise. In another published location, I have emphasized attention to the function of “Chorus” as that principle was elaborated in Shakespeare’s **Henry the Fifth**.

The qualities to be emphasized in taking up the matter of the distinctions which I have thus asserted, can be described usefully as being the categories of both physical science and Classical artistic composition which share a commonly exclusive authority in distinction from that of mere sense-perception otherwise defined.

The simplest illustration of what is at issue here, is the quality of insight expressed by the discovery of a principle of Classical artistic composition, or a similar expression of a scientific principle of the type which

can not be adduced as a product of sense-perception as such. The same is true for all actually Classical musical composition, and for the discovery of an efficient quality of a universal physical principle which is not definable by nominalist deduction. Some discussion of this set of distinctions, is now timely.

Universal Physical Principles

Those of us who share at least some degree of insight into the experiences of Classical artistic compo-

Anything which is proffered as a substitute for Classical artistic composition—including Classical physical-scientific discoveries such as those of Nicholas of Cusa, Johannes Kepler, and so on, is, essentially, trash.

sition and also direct apprehension of universal physical principles, should have discovered, by now, that the mental act of discovery of a universal physical principle in physical, as in Classical artistic composition, is “located outside” the apprehensions of sense-perception as such. No reductionist, therefore, could actually be a competent Classical artist, or an original discoverer of a principle of physical science. The most efficient approach to an attempted recognition of those standards is, probably, the work of Johannes Kepler in the discovery of the principle of *vicarious hypothesis* and the latter’s ties to the concept of *metaphor*. The two latter concepts, when competently treated, are essentially equivalent categorically.

What that means, in practice, is that sense-perceptions are not the means for *direct* knowledge of human experience. Respecting the notion of applicable concepts of principle, as distinct from mere opinion, most human beings, this far in known history, are locked, in respect to the use of sense-perception, into a surrogate for actuality. Actually relative degrees of mental development of the human individual, are expressed not by an assumed experience from sense-perception as such; but, directly the opposite. The quality of human intelligence, as that is most conveniently expressed by the combination of scientific and Classical-artistic experience, is in inverse proportion of relative weight

of practical authority, to the much less intelligent case of the merely “practical man.” A beast-versus-human priority of relative values.

It is important, to point attention to the relative degrees of genius, especially in contrast to the trash-like mentality of the so-called “man of practical opinion.” This can be fairly well measured in a study of the relevant cultural trends from the high-point of the great ecumenical sessions centered on the Council of Florence during the life-time of Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa, and the increasing rates of bestialization in the passing from Europe’s and North America’s Classical artistry and scientific motives during the Eighteenth Century in Europe and North America. The steep descent from the bestiality of a Franz Liszt and Richard Wagner, relative to a Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, et al., was outdone by the trends of generally increased bestiality in the Twentieth Century since the death of President Franklin Roosevelt and his immediate circles. The assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, and that of his brother, Robert, were tolerated crimes which present the leading forces of reigning influence in our society as being driven by a trend toward deep-going proof of a deep bestiality surging within the ranks of the Wall Street-centered “elites,” and the manifestly accelerating rates of moral and intellectual degeneration in the population generally, in the trans-Atlantic region, in particular, since we tolerated the murders of John and Robert Kennedy, for example. From 1971 on, it was manifestly an accelerating rate of plunge into relative decadence and outright degeneracy.

The Cultural Yardstick

So far in this chapter, I have treated the case of the human individual in a cultural context. Examine the moral and intellectual qualities of any subject human individual, as properly measured in the relative emphasis, in their mental-emotional life, on a self-conception premised on a scientific-Classical cultural identity as against the moral and intellectual inferiority of emphasis on relative belief in “the practical man’s simplistic devotion to the intrinsically depraved reliance on sense-certainty.”

On the one side, the up-side, there have been trends of culture in societies, which tend to lead in one of the two, alternate choices of direction, or the opposite.

When the history of the cultures of mankind, is properly considered in light of the point which I have presented and illustrated here, we have touched, at the

least, on the distinction between the relative depravity of trends in so-called “popular opinion,” as against the periods of great and rich experience of the noëtic characteristics of Classical-artistic development of the individual human mind. The simple fact of proof of the point at issue here, is that people who prefer the trends of “popular trends” of late, are morally and intellectually inferior as a practical matter of fact.

The Matter of Judgment

Let us, therefore, reconsider the proper choice of definition of “Intelligence Quotient.” Morality, and human intelligence, are to be “measured” in the relative weight of reliance on the interdependent principle of **vicarious hypothesis** and **metaphor**, in contrast to the relative weight of sense-perception. **Vicarious hypothesis** and **metaphor**, as combined in practice, determine relative human sanity and practical levels of intelligence, that of both the individual personality, and of the generality of the ideology of the society.

To the extent that human society were progressive in its direction of development, *vicarious hypothesis* and *metaphor*, when properly combined, tend to become victorious. If not, mankind were probably on the way to extinction. Any contrary opinion is foolish sham, and leads toward the worst probable outcome, that of the same general bestiality which we in the United States have experienced as a trend since the “cover up” of the assassinations of both President John F. Kennedy and his brother, Robert.

In the meanwhile, physical science, notably mankind’s progress toward higher relative concentrations of the application of *vicarious hypothesis* and *metaphor*, would tend to reduce the percentile of the human population under the corrupting influence of belief in mere sense-certainties, which lowers the “I.Q.” of each relevant society which has failed to displace customary belief in sense-perception for the advantage of the principles of *vicarious hypothesis* and *metaphor*.

Therefore, for example, your attitude towards Max Planck and Albert Einstein, against the depraved Bertrand Russell, may now be measuring your fitness to be regarded as actually a human individual. That is not a matter of mere opinion; it is a matter of those qualities which actually distinguish the intellectual life of the actually human personality, from the pathetic superstitions of worship of the pleasures and pains of vulgar sense-perception.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SOUGHT

Russia Escalates Effort for 'Strategic Defense of Earth'

by Susan Welsh

March 18—If a televised meeting of experts and leading officials were held in the chambers of the U.S. Senate on the topic of “Risks and Threats from Space: How To Defend the Planet,” do you think you would have heard about it? What if the participants included the Senate Majority Leader and the chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Science and Space; the NASA Administrator and the head of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL); the Secretary of Homeland Security; a representative from the Department of Defense who specializes in missile/space defense; the heads of the National Academy of Sciences sections for astronomy and applied mathematics; the heads of the Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories; the deputy head of the nuclear power section of the Department of Energy, and the CEOs of the principal aerospace companies? Would the media have paid attention?

That is an approximate equivalent of who attended the March 12 “round table” held under the auspices of Russia’s Federation Council, the upper house of parliament. The two-hour meeting received no coverage in the leading U.S. press (the next day’s *Washington Post* coverage of Russia featured articles on “Pskov, the would-

be pancake capital” and the attack against the Bolshoi Ballet’s artistic director). An AFP wire on the round table appeared, and there were short reports in London’s *Daily Telegraph* and *Guardian*, some press in Australia, and a few websites. None mentioned that the Russians were calling for international collaboration. There has been no known response from any U.S. official.

Yet this Moscow meeting, which took place on the 150th birthday of Academician Vladimir I. Vernadsky, the great biogeochemist whose work is celebrated elsewhere in this issue (see *Science*), conveyed two vital



Russian TV First Channel

Russian scientists, political leaders, government officials, and business leaders, meeting at the Federation Council on March 12, urged rapid development of anti-asteroid planetary defense, both nationally and internationally.

messages to the international community:

- There is currently no way, in any country, to prevent a catastrophic asteroid strike against the Earth, even if it were possible to detect one in good time, which it is not.
- International cooperation is essential to solve this problem, and Russia is open to such cooperation.

Lyndon LaRouche also underlined these points in his March 15 Friday [webcast](#): “The problem is,” he said, “we do not have any assured ability at this time to actually defend Earth against these kinds of threats—not assured or even reasonably assured. We are not prepared. We have not done the work needed to prepare for this kind of problem. Furthermore, there’s a deeper problem. It’s a psychological problem of great depth. We do not have scientific teams in quantity and quality needed to understand what the problem is.” LaRouche said that a crash international program for defense of Earth has to be based on putting instrumentation on Mars, and a large number of systems elsewhere as well. “Because as of now, if something could hit the Earth within one year, I don’t think a damned thing could be done about it.”

Keynote Speeches

The Moscow round table was moderated by **Sen. Viktor Kosourov**, first deputy chairman of the Federation Council Committee on Science, Education, Culture, and Information Policy.

Sen. Yuri Vorobyov, the deputy chairman of the Federation Council, introduced the subject as one of pressing concern, especially since the explosion of a meteorite over Chelyabinsk, Russia, on Feb. 15.¹ The complex topic has to be discussed from the political, technical, as well as planetary standpoint, he said.



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Sen. Viktor Kosourov

The main speakers were **Boris Shustov**, director of the Astronomy Institute of

the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), president of the Academy’s Expert Working Group on Space Threats, and **Vladimir Popovkin**, director of Roscosmos, the Russian space agency, equivalent to NASA.

Shustov gave an overview of the subjects to be discussed by the panel: the threat from asteroids and comets; from “space garbage”—debris from man-made satellites in Earth orbit; and from “cosmic weather,” notably, solar activity. In this article, we discuss mainly the first of these.

He reported that the RAS set up within the last few years an Expert Working Group on Space Threats, which includes experts from the RAS, Roscosmos, the Ministry of Education and Science, Moscow State University, the Emergencies Ministry, the nuclear company Rosatom, the Ministry of Defense, and other interested agencies and organizations. The group’s main assignment is to work out a concept for a national system to counter space threats. In June 2010, the RAS and Roscosmos were delegated to continue this work, and an outline was prepared. If it is accepted, it will provide the basis for a future detailed program and a legal mandate.

A key problem, Shustov said, is the detection of dangerous space objects. There are perhaps 200-300,000 of them that pose a potential threat to Earth within a reasonable interval (100-200 years), but only 2% of these have been identified. Special wide-angle telescopes, with a diameter of about 2 meters, will be needed, but so far only one of these exists, in the United States. Special programs are under way to build powerful telescopes in the U.S. and Europe. Russia has none, he emphasized, making a plea for financial support, at the very least for the observatory that is being built in the Lake Baikal region. “The RAS and Roscosmos have some financial support, but not enough,” he said. In interviews given just after the Chelyabinsk meteorite explosion, Lidiya Rykhlova, a senior scientist at Shustov’s Institute of Astronomy, had cited the Academy’s estimated price tag of 58 billion rubles (almost \$2 bil-



Russian TV First Channel

Boris Shustov, director of the Institute of Astronomy, addresses the round table on March 12: “The problem of the asteroid-comet danger is global in nature and requires effective international cooperation to solve it.”

1. That asteroid was estimated to weigh 7,000 tons, and to be traveling at 40,000 km per hour; the shockwave of the 500-kiloton explosion scattered debris throughout the region, injuring about 1,500 people, but with no deaths reported.

lion) for an adequate Russian 10-year asteroid-comet defense program, including ground- and space-based components.

But space-based telescopes, which are much more expensive, are essential, Shustov said. On Feb. 25, he reported, the Canadian NEOSat satellite was launched, for observation of large asteroids in the daytime sky. There are only a few projects of this nature in the world, and international cooperation is needed. The main problem in detecting dangerous space objects is to develop coordination among both domestic and international institutions.

“The problem of the asteroid-comet danger,” Shustov said, “is global in nature and requires effective international cooperation to solve it.” There will be an international conference on planetary defense in the United States (Arizona) in April, which will hopefully yield new information.

Another issue is the potential military aspect of such work. Russia should only participate in international programs on the basis of protecting its own interests, he said. “It should not be forgotten that the technologies required for solving the problems of countering threats from space have a dual nature.”

Vladimir Popovkin of Roscosmos then spoke, with an emphasis on better coordination among the various Russian agencies. He said that officials of the Defense Ministry and the RAS have formed a working group to develop a unified system to defend against asteroids and other space threats. We have sufficient means in our country, he said, but people are working within their own agencies. Therefore, the time has come to create one inter-agency center to coordinate these systems and prevent duplication.

He reported that the design for a program against threats in and from space will be ready by the end of 2013. There are three plans underway, he said: one for developing optical instruments by the RAS; the second for combating space threats, by Roscosmos; and a third by the Ministry of Defense.



Russia Today

Vladimir Popovkin, the head of the Russian space agency Roscosmos, warned that results of current work will not be apparent until the end of the decade.

Like Shustov, Popovkin mentioned the dual-use character of this research, and called for international agreements “excluding the testing and deployment of weapons in space under the cover of countering the asteroid-comet danger and developing technologies to eliminate space garbage.”

He noted that Russia is closely monitoring the asteroid Apophis, which is due to fly close to the Earth in 2036. “We want to put a beacon on Apophis to ascertain its exact orbit and work out what further actions to take,” he said.

Popovkin said that Russia is developing a telescope network that will expand throughout the country, but that the first results of this will not be visible until 2018-20.

Further Dimensions

Other speakers elaborated various aspects of the situation facing Russia and the world.

Vladimir Puchkov, Minister for Civil Defense, Emergencies, and Disaster Relief, described the work of federal, regional, and local agencies to cope with the Chelyabinsk meteorite impact, and said that “international cooperation in the field of early warning systems must be expanded. It makes sense to form an international space task force which includes orbital satellites with special equipment.” He added that collisions between Earth and asteroids can only be forecast in time to act, if the international potentials of space- and ground-based systems are pooled. He called for research “on the implementation of the International Global Monitoring Aero-Space System (IGMASS) and the subsequent development of a comprehensive project design. We at the Russian Emergencies Ministry have already started to work on this outline.”

Anatoli Kornilov, deputy director of the Department of New Challenges and Threats at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, spoke about Russia’s participation in UN discussions of space threats.

Oleg Aksyonov, chief of the National Research



government.ru

Civil Defense Minister Vladimir Puchkov: “International cooperation in the field of early warning systems must be expanded.”

Center on Space and Missile Defense at the Ministry of Defense's 4th Central Science and Innovation Institute, said that since the Chelyabinsk event, many people have been asking why the Russian military did not detect the incoming asteroid. He explained that "our monitoring system and the American one can detect and track man-made objects in near-Earth space at distances of up to 50,000 km, but generally not farther. . . . Asteroids and comets, orbiting through the galaxy and periodically approaching the Earth, are objects of a totally different type and require corresponding methods of observation, astronomical instruments and astronomical methods for detecting and tracking them. The Defense Ministry does not have such equipment and does not plan to build or commission any." But he did say that they were willing to help evaluate the threat, and are doing so in cooperation with other agencies.

No Way To Stop Asteroids For at Least 3-4 Years

Dr. Natan Eismont is a senior researcher of the Russian Academy of Sciences at the Research Laboratory of Space Research, Technologies, Systems, and Processes in Moscow. In an interview to ITAR-TASS on March 6 on the threat from near-Earth asteroids and comets, he commented on a number of key aspects of this problem.

Asked whether there is international cooperation to develop ways of monitoring and acting upon asteroids, he replied, "There are discussions and some efforts to establish contacts, but nothing has happened beyond talks."

On whether the threat from asteroids is increasing, he stressed that we don't know, because we don't know how many of them there are or where they are. Optimistic estimations say that 10% of those that might pose a danger to Earth have been identified, and pessimistic evaluations say 2%.

Asked whether it would be possible to prevent Earth impact by a dangerous asteroid, he said flatly, "No, there is not. I would say that it will take a minimum of 3-4 years from today to be able to do anything whatsoever."

Oleg Shubin, the deputy director of the Department of Nuclear Munitions and Military Power Units of the state-owned nuclear monopoly Rosatom, said that once a dangerous space object is detected, there is only about a year to take measures to intercept it. "Interception of an asteroid bigger than 1 km in diameter would mean the use of a nuclear warhead considerably more powerful than the existing megaton class of nuclear devices," he said. "This is a separate scientific challenge that could be solved." He mentioned that the construction of international or national systems for defense of Earth from asteroids raises a number of questions related to international treaties, such as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Shubin added that "exotic" methods of destroying dangerous asteroids would not be effective, and only nuclear explosions would work.

"In the foreseeable future, I cannot see any other danger that would lead—at minimum—to a profound deterioration of human civilization," he concluded.

Vitali Lopota, president of the S.P. Korolyov Rocket and Space Corporation Energia, which builds the world's largest currently operating launch vehicle, said that super-heavy launch vehicles will be required for defense against asteroids. He said that the U.S. is planning to have one with a capacity of 70 tons by 2017, and a successor with a 130-ton capacity.



St. Petersburg Polytechnic
Vitaly Lopota

Russia should produce such larger rockets as well, he said. By building one with a 70-ton capacity by 2020, and 150 tons by 2030, Russia would get much closer to solving the problem of asteroid-comet defense.

Vladimir Kuznetsov, director of the Academy of Sciences' N.V. Pushkov Institute of Terrestrial Magnetism, the Ionosphere, and Radio Wave Propagation, spoke about space weather, citing the solar storms which can destroy communications satellites, and which knocked out Quebec's electricity grid on March 13-14, 1989, costing millions of dollars.

Anatoli Zaitsev, general director of the Center for Planetary Defense, gave a briefing on the 20-year Citadel program for international defense of the planet.

Vladislav Panchenko, president of the Council of the Russian Basic Research Foundation, talked about how to finance these projects.

Boris Chetverushkin, director of the M.V. Keldysh Institute of Applied Mathematics of the RAS, brought up the issue of international cooperation, but from “a position of strength,” using Russia’s own observations and analytic capacities. “Otherwise, we will receive information on the leftover principle: You will find out only what we think you should know.”

Aleksandr Ipatov, director of the Institute of Applied Astronomy of the RAS, emphasized that Russia needs an improved asteroid observation system, and particularly an ability to catalog all of them. “Our institute is working to catalog all the small bodies in the Solar System. But Russia’s observations are lagging behind. For example, the U.S. has registered all asteroids that are bigger than a kilometer in diameter, and that is 800,000 objects,” he said.

Finally, a report on the meeting from the *Parliamentary Gazette* of March 12 quotes Academician **Anatoli Cherepashchuk**, whose name is not on the program, and who presumably spoke from the floor, saying that an additional key factor is education of the youth. He expressed regret that the course in astronomy is no longer required at many colleges and universities. As a result, he said, the population’s basic scientific literacy

is falling, as shown by a recent survey: About a third of respondents were sure that the Earth does not move around the Sun, but rather the other way around. Also apparently speaking from the floor, **Lev Zelyony**, the director of the Institute for Space Research, was quoted on the need for mass education in civil defense: “Fifteen hundred people were wounded in Chelyabinsk because of their own curiosity, being hurt by glass. The graduates of Soviet schools and universities could have told them that in case of a nuclear explosion, you shouldn’t go near the windows.”

Strategic Defense of Earth

For those who may have doubted it, this round table makes clear that the Russians take the asteroid threat very seriously and are mobilizing to put the scientific apparatus in place to be able to monitor it and prevent a disaster. They have also made clear that they cannot do it alone. That is why then-Russian Ambassador to NATO Dmitri Rogozin, who is now deputy prime minister, called in October 2011 for international cooperation for the Strategic Defense of Earth (SDE). See below for a chronology of this and other appeals by Russian leaders.

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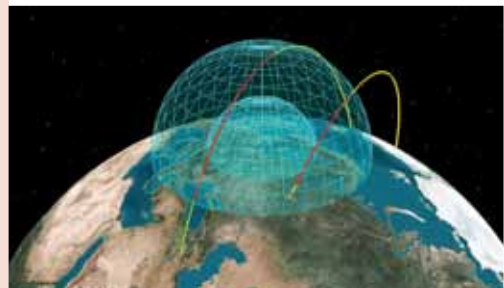
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June 2012

Putin's Russia Offers Cooperation in Space

The first publicized offer from the Russian government for revival of the idea of strategic defense cooperation between Moscow and Washington came from President Boris Yeltsin, in his visit with U.S. President Bill Clinton in Vancouver, B.C., in the Spring of 1993. This was not followed through—and, as Lyndon LaRouche has recently pointed out, the portfolio for Russia was given to Vice President Al Gore, with known results.

The next offer came following the accession of Vladimir Putin into the Russian prime ministership (in 1999), and then as President, in the wake of the 2001 terror attack on the United States.

Russia Responds to 9/11

September 2001: President Putin acted to protect world security on Sept. 11, 2001. As the first foreign leader to contact President George W. Bush on the day of the attack, he was informed by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice that U.S. nuclear forces were on high alert. “We already know,” replied Putin, “and we have cancelled our exercises and brought our alert levels down.”

[Nonetheless, three months later, Bush gave Russia notice that the U.S.A. was withdrawing from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. The British-groomed U.S. war party of Vice President Dick Cheney took the long-since diluted remains of President Reagan’s SDI program, and turned them into today’s attempts at building a global BMD system based on anti-missile missiles, behind whose protection nuclear-missile attacks on Russia and China might ultimately be attempted.]

Sept. 25, 2001: In a speech to the German Bundestag in late September, Putin offered the basis for international cooperation and war avoidance, based on rejecting the axioms of the clash of civilizations and geopolitics (Oct. 5, 2001 *EIR*).

[One week later, the U.S. went to NATO for invocation of Article 5, and launched the war in Afghanistan.]

February 2007: In Munich, Putin blasted the attempts to solve world crises by force, and stressed the

need for economic development as a prerequisite for world stability, implicitly offering Russia as a partner in such development. He favorably cited the model of Franklin Roosevelt, and attacked the plans for BMD in Europe as not serving the defensive purposes stated.

July 2007: Putin met George W. Bush in Kennebunkport, Maine, and put a proposal on the table for collaboration on strategic missile defense. This included the offer of the joint use of the Russian-owned Gabala radar station in Azerbaijan for missile defense.

January 2008: Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov reiterated Putin’s offers from Munich.

October 2008: Lavrov offered cooperation with the U.S. in an article in the monthly magazine *Profile*, noting that the world needs the U.S. of Presidents Kennedy and FDR. LaRouche welcomed this statement (Oct. 24, 2008 *EIR*).

March 2009: During the first major meetings between incoming Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Lavrov, the offer of joint work on missile defense was put on the table (part of the U.S.-Russia “reset”).

July 2009: In the context of Obama’s trip to Moscow, Lavrov reiterated the Putin offer from Kennebunkport (2007), for cooperation on missile defense. Discussions on the topic were to be started under the U.S.-Russia Bilateral President Commissions.

Aug. 26, 2009: The only known U.S. offer to Russia (!) on space work, came from a NASA official in Moscow, who, in the course of discussions on cooperation on the International Space Station, proposed work on a joint flight to Mars.

May 14-17, 2010: Sergei Ivanov, Deputy Prime Minister for Defense and the Defense Industry, traveling to the United States with Anatoli Perminov, the head of Roscosmos, the Russian space agency, called for cooperation between the U.S. and Russia on travel to the Moon, Mars, and other planets.

April 2011: Perminov, in an interview with *Russia Today*, called for a global space security monitoring system, which would warn of natural disasters (this was in the wake of the devastating Japanese earthquake and tsunami at Fukushima).

October 2011: Then-Russian envoy to NATO, Dmitri Rogozin, as reported in the Russian paper *Kommersant* Oct. 18, called for international cooperation, under the auspices of the UN, for Strategic Defense of

Earth, “an integration of anti-aircraft, missile, and space defenses.”

Medvedev on the BMD Threat

Nov. 23, 2011: Then-Russian President Dmitri Medvedev addressed the Russian nation, reiterating offers of cooperation on joint missile defense with the U.S. and West, even as he outlined the military measures that would have to be taken if the BMD strategic threat continued to be pursued by NATO.

Jan. 20, 2012: Igor Ivanov, a former high-level Russian official and still influential figure in the Russian foreign policy establishment, in an article in *Rossiyskaya Gazeta*, laid out proposals for cooperation on missile defense and development of the Arctic, with the U.S.

April 28, 2012: Roscosmos Deputy Director Vitali Davydov, at a Russian Security Council Conference, called for a Russian national program on the threat to Earth from asteroids, noting that this requires “a joint effort by all nations.”

May 3, 2012: Russia hosted a U.S.-Russian conference on missile defense, during which Russian general staff officers presented the threat to Russia’s security

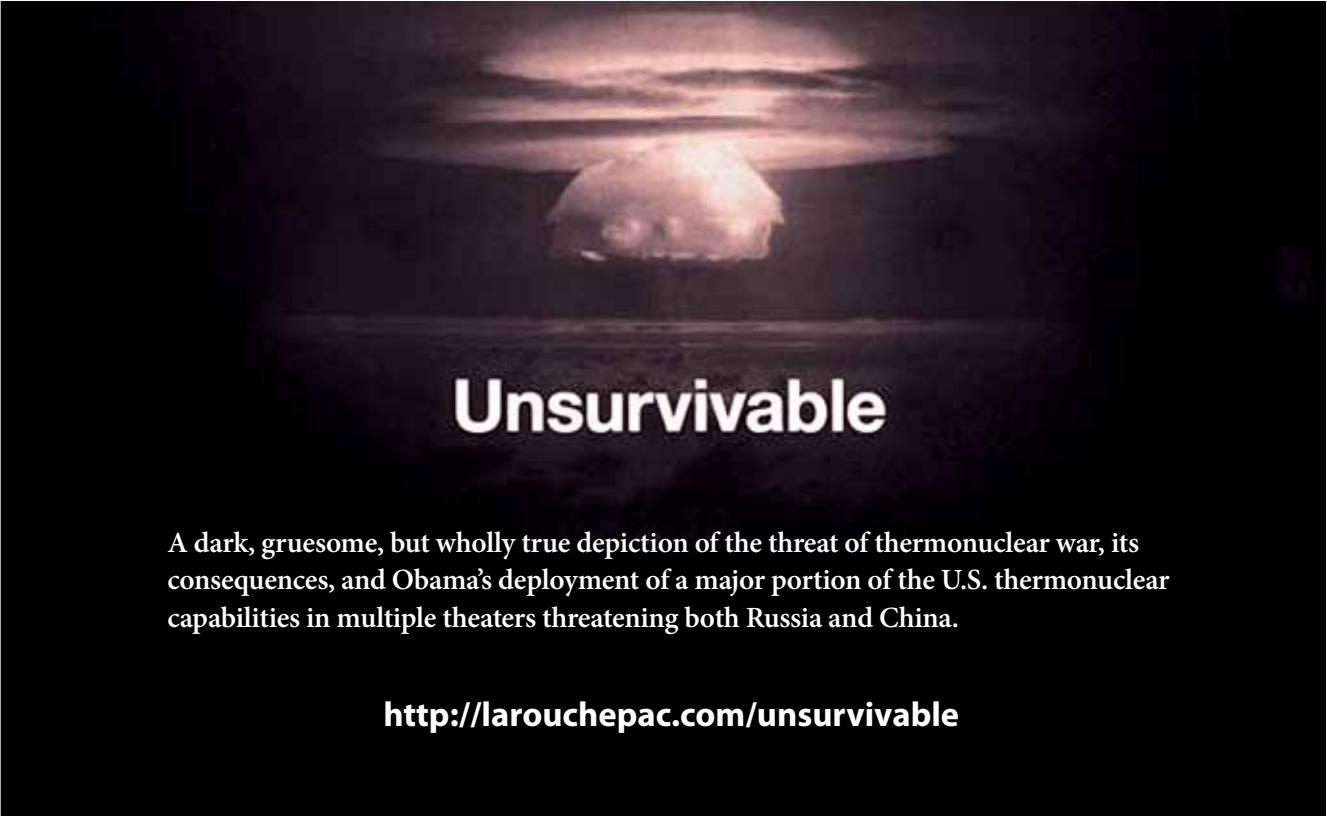
from the planned European BMD program of the U.S.A. and NATO, while emphasizing the superiority of a full-fledged cooperative Russian-American program, including against third-party threats.

June 9, 2012: Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev, at the conclusion of a global security forum held in St. Petersburg, called for international cooperation on readiness and potential deflection of the “space threat from asteroids.”

Feb. 16, 2013: Russian Deputy Prime Minister Rogozin reiterated his 2011 call for U.S.-Russian collaboration for a Strategic Defense of Earth, in the wake of the Chelyabinsk meteorite explosion of Feb. 15.

Feb. 21, 2013: According to the Russian daily *Izvestia*, Rogozin wrote to Prime Minister Medvedev proposing that Russia join with other countries, especially the United States, in establishing “an international system of anti-asteroid security for the planet.”

Feb. 26, 2013: Russian Security Council Secretary Patrushev took the occasion of a conference on fighting illegal drugs, in Yekaterinburg, Russia, to reiterate his call for “interagency cooperation among nations” against the asteroid-comet threat to Earth.



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Empire's War Drive Is Hurtling Ahead

by Jeffrey Steinberg

March 18—Over the past week, the potential for a blunder into general war has increased dramatically on several fronts, including in Syria, North Korea, and Iran.

With the Syrian situation deadlocked after two years of foreign-funded efforts to overthrow the government of President Bashar al-Assad, Great Britain and France have called for the European Union to end the arms embargo that has blocked lethal aid from going to the Syrian rebels. According to British news leaks, London has already broken the embargo with a covert shipment of an estimated \$25 million in weapons to the Syrian armed opposition.

French President François Hollande joined British Prime Minister David Cameron at a March 14-15 EU heads of state meeting to press for an end to the arms embargo; however, under strenuous objection from Germany and Austria, the matter was postponed until this week, when a foreign ministers meeting is scheduled to take place in Ireland. The Obama Administration, under intense pushback from the Joint Chiefs of Staff and U.S. diplomats, has so far refused to jump on the bandwagon for lethal aid. However, Secretary of State John Kerry recently announced that the U.S. would provide \$60 million in non-lethal aid to the rebels.

A Bankrupt Policy

The story behind this new aid package is indicative of just how far gone the U.S. and European policy is towards Syria. The U.S. aid is intended to back secular factions of the Syrian opposition, who have lost out to the Saudi-funded radical jihadists, such as the al-Nusra Front, a Syrian branch of al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI), which has been the best-armed, best-trained, and most effective element within the armed Syrian opposition. Large portions of northern Syria have fallen under the control of al-Nusra and allied groups, which have proclaimed an Islamic Emirate of Syria.

Washington is engaged in a losing effort to control

the Syrian opposition, while attempting to avoid a head-on conflict with Saudi Arabia and other Persian Gulf Sunni states that are backing radical Islamists who, for the most part, hate the West as much as they hate the Alawite Assad regime.

The clearest indication of the total bankruptcy of the U.S. Syria policy was a report in the March 16 issue of the *Los Angeles Times*, revealing that the CIA's Counterterrorism Center has reassigned a number of analysts to assemble "target folders" on Syrian rebel terrorists, who may be future targets of American drone assassinations. In effect, the Obama Administration has admitted that they have thoroughly lost control over the anti-Assad insurgency, and that the rebels may be more of a threat to American interests and regional stability than a weakened Assad government in Damascus.

The Russian government has stepped up criticism of the Obama policy of arming Islamist terrorists against the Assad regime, and matched its escalating criticisms with military deployments. The Russian Navy has been retooled to establish a permanent presence in the Mediterranean Sea, the first since the fall of the Soviet Union. Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu made clear that Russia will maintain its presence in the Mediterranean. And in a further indication of Russian perception of the growing war danger, the Council of the Russian Ministry of Defense met in February, and announced a top-to-bottom overhaul of the military, reversing severe personnel and budget cuts that had been pushed by the previous Defense Minister, who was fired last November. Russia is not only accelerating modernization of its strategic nuclear arsenal. It is restoring officer training academies that had been recently shuttered, and taking other war preparation/war avoidance measures.

The Pacific Theater

The Obama Administration is also escalating its military operations in the Asia-Pacific theater, ostensibly in response to North Korea's recent missile launch, nuclear bomb test, and threats to directly attack the United States in retaliation for recent UN Security Council sanctions. According to senior U.S. intelligence sources, the Obama Administration is pressing Japan to build up new ABM radar installations, and is considering deploying tactical nuclear weapons to South Korea as a deterrent against D.P.R.K. threats. South Korean government officials indicated that they



The Russian Navy has been retooled to establish a permanent presence in the Mediterranean Sea, for the first time since the fall of the Soviet Union. Here, a Russian ship deploys to the Mediterranean in February for possible evacuation of its citizens from the war in Syria.

weapon, despite advances in its nuclear enrichment program. Clapper, in effect, threw cold water on Israeli claims that Iran could build its first nuclear weapon in a matter of months. President Obama, who will make his first Presidential visit to Israel at the end of this week, gave interviews to Israeli news organizations, in which he said Iran was one year away from a nuclear weapon, and reiterated that U.S. policy is to use all means necessary to block Iran from obtaining such a weapon.

Although Obama's policy is different than that of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the Obama emphasis on threats, sanctions, and ultimatums is hardly conducive to negotiated settlement. The Obama policy is a direct continuation of the Bush-Cheney

are less concerned about a North Korean nuclear attack than they are about a massive conventional provocation across the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone separating North and South Korea).

U.S. officials candidly admit that they do not have a clear profile of the Pyongyang leadership, and are uncertain whether the recent North Korean provocative actions are intended as a prelude to direct negotiations, or an actual threat of war on the peninsula.

American actions are driving the crisis towards a potential military confrontation. James Miller, Assistant Secretary of Defense told a recent Washington gathering that the U.S. is pressing Japan to accelerate the deployment of new radar systems as part of an ABM system, to protect both Japan and the United States against a North Korean missile launch. The U.S. drive escalated further when North Korea fired short-range missiles into the Sea of Japan at the start of annual U.S.-South Korean large-scale military maneuvers last week.

The Iran Wild Card

On March 12, the Director of National Intelligence, Gen. James Clapper, told the Senate Intelligence Committee that Iran has *not* commenced work on a nuclear

policy: Isolate, sanction, and pressure Iran into surrendering its nuclear capabilities. Although recent meetings between the Iranian government and the P5+1 (UN Security Council Permanent Five plus Germany) were universally described as positive, Obama's behavior during his upcoming visit to Israel could be a spoiler, driving Iran from the negotiating table at a crucial moment.

Iran is also going into presidential elections in June, and the period of the next three months is certain to be consumed by Iranian political infighting and possible mass protests.

The strategic panorama is littered with regional wars, instabilities, and provocations that could easily spill over into general war—precisely the outcome that LaRouche and the war avoidance factions in the U.S. institutions are trying to avoid. On March 12, at the inauguration of a new Washington think tank, the Center on Global Interests, former U.S. Ambassador Richard Burt warned that the U.S. had to repair the damaged relations with Moscow, to avoid a slide to war, and urged that Washington and Moscow reach an agreement on the BMD deployments in Europe, by returning to the initial NATO-Russia plan for a joint program.

Cheminade Strikes Back With Political Drive

by Our Paris Bureau

PARIS, March 14—The French Interior Ministry has intervened to deprive former Presidential candidate Jacques Cheminade of EU172,000 of the EU249,000 legally owed to him as reimbursement for his campaign expenses in last year's election campaign. The National Commission for Campaign Accounts and Political Finances (CNCCFP), which regulated the candidates' campaign expenses in 2012, had officially certified Cheminade's campaign accounts, and said he was entitled to receive the reimbursement of EU249,000. Nonetheless, before the money was delivered, the Interior Ministry intervened to collect the EU172,000 from that sum.

The Ministry claimed that it was seizing the funds as "compensation" for the EU150,000 advanced to Cheminade's 1995 Presidential campaign, plus EU22,000 in interest and fines for non-payment. This leaves the candidate with only EU77,000, an amount which is insufficient to allow him to pay back his campaign commitments to Solidarité et Progrès, the party he founded in 1996, and which had lent Cheminade most of the money he was able to invest in the campaign.

It is on the basis of the outrageous decision of the Constitutional Council's October 1995 decision that the funds are being withheld. At the time, the Council had decided to throw out Cheminade's account, allegedly because the candidate had taken no-interest loans from individuals, which the Council ruled had amounted to donations that were above the legally allowed amounts.

A Triple Scandal

The scandal is a triple one.

First, the French Civil Code says that loans can be *with or without interest*. Therefore, the Constitutional Council judges of 1995 did not take into account the

established law, when they ruled to deprive Cheminade of his legal rights.

Second, these judges had validated the campaign expense accounts of two other major Presidential candidates, former Prime Minister Edouard Balladur and former President Jacques Chirac, which they knew or suspected to be fraudulent. Balladur had illegally deposited close to 10 million French francs in cash into his campaign bank accounts without any credible justification. He, and his then-campaign manager Nicolas Sarkozy, are currently under investigation for this. It is suspected that this cash deposited in Balladur's accounts came from kickbacks for large state contracts involving the sale of frigates and submarines to Saudi Arabia (Sawari II contract) and Pakistan (Agosta contract). Cheminade had denounced this involvement of arms sales as early as 1996.

Third, Roland Dumas, François Mitterrand's former foreign affairs minister and then president of the Constitutional Council, on a France 2 TV broadcast on May 4, 2011, explaining the Council's 1995 decision against Cheminade, said that Chirac and Balladur had been "adroit" in the way they justified their accounts, and Cheminade was "not as adroit." If "being adroit" is a basis for a legal judgment, then there is no true state of law in France. Two judges from the 1995 Constitutional Council have since then publicly declared that they are ashamed of their behavior in 1995, admitting they had allowed themselves to be manipulated by Dumas.

How French Campaign Funding Works

To better understand the case, the following should be added. In France, the state reimburses the campaign expenses of all candidates, up to a ceiling which is determined in proportion to the vote obtained, and provided those expenses are finally certified and come from loans, not from donations. Cheminade, in both his campaigns in 1995 and in 2012, was the candidate whose spending had been by far the most modest. The other candidates, including the "official" extreme-left- and extreme-right-wing candidates, had been financed mainly by bank loans. Given that Cheminade has been championing a Glass-Steagall Act and a ban on speculative financial practices, no bank came forth with loans for his campaign. This is why, in his case, loans could only come from a political party, other forms of loans, by private per-



EIRNS/Julien Lemaître

Former French Presidential candidate Jacques Cheminade is fighting back against the illegal seizure of his campaign funds by the Interior Ministry. He is shown here outside the Constitutional Court in Paris, in March 2012.

sons or firms, being prohibited.

Now, the Interior Ministry, despite the fact that everybody in France knows what has just been said to be true, has decided to seize the funds owed to Cheminade from 2012, for his “mistake” of 1995. Eighteen years later, not taking into account that the process of the election of 2012 has nothing to do with that of 1995, and in disrespect of the principles inscribed in the Preamble of the French Constitution and the 1789 Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen.

Legally, the problem is that the decisions of the Constitutional Council—no matter how ignominious—cannot be appealed, as, for example, rulings by U.S. Supreme Court. Therefore, the Interior Ministry can claim to only “follow up.” Cheminade’s legal team has nonetheless questioned, if not the decision itself, the way the sums demanded from Cheminade had been collected. The campaign has also introduced a “QPC,” (priority question of constitutionality), challenging the constitutionality of the 1962 law as applied to Cheminade in 1995. This procedure was only recently adopted: Since 2006, the 1962 law has been changed to bring it into conformity with the right to appeal any decision, even of the Constitutional Coun-

cil when it makes a political decision, a principle from which Cheminade could not have benefitted in 1995.

A Two-Pronged Counterattack

The Interior Ministry decided to act even though there are these two juridical procedures ongoing, while the Administrative Court of Appeal, in charge of deciding those two cases, which was supposed to have made its decision before December 2012, continues to postpone its judgment.

Anybody in his right mind can smell the odors of a state scandal in this “affaire.” Many Deputies, Senators, and politically responsible

individuals have admitted so, privately and publicly, as in two cases before the French National Assembly and Senate!

Therefore, while the juridical counteroffensive obviously has to be maintained, the arena of the case is political. That is why Solidarité et Progrès has launched a two-pronged counterattack:

- 1) a drive to collect 20,000 contributions, to stop the party from being bankrupted;
- 2) a petition drive demanding that Interior Minister Manuel Valls withdraw his decision, which he is always empowered to do.

The drive is being run by the S&P [website](#) and newspaper *Nouvelle Solidarité*; the [petition](#) can be found on the [change.org](#) website.

The petition so far has gathered 1,500 signatures, including those of a number of mayors, and by well-known personalities, such as the son of the late Patrice Lumumba, the Republic of the Congo’s first elected President.

Solidarité et Progrès and Cheminade are now more visible and well-known in France than ever before. The target is to first collect tens of thousands of signatures from French citizens. A decision about an international mobilization will be taken in a later phase.

What Have We Learned Since Fukushima?

March 13—March 11 was the second anniversary of the massive 9.0 earthquake and tsunami on the east coast of Japan, north of Tokyo. On that day, some 18,000 people lost their lives, almost all from the awe-inspiring tsunami that washed miles inland, destroying roads, cars, buildings, and people. There were two, and only two, deaths to date at the Daiichi Fukushima nuclear power station. They were both Tokyo Electric Power Company employees doing maintenance work, who were crushed by the rushing water before there was any accident at the power plant or release of radioactivity.

This natural catastrophe was immediately used to promote a huge wave of irrational propaganda against nuclear power, leading the Merkel government of Germany, in particular, to rush away from that power source, in spite of the costs. Hair-raising scare stories made the rounds about the risks of death and illness from the effects of “out-of-control” nuclear radiation.

Studies Prove the Greenies Wrong

What do we know today? Two recent studies, one by the Japanese government and the other by the World Health Organization (WHO), have reached similar conclusions: “The predicted risks are low, and no observable increases in cancer rates above baseline rates are anticipated,” concluded the WHO Feb. 28, 2013 report. The Japanese scientists found an average radiation dose of well under 1 millisievert, whereas a 1 millisievert dose would increase

the cancer risk for 10,000 people from 3,500 expected cases over a lifetime to 3,502 according to the “generally accepted” (but flawed) low-dose statistical model. The highest effective dose measured was only 1.07 millisieverts. Background radiation from natural sources such as radon gas is typically around 2 to 3 millisieverts per year, while medical applications, such as chest X-rays CT scans of the heart can produce 0.1 and 16 millisieverts, respectively.

Another study, carried out by the Japanese Environmental Ministry and released last week, found that the *thyroid abnormalities in children from Fukushima Prefecture are actually lower than elsewhere in the country*. The study was conducted after screaming headlines announced in February that more than 40% of some 133,000 children living there, aged 18 and under when the disaster occurred, were diagnosed with small lumps or cysts on the thyroid, all believed to be too small to be of concern. The Ministry thus decided to conduct tests for comparison, using the same devices and the same age group, in three cities far removed from Fukushima. There, the percentage of those diagnosed with small cysts or lumps was 56.6%, *as opposed to 41.2% in Fukushima*. Larger cysts and lumps, requiring follow up, were found in another 1.0% of the control group, against 0.6% in Fukushima.



Wikimedia Commons

Despite the anti-nuclear hysteria whipped up by the greenie-infested mass media, as in this September 2011 mass rally in Tokyo, studies show that there were “no observable increases in cancer rates,” and in fact, that low-level radiation is beneficial.

Benefits of Low-Level Radiation

Note that thyroid abnormalities were *lower* for people near the plant. They were exposed to more low-level radiation than in the general population, pointing to the beneficial effects of low-level radiation, known as hormesis.

Environmentalists have made a living, and the Environmental Protection Agency has enforced regulations, under the false idea that *any* amount of radiation is harmful, denying that hormesis exists, using a flawed statistical model, the no-threshold, linear extrapolation method: If a lot of radiation is very bad for you, less radiation is also bad, just less bad, when in fact it can be beneficial.

Readers can find elaboration of this in an article in the upcoming Spring 2013 issue of *21st Century Science & Technology* by Dr. Edward Calabrese, a leading expert in the field, on how this environmental sabotage has led to unnecessary deaths, by denying patients the benefits of low-level radiation.

On the first anniversary of the tsunami, the Health Physics Society of the U.S. estimated, as published in *The Lancet*, Britain's major medical journal, that "the risk of developing cancer for those exposed in Fuku-

shima will increase by about 0.002%, and the risk of dying from the disease would rise by 0.001%." For the approximately 100,000 evacuated, the lifetime risk of cancer is about two cases with a single fatality, even according to the low-dose radiation statistical model, which does not take into account the beneficial effects of low radiation.

However, as a *Yomiuri Shimbun* newspaper article noted, there were many fatalities due to "the psychological trauma associated with evacuation, and the aggravation of existing chronic conditions such as pneumonia and heart disease." Indeed, fueled by media hysteria, the evacuation measures were drastic and rushed, on frantic orders of then-Prime Minister Naoto Kan, who actually came close to ordering what would have been the deadly, disastrous attempt to evacuate the entire Tokyo metropolitan area of more than 30 million people.

The foremost logical (as opposed to ideological) lesson to be learned from the massive tsunami which shut down the electrical supply to Daiichi Fukushima is that priority should be given to investing in the development of the technologies needed for forecasting such natural events as earthquakes and tsunamis.

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—Lyndon LaRouche, Feb. 11, 2013



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As Cyprus Theft Shows, Glass-Steagall, or Chaos!

March 19—With the expropriation of the Cypriots to save the banks, the five-year Eurozone bank collapse, which European officials said had “ended” in late 2012, has exploded again.

The entire trans-Atlantic financial system, including the United States, is disintegrating, exactly as Lyndon LaRouche has warned for years. As even the Quarterly Bulletin of the Bank of England warned in its latest edition, nothing has been solved since the 2008 financial blowout, as there are huge amounts of bad loans on the books of the banks which financed leveraged buyouts at that time, which could trigger the next crash. In their panic to save the system, the London-centered banks are now resorting to outright *theft* from citizens to support the bankrupt bondholders—and setting the world on a course for chaos.

The LaRouche Political Action Committee is currently on a full-scale mobilization around the one solution to stop the chain reaction of bank runs, hyperinflation, and social chaos now facing the trans-Atlantic region: LaRouche’s three-point program: 1) Reinstate Franklin Roosevelt’s Glass-Steagall Act now; 2) Establish a Hamiltonian credit system to finance productive economic activity; and 3) Launch great infrastructure projects such as NAWAPA, and re-employ millions of Americans in high-tech, energy-intensive jobs. Once the U.S. has moved decisively toward implementing this program, Europe will quickly follow.

The House bill to reinstate Glass-Steagall, HR 129, now has 40 co-sponsors, but no companion bill has yet been introduced into the Senate; and Congress has been

tied up in absurd budget debates which evade the crucial issue: the system is bankrupt and must be replaced! And the first step is to end the bailouts with Glass-Steagall—or face chaos and mass death.

Bailout by Theft

European Union officials agreed on March 16 to a EU10 billion bailout of Cyprus—in reality, the banking sector of that island center for hot money in Europe. Cyprus thus becomes the fifth European nation to fall under the draconian bailout conditions, but this time the EU financial officials added a twist: They demanded that all depositors in Cypriot banks be levied between 6.7% and 9.9% of their savings, as a “contribution” to the bailout fund.

Thus, for the first time ever, depositors will be sacrificed in order to save the banks. Depositors’ money will simply be grabbed to bail out the bondholders.

While newly elected Cyprus President Nicos Anastasiades, under enormous pressure, agreed to the deal, he has run into a storm of political protest, and had told EU officials that the parliament will not ratify the deal. Demonstrations have broken out across Cyprus, and the banks have been closed, to prevent depositors from pulling out their deposits, en masse. The parliamentary vote today resulted in a total rejection of the pact. It remains questionable when the banks will reopen.

Bank Runs on the Agenda

Bank stocks fell across Europe March 18, as word spread of the Cyprus deal. Moody’s ratings agency was first to raise the specter of bank credit downgrades

throughout the Eurozone, leading to bank runs or “jogs,” as they have been termed. Moody’s warned in a “note” that the Cyprus bailout/deposit seizure is “credit negative for bank depositors across Europe: ...the decision to impose losses on depositors signals euro area policy-makers’ willingness to risk triggering wider financial market disruptions in pursuit of other policy goals.”

A Bloomberg News analysis piece warned that bank credit ratings will be downgraded across much of Europe—the “bank crisis will be restarted.” It is only a matter of time before runs start. In diametrical opposition to deposit insurance, depositors’ money has been subordinated to bank creditors’ bailouts and liquidity injections to insolvent banks; the Cyprus depositors are being treated like “junior unsecured creditors” of the banks and given derisory “stock” in the bankrupt banks. The damage is already done, no matter whether the Cyprus confiscation is “revised” during this week.

The retriggering of the bank collapse follows months in which European Central Bank president Mario Draghi’s promise of unlimited money-printing was declared to have “turned the corner” on the Eurozone financial (not the economic!) crisis, by such authorities as U.S. Fed chairman Ben Bernanke and—just this weekend in his syndicated column—former Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers.

Now it is back to former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown’s infamous *New York Times* op-ed of May 31, 2011: “All of Europe faces uncontrolled bank runs,” unless “a drastic solution is adopted”—a multi-trillion, globally organized, bank bailout.

Financial pundits were quick to react with alarm. Wolfgang Münchau wrote in today’s *Financial Times*: “The long-term political damage of this agreement is going to be huge. In the short term, the danger consists of a generalized bank run, not just in Cyprus but across the continent. It would be rational for depositors in countries with shaky finances, such as Italy, Spain or Portugal, to withdraw their savings because the Cyprus rescue has shown that the creditor nations will insist from now that any bank rescue must be co-funded by depositors.”

A headline in CNN Market Watch March 18 caught the overall mood: “No bank runs in Spain, so far.”

Mass Murder

Chaos in the bankrupt banking system of Europe comes on top of what has already been a mass-murderous regime of austerity, combined with hyperinflationary money printing.

The nation of Greece is the most dramatic example

of the direction and *intent* of the financial oligarchy’s schemes to try to save their system: a policy of genocidal depopulation. There the living standard of the population has been slashed by 25% over the last three years to bail out the bankrupt banks. Suicides have skyrocketed, death rates have increased, and medicine has become increasingly unavailable. In Spain, unemployment has more than doubled, and is now over 26%, with youth unemployment at 55-60%, just as in Greece, in order to pay the bankrupt banks.

In the United States, Obama is hell-bent on slashing Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and crucial investments such as the NASA budget to maintain the bailouts for the bankrupt banks. Now, in Cyprus, the financial parasites have turned to stealing the money directly. And if the people scream, let them die! That is the intention of the Troika, London, and Wall Street, and it comes directly from the Queen, and her lackeys Tony Blair and Barack “I am not a dictator” Obama.

The Russian Angle

Among those reacting especially angrily to the Cyprus seizure is the Russian government, which was caught by surprise. Almost half of Cyprus’s bank depositors are believed to be non-resident Russians; and Russian offshore companies and their employees are bound to take a big hit.

Russian corporations (including banks) and individuals are estimated to hold about EU20-25 billion in deposits on Cyprus, and they will lose billions directly—in addition to the loss of investment funds that generally flow into Russia itself. The Russians have been the only government, so far, to aid the Cypriot government, and they weren’t even consulted. President Putin told a meeting of officials March 18 that the scheme was “unfair, unprofessional, and dangerous.”

Lying Thieves

Thievery, of course, is what has characterized the entire trans-Atlantic banking system, increasingly since the killing of FDR’s Glass-Steagall banking separation in 1999. The Obama Administration has absolutely refused to prosecute the criminals—as a matter of policy, because, as Attorney General Eric Holder has admitted, prosecutions would threaten the whole rotten system.

Thanks to the efforts of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, however, some of that criminality is coming to light. The Committee has produced a 307-page report on the \$6 billion derivatives

trade losses of JPMorgan Chase (reported in 2012), and on March 15, held a four-hour hearing that provided a treasure trove of evidence that JPM lied, violated Federal regulations regarding its derivatives trade, doctored its internal rules so as to change its balance sheets, lied to investors, lied to the public, and withheld federally mandated information from agencies such as the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

Yet, as the five witnesses from JPM stonewalled the questions from the only three Senators who were present at the hearing—Carl Levin (D-Mich.), John McCain (R-Ariz.), who is now the Ranking Member of the Committee, and Ron Johnson (R-Wisc.)—there was never a mention of Glass-Steagall.

“More controls are needed,” Levin exclaimed, “if derivatives books can be cooked as blatantly as they were in this case, then the rules need to be revamped.” In his opening statement, Levin lambasted JPMorgan for having the lowest percentage of loans going into the U.S. economy of all the big banks, although it is the biggest bank holding company in America, and the biggest derivatives trader.

Levin, McCain, and Johnson lectured the JPMorgan Chase officials for using taxpayer money from FDIC-insured deposits to cover some of its \$6 billion in derivatives losses. (Most observers believe the losses are much larger.) Most explicit in attacking the gambling with publicly insured money by JPM was Johnson, who briefly badgered the bank witnesses with the question, “Don’t you consider yourself ‘too big to fail?’” and demanded that they say whether Dodd-Frank was effective in ending “too big to fail.”

This particular JPM theft, of course, is a tiny portion of what the Wall Street, London, and other major world banks have ripped off over the past decades, through usury, Libor-rigging, derivatives, and bailouts—all the while, stripping the physical economy in the interest of “making money.”

That “money,” as the Cyprus case exemplifies, means absolutely nothing if these financial predators are in control. The only solution is a reassertion of control of economies by sovereign nation-states, using their powers to wipe out the gambling debts with Glass-Steagall, and starting up the real economy once again.

North Dakota Banker Calls for Glass-Steagall

Here is the text of a letter in support of H.R. 129, sent to Rep. Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), from Gordon H. Hoffner, vice president of the Union Bank of Beulah, N.D.

February 20, 2013

The Honorable Kevin Cramer
Congressman State of North Dakota
Washington, D.C.

Dear Rep. Cramer:

I am the Past President of the Independent Community Banks of North Dakota. I am writing to you to ask you to support and co-sponsor H.R. 129, the “Return to Prudent Banking Act.” It is urgent that Congress act to intervene into the banking crisis now spiraling out of control. We have seen the JPMorgan Chase mega-losses and the Eurozone crisis, but the

only response is to continue bailouts. Instead we must introduce sweeping re-regulation to prevent the possibility of such crises.

H.R. 129 would re-instate the main provisions of FDR’s Glass-Steagall, separating commercial and investment banking. This way, the risk can be contained in investment banks, which cannot cry out that investor deposits will be lost if they are allowed to go under.

Without the provisions of Glass-Steagall, there is nothing in our current regulatory framework that will bring this crisis under control. This is not a party-politics matter; it is a national security question. The H.R. 129 bill has 16 co-sponsors as of today. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) initiated it, and Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC) is among the Republicans leading the fight. H.R. 129 is essential—nothing else will work.

I urge you to co-sponsor H.R. 129, and work to get it made law.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Gordon H. Hoffner, V. Pres.

Union Bank

Beulah, N.D. 58523

China Develops Balkan Infrastructure That the European Union Won't Build

by Dean Andromidas

March 14—The Chinese have made a strategic decision to invest heavily in the Balkan region, including Greece, earmarking a \$10 billion low-interest credit line to fund infrastructure projects and industrial enterprises to facilitate both land and sea transport. As outlined in the LaRouche movement's Eurasian Land-Bridge concept, China hopes to create a combined sea and rail transport loop, from China through the Greek port of Piraeus, in Athens. This would mean one week shorter sailing time for Chinese cargo ships traveling through the Suez Canal to the North European ports of Antwerp, Rotterdam, and Hamburg. From Piraeus, intermodal railroad and canal corridors will link the port to pan-Eurasian transport corridors, leading in one direction to Europe, and in the other, to Asia. While it is obvious that the Chinese are seeking cost-effective means to deliver their exports to European markets, this infrastructure will also play a decisive role in developing the economies of this region. These are not just plans, but are in fact being implemented as you are read this article.

The Chinese activity stands in sharp contrast to the scorched-earth policy of the European Union and especially the Eurozone, where brutal austerity and looting by the EU and the banks are being carried out in a desperate attempt to save a bankrupt financial system. With the increase of death rates as a resulting from the collapsed health-care systems, and the dramatic increase in suicides in Greece, Portugal, Italy, Spain, and Ireland, the term *genocide* is not hyperbole.

The unspeakable crimes being carried out against Greece by this policy can be seen in the fact that by 2014, the national budget of Greece will have been reduced from EU124 billion to just 86 billion. Almost EU30 billion of these cuts have already been implemented. Over half of them have come from the reduction of salaries, pensions, and the health-care system. Salaries and pensions have been cut by up to 50% and

the minimum wage has been reduced by 30%. Official unemployment is 27% and youth unemployment is over 60%. Factoring in the mass bankruptcies of small businesses, the real unemployment is 40% or higher. It is a common occurrence that the pensions of the elderly are supporting entire families, including grandparents, children, and grandchildren. While Greece has yet to miss a payment on its government bonds, its revenues have collapsed by more than 9%, and it owes billions to its vendors and the health system.

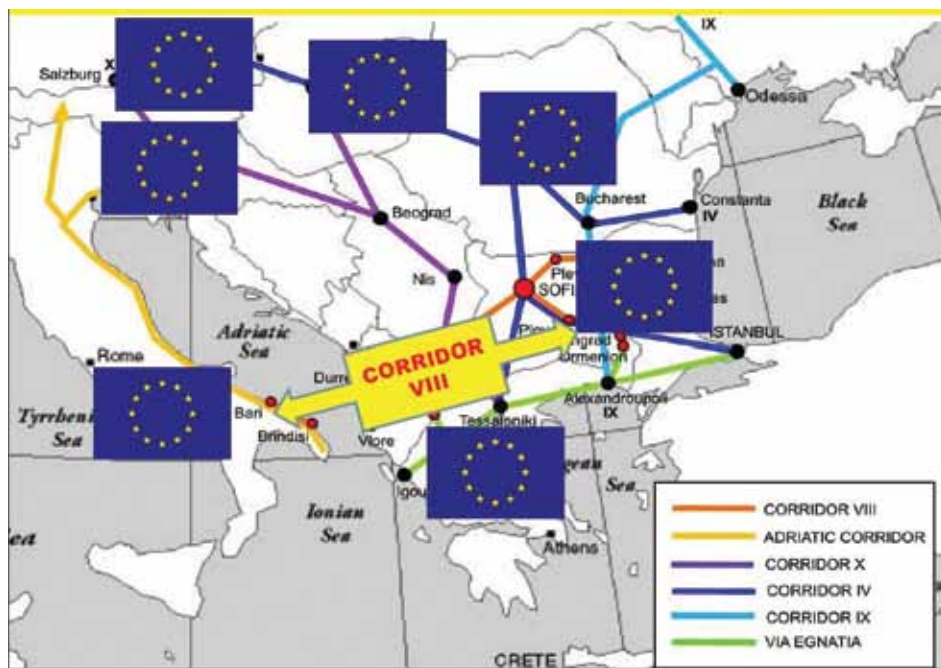
The so-called Eurozone bailout, designed and overseen by the Troika of the European Commission, European Central Bank, and International Monetary Fund, has managed to double Greece's debt while destroying its economy. The EU220 billion Greek bailout is actually looting the Greek population to bail out the European banking system. It boggles the imagination to think how EU220 billion invested in basic infrastructure throughout the Balkans¹ could revolutionize the economies of the entire region, which has suffered for centuries as victim of the geopolitical interests of the old British, Austrian, Ottoman, and Russian empires; now Greece is the victim of the new Anglo-European empire of the European Union.

Building the Corridors Abandoned by the EU

The European Union's "priority corridors" for modernized rail lines, planned in 1994, included five corridors that would have traversed the Balkans (**Figure 1**), including a high-speed rail line for Greece, but very little of this ever materialized. The European financial elites had essentially abandoned projects to and through the Balkans even before the wars in former Yugoslavia

1. The countries located on the Balkan peninsula are: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Southeast Romania, Serbia, and European Turkey.

FIGURE 1
The Pan-European Corridors in Southeast Europe



European Union

FIGURE 2
Technical Secretariat Pan-European Transport Corridor 10



started in the early 1990s, adding to the economic crisis in the region.

The major source of funding for infrastructure in the

Balkans and Eastern Europe today is the European Structural Funds. Although they come with low interest, they have almost dried up since the onset of the euro crisis. Moreover, the EU also uses these funds to blackmail countries, especially those that are candidates for joining the EU, such as Croatia, Serbia, and other countries of the former Yugoslavia, to toe the EU line. Since private bank financing is so expensive, the Chinese represent the only source of low-interest credits.

Crucial to the integration of the Balkans into the Eurasian Land-Bridge is the development of **Pan European Corridor 10** (Figure 2), which is one of several intermodal transportation corridors defined at the second Pan European Transport Conference held in 1994 on the Greek island of Crete.² The corridor begins in Piraeus, travels north through the Greek city of Thessaloniki, and then through Skopje, in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. From there it goes on through Belgrade to Budapest, with links connecting to Vienna and Prague.

China's Main Point of Entry to Europe

China's COSCO shipping company has been leasing Greece's major container terminal at Neo Ikonio, just west of Piraeus. This allows a one week shorter sailing time to

2. See Dean Andromidas, "Greece and a Marshall Plan for the Mediterranean Basin," *EIR*, June 8, 2012.

FIGURE 3

Pan-European Transport Corridor 4

European Union

Northern Europe, and is now China's main entry point for its exports to Europe. Following investments of millions of euros in modernization and efficiency, the throughput of the port has increased fourfold, from 500,000 containers to 2 million, and China intends to increase it to 2.5 million by the end of the year. The vast majority of these containers are put on trucks at container terminals and sent on to farther destinations.

The Chinese want to increase throughput at Neo Ikonio to 5 million containers, but there are bottlenecks: Such expansion is only possible by using railroads to move the freight from port, as well as creating a logistics center near the port so that containers can be broken down and their contents shipped to different destinations. With the opening on March 1 of the 17 km rail link between the COSCO container terminal at Neo Ikonio and the Thriasio Plain to the northwest, to connect with the Greek north-south rail line, *the first and most important step has been completed*. Thriasio is already one of Greece's most important logistical and industrial centers.

Although the track is only 17 km long, it is the most important development in realizing the economic potential of the entire corridor; Austrian railway and lo-

gistics expert Dr. Gerhard Platzer told *EIR*. Not only will it allow for increasing the throughput of the port, but it will give much needed impetus to finish the entire corridor, which is essential for the economic development of the region.

Take the case of agriculture. Greece is currently unable to market its fresh produce to Northern Europe, because of the current poor state of cargo rail transport along the entire corridor. Fresh produce has to reach its markets within 24-48 hours, but this is not currently possible. Already, in the last decade, prior to the current crisis, the Greeks were well aware of this problem and were committed to speeding up the development of this corridor, said Dr. Platzer, who has participated in studies of the area.

The construction of this line is part Greece's master railway plan, which, when completed, will revolutionize transportation. It envisions high-speed passenger and cargo lines from the port of Patras on the northeast corner of the Peloponnese (the peninsula that constitutes southern Greece) to the northern port of Thessaloniki, where it branches off, with one line continuing along Corridor 10 into Federal Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYRM) and a second branching to the east,

FIGURE 4



where one branch travels north, crossing the Bulgarian border along **Pan-European Corridor 4** (Figure 3), reaching Sofia and points north. Another line continues east to the Turkish border, where it links up with lines to Southwest Asia and eventually China. The line will pass through Greece's major ports and cities, and its important agricultural regions, from the northern Peloponnese through the plains of Thessaly.

The Thriasio Plain lies to the west of Athens, directly on the country's north-south axis. (See Figure 4.) A central railway station is near completion at Thriasio, which is at the junction of the main north-south line, and the lines to the east to Athens Airport and the line to Ikonio.

When completed, this will be the largest central rail center in the Balkans.

The Thriasio Plain begins at Elefsina harbor, where Greece's major oil refinery is located; the plain is one of Greece's major industrial centers and home to one of the country's largest steel mills. The transportation link will make the region a crucial logistical center.

But work has been severely constricted by the demand for debt payments from Greece. The ambitious plans of the Chinese, which hold out important

opportunities for the Greek economy, have supplied the necessary impetus to bring this link to completion. The Chinese have expressed interest in investing EU800 million to make Thriasio their key logistics hub. The Greek state-owned cargo railway Trainose said it should be able to handle 2,000 trains per year.


China has also expressed interest in the Thessaloniki port, whose potential is not only for cargo to and from the Balkans, but also east, via rail and sea, toward Turkey and Southwest Asia.

As useful as the Chinese moves in Greece appear, it would be a delusion if the Greek government thinks it can fully profit from the development while allowing the country to be looted by the European financial oligarchy. The EU's demand for the privatization of the Greek national railway and gas and power companies is criminal. Selling them to Chinese or Russian companies, let alone to French or German companies, would not secure the interests of the Greek economy.

THE EURASIAN LAND-BRIDGE

‘The New Silk Road’—Locomotive For Worldwide Economic Development

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FIGURE 5

Pan-European Transport Corridor 8

corridor8.org

The Rest of the Balkans

As for the rest of Corridor 10, China signed an agreement with the national railway company of the **Republic of Macedonia** last November to participate in upgrading the country's rail network. The Chinese are also interested in upgrading **Pan-European Corridor 8** (Figure 5), which connects the Black Sea—through Sofia and Skopje—to Tirana, Albania and the Adriatic ports. The Republic of Macedonia wants to spend \$500 million in upgrading and expanding its railway and road infrastructure.

Last December, **Serbia** signed a memorandum of understanding with the Chinese Construction Communication Company International (CCCC) for the reconstruction of Serbian railways through Corridor 10, as well as the railway connecting Serbia and Montenegro, from Belgrade to the Adriatic port of Bar. This follows Serbia's change of government after last year's elections, which ousted the pro-EU and pro-U.S. President

Boris Tadic and his Serbian Democratic Party. The new President, Tomislav Nikolic, whose Serbian Progressive Party rules in a coalition with the Serbian Socialist Party headed by Prime Minister Ivica Dacic, reflects the growing sentiment in the population, after seeing the catastrophe inflicted on Greece, that EU membership can wait for better days.

The Serbian Progressive Party is a sister party of Vladimir Putin's United Russia. After winning the presidential elections, the first state that Nikolic visited was Russia, where he attended the party congress of United Russia. The Serbian Progressive Party campaigned during the elections for Serbia to open up closer economic relations with China, Russia, and other countries. The electoral program called for building the Axios-Varda Canal, which passes through Corridor 10.

Unlike Greece, Portugal, Spain, and other countries now being devastated by the "rescue program" of

the Eurozone, Serbia has its own currency and a central bank that does not have to take orders from Brussels or Frankfurt. The U.S-trained central bank governor Dejan Soslak resigned over changes that the new government had instituted in the law governing the central bank, and was replaced by Jorgovanka Tabakovic, an economist and number two in the Serbian Progressive Party. He is committed to utilizing the central bank to extend credit to local industry and infrastructure.

The Chinese have extended credits worth hundreds of millions of dollars to Serbia at 3% interest with a maturity of 15 years, whereas it could not hope to get loans from European or American banks for less than 9%, with much shorter maturities. These credits are going into the construction of power stations and transport infrastructure, including railways and a bridge across the Danube.

Since the new government came to power, a date has been agreed to by Russia's Gazprom, for beginning construction of the South Stream gas pipeline, while Russian Railways has committed itself to extending

\$800 million in credit to upgrade the railway. The agreements with both Russia and China involve rebuilding the rail lines from Belgrade to the Montenegrin border and to the Montenegrin port of Bar, which provides Serbia's main outlet to the sea.

Last December, **Montenegro's** Minister of Transport and Shipping, Ivan Brajovic, was in China seeking investment in the port of Bar and the rail link to Serbia. The China Railway Signal and Communication Shanghai, China Communications Construction Company International, and China Railway Fifth Survey & Design Institute Group showed interest in the project, which would include reconstruction of a 476 km railway from Bar to Belgrade.

Another line is from Belgrade to the Croatian border, which would link with Croatian plans to build a railway from its port of Rijeka on the Adriatic to Zagreb.

Croatia too has made deals with China. Rijeka, although not as large as Piraeus, is the deepest harbor in the Mediterranean and Adriatic, and the only one deep enough to accommodate the largest container ships, which carry 18,000 containers. But the port has no ser-

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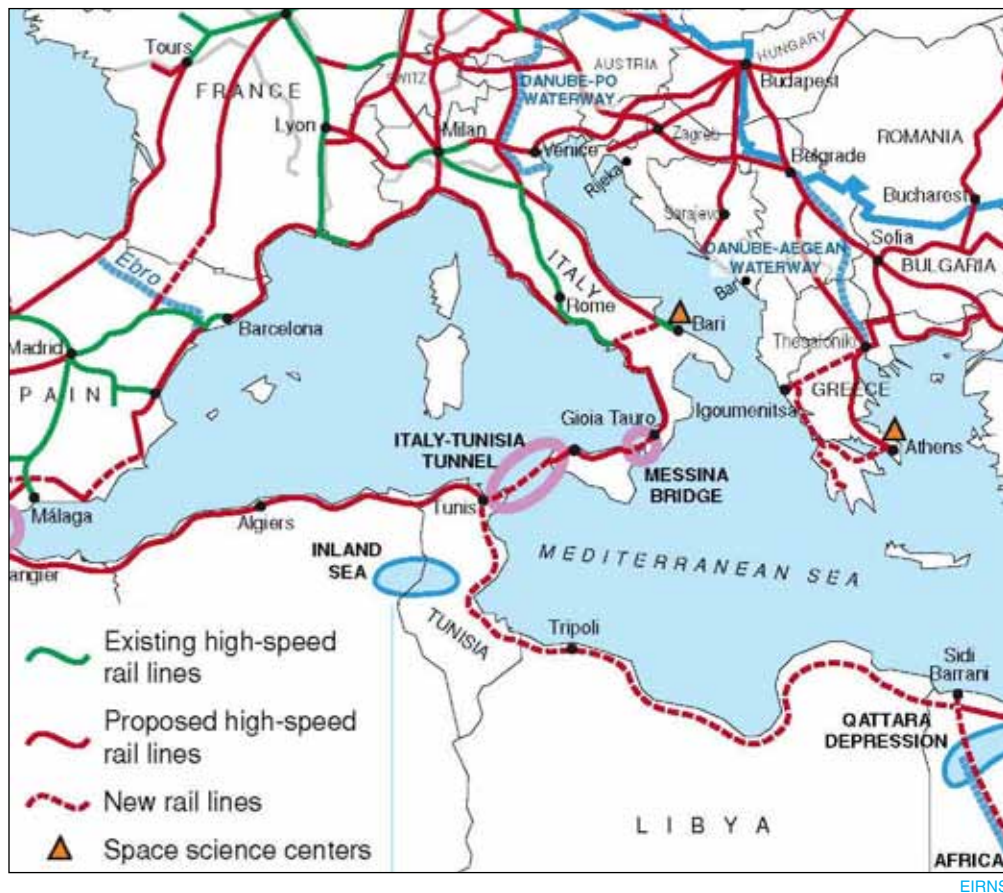
CONTENTS

- Introduction by Helga Zepp-LaRouche
- Greece, and a Marshall Plan for the Mediterranean Basin
- Spain: Bridge to African Development
- The Rebirth of Italy's Mezzogiorno
- Africa Pass
- The Transaqua Project
- North Africa: The Blue Revolution
- What Europe Can Learn from Argentina
- A German Economic Miracle for Europe

http://www.larouchepub.com/special_report/2012/spec_rpt_program_medit.pdf

FIGURE 6

The LaRouche Plan for Mediterranean Basin Great Projects



This shows the southeastern section of EIR's [larger map](#) of Mediterranean Basin Great Infrastructure Projects.

viceable rail links, severely constricting its ability to expand beyond its current capacity of 600,000 containers a year. In April 2012, the Chinese had expressed interest not only in Rijeka, but also in aiding in the construction of the railway. The problem Croatia faces is its commitment to join the EU. As part of its accession agreement, it had to agree not to develop the Sava River for shipping through to Zagreb, thus denying that city any waterway link to the Danube and beyond.

Hungary

The last link in Corridor 10 is through Hungary. It currently takes no fewer than five days to cross Hungary! In February, the Hungarian government said it was seeking a EU1 billion loan from the China Development Bank to construct a two-track, cargo-dedicated and electrified rail line along Corridor 10, including a ring around Budapest, which would cut cargo travel times to cross

the country to a matter of hours. If the loan is approved, construction could begin in 2014.

Hungary is a member of the European Union, but not the Eurozone, and its Prime Minister, Viktor Orbán, is almost persona non grata in Brussels, in part because his government has issued laws to tax the foreign banks that, prior to the crisis, had turned Eastern Europe into their own subprime mortgage market. While a fiscal conservative, Orbán has bucked both the EU and the IMF, which have demanded that Hungary implement more austerity, cut pensions, and seek an IMF “stabilization program.” He has also moved to improve economic relations with Russia and China.

Glass-Steagall and a Credit System

While the prospects for increasing cooperation with China and Russia are encouraging, the situation throughout the Balkans remains grim. Without a Glass-Steagall reform of the financial system, which will separate commercial banking from cancerous investment banking, there is no hope for Europe or the United States.

China's \$10 billion credit line is minuscule compared to the hundreds of billions that the Troika is looting from the real economy. By contrast, once a Glass-Steagall reform is implemented and the euro system dismantled, a credit institution, like Franklin D. Roosevelt's Reconstruction Finance Corporation, or the postwar German Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau under its original mandate, could be created to channel credit for massive infrastructure development, as outlined in the LaRouche Movement's Emergency Program for an “Economic Miracle in Southern Europe, the Mediterranean Region, and Africa” (Figure 6).

AUSTERITY, DRONES OPPOSED

Party System Fractures as Congress Challenges Obama

by Nancy Spannaus

March 16—The aftershocks of Sen. Rand Paul's (R-Ky.) historic filibuster against Barack Obama's determination to run an imperial Presidency, continue to reverberate across the United States, but especially in Washington, D.C. The filibuster has brought to the surface some of the simmering rage against Obama among Democrats, particularly on his determination to impose murderous cuts in entitlements, but also on his violations of the Constitution through his war policy. At the same time, Senator Paul's courageous stand has shaken up the Republicans who have signed on to deals with the Administration, especially in its assertion of dictatorial powers—exposing them as the toadies or hypocrites they are.

This shake-up of the party system holds great promise, noted Lyndon LaRouche in his March 15 webcast. Whether this breakdown in the party control that has dominated the U.S. for decades will continue, is not certain, of course. But it is clear, LaRouche said, that increasing numbers of legislators are coming to realize that the Obama Administration, itself a mere tool of the British monarchy and its intentions, is threatening to impose a Nazi-style dictatorship—and they either fight it now, or that threatened dictatorship may come to pass.

Stop War on Americans

House and Senate members from both parties have taken up the fight against Obama's drone warfare, since

the March 7 filibuster, demanding that the President finally release the secret documents which purport to authorize the killing of Americans without due process and global warfare through drone strikes. Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) has addressed the particular issue raised by Paul, by introducing a bill, co-sponsored by Paul and Sen. Mike Lee (R-Colo.), to prohibit drone strikes against Americans on U.S. soil, on the same date as the filibuster. But, as Paul's filibuster itself demonstrated, the issue goes far beyond that particular scenario.

Although the President conceded a narrow point concerning when he can target American citizens, the issue is not going away. During his closed-door meeting with Senate Democrats March 12, Sen. Jay Rockefeller (W.Va.) confronted Obama on his two-year refusal to provide the legal memos justifying the use of lethal force against American terror suspects abroad. Obama was apparently taken aback, and was only able to muster a defense that, "This is not Dick Cheney we're talking about here."

At the annual Threat Assessment hearing before the Senate Intelligence Committee on March 13, Saxby Chambliss (R-Ga.), the Ranking Member, started out by noting that the stonewalling by the Administration on providing information of intelligence activities, including covert action, to the Intelligence Committee, "simply has to stop." He was followed by Rockefeller, who declared that the restrictions imposed on his ability to see documents were "an insult" and intolerable. His

fellow Democrat, Ron Wyden of Oregon, then promised that he too, was “going to be asking additional questions about drones and targeted killings in the days ahead.”

In the House of Representatives, most of the action is still coming from the Democrats, who have been emboldened to come out more openly against “their” President’s dumping of the Constitution in the “war on terror.” A letter sent to President Obama, signed by eight of the most liberal Democrats in the House, on March 11, was highly critical of the President’s program:

“The executive branch’s claim of authority to deprive citizens of life, and to do so without explaining the legal bases for doing so, sets a dangerous precedent and is a model of behavior that the United States would not want other nations to emulate.

“The information from the Justice Department memo leaked on February 4, 2013, in the context of an increasing devolution of accountability, transparency and Constitutional protections in U.S. counterterrorism operations, leaves us deeply concerned about what appears to constitute overly broad authority language, including, but not limited to:

- “1) An unbounded geographic scope;
- “2) Unidentified ‘high-level’ officials with authority to approve kill-lists;
- “3) A vaguely defined definition of whether a capture is ‘feasible’;
- “4) An overly broad definition of the phrase ‘imminent threat,’ which re-defines the word in a way that strays significantly from its traditional legal meaning; and
- “5) The suggestion that killing American citizens and others would be legitimate ‘under the Authorization for Use of Military Force and the inherent right to national defense.’

“These are vague legal boundaries that raise the risk of the executive branch authorizing the deaths of American citizens otherwise protected by the Constitution and appear to effectively vitiate due process of law without meaningful oversight or accountability.

“Therefore, we ask that you release, in unclassified form, the full legal basis of executive branch claims in the areas which are the subject of this letter. The Executive’s claims of authority need to be fully articulated to the whole of Congress and the American people.

“We also ask that you prepare a report to Congress outlining the architecture of your Administration’s

drone program going forward, including your efforts to limit instances and remunerate victims of civilian casualties by signature drone strikes, broaden access to the due process for identified targets and continue to structure the drone program within the framework of international law. A 2012 GAO study reported that 75 countries and ‘certain terrorist organizations’ have acquired drones and either have or are seeking weaponized drones. We are growing increasingly concerned that there is a risk that our country’s ‘global war’ doctrine will further corrode the foundations of the international framework for protection of human rights....”

Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.), who initiated this letter, has already introduced a bill to repeal the Authorization of the Use of Military Force.

Leading Democrats Concur

The potential for a breakdown in the insane partisan system, which implicitly creates the conditions for an imperial Presidency, has found some dramatic expression in the days after the filibuster.

“Rand Paul is right,” said former U.S. Rep. Jane Harman (D-Calif.), who chaired the House Intelligence Committee, and now heads the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. In a CNN “Security Clearance” column published March 14, Harman wrote: “Many disagree with Sen. Rand Paul on many issues, but he is spot-on about the need for a crystal clear framework regarding the domestic and international use of drones.” Harman went on to say that the letter sent to Paul by Attorney General Eric Holder “left more questions unanswered than answered,” adding: “Indeed, a simple ‘no’ is hardly reassuring when the policy it supports is not clear. In the domestic context, drones should never be used against citizens unless there is an armed conflict on U.S. soil.”

She adds: “America has seen the ‘creeping executive power’ movie before. Using lethal tools without public debate or clear legal authority is a mistake, a slippery slope, something we will come to regret.” She discusses the need for regulation of domestic drones which are being used for surveillance, etc., and concludes that “Rand Paul has managed to move the issue into the sunlight,” adding that the public needs to be involved in the fashioning of policy.

John Podesta, President Clinton’s White House Chief of Staff, who now heads the liberal Center for American Progress, apparently concurs. While never coming out and saying directly that Paul is right, Pod-

esta declared in a March 14 *Washington Post* op-ed, that Obama is wrong in withholding the legal documents justifying drone strikes. “President Obama is ignoring the system of checks and balances that has governed our country from its earliest days. And in keeping this information from the American people, he is undermining the nation’s ability to be a leader on the world stage and is acting in opposition to the democratic principles we hold most important,” he wrote.

“This is why I say, respectfully: Give them [the documents—ed.] up, Mr. President.... The American people have the right to know the laws they live under. In addition to allowing Congress to properly fulfill its oversight duties, the Administration should make available to the public the criteria justifying the targeted killing of Americans, and the safeguards put in place to protect against wrongful death.”

A Filibuster Against Austerity?

While the “issue” of Obama’s anti-Constitutional war policy is not going away, the uproar against the President’s assertion of dictatorial powers is also emerging on the question of austerity. Here the Demo-

crats are taking the lead, in full knowledge that Obama is pressing for dramatic cuts in entitlements—not to please the Republicans, but because he is committed to cutting what he (and his Wall Street/British controllers) consider to be “unsustainable” payments for the old and the sick.

In Obama’s March 12 meeting with the Senate Democrats’ caucus, Vermont Independent Bernie Sanders, and Democratic Senators Tom Harkin (Iowa) and Carl Levin (Mich.) took the point in strongly opposing Obama’s insistence on “balanced” cuts against the weak and vulnerable.

Harkin was quoted by *Politico*: “We’re not going to negotiate away our principals [sic] and what we think is best. When you’re talking about entitlements, Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, there is more than one way to solve that problem.” Levin challenged Obama on his proposal to use the so-called “chainsaw” CPI (Consumer Price Index) measure, which will cut Social Security benefits more and more deeply as the decade goes on.

Sanders told NPR after the meeting: “I’m going to fight as hard as I can, to make the point that Social Security has not contributed one nickel to the deficit.” And to the *Washington Post*’s Greg Sargent, Sanders said, “It’s more than just the filibuster. That’s a one-day tactic. This is about rallying the American people and winning.” “Filibustering may be part of it,” he said.

MSNBC talk-show host Ed Schultz interviewed Sanders, and lamented, “It pains me to say it, but President Obama really could be the president to start the undoing of the New Deal? Wow.”

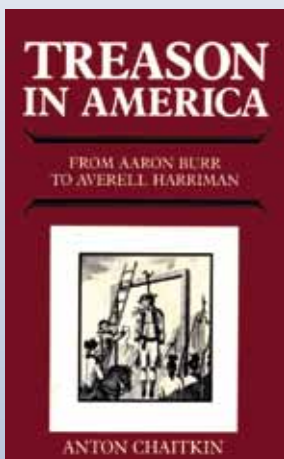
On the House side, a group of 107 Democrats has written an open letter to Obama announcing that they will vote “against any and every cut to Medicare, Medicaid or Social Security benefits—including raising the retirement age or cutting the cost of living adjustments that our constituents earned and need.” A second letter, signed by an additional 25 Democrats, simply promises that they will vote against any proposal that amounts to a benefit cut.

So far, the Republicans have stuck to their ideological mantra about more austerity, and no tax increases, giving Obama leverage against his own party’s revolt. But the dynamic for survival, against a rapacious banking establishment, could easily sweep this away as well—especially after the re-implementation of Glass-Steagall, which is supported by a significant number of Republicans.

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Correcting the Evils That Led to Iraq War

by Theodore J. Andromidas

March 19—In October 2012, on David Swanson's Talk Nation Radio, former Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) declared that "there is an unbroken line in policy from the Bush Administration to the Obama Administration. . . . This is the direct result of the Democratic leadership not challenging the Bush Administration's lies that took us into Iraq."

This magazine, countless other news sources, and Kucinich himself, had repeatedly documented, from the first day of the invasion until the end of the Bush/Cheney Administration, that it had repeatedly engaged in impeachable offenses. The lies of Vice President Dick Cheney, in the run-up to the Iraq War and in the years following, compelled Kucinich, supported by some anti-war Republicans, to introduce articles of impeachment against Bush and Cheney. But the Democratic leadership, to use then-Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's words, "took impeachment off the table"!

Now the Obama presidency, in collusion with the same Democratic leadership, is committing identical impeachable offenses, using the same policies of deceit, to engage in the same "extra-Constitutional" practices. Obama has launched wars in Libya, Pakistan, Somalia, and Yemen, placed U.S. arms in many countries in Africa, and sent U.S. troops to the borders of Syria, putting the world on the edge of World War III. But, unlike Bush and Cheney, Obama does not even attempt to maintain the fig leaf of constitutionally required Congressional approval for these wars. And he goes largely unchallenged.

And the thread of evil and deceit running through both Administrations can be traced back to one source, the British monarchy's top lackey Tony Blair.

Impeachable Crimes

Contrary to popular myth, it was not President George W. Bush who led Tony Blair "like a poodle"

into the Iraq War, but the other way around. But that said, Bush, and his Svengali, Cheney, were guilty as hell.

While then-Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche was the first to call for Cheney's impeachment in June of 2003, bills of impeachment introduced in 2007 by Kucinich, and the Downing Street memo commissioned by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) in 2005, laid out an ironclad case against Bush and Cheney.

Conyers' Downing Street memo, issued in December 2005, stated:

"There is a *prima facie* case that these actions by the President, Vice President, and other members of the Bush Administration violated a number of federal laws, including (1) Committing a Fraud against the United States; (2) Making False Statements to Congress; (3) The War Powers Resolution; (4) Misuse of Government Funds; (5) federal laws and international treaties prohibiting torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment; (6) federal laws concerning retaliating against witnesses and other individuals; and (7) federal laws and regulations concerning leaking and other misuse of intelligence."

On April 24, 2007 Kucinich filed three articles of impeachment against Cheney. Kucinich said he was doing this to try to stop Cheney from starting a war against Iran, as he had done under false pretenses in 2003 against Iraq.

The three Articles of Impeachment charge that Cheney:

(1) manipulated the intelligence process and lied to the nation about Iraq having weapons of mass destruction;

(2) manipulated the intelligence process and lied to the nation about Iraq's alleged ties to al-Qaeda;

(3) has "openly threatened aggression against the Republic on Iran absent any real threat to the United States."

Kucinich's emphasis on Cheney reflected his judgment, like that of LaRouche, that it was the vice president who was really "the decider," and, more importantly, that impeachment of Bush *before* Cheney, would leave the warmongering vice president in charge, putting the nation and the world at even greater risk.

'Sexed Up Dossiers and Suicides'

Bush and Cheney, of course, have largely disappeared from the scene, but the controlling agent behind them, the British monarchy's Blair, remains an active

force internationally, including with President Obama. Blair's role was decisive.

When, on March 19, 2003, the U.S.-led "Coalition of the Willing" launched the invasion of Iraq, it was done at the instigation of then-British Prime Minister Blair's government. Blair had provided a dossier, which was described on BBC radio by the later "suicided" weapons inspector David Kelly as "sexed up," as proof of Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction. This dossier was the quoted source of "facts" used by then-U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell in his speech before the UN Security Council, as justification to launch the war against Iraq.

On Feb. 5, 2003, Powell, dramatically waving a supposed vial of the deadly anthrax virus, declared before the United Nations Security Council: "Our conservative estimate is that Iraq today has a stockpile of between 100 and 500 tons of chemical weapons agent. That is enough to fill 16,000 battlefield rockets...."

Several weeks later, press accounts would reveal that another source cited by Powell in his report to the Security Council was, in fact, also a fraud, with the "information" plagiarized from an American graduate school paper, based on information more than a decade old. It was another so-called "intelligence report," sent by Blair to the relevant U.S. officials. This report turned out to be a series of plagiarisms from old articles from *Jane's* magazine, and from a term paper on Iraqi politics written by a student at the Monterey Institute for International Studies, in California.

Cheney and Bush used the lies to justify their war plan.

Blair's role in instigating the Iraq War, a pre-emptive war of aggression contrary to international law and worthy of condemnation by a new Nuremberg Tribunal, is still under investigation in Great Britain, where he is broadly hated for his crimes.

Blair Again?

As early as September of 2010, Blair used the release of his memoirs to announce plans for bringing the Obama Administration into new wars. Blair defends his stance on intervening to topple "rogue" regimes as "more necessary than ever." "If change will not come by evolution, should it be done by revolution? Should those who have the military power contemplate doing so?" In effect, he was announcing British imperial plans for the so-called "Libyan Civil War," which would begin six months later. By September 2011, Blair was

calling for "regime change" in Syria, when he told the London *Times* that the Assad government was "not capable of reform" and that "there is no process of change that leaves him intact."

On the tenth anniversary of the Iraq War, Blair is at it again. At the end of February 2013, in a BBC interview discussing his role in starting the war, Blair made the current intentions of his royal masters quite clear: "In a sense, what I am trying to persuade people of now is to understand how complex and difficult a decision it was [invading Iraq]. Because I think if we don't understand that, we won't take the right decision about what I think will be a series of these types of problems that will arise over the next few years. You've got one in Syria right now; you've got one in Iran to come. The issue is how do you make the world a safer place?"

The success of Blair and his royal masters in driving the Obama Administration to war against Syria and Iran was revealed in a March 7 *New York Times* interview with Secretary of State John Kerry. Kerry made what the *Times* characterized as "the most direct public affirmation to date" that the Obama Administration is arming the Syrian opposition.

As recently as March 14, Obama demonstrated the need for his removal by any legal means necessary. Demonstrating complete disdain for the U.S. Constitution's clear statement of Congressional authority to declare war, Obama declared, on Israel's Channel 2 news, when asked about concerns that the United States might be dragged into another war:

"One of the things you learn when you're President of the United States is you get a lot of advice, but ultimately it's your decision...."

Despite the fact that Russia, China, and others demanded that the U.S. "immediately halt the bloodshed and violence and turn to a political dialogue" in Syria, the Obama Administration is rushing toward another illegal war.

The American people have an opportunity to act before this tragedy goes further. Articles of impeachment have already been drawn up against Obama, for his crimes of illegal wars (starting with Libya) and other violations of the Constitution. Another weapon at hand is Rep. Walter Jones' HCR 3, which says that the President commits an impeachable crime if he begins military action without authorization from Congress as the Constitution requires. Kerry admitted that Obama has already taken that action.

The Destruction of Iraq Goes On

by Ramtanu Maitra and Hussein Askary

March 17—Ten years after the invasion of Iraq, which took the lives of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis, the destruction continues unabated, devastating one of the more advanced economies and societies in Southwest Asia. In addition, the war has ushered in an era of sectarian and ethnic civil wars, not only within Iraq, but throughout the region, thus fulfilling a British imperial plan long underway.

According to *The Lancet's* 2006 survey, 601,027 violent deaths out of 654,965 excess deaths related to the war (those above the normal expected rate) occurred between March 2003 and June 2006 alone. Later sectarian violence claimed the lives of tens of thousands. 4,480 U.S. soldiers were also reported killed in Iraq between 2003 and 2012. Other sources estimate that 150,000 Iraqi civilians were killed either by the allies or by acts of terrorism. The excess deaths were caused both by violent acts, and the degradation in health care and nutrition, as well as lack of infrastructure and other vital services due to the destruction wrought by the Anglo-American bombing campaigns and many years of brutal economic sanctions.

The infrastructure of the country has not been restored, by any means. In health care, for example, the country has lost more than half of its doctors, and tens of thousands of Iraqi patients are forced to seek health care outside the country, according to a recent “Costs of War” study at Brown University’s Watson Institute of International Studies.

The only thing which has been keeping the Iraqi government and chaotic political system together is the money earned from oil exports, the only real economic activity still taking place. Iraq’s oil production has increased from 2.7 to 3.4 million barrels per day, and is planned to reach 3.7 in 2013, with the help of international companies. Tragically, this is still below the 1979 level of 3.8 million.

Iraq’s infrastructure is almost completely dysfunctional. Although ten years have passed since the fall of Saddam Hussein’s regime, power supplies have not been restored, and most of the country relies on private diesel generators, one of the largest polluters in the

country. Agriculture is almost non-existent, and the water distribution, management, and sewage systems are damaged beyond repair and need to be rebuilt. In January and February of this year, large sections of the areas near the Tigris and the Euphrates rivers, and the capital Baghdad, were flooded, due to unusually heavy rainfall. What used to be regarded a blessing for this dry country, has become a curse.

Almost all of the oil revenues are used to buy political loyalties and support for the government. Money is divided among the large ethnic and sectarian groups, to be passed on to their supporters. The population is being bribed with cash to keep them from protesting the corruption and lack of services and security. While there is very little investment in basic infrastructure, education, and health care, Iraq is turning into one of the largest markets for cheap consumer goods. The country’s immunity to major natural catastrophes and epidemics is being reduced to nothing.

Threatened by Break-Up

More horrifying than the physical destruction of Iraq, however, is the shattering of its social fabric, as a result of its being turned into a pawn of the long-term British geopolitical scheme to Balkanize the region.

Iraq is more divided today than at any other time in its modern history. The Kurds have their own semi-state in the north, with relative calm and a massive real estate bubble, but still plagued with electricity and water shortages. The Arabs in central and southern Iraq, mostly Shi’as, have established their regional structures and rule mainly through religious authority and tribal and primitive social codes.

The western provinces of Anbar, Salahuddin, and Mosul, are in a state of turmoil as they, dominated by the Sunni sect and infiltrated by Saudi-backed Salafi militants and extremists, do not approve of the policies of the Shi’a/Kurdish-dominated central government, and are threatening to split and establish their own autonomous region, or block all of the central government’s policies. They accuse the government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki of being an arm of the Islamic



Sectarian violence in an attack on the police headquarters in Kirkuk, Iraq, earlier this year: At least 16 people died. The British-engineered war destroyed a culturally advanced society, leaving Iraq with the prospect of endless sectarian warfare.



Republic of Iran. Iran has increased its political and economic influence in Iraq, but nowhere near to the extent claimed.

The chaos is increased by Shi'a militias, such as al-Mahdi Army of the Sadrist faction, who are also taking part in terrorism and "sectarian cleansing" against Sunnis, especially in such mixed cities as Baghdad and Basrah.

The power vacuum created after the elimination—ordered by Paul Bremer, the American Administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority of Iraq after the March 2003 invasion—of modern state institutions, including the army and police, made it possible for all kinds of powers and terrorist groups to intervene into Iraq's affairs and dig themselves in as organic parts of society. Baghdad, which had been a melting pot of civilizations, religions, and cultures since its founding in 767 A.D., has been divided into Shi'a/Sunni sectors, with a small enclave for Christians. Tens of thousands of Iraqi Christians have fled the country or become internal refugees, since terrorist groups began targeting them.

An explosion of religious warfare followed a visit by

then-U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney to Saudi Arabia in November 2004, in which he discussed with King Abdullah bin Abdul-Aziz the allegedly growing danger posed by Shi'ite Iran and its allies, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and the Bashar al-Assad government in Syria. This was later called the Shi'a Crescent. Saudi-backed, al-Qaeda-affiliated groups flooded Iraq to conduct a war of horror against the population, targeting both Shi'as and Sunnis who collaborated with the government or, ironically, with the U.S. occupation forces.

More than ever, Baghdad now faces a threat from the Saudi-funded, al-Qaeda-linked terrorists who are carving out an independent Sunni state in northern Iraq. This terrorist group goes by the name of al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI), and it fought and killed many American soldiers until 2011, and particularly during the worst security years of 2007-08. These terrorists are still backed

by the Saudis today.

Meanwhile, the slavish academic-cum-intelligence officers of Britain's empire-servers are shouting from the rooftops that the Shi'a Prime Minister, al-Maliki, is becoming another Saddam Hussein, if not worse. These propagandists, working hand-in-glove with the "desert Islam" preachers of House of Saud and the Gulf sheikhdoms, say nary a word about the Saudi and Gulf funding of the Sunni terrorists who are trying to break up Iraq, using the methods of the British colonials in the Indian subcontinent in 1947.

Assembly-Line Production of Terrorists

The invasion of Iraq was the precursor for assembly-line production of hordes of terrorists, funded by the Gulf sheikhdoms promoting Salafism and Wahhabism. These terrorists have made Libya, parts of the Maghreb Arab countries, and Syria, killing fields on behalf of the regime-change doctrine of the Bush-Obama and Blair-Cameron administrations. In fact, these terrorists are the foot-soldiers whose "job" is to bring about the regime-change that London and Wash-

ington now seek, and Saudis and Gulfies demand, ostensibly to demarcate new geographical boundaries.

The Iraq invasion, and subsequent developments in the region, have made the politically sensitive Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey increasingly unstable. Kurds, who inhabit parts of adjoining areas of Syria, Iraq, Turkey, and Iran, have seized the opportunity to declare their intent to establish an independent state of Kurdistan. In parts of Syria, Iraq, and even Turkey, the Kurdish chauvinists now have a free hand; they are in military conflict with the rulers of at least three of those four countries.

The British Policy

One British academic who enunciates the larger geopolitical plan is Toby Dodge of Chatham House (the Royal Institute for International Affairs). According to [Dodge](#): “The size and capacity of the Iraqi armed forces, combined with the lack of democratic oversight to which they are subject, reflect their function as the tool of Nouri al-Maliki’s drive towards competitive authoritarianism. The Prime Minister, through the Office of the Commander in Chief, the proliferation of operations centres and his use of the Iraq Special Operations Forces, has the coercive capacity both to strike against his political opponents, as he did in December 2011 and 2012, and to demobilize popular protest movements, as he did in February 2011 and again in January 2013....”

The truth, however, lies somewhere else. Zayd Alisa of the Middle East Enterprise for Democracy Liberty and Counter Terrorism pointed out in a Feb. 24 [article](#) that, ever since the ouster of Saddam in 2003, the Saudi regime has adamantly refused to recognize the new democratic system in Iraq, and has been refused to have any diplomatic representation in Baghdad:

“It is doubtless that the U.S. final withdrawal from Iraq in December 2011, which coincided with the arrest warrant issued against Tariq al-Hashimi, Iraq’s Sunni Vice President, provided Saudi Arabia and Qatar with a golden opportunity to ramp up the message that Sunni discrimination would dramatically escalate. Despite the enormous geo-political concessions made by the Iraqi government on its stance towards Syria and Bahrain—before the Arab League summit held in Baghdad, in April 2012—to specifically appease the Saudi regime. [Saudi Arabia], nonetheless, decided to appoint its ambassador in Jordan as a non-resident ambassador to Iraq, reiterating the same old message that Iraq is far too insecure and unstable.

“But, even more disparaging, was the Saudis’ and

Qataris’ decision to restrict their representation to low-level delegations. And as part of Saudi and Qatari relentless efforts to ratchet up sectarian tensions in Iraq, the Qatari Prime Minister, Hamad Bin Jassima, not only asserted that Qatar’s low-level participation was aimed at highlighting Qatar’s fierce objection to the marginalization of Sunnis in Iraq, but to add insult to injury the Qatari PM and afterwards the Saudi Foreign Minister, Saud al-Faisal, offered al-Hashimi a formal red-carpet reception in Doha and Riyadh, even while al-Hashimi—found guilty and handed down a death sentence—was facing terrorism allegations.

“Both Saudi Arabia and Qatar have been working tirelessly to break up the Shia-Kurdish strategic alliance in Iraq, replacing it by a Turkish strategic alliance with the Kurdish Region (KR), headed by Massoud Barzani, which has, unquestionably, not only dramatically bolstered the position of the KR in its tense confrontation with the CG [central government] over land and oil, but also ramped up the ethnic tension.”

Saudi and Libyan Terrorists

Back in 2008, Gordon [Lubold](#) of the *Christian Science Monitor* pointed to an analysis published at West Point, which showed that most of the terrorists operating in Iraq come from Saudi Arabia and Libya, while others are from Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia.

“The analysis suggests that the bulk of foreign fighters originate from countries with whom the United States is allied—Saudi Arabia, for one—and also offers clues as to how American officials can stem the flow of these terrorists. The report, which is based on data compiled by al-Qaeda and captured by coalition forces last fall, shows that the most violent acts in Iraq are typically carried out by foreign fighters. Their goals sometimes align with the group al-Qaeda in Iraq, which, estimates suggest, has between 5,000 and 8,000 people associated with it. The foreign fighters, however, represent just a small fraction of that group.”

What also follows from Zayd Alisa’s analysis is that, while Baghdad was threatened by the Sunni areas before, it had never faced threats from the Iraqi Kurds in isolation. However, because of the funding of Sunni terrorists by Saudi Arabia and Qatar, and latent support from London, Washington, and Paris, the Kurds have increasingly made common cause with their Sunni neighbors. Following years of poor relations between Erbil (the capital of the Iraqi province of Kurdistan) and Baghdad because of disputes over oil and gas policy,

budgetary allocations, disputed territories (including Kirkuk), and an overall disenchantment within Erbil toward the al-Maliki government, the relationship between the two capitals has, by the start of 2013, become appalling.

Following a military stand-off in the disputed territories at the end of 2012, the scene is set in 2013 for the Kurds to move ahead with securing their autonomy by strengthening their relationship with their northern neighbor, Turkey, and the Arab Gulf states, and by exporting oil and gas directly to Turkey. This could lead to increased military confrontation with Maliki in such volatile flashpoints as Kirkuk, Diyala, and Ninevah. This is a confrontation that the Kurds, with at least tacit Sunni support, may feel capable of winning. The Kurdistan War of 2013 may not be unlikely, looking at the current pieces on the chessboard.¹

An [article](#) by Murad Batal al-Shishani, published by the Jamestown Foundation, a right-wing think tank based in Washington, D.C., indicated the modus ope-

randi of these Saudi/Qatar-funded terrorists whom the Obama Administration knows too well:

“Gunmen from the al-Qaeda-affiliated Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) took hostages in a Syriac Catholic church in central Baghdad on October 31. About 52 people were killed and 67 injured after Iraqi security forces stormed the church. The ISI claimed responsibility for the hostage-taking and also threatened to attack the Coptic Church in Egypt if it did not release two Coptic women the group claimed were being held and tortured in a Christian monastery after allegedly converting to Islam.

“In an Arabic-language discussion on a Tehran television station, leading Sadrist Abd al-Hadi al-Muhammawi and representatives from Iraq’s State of Law Coalition and the Fadhilah Islamic Party insisted the attack bore all the hallmarks of al-Qaeda and declined repeated invitations from the program’s presenter to implicate the United States in the attack. There were, however, suggestions that the assailants may have been supported by a country that shared their takfiri, Salafist and Wahhabi ideologies, a veiled reference to Saudi Arabia.”

This is religious war, British Empire-style: a war without end—until the Empire itself is destroyed.

1. Gareth Stansfield, Senior Associate Fellow and Director of Middle East Studies, “A Year of Endemic Instability in Iraq,” *RUSI Analysis*, Jan. 3, 2013.

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Curiosity Discovers Mars Could Have Supported Life

by Marsha Freeman

March 15—Scientists have taken a major step toward answering to question: did life exist anywhere in the Solar System, besides the Earth?

The most recent data sent to Earth from the Curiosity rover indicate that at least at some time in its past, Mars could have been a habitable planet. Curiosity is only in the seventh month of its minimally two-year mission, and still months away from its arrival at Mount Sharp—its ultimate destination—but it has already uncovered evidence of what scientists surmise is a region of Mars that could have supported microbial life.

At a March 12 press briefing at NASA headquarters, Michael Meyer, lead scientist for NASA's Mars Exploration Program said: "A fundamental question for this mission is whether Mars could have supported a habitable environment. From what we know now, the answer is 'yes.'"

Two key suites of scientific instruments on Curiosity provided the new data—Sample Analysis at Mars



NASA/JPL-Caltech/MSSS

The Curiosity rover took this self-portrait photo during its 177th day on Mars, on Feb. 3. The rover is near the John Klein outcrop, where the rover carried out the first rock-drilling experiment on another planet.

(SAM), and Chemistry and Mineralogy (CheMin). The new data come from the first-ever examination of material from inside a rock on another planet. Last month, Curiosity drilled a 2.5 inch hole into a rock outcrop called "John Klein," which resides in a region not far from where Curiosity landed on Aug. 7, 2012, dubbed

Yellowknife Bay. An aspirin-sized sample of the powdered rock was delivered to SAM and CheMin for analysis, and the results have been very rewarding.

New Discoveries

Two new ground-breaking results were announced by scientists during the March 12 briefing.

First, on Earth, it is the case that, although life can be found in very extreme environments, such as inside nuclear power plants and in bone-dry deserts, some amount of water, even if very small, must be available for life to exist. Numerous Mars missions have observed from orbit the footprints of past water on Mars, in the form of dry river beds, deep-cut canyons carved from the landscape by flowing water, and signatures of chemicals, that, on Earth, form in watery environments. Opportunity has provided scientists with *in situ* confirmation that Mars had a wet past, adding ground truth to the orbital observations. But the evidence provided by Opportunity's investigations of the chemistry of the minerals it examined indicate that the past water in Meridiani Planum was acidic and salty.

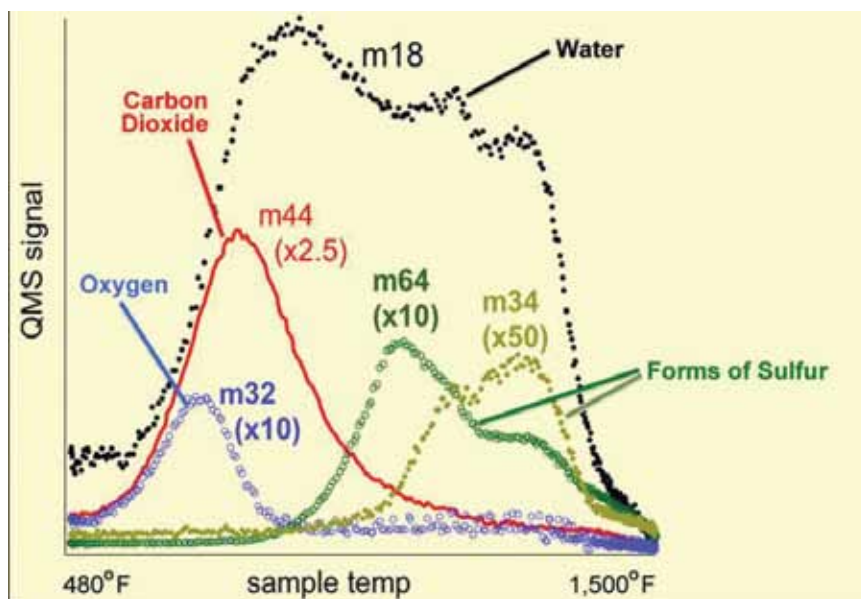
However, Curiosity confirmed the presence of clays, first seen from orbit, with a chemical composition that indicated that they were formed in a neutral, or mildly alkaline, water environment. Asked at the briefing how he would characterize this finding in layman's terms, Curiosity chief scientist John Grotzinger said, "If this water were around, and you had been on the planet, you would have been able to drink it."

At least 20% of the rock sample, according to CheMin principal investigator David Blake, was made up of clay. He described the clay as produced through the reaction of relatively fresh water with igneous material. The presence of calcium sulfate also indicates a non-acidic watery environment.

Second, in addition to water, any life on Mars would have had to find an available source of the key chemical ingredients for life. Curiosity's CheMin and SAM instruments identified some of these in the rock sample, including sulfur, nitrogen, hydrogen, oxygen, phospho-

FIGURE 1

Major gasses released from the bedrock called "John Klein" and analyzed by the SAM instruments



NASA/JPL-Caltech/GSFC

As the temperature of the rock powder was increased, different gases were released, and then analyzed by the rover's Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) instrument.

rus, and carbon (**Figure 1**). Paul Mahaffy, SAM principal investigator, reported that "the range of chemical ingredients we have identified in the sample is impressive, and it suggests pairings such as sulfates and sulfides that indicate a possible chemical energy source for micro-organisms." Dr. Grotzinger said these minerals are "effectively like batteries," that can be a source of energy for life.

In addition, scientists unexpectedly found a mixture of chemicals that were oxidized, less-oxidized, and even non-oxidized, inside the rock. (Iron on the surface that has been oxidized, or chemically combined with oxygen, is what gives Mars its red coloration). Photographs of the drill cuttings, before samples were delivered for chemical analysis, showed them to be gray, indicating the material had not been fully oxidized. These different levels of oxidation indicate a range of energy that microbes on Earth make use of.

The Road Ahead

The SAM instrument is also able to detect organic chemicals, which on Earth are created by life, but are also produced inorganically, through chemical reactions. These complex compounds, containing carbon



NASA/JPL-Caltech/MSSS

This mosaic was assembled from dozens of images of Mt. Sharp, taken on Sept. 20, 2012.

and hydrogen, have long been assumed to be prerequisites for life.

In the past, methane has been detected from orbit in the Martian atmosphere. This is intriguing because methane in the atmosphere would not be long-lived, since it is destroyed when exposed to radiation. If there is methane in the atmosphere of Mars today, it could mean that it is currently being produced there, either chemically or organically. But the orbital observations were spotty and the methane signature seemed temporary, so scientists are anxious for ground truth.

So far, the scientists reported, Curiosity's instruments have not detected any complex organic compounds. The search will continue. "What we can do now," Grotzinger stated, "with the issue of habitability in the bag, we can undertake a more systematic search for a brighter carbon signal."

But the scientists also cautioned that, even if no organics are found, it does not mean that life was never resident on Mars. Complicated compounds, such as organics, degrade over time, it was pointed out, especially under the constant bombardment of radiation on the Martian surface. It is possible that life, and organics, were present in Mars' past, but have been erased, at least from the surface, over time.

Grotzinger also stated that even if organic compounds are not found during this mission because they were not there in the past, the Gale Crater site could still have supported life, because inorganic carbon can be used as food by a microbe. "What we have learned in the last 20 years of modern microbiology," Grotzinger said, "is that very primitive organisms ... can derive energy just by feeding on rocks."

Following a month of conjunction throughout April, where the relative position of the Sun between the Earth and Mars prevents robust communications between the two planets, Curiosity is slated to start its multi-month trek to Mount Sharp. The 3-mile-high mountain was created when a meteorite struck the planet, excavating

Gale Crater and throwing subsurface material up in to the center.

From orbit, and now, from stunning photos taken by Curiosity, it is clear that Mount Sharp has a story to tell. The base of the mountain will contain the oldest excavated material in the crater, and its sedimentary layers, laid down through successive periods of flowing water, should reveal more of the chemical, geologic, hydrologic, and atmospheric history there. If Curiosity is able to climb up the side of Mount Sharp, eons of time of Mars' history will be revealed.

Ukraine Celebrates Vernadsky Anniversary

by William Jones

March 15—The Embassy of Ukraine in Washington held a seminar on March 12 in honor of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Russian-Ukrainian scientist Vladimir Ivanovich Vernadsky. Vernadsky was born on March 12, 1863, and his sesquicentennial birthday has been proclaimed a day of celebration and remembrance in both Russia and Ukraine, in addition to seminars and ceremonies being arranged throughout the year.

The Washington event was the initiative of Ukrainian Ambassador Olexander Motsyk, to bring this celebration to the Ukrainian-American community in the nation's capital. The audience consisted of a number of Ukrainian-Americans who were engaged in a variety of scientific fields. Among the guests were the chairperson of the Ukrainian State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate, Mrs. Olena Mykolaichuk, and Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the chairwoman of the Schiller Institute. Benjamin Deniston of *21st Cen-*



Embassy of Ukraine

Benjamin Deniston (far right) of 21st Century Science & Technology addresses the Vernadsky seminar; Andriy Novikov, Embassy Science Counselor, is seated at opposite end of the table.

ture Science and Technology, was a speaker at the gathering.

The forum was opened up by Andriy Nikitov, the science counselor at the Ukrainian Embassy. Nikitov read a written statement from Ambassador Motsyk, who was away on travel. Motsyk underlined the broad influence which Vernadsky has had on science in both Ukraine and Russia, founding three separate disciplines, geochemistry, biogeochemistry, and radiology. In his work, Motsyk said, Vernadsky introduced new concepts in the study of the biosphere, and was an organizer and popularizer of science, establishing the National Library in Kiev, which bears his name, as well as both universities in Crimea. Two minerals bear Vernadsky's name, as does a scientific research base in Antarctica.

'If Rocks Could Fly'

The second presentation was by Dr. Mark McMenemy, a professor of geology at Mount Holyoke College, who had annotated the first complete English-language edition of Vernadsky's famous work, *The Biosphere*. Professor McMenemy presented four basic ideas in the thought of Vernadsky, beginning with a concept which McMenemy humorously called, "If rocks could fly." Vernadsky's understanding of the role of life in the process of the Earth's development was

sparked by a report in 1889 by Dr. G. Carruthers, McMenemy related.

Carruthers was investigating the annual flight of locusts, which stretched from the coast of North Africa to Arabia, over the Red Sea. Carruthers estimated that the space which the swarm covered was equal to 5,967 square kilometers, and had a weight of 4.4 billion tons! This sparked in Vernadsky a sudden realization of the magnitude of life in the universe, and helped lay the foundations for his development of the notion of the biosphere.

McMenemy then talked about Vernadsky's notion of life as a cosmic phenomenon, his insistence on the fact that life is as fun-

damental as matter and energy in the universe at large, a concept, McMenemy noted, which infuriated some scientists, and inspired others.

Thirdly, he touched on Vernadsky's belief that "chance" in the universe does not exist, but that the universe is governed by discrete laws. Lastly, he touched upon Vernadsky's revolutionary concept that human thought in the universe had become a geological force, his concept of the Noösphere. He quoted from the 12th-Century Benedictine abbess and poet, Hildegard of Bingen, on the wonders of the universe, and from Pope-emeritus Benedict XVI, on man as an "oasis of creation," noting that human thought, as the most powerful force in the universe, must again unite peoples, East and West, in developing that universe.

The 'Biogenic Migration of Atoms'

The third presentation was by Benjamin Deniston, who took up the notion of energy-flux density. He underlined the essential identity between Vernadsky's use of the concept of the increase of the "biogenic migration of atoms" in the development of the universe, and Lyndon LaRouche's understanding of the notion of increasing energy-flux density as a metric of economic progress. Deniston presented a number of graphs to show how species developed in a negen-

tropic or anti-entropic manner in the Biosphere. This, he indicated, represents a fundamental law of the universe, as well as a law of development of human society in the new state of the Biosphere, the Noösphere.

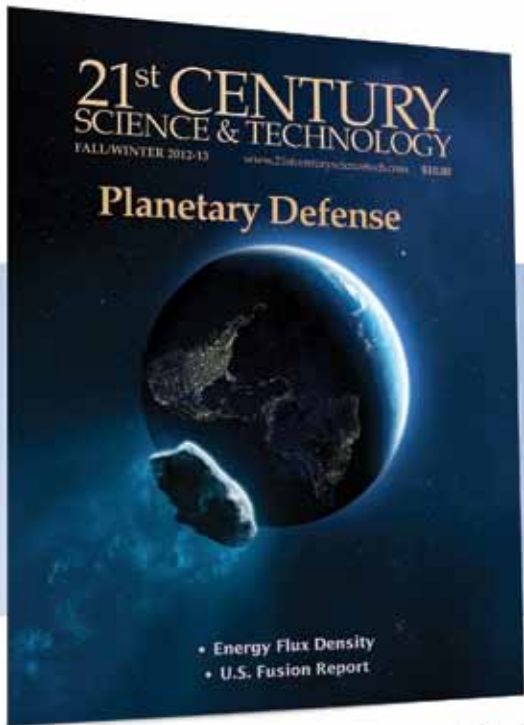
William Jones, from the Washington bureau of *EIR*, then outlined some of the points of Vernadsky's political and social views, noting that the building in which the Ukrainian Embassy was located, and in which they were gathered, was also the site where George Washington had negotiated with the local landowners in 1788 to get the land needed for building the nation's capital. Vernadsky, Jones said, revered both Washington and Lincoln, the latter of whom Vernadsky characterized as a "hero for all times."

The Vernadsky family always had a portrait of George Washington hanging in Vladimir's boyhood home. He later transferred the portrait to his laboratory office. Washington was revered by the family for his political significance, but also because he was said to resemble in appearance Vernadsky's grandfather, Vasilii Ivanovich Vernadsky, a Russian medical officer who had served in the wars against Napoleon, but of whom the family had no portrait; the portrait of Washington

served in its stead. Jones noted the importance of Vernadsky's enduring optimism about the future, even during the darkest days of World War II, pointing to this as a quality much needed today by humanity to overcome the tremendous economic and strategic crises now facing it.

A lively discussion followed the presentations. Nikitov lauded the efforts of *21st Century Science and Technology* (<http://www.21stcenturysciencetech.com/>) in making the legacy of Vernadsky known to the American public. "The link between Vernadsky and modern science is much better known in Eastern Europe than here in the United States," he said. Pre-publication copies of the Spring 2013 Vernadsky anniversary issue of *21st Century* were available at the event for the participants.

There were also in-depth discussions about the Planetary Defense issue of *21st Century* magazine, which had just arrived from the printer, and was also available at the event. Discussions continued among participants at the reception which followed. Nikitov also requested a number of copies of the print edition of the Vernadsky anniversary issue to send back to Kiev for the National Library and other libraries.



INSIDE THE FALL/WINTER 2012-13 ISSUE

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- Observation Systems
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End the Business of Warfare!

Thirty years after President Ronald Reagan proposed to make nuclear weapons “impotent and obsolete,” it’s time to *kill* the whole idea of warfare. That was the message Lyndon LaRouche underscored in the opening statement of his March 15 webcast, and that deserves utmost attention today. We quote:

“We’ve got to change the policy immediately, to enhance the security of the human species. And if we *don’t* do something like that *now*, if we let this whole economic crisis *proceed as it is proceeding now*, realize that the United States is on the verge of a *breakdown* crisis—an economic *breakdown* crisis! All of Europe is in the process of a current breakdown crisis. Look at what happened in Greece; look at Spain; look at Portugal; look what’s happening in Italy now....

“Also look at this joke-show which is going on in the area in Near Asia. They’re piling in and extending the operation against Syria. They’re *idiots*! Absolute idiots! Because that kind of logic applies to *that* situation. And if you get into this kind of situation, you’ll find that nobody’s going to win a war; they’re all going to *lose* a war, commonly.

“And the time has come, when *war*, or general warfare, as such, is no longer possible to sane people and sane nations. The time for that has ended. If anybody pushes for an action which goes in the direction of warfare, they should be just taken out of office, put out in some prison someplace where they can no longer commit major crimes.”

Referring to moves by top U.S. military and diplomatic corps, including chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey, to re-establish cooperation with Russia, LaRouche added: “This thing proposed by this group is absolutely

necessary, and the people involved are the right people. What we have to do, is we have to bring all of these leading nations, which includes China—1.4 billion people—that’s not a joke. India, at least 1.1 billion people—that’s not a joke, either. The time has come, when we’ve got to *rebuild* the world, not destroy it. The time has come to end what’s called the oligarchical system. There’s no alternative. Anyone who wants to start a war is a criminal, and probably also insane.

“We know what the Queen’s attitude is. Well, she *is* a criminal, as far as I’m concerned.... This woman has run a campaign whose purpose is to reduce the human population from 7 billion people to the order of 1, at a rapid rate. She’s the one who has proposed the extermination of 6 billion of 7 billion people on this planet. She’s the one who controls Obama; he’s an idiot, essentially, in the end. She represents the serious forces of evil. And evil is, if you propose to reduce the human population from 7 billion people to approximately 1, as your best shot, what are you? Hitler’s a piker compared to you!

“And the time has come, therefore, that we’ve got to *end this business of warfare*. We may have police actions that have to be taken where threats are made. But the only reason for that kind of combat, is to eliminate threats—threats to general peace. And that can be done. And General Dempsey typifies the kind of people from our own country, and from other countries, *who understand this problem: We can no longer have general warfare*. The systems we have don’t allow it. The condition of the human species as such, we can’t allow it.

“That action has to be taken *now*. And anybody in the United States government who doesn’t agree should be thrown out of office now, while we still have a United States to save.”

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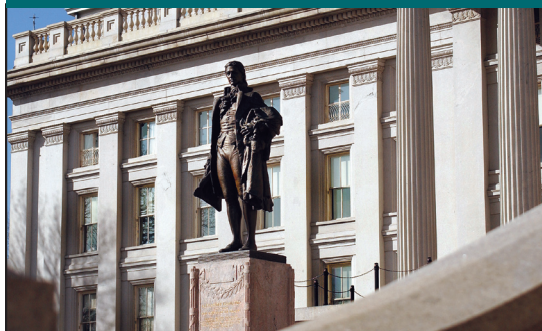
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