

## What Middle East Leaders Can Do Now

The author had the opportunity on May 17, to deliver a lecture at the Center for Asian Studies at the Cairo University, on the post-war situation and the perspectives for changing American foreign policy. The fear that policymakers in the region face, was apparent. The author's main point was that the prevailing response in the region—to seek a compromise, to make concessions to the U.S. war party, or even to capitulate to it outright—is dangerous and wrong. Unless the fascist policy pursued by the current coup faction in Washington were defeated, it would bring global destruction.

The speech stressed that one should recognize that the war party represents a minority whose economic base is crumbling. There are forces both inside the United States and internationally, associated with Lyndon LaRouche, which are mobilizing to make a Constitutional “counter-coup” against the chicken-hawks, to reorient U.S. foreign policy along the lines of the best of the American tradition. Thus, the challenge is to organize politically with this counter-coup process.

The 13-year history of the “new” pre-emptive war doctrine (including its nuclear aspect) was presented, along with the personnel involved in “Cheney’s gang,” their common Straussian fascist philosophy, and their “new Roman Empire” project. All this was elaborated in the light of LaRouche’s Presidential campaign foreign policy paper, “A World of Sovereign Nation-States” (see *EIR*, May 16), as well as recent moves toward this

perspective among Eurasian nations.

Prof. Mohammed Selim, director of the Center for Asian Studies, emphasized the factor of deception involved in the war party’s operations, beginning with the Sept. 11, 2001 coup, which has remained shrouded in lies. Professor Selim raised other questions regarding U.S. foreign policy in the context of LaRouche’s approach to it; this was followed by hours of questions and answers by the conference participants.

The central issue of the discussion boiled down to the political choices before the American people in the 2004 elections: What will a change from a Republican to a Democratic administration mean, and can it be made? What does the future hold for Bush? The gathering of intellectuals, politicians, think-tankers, journalists, and military figures was remoralized by the knowledge, that an effective opposition does exist inside the United States. LaRouche’s current activities in orchestrating the “counter-coup” and also organizing international combinations around solutions to the underlying economic crisis, generated great interest.

Such a discussion encapsulates the dynamic at work now in the Middle East/Persian Gulf region. Although the shock of the war is still great, there is a readiness to look reality in the face. This involves grasping the grave dangers posed by the continuing hegemony of the monster in Washington; but, precisely for this reason, it also involves taking up the alternatives available, and working with them to effect a fundamental shift. If Middle East political figures and organizations help effect such a fundamental shift through LaRouche’s leadership, then, ironically, it may turn out that the illegal war against Iraq will have led to the final defeat of its perpetrators, and their imperial policy.

—*Muriel Mirak-Weissbach*