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**Science & Christianity:
This Easter Sunday**



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EIR

From the Managing Editor

Do you believe that your senses tell you the truth about the world around you? Our language is full of such idioms: “It’s as plain as the nose on your face,” “What you see is what you get,” “Seeing is believing,” to name a few. And then, of course, there was Doubting Thomas, ... which brings me to the topic of our *Feature*.

LaRouche’s profound discussion of “This Easter Sunday,” the actual, scientific meaning of the immortality of the soul, and the fraud of sense-certainty, is a most unusual piece. For one thing, it is not finished! In discussion with associates on April 10, he described it as a kind of dynamic work in progress:

“We have a sketch,” he said, “which is what I’m providing with this ‘Easter Sunday,’ a sketch of this topical area. Which we, by progress, we will update constantly. But the idea is to get the mind of this organization focussed on reality. And therefore, we call it a ‘permanent document.’ We publish it in one form, as the core; it’s true. We then go back and do more work on it, update it, publish it again in expanded form, with the notations and so forth, in the usual manner, scientific manner, and you keep going and doing this.

“But, the point is, to always focus on this central principle: the difference between the human mind, and what’s taught. Because, we’re out there, we have a population which has *no* sense of reality, which is faced with catastrophes which are coming down on us, now, and the typical person out there, who’s called a leader, has no comprehension whatsoever!”

So, more to come.

Elsewhere in this week’s issue, we focus on the world food crisis and the war in Afghanistan. Marcia Merry Baker provides a “snapshot” of the catastrophe of growing hunger, deliberate destruction of food-producing capacities (in favor of bio-fuels, etc.), and blockage of infrastructure projects that could eliminate hunger from the planet. Helga Zepp-LaRouche analyzes the strategic context of the Afghanistan War, the lies that have been and are still being told about it, and what needs to be done. Ramtanu Maitra zeroes in on the choices facing Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who is “between a rock and a hard place,” if ever anyone was.



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Raphael Sanzio, "The School of Athens" (1509-10). This Vatican fresco is a Classical representation of the simultaneity of eternity, as well as the conflict between Aristotle (right center) and Plato.



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SCIENCE & CHRISTIANITY:

This Easter Sunday

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

April 4, 2010

As I have emphasized in my March 19, 2010 report, the present element of reported moral crisis from within the Roman Catholic Church regions of Ireland, England, Germany and the U.S.A., is chiefly a matter of the British monarchy's exploitation of a certain obnoxious practice, which, admittedly, actually exists in those locations; but, the present, politically motivated exploitation of that aberration by the British Empire itself, is the far greater crime.

The same British monarchy which promotes a Hitler-style, global genocide today, as a health-care policy which is a copy of Adolf Hitler's launching of genocide, is engaged in an effort to destroy that Church's authentic role as a devoted adversary of that policy of genocide which is embodied presently in the Hitler-echoing ideology of both former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and Blair's ideological devotee, President Barack Obama.

*In this present report, I present a related issue of concern for Christians and others, the need for a scientific view of the specific distinction of the mission of, and by Jesus Christ, which distinguishes the essential quality of Christianity from other religious beliefs, including much of Protestant and Jewish belief, that by the actual implications of **that notion of immortality** which is inherent in a competent modern scientist's comprehension of the work of the authors of the compositions identified as **The New Testament**. **The Epistles of the Apostle Paul, most emphatically.***

Preface:

This present report of mine, on the subject of the matter of science and religious belief, is focused largely, but, by no means exclusively, on a matter of concern to the Catholic Church, as I remember it from my own and my wife's experience during the 1970s and 1980s, in terms of my present reflections on the ministries of John XXIII, Paul VI, and John Paul II, and from the overlapping work of the Cusanus Gesellschaft in that same interval. In writing as I do here, I view this history, and its larger implications, from my own experience, as being one of encounter with what I justly consider, still today, a relative "golden age" of the Vatican's ministry, a time when my efforts were widely associated, internationally, with my initiative in launching the U.S.-prompted Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI).

Nonetheless, the actual subject of this present report is, really, no one more than you, the present reader. The subject is the contrast of hopes and commitments which must be remembered from my global role during that past experience of mine, to the ordering of the fate of the world, your world and that of your now prospective successors, at this moment, a "this moment" of the gravest crisis of all humanity at this present time.

The onset of that now famous period of the SDI, which coincides with what I have identified of a relatively recent Golden Age in Vatican history, dates from a time about a quarter-century or more before the present youth generation was born, and belongs to the political and related adult experience of generations born more than a half-century ago. Most of my colleagues from among notable figures around the world are now long deceased. Only a shrinking handful of the world's population, as from among many now deceased Cardinals and other leading clergy of the Church, remains in possession of actual recollection of the quality of thinking which shaped the history of the world's population during the still earlier times that General and President Charles de Gaulle, for example, was still a prominent factor in the current shaping of modern history.

Worse, there are almost no qualified professors of the subject of history alive and functioning in their



Albrecht Dürer's portrait of himself in the image of Jesus Christ artistically addresses the question of human immortal identity, the overarching subject of this present paper.

posts in the world available to assist us today. Therefore, there is virtually no real comprehension of the larger actual experience of mankind in modern world history as a whole. Still worse, today, there is virtually no "instinct" for competent knowledge of the history of mankind, even among leading incumbent academics, pertaining to that period of trans-Atlantic history during the most relevant period of time since as recently as the infamous Peloponnesian War. Therefore, we, today, should speak of those dwindling numbers among we living today, who, in these present times, do recall, as the old men of Egypt in their time spoke to Solon of Athens of the already millennia-old history of Mediterranean cultures, warning: "You Hellenes have

no truly old men among you.”¹

How then, were it possible that what might be laughingly described as those youngsters regarded as “the old men” of our present time, could have any active knowledge respecting the concepts of death and immortality, in such intellectually poverty-stricken times as these of today?

To begin the following discussion here, the prevalent fault in historical outlook among most Protestant denominations today, is that the modernist, only nominally Christian doctrine of an “after life,” locates immortality as existing, implicitly, only within some non-existing universe, not our own. Most religious believers dream of a false “other universe” sometimes identified to what is often intended to be a misleading effect, and contrary to the Christian so-called “New Testament” claims: a view which proposes an actually non-existent, pagan’s sort of “Kingdom of Heaven”² situated outside the actual universe.

In the truth of the matter, in that real universe of past, present, and future, which we inhabit today, the relevant, attributed statements of Jesus Christ and his Apostles, considered in essentials, refer us to a future realization of the intended nature of the soul of the relevant, presently living human person, a nature to be recognized as something which will be realized more fully at some future time after a supersession of the presently existing world system, when, in effect, we who will have passed off “this mortal coil,” may hope to live still, in a certain way, as if in the flesh, in a future condition of this universe, in a universe known as a “simultaneity of eternity.”

The problems posed by the childish fantasies of some religious sects, with special attention to those wilder varieties of syncretic, only nominally Christian ones, must be recognized as such, and then pushed aside, to make way for our attaining not only a better



Jesus Christ's preachings on the "Kingdom of Heaven" directly contrast with the reductionist outlooks of Aristotle and Euclid. Here, an etching by the Dutch painter Rembrandt van Rijn.

future for the outcome of our having lived, thus, but for the sake of the future of all mankind. Therefore, I narrow the selection of the issues addressed here, for the purpose of identifying, and correcting those misunderstandings which are to be traced to a lack of scientific competence in understanding the actually scientific implications of what the so-called **New Testament**, for example, actually specifies. I emphasize a contrast of that view, to the kinds of evils which can be traced to reductionist dogmas of Aristotle and Euclid, or to the influence of Paolo Sarpi's pro-Satanic corruption typical of much of modern Protestant dogma, or the theological implications of a frankly pro-Satanic, positivist view of the subject matter of science.

Whether the reader of this report might be classed as a “believer,” or not, the actual issues-in-fact of contemporary religious belief, with emphasis on European civilization's beliefs, are universal for all European and related cultures presently. Whether in or out of the places of worship, the confusion in this matter, is rooted in the defects inhering in the present cultural traditions of those nations, whether among putative “believers,” or not; their ideological blunders are common follies, in particular, throughout European civilization generally.

For example, contrast the clinical case of that avowedly un-Christian child of British ideology, Karl

1. In place of actual historians, today, we have those whose mouths utter oddly selected gobbets of facts from sundry isolated persons, places, and events, sometimes accurately, at other times falsehoods, but, usually, with no comprehension of actual history as a process.

2. Compare what I have just described here with Raphael Sanzio's representation of the controversy depicted within the **School of Athens**.

Marx, as follows.³

It is significant, for understanding the actual British reasons for what I have referenced here as a perverse London's presently prevalent frauds against the name of an actual Christianity, to point out the echo of Christian belief in the practice of physical science by the principled opponents of the so-called "philosophical" Liberalism of the followers of Paolo Sarpi. I refer here to opponents of such as Johannes Kepler. I also refer to the contrary, worse-than-useless, intrinsically pathetic, Sarpian, Isaac Newton cult of the followers of Galileo today (e.g., modern "positivism"). Take the relevant case of that notorious worshiper of Satan known as Adam Smith, who, in a manner of speaking, produced such avowed disciples of Sarpian positivism as the actual adult personality of the notable Karl Marx.⁴

Clear the decks in preparation for this discussion, by brief attention to both the intrinsic fallacy of Aristotle, as reflected in the *a-priori* pseudo-principles of Euclid, and, then, continue with the different guise of a true Satan, the banning of all actual forms of universal physical principles by the Liberalism of Paolo Sarpi and his followers. Select attention to a stubbornly nasty case of this Sarpi problem; take the case of the depraved Sarpian ideologue, Adam Smith.

In his 1759 **Theory of the Moral Sentiments**, Adam Smith presents us with the following paragraph,

3. The Karl Marx of the myth, rather than the man, is a phenomenon of a political idea which the relevant actualities of history have bestowed upon the actual image of the effect with which he is associated. I suspect that Rosa Luxemburg understood this in some degree; the evidence to that effect is a subject in itself. As a study of the offshoots of the Cambridge School of systems analysis demonstrates (e.g., IIASA, the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis) Marx's doctrine, is not the nadir of the business; there is far worse stuff than Marx's follies to be recognized in present British actions which have shifted the financial capital of Russia from Moscow, to the cess-pots of the Cayman Islands and related Antilles.

4. Irony does not create truth, but is usually an indispensable aid for revealing it. According to Karl Marx's father, that father's errant son had traveled far distant from the principles of his secondary education in Trier under Johann Hugo Wyttenbach. Marx was converted to the reductionism of the Romantic School which was famously denounced at that time by his sometimes acquaintance Heinrich Heine, but was also dosed, through rabidly reductionist influences such as the British agent Frederick Engels. According to the correspondence of both Engels and Marx himself, Marx was repeatedly "brainwashed," by controllers such as Engels, to effects, as Marx himself admitted, to be consistent with the depravity of the actually imperialist social dogma of Lord Shelburne's agent Adam Smith. Although the use of the term "positivism" is usually dated to its later uses, the principle of positivism was already presented by Sarpi, as also such Sarpi apostles as Galileo.

in which he sums up the essential notions of modern, Sarpian, Anglo-Dutch Liberalism. I cite here the same excerpted passage as published in my own and then-as-sociate David P. Goldman's 1980 **The Ugly Truth About Milton Friedman**.⁵

The administration of the great system of the universe ... the care of the universal happiness of all rational and sensible beings, is the business of God and not of man. To man is allotted a much humbler department, but one much more suitable to the weakness of his powers, and to the narrowness of his comprehension, the care of his own happiness, of that of his family, his friends, his country. ...

But though we are ... endowed with a very strong desire of those ends, it has been intrusted to the slow and uncertain determinations of our reason to find out the proper means of bringing them about. ... Hunger, thirst, the passion which unites the two sexes, the love of pleasure, and the dread of pain, prompt us to apply those means for their own sakes, and without any consideration of their tendency to those beneficent ends which the great Director of nature intended to produce by them.

Those remarks by Adam Smith are a faithful echo of the intention of "the true Paolo Sarpi," and are, also the ideology of such Eighteenth-century pseudo-scientists working in their role as hoaxsters as followers of Abbé Antonio S. Conti, his lackey Voltaire, the imaginary Abraham de Moivre, his crony Jean le Rond d'Alembert, the sinister hoaxster Leonhard Euler, and their Eighteenth and Nineteenth-century empiricist and positivist followers generally.

That modern moral perversion is extended from Smith and his life, up through followers of the sequence of positivists such as Karl Weierstrass, Ernst Mach, David Hilbert, Bertrand Russell's peculiarly brutish notions of "modern systems analysis," and beyond. Russell is echoed by his devotees among both the circles of the Club of Rome and of the utterly depraved hoaxsters of the pseudo-science associated with the Russellite

5. The New Benjamin Franklin House, New York, 1980. Goldman went on to become, presently, a devotee of that evil which he had shared in denouncing in 1980—as if to say: *if you can not beat them, join them!*



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Modern empiricism and positivism explicitly disavow universal principles, relying instead on statistical-mathematical deductions, which are no more scientific than spinning a roulette wheel.

tradition of Academician J. Gvishiani's Laxenberg, Austria-based International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), up through the present time of such as Russia's British agents Mikhail Gorbachov and Anatoly Chubais, to the present day.

Or, to report that view of Adam Smith's own avowed policies, as presented in his own words, above, but, in my own words: *the reductionism of the followers of Paolo Sarpi, insists, that there are no actual principles existing within the bounds of the definition of the modern empiricism otherwise known as "liberalism," and otherwise known as either "positivism" generally or the similarly, morally depraved doctrines of "systems analysis," in particular.*

In other words, there is the monstrous misuse of the term "principle" among the Sarpi devotees known as "empiricists" in general, or as modern varieties of "positivism" since Auguste Comte, Karl Weierstrass, Felix Klein, David Hilbert, or the more radical varieties among the followers of the "Cambridge Systems Analysis" of Bertrand Russell. Each and all among these typify fraudulent uses of the term "principle" among the devotees of Paolo Sarpi's dogma. The use of "principle" for such purposes as the notion of "a principle" of statistical behavior, is, thus, in and of itself, a fraud against science.

In contrast to Sarpi and his positivist followers, all actual principles of science exist only as either Johannes

Kepler's and Albert Einstein's treatments of Johannes Kepler's principle of universal gravitation define a physical principle, or as is done in a refined way according to the practice of Academician V.I. Vernadsky's distinctions among *Lithosphere*, *Biosphere*, and *Noösphere*, as being outside all derivations of their origins from the domain of mere statistical deductions as such.

To restate the point: *what the modern empiricists and positivists have chose to term "principles," are, according to Sarpi's specifications, merely statistical-mathematical deductions, not actually principles.*

Or, in another view of the same matter, science is the enemy of modern positivism, as Albert Einstein identified Kepler's discovery of a true universal physical principle of gravitation, that as defining an expandably finite, and therefore unbounded universe, or as Vernadsky defined the distinc-

tively universal principles of Lithosphere, Biosphere, and Noösphere.

To illustrate the proper notion of the use, or misuse of the term "principle," begin by comparing and contrasting the inherently fraudulent dogmas of Aristotle and Euclid, with those of Paolo Sarpi and his followers, contrasting both, each in its own way, to actual science. The attack on Aristotelean ideology delivered by Philo of Alexandria, provides us a valuable clue to the knowledge of theological matters which I present, thus, in my own terms, as follows.

Before turning to the body of this report, ask: what should be an obvious question: what is so special about Christianity—or, better said, a carefully considered role of Christianity? The essential reply is, the specific kind of promise of resurrection, "as if in the twinkling of an eye," delivered for the cause of Jesus of Nazareth. The importance of that promise does not lie within the bare fact that it was presented; but, that lies in its accords with such developments as scientific proof available today, that the promise is a scientifically valid one, on condition that positivist and related gibberish expressed in the misused name of science, is, properly, discarded.⁶

6. The following four chapters present the "spine" of a set of chapters which will undergo evolution and expansion during the coming weeks and months. What is presented initially, is the hard core of the subject-

I. On The Subject Of Immortality

*The question is: Since all mortal forms of mere animals do experience the permanent death which is the characteristic fate of the members of each such species, what should we adopt as the New Testament meaning of human “immortality”?*⁷ “The bosom of Abraham” is not an un-useful suggestion, but it is useless as a scientific term.

For the competent scientist, the relevant reply is, that the discovery and perpetuation of efficient forms of what are actually universal physical principles (which do not exist in either the *a-priorist* doctrines of Aristotle and Euclid, or among Sarpi’s followers), point to the possibility of an implicitly immortal act by the mind of the relevant human individuals. In addition, it is a crucial fact, demonstrated repeatedly by competent scientific practice, that the adoption of actually discovered universal physical principles for practice, if they are permitted to become truly efficient by society, live on, if they are actually discovered universal principles, as efficiently acting principles within society, long after the original discoverer is deceased. No other form of life, but mankind, can do this. Hence, Academician V.I. Vernadsky’s physical distinction of the Noösphere from the mere Biosphere.⁸

This phenomenon of apparent immortality of discovered true principles, which remain independently efficient when their authors are deceased, as so illus-

trated, can be termed a definition, for scientists, of that technical term of Christian theology which is identified by competent modern scientific practice, as “a simultaneity of eternity” which exists only in physical space-time, rather than as “space, time, and matter.”

If we apply the notion of *dynamics* of Gottfried Leibniz adduced from his work of the 1690s, all persons who participate according to the influence of the discovery of a discovered universal physical principle, enjoy “the special kind of protection” afforded such beliefs in what are truly universal principles; this notion is opposed to the statistical sophistries of the empiricists and their bastard positivist offspring.

However, since no statement of physical principles, as such, is willingly permitted to be expressed, unharmed, within earshot of a devout British ideologue, we are thus impelled to assume that British subjects, and their monarchs, generally remain, like both behaviorist Adam Smith and the ordinary beasts at large, as like the devotees of the traditions of the pseudo-scientific organization which was spawned by Bertrand Russell and the Cambridge school of systems analysis. This was also known as the doctrine of that pseudo-scientific cult known as IIASA; the devotees of that cult, still today, flee from the specter of actually human life, directly to a kind of belief in nowhere, where they are unencumbered by the cultivation of any systemically soulful intimations of immortality. They are not as much merely “ignorant,” as they are as viciously stupefied as by something equivalent, in effect, to the drugs in which the British empire traffics, still, under Queen Elizabeth II, today.

So, I came to the view that Bertrand Russell was the most evil man of which I had knowledge from among the contemporaries of my own life-time.

Therefore, the notable point which I emphasize here, is the special nature of mankind’s adoption and practice of validatable, universal principles tantamount to Johannes Kepler’s uniquely original discovery of a principle of universal gravitation. This discovery by Kepler, is to be appreciated in the terms of Albert Einstein’s summary treatment of that discovery by Kepler as an efficient, universal principle which is termed by Einstein as, “finite, but not bounded.”⁹

matter. The future expansion in revised editions will reflect discussions of these topical areas among the author and his associates.

7. Certain households’ dogs, for example, find a curious intimation of immortality contingent upon the household which they represent; but, that is a subject-matter for a different occasion.

8. I enjoyed such an experience during the age-range of 14-15. Through repeated opportunities to observe construction at the Boston, Massachusetts area’s Charlestown U.S. Navy Yard, I reached the conclusion that the process of construction, whose designs I observed, required a calculation in physical space, rather than simply mathematical geometry. The relevant discovery occurred, fortunately, prior to my first day in the relevant geometry class. It was not an original principle, but it was one I made in what was for me, a personally unique and original way. I had neither read nor heard of physical geometry as a conception then, but what I did discover then virtually saved the meaning of my life. The single set of experiences, in making that elementary discovery of a principle of physical geometry, rather than a silly formal geometry as such, shaped the course of my intellectual life from that time, to the present day. Back then, the initial effect was to send me searching for everything I could find of the work of Gottfried Leibniz.

9. Contrast the case of the insanity of Georg Cantor, as symptomized by his assertion of Isaac Newton’s version of Paolo Sarpi’s positivism, “Hypotheses non fingo,” in his 1895 **Contributions to the Founding of the Theory of Transfinite Numbers**. Cf. Letters 99-101 of Cardinal

Those deeper ontological implications referenced by Einstein in that instance, serve us as a key to insight into the subject of this report: the scientifically definable conditions defining the immortality of relevant human souls.

To begin with, ask: *What is the difference between the role of the true scientific creativity which is uniquely specific to the human mind, among all other kinds of known living species, and the opposing view expressed by such wretched creatures such as the Aristoteleans, the empiricists, and the beasts?* Why, on precisely that account, do we mark behavior which would be rightly considered as “depraved” in a human being, such as the health-care policies of President Barack Obama, or of Britain’s former Prime Minister Tony Blair, as normal only for lower forms of life met among insects, or some other animal behavior?

It should be commonplace to refer to this distinction as defining “civilized” or “cultivated” forms specific to some human behavior; but, such terminology, while sometimes convenient, is not scientifically grounded. Such usages belong, at their least worst, to the domain of “the superficial, but convenient,” rather than to matters of strict principle.

What, then, is this principle of human creativity which is missing from all lower forms of life, and which distinguishes the human being, uniquely, from the beasts?

The Transition to Modern Europe

Since the death of Plato, much of the organization of mental life for the leadership among most of the populations of globally extended European civilization, has dwelt, during most times, under the reigning influence of dogmas similar to those of such as

J. B. Franzelin with Cantor, in Herbert Meschkowski’s **Georg Cantor Briefe** (1991). Cantor, apart from his insanity during the closing years of his life, including those of his 1895-97 publication of his **Contributions...**, was strongly influenced by the destructive influence of such positivists as Karl Weierstrass, and the credulous believer in a positivism which remains as a grave systemic weakness commonplace among modern mathematicians, as distinct from the inspiring breath of sanity which has been expressed by the leading physical chemists who were followers of Bernhard Riemann. The followers of Riemann, such as Academician V.I. Vernadsky, Max Planck, William Draper Harkins, and the physicist Albert Einstein, have given us what I recognized as that beleaguered minority of competent scientists, beleaguered by the positivist fanatics, still, in this field, today.



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Filippo Brunelleschi’s discovery of the universal principle of the catenary, which he used in constructing the dome of Santa Maria del Fiore (shown here), is exemplary of an immortal act by the human mind.

those rival expressions by Aristotle and Paolo Sarpi, which virtually prohibit the cultivation, often, even the recognition, of those innate potentials of the individual human mind for most of the human population. Implicitly, for the Aristotelean, “Do nothing which was not done by your father and other ancestors.” For the followers of Sarpi, the slogan is: “Tolerate no principle!”

In the case of the systemic adversary of Plato, Aristotle, his attempted suppression of those innate creative powers which are unique to the mental life of the human species, is typified by the fraudulent rewriting of existing knowledge of geometry which resulted in the inherently fraudulent system defined by the *a-priori* damage

to humanity expressed as the presumptions of **Euclid's Elements**.

Despite important exceptions to this by great thinkers such as the Cyrenaican follower of the science of Plato, Eratosthenes, and the temporary revival of human progress under such as the reign of Charlemagne in Europe and the Baghdad Caliphate under Charlemagne's ally, the great Haroun al-Raschid, against a dictatorship of systematic suppression of the creative powers of the human individual mind, that suppression reigned in Europe, excepting relatively rare exceptions, until such geniuses as Dante Alighieri, that onset of Europe's Fourteenth-century Golden Renaissance centered on the great ecumenical Council of Florence, and the role in the founding of science by such of that renaissance's figures as Filippo Brunelleschi and Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa.

The economic-cultural impact of the work of that Council, as continued under the European governments of France's Louis XI and his English follower Henry VII, led, through the course of the Fifteenth Century, to the later collapse of the Habsburg power based in Spain, and, thus, produced those conditions of crisis in the pro-Aristotelean system of Trent, a failure of Trent which allowed the rise to power of a new form of reductionist evil known as the modern European, Anglo-Dutch Liberalism, that of Paolo Sarpi. The outcome of Sarpi has been that British empire which both reigns as the principal threat to the continued existence of our United States and is the chief source of the perils and sufferings of continental Europe (and other places) up through the present moment this is written.

The ancient and medieval modes of moral corruption associated with the legacy of Aristotle, were premised on what the dramatist Aeschylus attacked on stage as the image of the evil Olympian Zeus of the **Prometheus Trilogy**. This evil product of the Delphi cult, was typified by the fraudulent dogma of Euclid's geometry, and by what Philo of Alexandria rightly denounced as Aristotle's asserted virtual death of the Creator—the basis in Aristotle for what was to become known Friedrich Nietzsche's "God is dead" nonsense.

The change from the notorious poisoner of his time, Aristotle, to the reign of a Sarpi whose rule over modern Europe, was based in the rising power of Atlantic maritime power over the relatively, economically stagnating Mediterranean societies, came as an attack on the Habsburgs' tyranny from its Atlantic flank. Although the Habsburg tyrannies of Portugal and Spain were, at

the first, a relatively great power in Transatlantic maritime terms, the rot of the imperial conservatism of the "Aristotelean" Habsburg tyrannies of Spain and Portugal, has produced the characteristic, relatively persisting economic-cultural failures caused by oligarchical tyrannies in most of Ibero-America, including, in fact, today's oligarchical system in Brazil, to the present day.

In that, negative, way, the putatively "pro-Aristotelean" Habsburg tyranny, created the present British empire of today's world, by its crippling influence within the modern European continent and Mediterranean region.

The crucial difference underlying the (only) relative strategic success of what has become the British imperial system of Paolo Sarpi, must be credited, chiefly, to the opportunities produced by the stubborn stupidity of the modern European followers of Aristotle.

The relevant change came about in the following way.

The spark for the creation of modern Europe, out of the muck of a Venice-steered European feudalism, was provided, typically, by the influence of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth centuries' followers of Dante Alighieri, an influence expressed inclusively by Dante's **De Monarchia** and his emphasis on the role of the Italian language as opposed to a tyranny of Latin. With the discrediting effects of the "New Dark Age" created by the Venetian monetarist manipulations of the foolishly credulous Italian merchant bankers such as the Bardi and Peruzzi, the later, Fifteenth-Century councils of the Papacy, combined with effects of such developments as the crucial influence of Jeanne d'Arc's personal leadership in this, led to a vigorous intellectual revival in Europe, a renaissance reaching a certain peak in the great, A.D. 1438-39 ecumenical Council of Florence, which had unleashed what should be regarded now as a profound revolution in all human history up to that moment, and the modern, ecumenical model of hope for all mankind, still today.

The most typical figures in the scientific revolution which accompanied the developments within and abutting this Council, are to be recognized in the succession of the efforts of founding a competent form of modern European science prompted by Filippo Brunelleschi¹⁰

10. E.g., the design and crafting of the construction of the cupola of **Santa Maria del Fiore** made possible through Brunelleschi's use of the universal physical principle of the catenary.

and developed as a systemic body of knowledge by the founder of modern European science, Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa.¹¹ Notably, Cusa was also the creator of the policy followed, since approximately A.D. 1480, by Christopher Columbus's design for the crossing of the Atlantic Ocean first attempted in A.D. 1492.

The development of modern European physical science, by Cusa, was crucial for the launching of the first modern European nation-state, that of the implied follower of the great mission of the martyred Jeanne d'Arc, France's Louis XI, whose inspiration led to the great reform of Henry VII's freeing England (if but temporarily) from what had been the evil grip of Richard III.

The Oligarchical Principle

The combination of the defeat of the maritime ambitions of the Persian Empire and the folly of the subsequent Peloponnesian War, led to an attempted grand-imperialist agreement between the Persian Empire and the Macedon of Prince Philip which had come to dominate a Greece self-ruined by the Delphic folly of the Peloponnesian War. That attempted agreement between the Persian Empire and Philip of Macedon, failed when Philip was assassinated, and his heir, the Alexander known as "the Great" assumed the reign, despite frantic opposition to this from Aristotle, and proceeded from the directly contrary intention to what had been that of his father.

Nonetheless, the assassination of Alexander himself, a killing which the pointing finger of history attributes to the skilled poisoner Aristotle, presents us a relevant version of the intended empire, as one based on the oligarchical principle; this came into being, step-wise. Ultimately, a de facto treaty-agreement reached,



The god Zeus, as Aeschylus dramatized in his Prometheus Unbound, exercises his arbitrary power to try to ban fire—a role the British-sponsored environmentalists are playing today. Shown here, "Jupiter of Smyrna," restored in 1686 by Pierre Granier.

on the Isle of Capri, between the Octavian later known as Augustus Caesar, and the priesthood of the cult of Mithra, set the terms for the establishment of that Roman Empire which remains the root of European forms of imperialism, from that time to the present state of rule and ruin, enjoyed under the present "Dope, Incorporated" regime of the present, putative empress, Britain's Elizabeth II.

The opposing, European resistance to that imperialist system, was already expressed in such relevant locations as Aeschylus' **Prometheus Trilogy**. The significance of that point can be illustrated as follows.

Today, what Aeschylus deployed to illustrate the principled issue of that **Trilogy**, was the case of what the figure of the Olympian Zeus banned as "the use of fire" by members of what the relevant priests of the monetarist Delphi cult considered a virtual body of "popular cattle" known as human beings.

Today, the exact same principle of evil of that Olympian Zeus, is the evil of the cult which is known as "the green ideology."

The opposition to nuclear power, as in the case of Germany presently, is an excellent illustration of the way in which nations are destroyed through the Flagellant-like cult of a "green ideology" of that British Royal Family typified by the explicitly pro-genocidal Prince Philip, as by the Royal Family's current, avowedly pro-genocidalist, American puppet, Barack Obama. The whimpering mass of those foolish U.S. Democrats who defend Obama's policies of Adolf Hitler-style mass-murder in the name of "health-care policies," are now being directed by "Big Brother" Obama against members of the families of Democratic Party officials, all in the Orwellian name of "health care." This evidence presents us with an apt illustration of this grave moral problem of the U.S. government presently.

11. **De Docta Ignorantia.**

When we speak today, if we speak competently, the inner characteristic which thus distinguishes the human personality from the beast, is precisely that quality of creativity which we may rightly associate, symptomatically, with the inspiration of both great discoveries of universal physical principle and of the creative works of Classical artistic modes of creative expression.

Therefore, we enter the following chapters of this report by focusing on several among the most relevant among the subsumed, most crucial implications of this notion of the nature and powers of individual creativity.

II. The Human Mind

The currently prevalent, or better said, “relatively bestial” opinion respecting the nature of the human individual, is, first, the presumption that the reality of human life is that which is associated with faith in sense-certainty, and, second, that contrary notions such as those of the Classical artistic composition and physical-scientific discovery of principles, are the relatively, or even absolutely ephemeral aspects of human activity and inward mental life.

The problem that habit represents, is the perverse denial that it is the domain of sense-certainty which is the mere shadow of reality, and creativity, the true substance of the existence of the human individual.

However, in the practice of modern physical science, as founded by the successive stages of development by Filippo Brunelleschi and Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa, the physical reality of mankind’s successful dealings with the universe outside both our skins and other sense-organs, is shown to coincide, in modalities, with Brunelleschi’s otherwise practically impossible construction of the dome of Florence’s cathedral of **Santa Maria del Fiore**, by the use of a physical curve, rather than a Euclidean one. The same point is made by Cusa’s recognition of the incompetence of Archimedes’ presumption that the circle could be generated by quadrature.

This approach by Cusa was extended by Johannes Kepler’s successive discoveries of the nature of the planetary elliptical orbits of Earth and Mars, and, after that, Kepler’s discovery of the universal principle of gravitation, as the significance of this latter discovery was made clearer by Albert Einstein.

It must also be emphasized, that these discoveries in

modern European science, are reflections of ancient European accomplishments such as Archytas’ constructively dynamic solution for the duplication of the cube, as emphasized later by Eratosthenes, and the matter of the Platonic solids.

Most crucial, however, has been Kepler’s fundamental, and uniquely original discovery of the system of the Solar planetary orbits. In this case, the use of the mutually contradictory senses, of sight and harmonics, were combined to define a phenomenon which was neither of the two. This method employed by Kepler, absorbed the methods of both his ancient Classical predecessors and the work since moderns such as Brunelleschi and Cusa; yet, it also defined the exact nature of a competent form of modern physical science for all physical science thereafter.¹²

The consequent importance of the progress met in the ancient Classical Greek science, in the emergence of modern science through Leibniz and Gauss, and the later genius shown by modern leaders in the physical relativity of such as Bernhard Riemann, Max Planck, Academician V.I. Vernadsky, and Albert Einstein, is located for modern science in the unique originality of Kepler’s discovery of a universal principle of gravitation, as Einstein recognized this aspect of the matter.

The point to be emphasized in this account, is, that, contrary to the modern positivist cult’s dogma, the human senses, when considered in and of themselves, are merely instrumentation which does not show us the reality of the universe which that instrumentation addresses. It is only those crucial-experimental proofs which, like Kepler’s uniquely original discovery of gravitation, show us experimental evidence which does not rely upon the assumed authority of any particular type of sense-perception. This requirement is imposed upon synthetic instrumentation as also upon sense-perceptions. Call this “The Helen Keller Principle.”

These considerations impel us to make a crucial distinction between the human mind, as such, and the human brain with its attached sense-organs. Here lies the clearly expressed distinction of man from beast.

12. All of the modern European attacks on the work of Kepler are a combination of sheer lies, as by the “Newtonians” of the school of Abbé Antonio Conti and his underling Voltaire, who were desperate in their efforts to suppress both the work of Nicholas of Cusa and of Kepler. The desperation of these fraudulent attacks on Kepler expressed Sarpi’s and Galileo’s fear that they might not succeed in imposing the modern, principle-free empiricist (e.g., Liberal) system on European culture.

These considerations define the human soul as the reality, and sense-perception as merely the shadow cast by reality, as I had learned to begin to understand this through studious reflections on constructions witnessed at the Charlestown Navy Yard.

Man in Space

In the immediate post-World War II decades, the U.S.A.'s space pioneers considered the hypothetical sending of a flotilla of space-craft from Earth to Mars. Today, we admire that thought, but have considerable reason to doubt that the task is quite that simple, although comparable in conception.

There are two exemplary problems to be considered. First, the effects of a voyage across the Earth-Mars distance on the physical condition of the passengers and crew during a lapsed time of travel in the order of perhaps 300 days. While that may present no systemic problem for non-human objects, 300 days in such travel by human occupants of the space-craft, poses some rather alarming problems.

First of all, we know that by tapping the resources of helium-3 isotope lying on the surface of our Moon, we can conjecture accelerated flight between Earth-orbit and Mars-orbit. Perhaps as brief a journey as several days. However, then, we are forced to recognize that the space between Earth-orbit and Mars-orbit is not empty space, especially if we attempt the indispensable, constantly accelerated/decelerated flight-trajectories. It may "look" empty, because we have no built-in sense-organs for recognizing what lurks for the unwitting traveler in the seemingly empty space between the points in any presently ordinary way.

At that moment, as our current "basement" discussions run, we are approaching a subject which requires us to treat cosmic radiation as the leading subject of our interplanetary travel-plans for mankind, especially the problems associated with the tuning-ranges of relatively "soft" radiation of particular interest to living processes. We have entered the domain in which singularities supplant the presumed, rather naive identities of particles as such. We are confident that the apparent obstacles will be mastered if approached in the proper



Artist Piero della Francesca's "Resurrection" highlights the power of the immortal human soul, over the dead senses, evident among the sleepers below. Compare to LaRouche's contrast between the mind and the physical brain.

way, but the process of mastering those conceptual difficulties must proceed.

There is a certain quality of urgency involved, since the Sun will not treat Earth's present orbital pathway pleasantly forever. The remainder of the century appears relatively secured on this account, so we do have some time available for the art of worrying.

Matters posed by our physical chemists proceeding in the tradition of such as William Draper Harkins and Academician V.I. Vernadsky, when they are duly considered in broad terms of discussion, return our attention to the subject-matter of the human soul.

Once we recognize that nitty-gritty is not at all that which naive faith in mere sense-perception suggests, the perception of man's soul becomes, rather quickly, a view closer to the person of the Creator than to attractions to the follies of sense-certainty. Indeed, the essence of man's existence becomes primarily that of a practically efficient kind of what would be considered,

as by today's more or less naive beliefs, as a spiritual being, rather than being considered, wrongly, as the reality of merely living meat. The kinship to the Creator is thus sensed more intimately. It is those discoveries we can class as discovered principles which live as efficient principles after the human discoverer is deceased, which tend to reveal themselves, more and more, as the essential expression of the distinction of man from beast.

In the moment those considerations of the nature of being is to be taken into account, something wonderful seems to have happened. The distinction of mind from brain has growing practical importance for scientific progress today. Now, the significance of what are actually the discoverable universal physical principles which the followers of Paolo Sarpi forbid to be considered, starts to grow upon us.

At the same time we must re-map the "periodic table" for the comparison of the function of cosmic radiation's role in, respectively, living and non-living functions.

This brings us to the subject of dynamics.

III. Dynamics

As he entered the closing decade of the Seventeenth Century, Gottfried Leibniz returned European science to the period of its achievements between, first, a moment prior to the legalized assassination of the innocent Socrates, and, then, the death of Plato: looking back to the concept of *dynamis*, or in the modern language of Gottfried Leibniz, *dynamics*. The most crucial among the effects of this shift, is that, whereas the universal physical principle of *dynamics*, shifts the means of mass-action from the will of the discrete individual from the brutish, ape-like individuality to what might have been considered the phenomenon of a mass of individualities, we are impelled, thus, to focus our attention and intentions on the role of the sovereign individual intellect as a participant in the process of influencing, and being influenced by the massed process itself.

Man is not an intruder into the domain of Earth otherwise; rather, the extension of man's development subsumes the development of our planet, and, ultimately, the Solar system, and beyond, as well.

The effect of this change in adduced viewpoint, is most conveniently typified by the concluding para-

graphs of Percy Bysshe Shelley's **A Defence of Poetry**, as also by Rosa Luxemburg's conception of "the mass strike" as a matter of Leibnizian dynamics: an emphasis which is now expressed by the currently accelerating rate of transformation of the behavior of the mass of the citizens of the U.S.A., in opposition to both the President and most members of the U.S. Congress, presently.

Essentially, the apparent change currently in progress among us, is, that, as Shelley emphasized in the concluding paragraphs of his **A Defence of Poetry**, requires that we consider, that in the individual's making an essentially individual decision for action, the individual should act upon the shaping of the disposition for action among a mass within the population. Thereafter, while that situation persists, the individual's influence is expressed chiefly as acting on the mass of which he or she is a functional part at that moment, a reciprocal kind of effect among individual will and mass social dynamics, which, in turn, shapes the individual's and the group's shared disposition for a choice of form of action. In a word from physical science, *dynamics*.

Thus in all the relevant aspects of human existence as known thus far, it is the act of revolution in the quality of human thought which prompts a change in the massed standpoint of a relevant individual's options for proposed action, which largely determines, for better, or for worse, the options for the great changes in direction of entire classes of persons in society at each time.

The most instructive expression of this is to be recognized in the best intervals from ancient or modern physical science, when *dynamics*, otherwise known by the ancient name of *dynamis*, shaped the leading movements in ancient physical science, as prior to the culturally catastrophic Peloponnesian War.

This concept of *dynamis/dynamics*, is inseparable from the phenomenon of a social process in which universal physical principles, or the like, exert what appears to be a top-down direction of the unfolding of progress respecting both ideas and actions within the relevant society, or social processes as such. Regard for the relevant effect does appear in social processes organized according to such cases as the modern empiricist cultures, such as those of Britain and the Netherlands under the influence of Sarpi-ism, but there is no moral or comparable principle, other than a kind of bestial passion involved in this in those cases of today's stubbornly reductionist dogma.



EIRNS

Shifts in dynamics, such as that reflected in the mass strike upsurge in the United States in August 2009, reflect the principle outlined by Percy Shelley in his "In Defence of Poetry." Here, an anti-Obamacare rally, March 16, 2010, in Chicago, Illinois.

Probably, in future times, more or less nearby, society will have a more active, better sense of these matters, than today. The likely cause for that improvement in the potential for scientific understanding of the universe we inhabit, will come when our scientific communities cease blocking out attention to the role of cosmic radiation, especially so-called low-intensity such radiation, especially upon living processes, prompting scientific practice to abandon the crude reductionism of a simply particle-based image of the universe, and of the reading of the periodic table, for emphasis on singularities, especially the role of living processes, and of the functions of the human mind most emphatically.

It is most provocative to consider the physical-economic fact, that ancient maritime-based cultures, such as those expressed in the form of the great Pyramid of Egypt, reflect the development of both maritime and the recent six- or seven-thousand years' development of riparian cultures under the superior influence of the effects of the role of trans-oceanic maritime cultures during the period inclusive of the last great "ice age" and the rising of oceanic and related levels to those of about 4,000-2,000 B.C.

IV. Creativity & Spirituality

No known species of living creature, other than mankind, embodies the power of actual creativity. When the implications of this are understood, what may be rightly termed spirituality and creativity are essentially identical forms, ontologically. The appropriate forms of sane religious beliefs, are an expression of the apprehension of the sense that it is this creativity, as a distinction of the human species, which imparts to mankind the potential for an implicitly immortal role within the universe, beyond the bounds of an animal-like incarnation.

This distinction is that of the quality of the principle of specifically human creativity whose existence is denied by both Aristotle and the followers of Paolo Sarpi.

The power of human creativity is expressed, typically, by those discoveries of universal physical principles which continue to be, specifically, efficiently creative in their immortal form, long after the discoverer is deceased.

Thus, there is an expression of human individual creativity which continues to express that creative power long after the author is deceased, an immortal existence of that power within the universe, a power which lives on long after the human brain to which it might be thought the relevant individual brain is no more, and continues to exist, for us, in our universe, as long as the mankind which possesses that discovery continues to exist.

Then, the sense that we, in this way, partake of the nature of the Creator, as we might adduce such an intention from the first chapter of the Mosaic **Genesis**, prompts us to locate our personal identity in our sense of an ontological likeness to, and affinity with the Creator, which, in turn, is the legitimate expression of a form of religious belief congruent with the notion of true universal creativity.

This creative action, turns on a light, suddenly, in the mind, which unleashes a sensation of a sudden surge of a likeness of warmth in the discoverer, which, once unleashed within society, exists as if it had “infected” persons other than the original human discoverer, even long after the original discoverer were deceased, as my own youthful experience with examples of the experiencing of the creativity of such as Gottfried Leibniz, or Bernhard Riemann, attests to this in a particularly outstanding way in my own experience.

However, that does not fill out the picture.

For as long as we believe that our merely sense-perceptual notion of self must dominate our notion of a so-called “practical” form of personal identity, the sense of a creative potency existing within us, is associated with a “feeling of something unreal,” and always tending to slip from the grasp of our mind, and, yet, sometimes, expresses a more or less compelling sense of “the religious feeling.”

Yet, it is not merely a “feeling.” It is only when we see our sense-perceptual powers as “necessary, although unreal,” as in a scientific manner, that we are enabled to begin to associate the sense of an “I-ness” with the higher, creative, and implicitly immortal powers of the individual human mind, as distinct from the mere notion of a “brain.” It is the prescience of a successful discovery of a universal principle, rather than a merely wishful impulse, which presents society with a creative insight through the role of what are usually very much exceptional individuals.

It is in such moments, when this occurs, that the



The power of individual human creativity lives on long after the human brain has died, thus expressing the participation of the individual in the nature of the Creator. Leonardo DaVinci's self-portrait is one of many Classical artistic expressions of such a sense of identity.

effect is of “a light turned on in what had been a darkened mind,” not a fantasy but an insight into what is not merely feasible, but a necessity.

Such is the celebrated “intimation of immortality,” a discovery which, once unleashed, retains the power to inspire, again and again, thereafter.

The only valid remedies for such a sense of uncertainty respecting what passes for the “spiritual” aspect of personal identity, are those made accessible through recognizing the function of the human individual's actual creative powers, or, simply, the capacity to act for the sake of a quality of “lovingness” toward other human individuals. Even the sense of companionship with, and responsibility for a pet dog, as an extension of the principle of loving regard for one's children, serves this purpose with a certain more or less profound sort of

fair approximation of the religious motivation, the simple joy of being alive.

Such are the experiences of an intimation of immortality.

It is this experience, which has the quality of an expression of a sense of quiet joy, which we not merely sense, but know, when it is accompanied by the manifestation of a power of discovery of a principled form of notion of creativity which seizes our will with both the power of a fresh discovery, as something which is inherently good because it is a true discovery.

More will be said on these subjects, as the work “in the basement” and in related endeavors from sundry contributors from around the world produce their effects.

World Food Shortage, A British Policy Success

by Marcia Merry Baker

April 10—At this time of Spring planting in the Northern Hemisphere (and near-harvest in the Southern), a snapshot picture of world agriculture shows a fast-worsening loss of farm capacity, and increase in food scarcity. This is the result *not* of failed policies or “adverse nature,” but is, in fact, *a British policy success*.

There are over 1.02 billion people going hungry. *Farm capacity and production are declining*. The 2010 prospective crop plantings and anticipated harvests are way below requirements, yet projects are underway that are known in advance to make the situation worse, e.g. 30% of the U.S. corn crop is going to biofuels; international neo-plantations, for export only, are spreading. Meantime, desperately needed water-supply projects and related infrastructure are blocked.

Why? Because scarcity and national breakdown are the goals behind the last 50 years of globalization of agriculture. Today’s crises are not failures from wrong-headedness. They mark the successful imposition of deliberate British neo-imperial policies against nation-states, policies which have wiped out the most basic condition for national survival: food self-sufficiency. The mechanisms in this subversion are familiar: WTO (World Trade Organization) “free trade” and “global sourcing” of food; mega-commodity cartels; hoaxes about global warming, the environment, and conse-

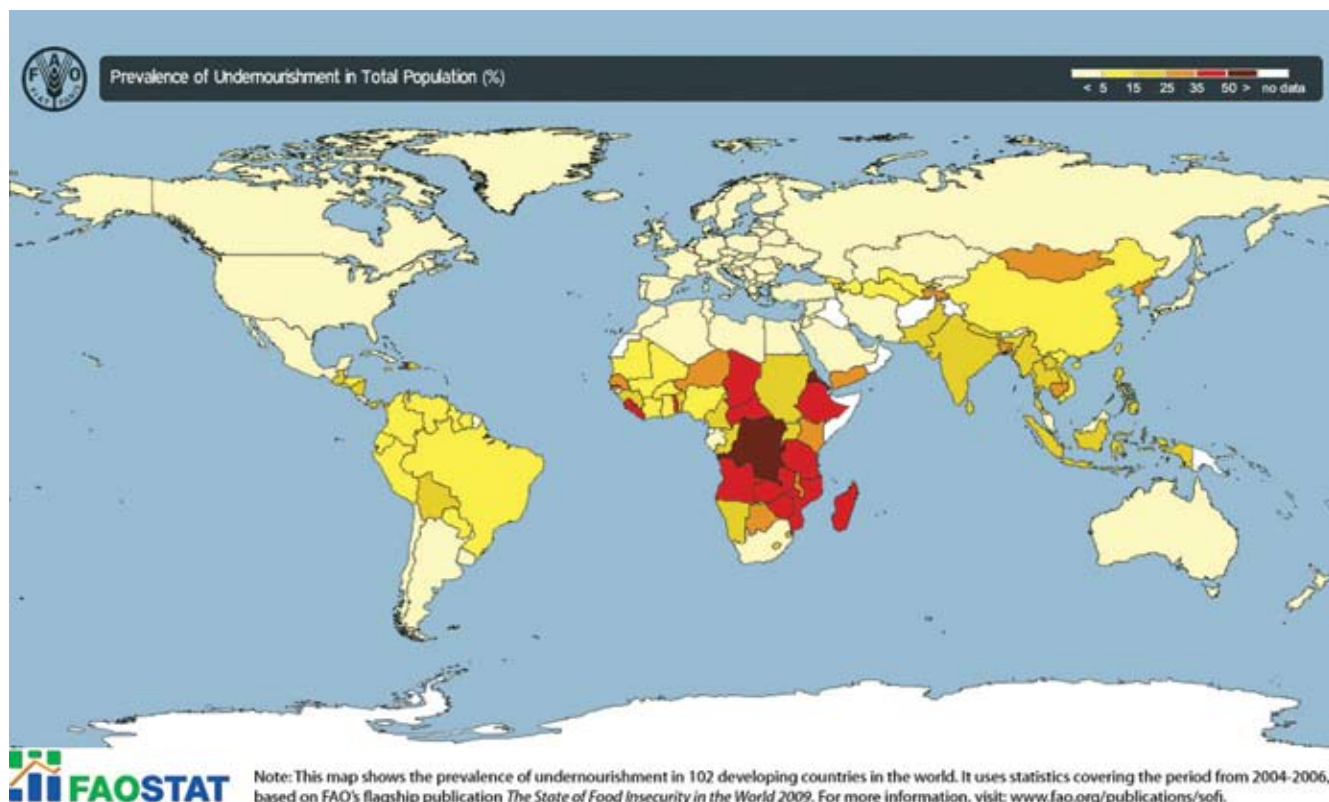
quent demand for biofuels; and the extension of so-called intellectual property rights to private patent-control over food seeds and improvement-technologies themselves.

A Depopulation Agenda

Behind all this stand the London-centered financial interests, backing destruction of national economies, and depopulation. Break with these policies, destroy their control, and all can be fed. Continue these policies, and biological holocaust is ensured. There is no leeway at this point for nicey appeals to “defeat hunger by 2050,” or for scheming to produce food on the sidelines of the WTO world. The WTO itself, the thinking behind it, and all the practices associated with it, must end.

This is the import of Lyndon LaRouche drive for the four world powers—China, India, Russia, and the United States—to break with the failed world monetarist system, and implement a new credit system that will launch agro-industrial and infrastructure projects to rebuild national economies.

In direct opposition to this, a slew of policy statements has issued forth from London circles over the last 20 months, during the tumult of the financial blowout and food crisis. They are all demanding a continuation of the policies that created the world crisis. Typical is a review by ten British authors, including from the U.K.



Office of Science, in *Science* magazine, “Food Security: The Challenge of Feeding 9 Billion People” (Feb. 12, 2010). They conclude: “Any optimism [for “sustainably feeding 9 billion people”] must be tempered by the enormous challenges of making food production sustainable while controlling greenhouse gas emission and conserving dwindling water supplies, as well as meeting the Millennium Development Goal of ending hunger...” blah, blah.

In fact, such “tempering” ensures that the world population cannot be fed, because it rules out the very infrastructural and technological advances that human survival depends upon. The focus on feeding “9 billion people by 2050” has become the sick theme phrase for demanding still more globalization, and opposing moves *to change the system now*.

The following is a snapshot of the scope of the current crisis, and documentation of the British pedigree behind what constitutes a world famine policy.

2010 Food Shortages Worsen

A few crop updates, and associated patterns of agriculture degradation, give a picture of the food supply

and farm capacity crisis generally.

The total world production of grains this current crop year of 2009-10, is projected to be 2.218 billion metric tons, which is below the 2007-08 output of 2.223 billion, and well below last year’s 2.235 billion (2008-09). (Data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, *World Agriculture Supply and Demand Estimates*, March 2010.)

This year’s output of rice, the staple for billions, is projected to be 440 million metric tons, down 7.2 mmt from last year.

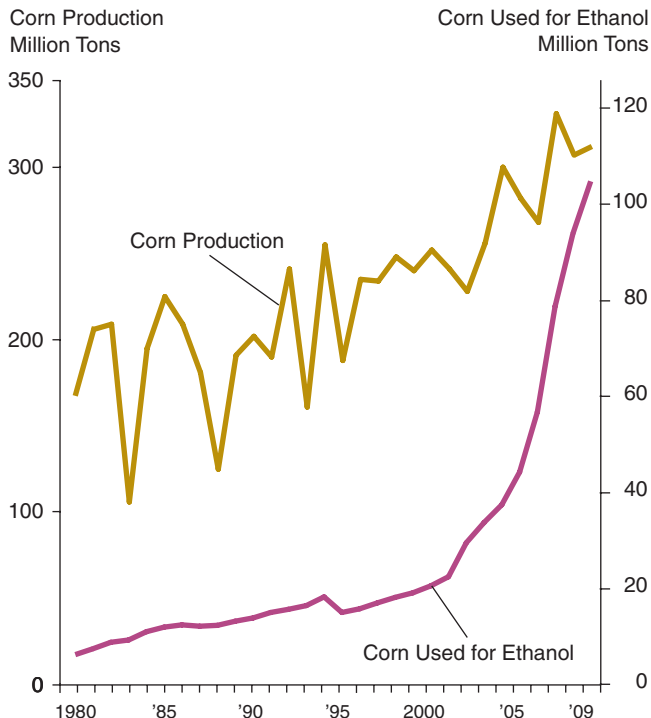
The rough estimate is that for today’s 6.8 billion population, some 4 billion tons of annual grain output is the level required for adequate diets, in the form of direct cereals consumption, cultural preferences for animal protein, and for reserves.

Even worse than the underproduction of grains itself, more and more of the world’s grain and oil-seed crops are going into biofuels. In the United States, which alone accounts for 40% of world corn (maize) production, 34% of the entire 2009 corn crop went for fuel ethanol! This year is running at the same pace.

FIGURE 1

Diversion of U.S. Corn Production for Ethanol Grows Far Faster than Harvest Volumes, 1980-2009

(Million Tons)

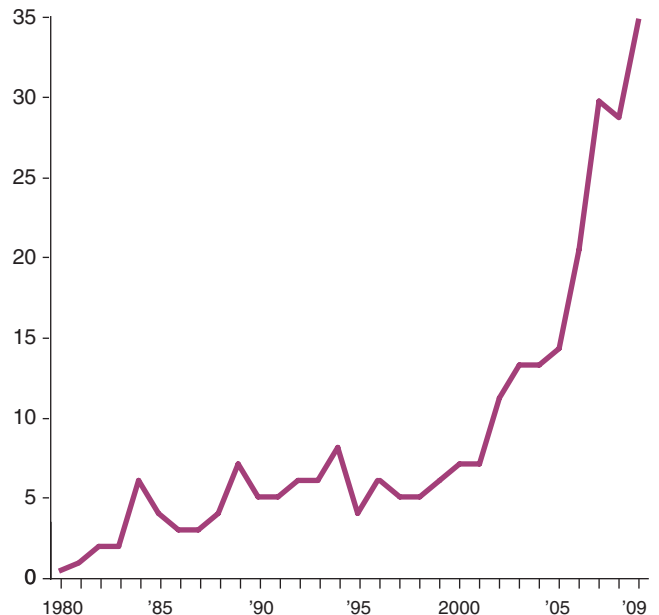


Source: Compilation from U.S. Department of Agriculture

FIGURE 2

U.S. Corn Production Used for Fuel Ethanol Increases to 34%, 1980 to 2009

Percent*



* The percentage is taken to be that of the current year's volume of corn going into ethanol, as a share of the previous year's harvest.

Source: Compilation from U.S. Department of Agriculture

As shown in **Figures 1 and 2**, less than 1% of the U.S. corn harvest went for fuel ethanol in the early 1980s. At that time, the shift to biofuels was not yet a “policy,” but a subsidy to the processors—Cargill and ADM—for what was termed innovation in the “industrial, non-food uses” of corn, and a foot-in-the-door for the insane policy shift that was to come under the G.W. Bush Administration, when Federal mandates for fuel from food-biomass were decreed. Today, there are 12 billion gallons of blended biofuels (mostly corn ethanol) consumed yearly in the U.S., and President Obama’s Biofuels Interagency Working Group is intent on upping this to 15 billion by 2015, and 36 billion gal/yr by 2022 (including visions of 16 billion of that to come from cellulosic ethanol), as mandated by the crazed 2007 renewable fuels law.

That’s food out of people’s mouths. By simple math, over 300 million people could have been fed for a year by the 2009 flow of 107 million tons of U.S. corn that

went to ethanol. American corn farmers—who have gone along with the policy, in hopes of surviving a few more years—are quick to point out caveats. The corn in question is “field corn,” i.e., livestock-grade, and would have to be intensively processed for meal for humans. And the corn ethanol by-product, dried distillers grains (DDG), is fed to cattle, and as of 2008, has even become a new U.S. export commodity. But these points only underscore the deeper principle involved.

The imposition of the system of biofuels, is *undermining the capacity* of the U.S. farmbelt, and agriculture everywhere. In the traditional U.S. cornbelt now, instead of high-tech farmers, populous towns, industry, and regional food production (milk, orchards, diversified crops, meat animals), the pattern is monoculture, imported food, ghost towns, and decay throughout Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, and the rest.

Besides grain crops, animal protein output is level or falling on a world scale. In the United States, the numbers of cattle, hogs, and chickens have fallen 3% below last year this time.

Worldwide, milk production for 2009-10 is projected, at best, to remain at the levels of the year before, around 700 million tons, whereas, rapid growth is needed.

Dominating and enforcing these patterns is an interlock of commodity cartels of mega-companies in fertilizers, agro-chemicals, seeds, processing and distribution, integrated in policy with the WTO, World Bank, and IMF, and private, London-centered financial networks.

The dairy cartel is especially emblematic of the pattern of the globalization of what, instead, should be nation- and region-serving farming and food processing, since milk is a perishable product, and tastes for processed dairy foods vary locally (butter, cheese, yogurt, etc). Nevertheless, a very few mega-firms, under the WTO system, now dominate dairy foods internationally: Nestlé (headquartered in Switzerland), Danone (France), Dean Foods (U.S.A.), Lactalis (France), Kraft Foods (U.S.A.), Unilever (U.K. and the Netherlands), Fonterra (New Zealand).

Lactalis operates in 150 countries, with 16,500 workers outside France, at 44 worksites. The British Commonwealth firm Fonterra, headquartered in Auckland, accounts for 30% of the world's dairy exports. Recently it established an electronic auction, globalDairy-Trade, for dairy commodities, including anhydrous milk fat.

The world grain trade is dominated by Cargill, ADM, Bunge, Dreyfus, and very few others. In world meats, the mega-processor JBS, based in Brazil, has arisen to top rank..

There is tight control over seeds and high-yield traits. The top ten world seed companies account for over 60% of all world sales, with the top three—Monsanto, DuPont, and Syngenta—accounting for half of all sales of proprietary (patented) seeds. Monsanto alone accounts for 60% of the corn and soybean seed market in the U.S., through direct sales, and trait-licensing agreements. Monsanto's patented biotech traits are in 90% of U.S. soybeans, and 80% of U.S. corn.

U.S. farmers have seen a 64% rise in seed prices in the past three years, directly to this cartel.

Double Food Production

To reverse the food supply and agriculture collapse, the physical economic emergency measures are straightforward. Within a few years, production levels could be doubled, and then increased steadily for future genera-



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

This Rondelé product is one of many brands put out in the U.S. by France-based Groupe Lactalis, one of world's largest dairy cartel firms. The cartel mode of operation includes trade in constituents of milk (anhydrous milk fat, milk protein concentrates, etc.) and re-blending (often with non-milk substances). The Rondelé "cheese" shown, includes whey protein concentrate, and locust bean and guar gums.

tions. Consider the actions necessary, under three broad headings.

1. Build Infrastructure. On every continent, there are large-scale infrastructures—especially water, but also transportation, power, and storage facilities—that must proceed, to create the environment for raised and constantly intensifying levels of farming.

Depletion and salination of fresh water is now beyond the danger point in almost every farming region, not due to "natural" doom, but from the lack of infrastructure building and maintenance over the last 60 years. In many cases, detailed plans were already worked out, but shelved during the shift-period of the 1970s, into what became the WTO-era of cheap-labor, below-cost outsourcing.

The kinds of geo-engineering for increasing water supply are indicated by Mexico's PHLINO (Hydraulic Project for the Northwest) proposal, ready to go since the 1960s. It would divert surplus run-off from the southwestern slopes of the Sierra Madre, to the water-short Northwest, for a vast increase in farm output. Farther north, the NAWAPA (North American Water and Power Alliance) has long been proposed to divert southward part of the run-off from the Alaska and MacKenzie River run-off, through Canada, and into the U.S. Great American Desert.

In Africa, there are long-standing projects on the drawing boards, including to divert part of the tributary

flow from the Congo Basin, northward to the arid Chad Basin, and dry Sahel.

In Asia, only last month, the proposal was made to develop the Central Brahmaputra River Basin. Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued the call, especially to India and China, for flood control, agriculture, power, and other programs, to the mutual benefit of the five nations sharing the Basin.

The other source of enhancing the natural resource base by man-made intervention, is that of nuclear-powered desalination. Coastal nuplexes for water and power are in order as fast as possible in multiple sites, from North Africa and Southwestern Asia, to Australia, to the dry or water-short littorals in the Americas—California, the Florida peninsula, Chile, the Caribbean island nations, and many other locations.

But foremost of all infrastructure is nuclear power itself—necessary for transportation, energy inputs into advanced agriculture, and the advancement of science. Take just one obvious example of what plentiful power means: the reopening of the Arctic Frontier for agriculture, for the eight countries of the Far North. Besides special agronomy for new arable lands during the “24-hour daytime” of Summer, inexpensive, ample energy allows for soilless agriculture, whether night or day, in any challenging climate, anywhere.

The resurgence of nuclear energy for power generation in a large section of the world today—China, India, South Korea, Russia—provides an opportunity for these countries to use natural gas for fertilizer production, and not divert it for power generation. Power, water, fertilizer, and seeds, guided by dedicated agronomists, lay the foundation for food production. On this issue, the train is now arriving at the station. We all must get aboard now.

Resuming space exploration is essential. Pursuing the R&D to produce food in space, opens vast possibilities on Earth. Look ahead to hydroponic “family farms” in water-short northern China.

2. Restore Bio-Science for the Public Good. A vast potential exists for increasing yields in crop and livestock production through R&D in bio-science—not simply genetics, but investigation into basics of photosynthesis and photomorphogenesis. In recent decades, there have been bio-engineered genetic improvements in many crops, and gains in conventional hybridization; but the privatized controls, and reductionism in research that have come to dominate the entire field, must be re-

placed by science for the public good. There must be an anti-trust bust-up of the seed and agro-chemical control by the Big Agro-Pharma cartel, and restoration of research, education, and production facilities in separate and regional groups of nations, serving the public interest of all.

Today’s cartels have no right—historically, morally, or economically—to hold power over the means to life. This was arrogated only over the last 40 years of GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) and the WTO. A short recap of the history is useful.

The 1800s saw great advances in the understanding of micro-level plant genetics, bacteria, and related processes, by Louis Pasteur, Gregor Mendel (1822-84), and others. Even before that, there were key contributions by those of the Leibniz faction, including Carl Linnaeus, and in colonial Pennsylvania, James Logan (1674-1751) and others.

A marker of advance in the 20th Century, was the work by Henry Wallace in Iowa, to master producing and selling mass-scale hybridized seeds and poultry; in 1926, he established his commercial operation, Hi-Bred Corn Co., in Des Moines. By 1940, fully 90% of all corn seed in the U.S. was hybridized. Wallace backed the principle of R&D, as a three-term Agriculture Secretary (following on his father’s term in the same office), putting out a landmark edition of the USDA Yearbook in 1936, featuring chemist Dmitri Mendelyev, and dedicated to, “the creative development of new forms of life through plant and animal breeding.” In the U.S., for example, corn yields per acre rose from an average 29 bushels per acre in 1900, to 165 today.

Wallace, while Vice President under Franklin Delano Roosevelt, also promoted agriculture development as foreign policy. He initiated what became the International Center for Wheat and Corn Research (CIMMYT) research in Mexico City, where the Green Revolution of new “miracle” corn and wheat seeds originated. By means of collaboration between the governments of Mexico and the new nation of India—always food short under British rule—India became grain self-sufficient as of 1974.

Thus, the advances in science, agriculture, and the public good, are directly associated with nation-states. All that changed with the 1970s shift to post-industrialism and globalization.

A series of U.S. law changes, court decisions, and non-enforcement of anti-trust law by the Justice Department overturned the standing principle in the United

States, against using industrial patent law for food seeds and methods. This change allowed the wrongful takeover of genetically altered food seeds, bio-engineering methods, and the direction of research, by a financial network operating through agro-chemical and pharmaceutical multinational companies. They claimed patent rights, enforcement, and sweeping control. In brief:

- In 1970, the Plant Variety Protection Act (PCPA) was enacted in the U.S., which specifically counteracted the 1930 Plant Patent Act (PPA), which, though it gave some protection to the breeders of new flower and ornamental types of plants, specifically prohibited the patenting of any food crop plants, in recognition that these patents could threaten the food supply. The 1970 PVPA, for the first time, gave protection for 25 years to developers of specific varieties of crop seeds.

- In 1980, the U.S. Supreme Court made a landmark decision (*Diamond v. Chakrabarty*), that living organisms could be patented. The decision allowed the patenting of genetically engineered microbes, which opened the door to the patenting of any life form.

- In 1985, the U.S. Patent Office ruled that plants could be protected under the powerful industrial patent.

- In 1994, the PVPA of 1970 was amended in accordance with the GATT regulations, to make it illegal for U.S. farmers to resell or exchange seed of patent-protected crop, cotton, or any future varieties. The GATT agreement was further extended to force developing nations to do likewise, and to pay stiff licence fees for the use of seeds patented by corporations in fellow GATT member-nations. This was further extended under the WTO.

All along, the consolidation of companies concentrated control over staple crop seeds and bio-technology in the hands of a very few cartel firms. True, many of the seed varieties perform excellently (to resist insects, survive drought, and other desirable traits), when grown for where they were custom-bred. But that is not the point.

The patent-holders have relentlessly sued and ruined farmers for claims of infringement of license-to-use the seeds, including just the presence of seed genetic material in farm fields, or charges of holding over seeds from one year to the next. In North America, Monsanto has a record of hundreds of lawsuits. Cargill, Monsanto, and others have laid siege to national governments, in an attempt to coerce them to force their farmers into compliance. In India now, for example, a Monsanto-related

firm is demanding licensing rights to their bio-tech okra, no matter what the opposition by the government or population.

As a cynical counterpoint to this, the same financial circles backing cartel control over food, have also sponsored the “organic,” chemical-free, and GMO-free foods movements, just to sow superstition and mis-blame among a confused public.

All this must be rolled back.

3. Restore Nations; Kill the WTO. Finally, the entire apparatus of globalism, beginning with the World Trade Organization, should be obliterated. This includes the range of globalist networks, from the IMF and so-called “independent” central banks (outside the control of national governments), such as the Federal Reserve Bank of the United States, right on through to the upstart entities, such as the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), attempting to thwart development in the national interest.

One central tenet of the WTO-era must be singled out for elimination: the decree that no nation has the right to seek food self-sufficiency, but instead, must operate on the definition of “food security” as “access to world markets.” This assertion was, from its inception in the GATT Uruguay Round (1984-94), just a sophisticated cover for an attack on national sovereignty. The founding rules of the WTO rationalized its claim that member-nations have no right to support their own farmers, because that would be “depriving their citizenry” of the superior right to access world markets for potentially cheaper and better food. Behind this and other sophistries stand the same Anglo-imperial money crowd positioned in the globalist banking and commodities cartels.

The record of destruction is awful. Look at the case of Mexico. As of the 1960s, Mexico was a net food exporter, with water-management projects planned, a program for nuclear power development, and a growing industrial base. All this was undermined, under the 1980s onslaught for free trade, then the 1992 NAFTA (North American Free Trade Alliance), and finally the 1995 WTO. Mexico was ordered to become corn and beans import-dependent, all the while, serving as a cheap-labor outsourcing zone for cartel exports of frozen foods and fresh produce for the U.S. market. Now, hunger stalks Mexico. Millions fled looking for work. And drug-running and death are displacing the farming that remains.

This is the successful result of the British free-trade agriculture program.

There are two principal areas of required, immediate action: Restore national sovereignty over currencies, trade, debt, and the right to build and protect all aspects of national economy, especially farming and food supply. In tandem, exert the right of sovereignty against the anti-nation-state assault underway from supranational agencies peddling the global warming hoax.

The continuing failure of the WTO Doha Round (begun in 2001) for yet more agriculture free trade, is an indication of the repugnance felt for the concept. The WTO meets the definition of a true zombie—dead, but still walking. What remains is to kill it off once and for all.

Likewise, the IPCC. A stream of evidence is pouring forth to document, for those still needing proof, that the entire assertion of global warming was a geopolitical hoax, to further globalization, and depopulation.

Fraudulent Slogan: ‘Feed 9 Billion’

In defense of globalization, London-centered financial operations are conducting an elaborate pseudo-support campaign in the name of feeding the hungry, which most commonly goes under a cynical banner of calling for food security for 9 billion people by 2050.

Besides crocodile tears—or even genuine sorrow from some of the unthinking advocates—the core demands are exactly the opposite of the three action categories outlined above. In other words, this hoax campaign opposes restoring nations and building agriculture. Namely:

1. Don’t build large-scale water, nuclear power, or any kind of modern infrastructure. Instead, assert that resources are fixed; scarce water can only be shared, conserved, and used in “smart” farming. This is rationalized as the only way to have “sustainable” agriculture.

Accept the global warming hoax. Go for only “green and alternative” power, such as windmills and biofuels, to reduce greenhouse gases. Engage in extended debates about the merits and demerits of food-biomass vs. non-food biofuels (jatropha, future cellulosic); but whatever you do, don’t go for nuclear power, nor electrified transportation, nor modern infrastructure.

Finally, and most of all, don’t expand population. Cut population down, under the ruse of downsizing to match dwindling natural resources.

2. Don’t seek to have public-interest science for

crop genetics or medicine, and certainly not basic research. Leave it to the cartels, to own, control, and decide. There are two ways of remaining compliant: Either oppose the bio-tech science itself, and fall in line with the cartel-backed movements for “pure,” organic, chemical-free, free-range livestock, etc. Or call for the extension of GMO high-yield seed stocks to more farmers in poor lands, but all the while leaving the patent-rights and controls intact with the genetics cartel now dominating the food chain. This latter is the favored choice of many who are now calling for a “Second Green Revolution,” but, minus the nation-state system of the first!

3. Expand free trade to the limit. End all national barriers to the cartels. Allow food from poor countries, especially from public/private projects run by the cartels, duty-free entry anywhere in the “developed” world. Serve the globalist cartels now dominating the food chain to the hilt. The watchword can be, “fair” trade under a new Doha Round. Retain floating currencies. Bring on the financial crash.

The kick-off for these policies, as a “feed the hungry” mobilization, came from UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Spring 2008, in the midst of the worldwide food riots crisis, which began with the crack-up of the global monetary system beginning in the Summer of 2007. In April 2008, Ban established a High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security, headed by British foreign office careerist Sir John Holmes (later headed by another British diplomat, Dr. David Nabarro). In June, FAO Director Jacques Diouf, at the Rome Food Summit, called for doubling world food production—but by 2050.

Ban and Diouf repeatedly struck the theme in follow-on meetings in New York, in July 2008, and Madrid, in January 2009. Diouf used the exact British imperial script in a letter of congratulations to Barack Obama, on winning the U.S. Presidential election in November 2008. Calling for a 2009 food summit, Diouf said, “The summit must find \$30 billion per year to develop rural infrastructures and increase agricultural productivity in the developing world, particularly in low-income food-deficit countries, with a view to doubling production to ensure food security for a world population expected to reach 9 billion by 2050...” When the summit did occur in Rome, in November 2009, Diouf changed the goal to increasing food production by 70% by 2050. But it doesn’t matter. The goal



(D-Penn.). Titled, “Global Food Security Act of 2009” (S.B. 384), it now has 14 sponsors. The bill calls for more aid to agriculture around the world, but retains all the Made-in-London demands for free trade, private “intellectual property rights” for cartels, etc. The special humanitarian-sounding twist, is to speak of providing help to the 200 million “smallholder” farmers of the world.

In the front ranks of this fake fight-hunger mobilization of globalizers, is the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and associates. In 2006, this foundation, along with the

is a cover-story slogan for keeping the free trade/famine policy intact.

Made in London

In tandem with the UN, reports and articles have come from Britain directly, over the 2008-09 period, issuing commands on how the present system must be retained. For example, on Nov. 2-3, 2009 in London, this command was featured at a conference held by Chatham House (the Royal Institute of International Affairs), titled, “Food Security 2009—Achieving Long-term Solutions.” The panel topics illustrate the globalization focus: “What More Is Needed To Ensure ... the Proper Functioning of Global Food Markets?,” and “How Can the Benefits of International Investment in Land Be Maximized and the Risks Controlled?” The overseas “land” issue refers to the neo-plantation movement for establishing huge for-export farm operations in desperate, food-short nations in Africa and Asia, to provide food supplies to the Persian Gulf states, Britain, and elsewhere.

To help shop these views into the United States, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs was enlisted to issue a report in 2009—funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation—formulating London’s approved themes for incorporation into legislation. A draft U.S. law was introduced by Sens. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) and Robert Casey

Rockefeller Foundation, had already set up the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), to promote selected policies in the name of addressing hunger, but in free-trade terms. This was a message Gates gave at the January 2009 Davos Forum. In May 2009, Bill Gates met in New York City with Warren Buffett, George Soros, and others, to discuss significant world depopulation as a goal.

In the Fall last year, Gates issued a book on agriculture success stories (*Millions Fed: Proven Successes in Agriculture Development*), from his depopulation vantage point of calling for a Second Green Revolution amidst the globalized world. Gates gave the keynote for the World Food Prize in Des Moines, Iowa in October, on the same perspective.

By this time, new appointments in the Obama Administration were made in accordance with the London-serving outlook and networks. An eight-year Gates Foundation personage, Dr. Rajiv Shah, was made Chief Science Advisor to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in June 2009; then Shah was moved by Obama in October, to head the State Department’s U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Obama then announced that Dr. Roger Beachey, directly associated with Monsanto, would be the new Science Advisor to the USDA. Beachey, a plant geneticist, came from being director of the Donald Danforth Plant Science

Center in St. Louis, Mo., Monsanto's headquarters, which he founded in 1998 with Monsanto Foundation funding. Monsanto President and CEO Hugh Grant is on the board of trustees.

By the time of the Agriculture Department's 86th Annual Outlook Conference in late February this year, the engagement of the United States into the British scheme of talking "hunger," while serving the cartels, was in full operation. Earlier in February, the lobbying association of the seed cartels held a Washington, D.C.-based webcast event, under the title, "Now Serving 9 Billion: Global Dialogue on Meeting Food Needs for the Next Generation." The sponsor was CropLife America, a lobbying firm which counts among its 60 members, Monsanto Company, BayerCrop Science, Syngenta, Dow/Pioneer, and the other owners of 90% of the world's genetically modified seeds and techniques. One of the official questions addressed at the webcast was, "How will we feed 2.5 billion more people by 2050?" The answers included limiting the "water footprint" of agriculture, etc. The speakers included Dr. Nina Fedoroff, Science and Technology Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of State and to the AID Administrator.

Fedoroff wrote an article for the Feb. 12, 2010 *Science* magazine, "Radically Rethinking Agriculture for the 21st Century," along with co-authors including Dr. Beachey, and another Monsanto scientist, D.A. Fischhoff. This was part of a *Science* feature on "Food Security: The Challenge of Feeding 9 Billion People," co-authored by two officials of the British Government Office of Science.

Not surprisingly, at the Plenary Panel of the Feb. 18 USDA Annual Outlook Forum, this British stance was strongly affirmed, in a presentation by Dr. Fedoroff, titled "Rethinking Agriculture in a Warming Climate." To feed more people in the future, she said, under conditions of land and water and climate constraints, there must be a new worldwide "regulatory framework" to give even more power to the private GM seed patent-holders.

When this author challenged Fedoroff, on the point that patenting of food genetics—a hallmark of globalization—was always against the American System, explicitly opposed by the FDR Administration's Agriculture Secretary Henry Wallace, and should be rolled back now, Fedoroff replied with a defense of the cartels. She said that the issue is their "intellectual property protection." She said sternly that no roll-back of privatized patenting is going to happen. "The train has

left the station."

The exchange included the further point, by this author, that in the midst of today's economic breakdown, there is potential for turnaround to rebuild national economies through the right emergency measures. Specifically, look at the surge of commitment to nuclear power in Asia—in Russia, China, India, and others. This "going nuclear" marks a policy shift potential, in which we must unleash real scientific research, promote vast agriculture expansion, and end the wrongful free-trade practices of the last 40 years, including private patenting of food genetics. There must be science for the public sector.

In reply, Fedoroff made reference to the infamous 1970 U.S. Plant Variety Protection Act, saying that, for the first time ever, this law allowed "patenting of life forms," in terms of modification of bacteria and food. She said that "we would lose more than we would gain," by returning to "public sector" rights. Fedoroff said that she was in India the week before, where "they are ambivalent" on the matter of GM seed rights, because of their history of public-sector involvement. (In fact, it was India's public-sector implementation of the Green Revolution that allowed the nation to become food self-sufficient in 1974.) But, Fedoroff insisted, there is no doubt that a nation should *not* revert to the "public sector," because, she declared, it is "inefficient."

Genocide

The definition of genocide, is action to exterminate a group of people deliberately. That applies equally to those who devise and implement policies with the stroke of a pen, as well as those who carry out bloody slaughter with their own hands.

British imperialists have always preferred the former method, wishing to let others get their hands dirty, while they sit back and reap the advantage. This has emphatically been the case with food policy, which has increasingly been administered by faceless bureaucrats and cartels, not the British in their own name. By this method, mankind has already reached the point where it is producing less than is required for its survival, and that of the next generations. Indeed, we are on the edge of collapse into a New Dark Age—genocide worse than mankind has ever experienced before.

If mankind wakes up and rejects British policy, and chief British puppet Obama, however, this horror can still be stopped.

Europe's Milk Crisis: If Required, We Will Toughen Our Fight

Erwin Schöpges is the president of the Belgian dairy farmer organization, Milch Interessengemeinschaft Gruppe (MIG), and one of the founders of the European Milk Board (EMB). This interview was conducted on March 25, by Karel Vereycken, responsible editor of Nouvelle Solidarité, the newspaper of Solidarité & Progrès, the political party headed by LaRouche associate Jacques Cheminade, and has been made available to EIR.

NS: You and your organization, the EMB, were the key organizers of the European “milk strike” and other spectacular actions, calling public attention to the dramatic farm crisis hitting dairy farmers. What was this all about?

Schöpges: For us, the strike of 2009 followed the strike of 2008, when the German milk farmers responded to the dramatic fall of prices, which obliged them to react. Why were the prices falling? Because too much volume arrived on the market. The problem in 2008, was that the French were not participating in the movement. Now, if you want to win such a fight on a European scale, you need both Germany and France to participate, since these two countries alone represent over 50% of the EU's total milk production. But that was not easy to achieve.

In 2009, the situation was far different. I organized quite a few meetings in Brittany, in Normandy, and many other places in France to mobilize the French. In the end, it worked, and movements such as the Independent Milk Producers Association (APLI) and the Milk Producers Organization (OPL) were created. As a result, in 2009, it was the French who led the action. Given that Germany, France, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Belgium took part in the strike, one can really say it was a European strike.

In 2008, I told myself I didn't want to participate

any longer in the way the action took place then, when farmers dumped their milk on the fields, but nobody saw it. I was at home, opened the milk faucet, and tears rolled down my face. So I decided that this time, if we had to dump milk on the fields, everybody should see it! The idea came up to have a day of action in Ciney [Belgium] which became some kind of symbol of the strike. There, we dumped over 3 million liters of milk on the fields in half an hour, i.e., the equivalent of the entire daily milk production of Wallonia, [in southern Belgium]! You see, it was really a big movement.

Calls for Regulation

NS: What did you achieve with this action?

Schöpges: First, it was a great victory, because we showed an incredible solidarity among different countries. I think it is unique to create such a movement where actions take place in several countries. Then, Mme. Mariann Fischer Boel, who was the free-trade-preaching European Commissioner for Agriculture at that time, was not allowed into the new commission. We even ended up [in December 2009] having 22 of the 27 EU countries calling for a return to regulation. Now it remains to be defined what kind of regulation we're talking about...

Under the pressure of the strike, the EU also ended up giving EU280 million in aid to the dairy farmers. That looks like a hell of a lot of money. However, we calculated that for Belgium, it means you get about EU0.2 cents of aid per liter. For myself, with a farm that aims at producing 500,000 liters of milk per year, it means EU1,000. That's better than nothing, but you realize it is very little.

The other victory of the strike is the creation of the first “High-Level Group,” composed of experts of each country, which meets every two or three weeks to define the outline of the new Common Agricultural



Courtesy of Erwin Schöpges

Erwin Schöpges (second from right), shown here with French and German leaders of the milk farmers' organizations, is a leader of the dairy farmers' movement, which has organized "milk strikes" to call attention to the grave crisis that has hit Europe's dairy farmers.

Policy (CAP) of the EU as of 2013. Now the EMB is accepted as an official partner in these discussions. Before, it was only the COPA, representing the large unions, while now Via Campesina and the EMB are listened to as representatives of the milk producers.

NS: After a 20% drop in farm prices in 2008, and by 30% in 2009, and even by 50% for dairy farmers, how can they survive?

Schöpges: For the purpose of clarity, let's take my own situation. First, I produce each day about 1,000 liters of milk, which I sell at EU25 cents a liter. That gives me about EU250 per day. Doing the job requires an average of eight hours of labor. As an independent, you have to earn at least EU25 per hour (gross income). It means that from the EU250 I get from the milk industry, EU200 merely pays my working hours (8 times EU25). With the remaining EU50, I'm supposed to sustain production....

To put it differently, one could say that I work for free, since the income I get isn't even sufficient to maintain production itself! As a result, over the last 18 months, be it in France or in Belgium, dairy farmers only survive by going into debt, and by getting additional loans to pay off the previous ones. Of course, it is said that things will get better, but we're slipping increasingly into a dangerous state of dependence.

NS: For some, desperation is taking over.

Schöpges: How could it be otherwise? Producers are losing their capital; they work long hours, and are less and less able to face their financial obligations. That's a tremendous source of tension in these families. People in the profession were never really rich, but merely able to live a normal life. We never learned how to confront this new situation that drives many out of business, and even to suicide.

Cartel Land-Grabs

NS: What happens to the farmland these farmers leave behind?

Schöpges: That's a very special question about a very sensitive issue. In the dairy sector, we observe that farms, with 1,000 cows, entering bankruptcy, are quietly being taken over, in great secrecy, by corporations and banks, which aim to control agro-food production in Europe. But farmers continue to run these entities as the managers, which means it's somehow hard to document. But the process, which is somehow underground, is deadly real in Germany and Belgium.

There exists a considerable amount of interest by large financial corporations to grab farmland today. Energy is already largely in the hands of the same cartels that are taking over the farm and food sector today, and are out to take over our water resources over the next decade, both in Europe and worldwide. The control by a tiny handful of interests, over something that vital, represents a danger that one should not underestimate.

Even though it's hard to prove, we know it is taking place. I know it is dangerous to talk about it, but I think somebody should raise the issue. If some people feel unhappy about it, they always can sue me!

There is a danger that the consumer and the nation itself will become dependent. Just think about how crucial food is for all of us. Do we want to have the guarantee in the future that high-quality food will remain available in our nations, or are we ready to eat anything: cheese which is not real cheese, meat that is not meat, and bread that is no longer real bread? Already certain illnesses and cancers are on the rise as a result of lower-

quality food. Therefore, a choice has to be made: Are we ready to invest more to have quality food?

NS: How do you see the perspectives for the “new” Common Agricultural Policy [which the British threaten to scrap from the EU budget in 2013—ed.]?

Schöpges: The crucial challenge for the dairy sector is to quit a system of systematic subsidies, while, of course, for the moment, the survival of milk producers depends entirely on those subsidies. What we need is a market price that allows us to live decently, and to maintain and develop production. Producing a liter of milk for EU20 cents, and then cashing in the subsidies to survive, is not the way to go.

To leave that system, the European Milk Board developed a concept that we presented to the EU’s High-Level Group of experts, comparable to the Canadian system. We want to set up a “milk board,” somewhat like an oversight group, where producers are in charge of defining a just price covering their production costs. It is often said that such a thing is impossible, since too many differences exist among countries. I simply think that is not true, and I’m pretty convinced that among producers we can set such a just price, because production prices are, in reality, quite identical in the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, or France. So the producers must be involved.

Secondly, the authorities of different states should be part of it, to make sure we can set up the right framework to make this work.

And thirdly, the consumers themselves should also be part of it, in order to guarantee that the price decided on remains acceptable for the citizens.

These three components are essential for an effective milk board. But also important, is to maintain, not a quota system, but a right for each producer to produce on his land. If farmers lose the right to produce on their farms, their farms become worthless. If you get into a situation where 70-80% of producers don’t own the land they work on, and lose their right to produce, they can be kicked out overnight, and replaced by somebody else....

If the new CAP heads in the direction of this system, one can expect the phasing out of a subsidized agriculture system. We no longer want to be producing here in Europe the cheap products that are ruining the small producers in Africa, as is going on presently. But of course, for those people producing in dis-

advantaged regions, it’s legitimate that they should get support, because they really need it.

Time for Producers and Consumers To Meet

NS: In expectation of this new regulation, you are now launching an original initiative in Belgium?

Schöpges: The time has come when producers should meet consumers. Gone is the epoch, when we producers stayed on the farm, and after the milking, poured it into the tanks, without worrying about the rest. In Belgium, we’ve just established Fairecoop, a cooperative owned and run by milk producers, and under the label Fairebel, will launch a “fair-priced” milk. This fair-priced milk will be sold in most supermarkets throughout Belgium. Our label also requires that each producer will have to promote the product by getting directly into contact with the consumer. The latter has to understand that if he buys his milk at EU50 or 60 cents a liter, he’s ruining all of the producers in Europe.

Basic production costs alone, without the cost of labor, amount already to 35 cents a liter. So, if the consumer buys milk at the store at 50 to 60 cents, it is impossible for the farmers to survive. For each liter of fair-price milk sold, 10 cents will go into a bank account and the total earnings will be redistributed to all of those which invested in our cooperative. The issue here is to create a new solidarity among producers and consumers, which is quite a challenge. We will see how people react. Will they accept the idea of buying milk at 90 cents instead of 60?

NS: Are you planning any new operations as part of your awareness campaign?

Schöpges: For the time being, we’re watching how the situation will evolve. If prices get better, new action will not be immediately required. However, if prices drop again, and there’s no change, spectacular new actions will be rapidly launched.

I had the opportunity to talk for two hours with the new European Commissioner on Agriculture, Dacian Ciolos, and I saw quite a change of philosophy. Mme. Fischer Boel comes from Denmark, an ultra-liberal country. Ciolos comes from Romania and has contacts in France. Of course, he cannot change everything overnight, but I stay in contact with him. We’re doing the best we can to convince him that the road taken by Fischer-Boel was against family farming. However, if nothing happens, believe me, after having organized two milk strikes, new actions do not frighten me.

Greenspan Humiliated: It's a Good Start

April 9—Former Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan, now a senior economic advisor to British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, was reduced, on April 7, to defending his treasonous Fed record with the lame explanation: “Well, I was right some of the time.” Greenspan, in his appearance before the U.S. Congress’s Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission (FCIC), was sharply attacked, and his responsibility for the world economy’s debt-bubble crash exposed, by Commission member Brooksley Born, the Clinton Administration’s chair of the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). The former Fed chief also, pathetically, tried to blame Congress for all his failed economic forecasts and criminal bubble-policies, claiming he was only implementing the laws Congress passed concerning the Fed!

Born had probably been waiting 15 years for this chance. In 1995-96, Greenspan was the leader of a “Gang of 3” (with Larry Summers and Robert Rubin) who threatened and blocked Born’s effort to regulate and limit so-called financial derivatives, the quadrillion dollars worth of poison that brought on history’s worst global crash ten years later.

While the FCIC has none of the powers of a Pecora Commission, the FDR-style investigative body which Lyndon LaRouche had called for, and which paved the way for the necessary major banking reforms of President Franklin Roosevelt, Born’s prosecutorial approach echoed its spirit. LaRouche applauded Born’s efforts to take Greenspan down, as a first step. “He needs to go down,” LaRouche said.

Going for the Jugular

“You championed so-called over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives,” Born lunged, “you pressed for them not to be regulated; you championed the Financial Commodities Modernization Act of 2000; the OTC derivatives grew to nominal value of \$700 trillion by 2006. In your view, did OTC derivatives, including credit default swaps, play a role in the financial collapse?”

Greenspan had to admit they had, but, “Oh, credit default swaps [CDS] were initially a very small fraction.” Sure, CDS created big problems, said the big man, but “I wasn’t talking about CDS” in the 1990s and early 2000s. That was the period when he claimed that bank counterparties using derivatives, not government regulators, should oversee all the markets.

Born sharply corrected Greenspan with the figures: The CDS “small fraction had risen to a notional value of \$60 trillion by 2008, more than the entire world’s total GDP. Are you aware that AIG’s failure and bailout was due to its CDS exposure, causing \$180 billion cost to U.S. taxpayers?” she asked. Born added that derivatives regulation (her intention) had been blocked by “the President’s Working Group’s actions up to 2000.” Greenspan effectively ran that body.

Greenspan then descended to nonsense: “Derivatives were not a big factor in anything. With respect to AIG, it is correct that was a proximate cause. But they could have gotten in just as much trouble selling insurance”—some in the hearing room laughed at this attempt.

Born then went right for the jugular of Greenspan’s bizarre Ayn Randist ideology: “Your book identifies you as a libertarian outlier, against almost all forms of regulation; you believe government regulation of markets is unnecessary or harmful. Now you say you’ve ‘found a flaw’ in that ideology. You were Fed chairman for 18 years, ‘the most respected sage on the financial markets in the world.’ Did your ideology have an impact on oversight of markets, here, and worldwide? . . . The Fed utterly failed to prevent any of the activities which caused the collapse. You failed to prevent many of our banks from growing into gigantic institutions too big and to interconnected to fail. Didn’t the Fed fail to meet its responsibilities?”

That’s when Greenspan admitted he “allowed the entire financial system to be undercapitalized and over-leveraged” with debt. But, not *his* fault! “Everyone else in government, in the private sector, in academia,” he claimed, shared the same ideology. Greenspan concluded, addressing Born, in his only nod to the truth, “I really fundamentally disagree with your point of view.”

The next day, the once-mighty Fed chief saw himself widely ridiculed in the media. He deserves much worse.

Book Review

The Evils of Monetarism: It's 'Globalization,' Stupid!

by Harley Schlanger

Too Big To Fail: The Inside Story of How Wall Street and Washington Fought To Save the Financial System—and Themselves

by Andrew Ross Sorkin New York: Viking,
2009 539 pages, hardcover, \$32.95

On the Brink: Inside the Race To Stop the Collapse of the Global Financial System

by Henry M. Paulson, Jr. New York: Hachette
Book Group,
2010 453 pages, hardcover, \$28.99

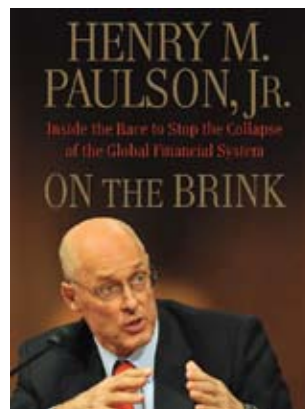
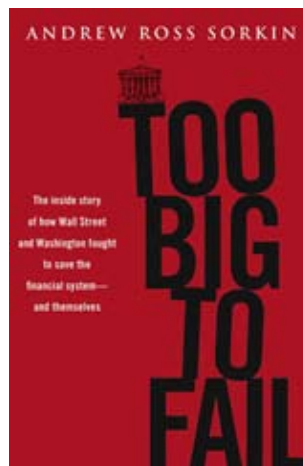
They are sticking with their story!

The swindlers and thieves among the world's leading bankers from the City of London and Wall Street, and the charlatans in university economics departments and think tanks who provide academic rationales for their corruption, insist that the post-Bretton Woods free-market system of "globalization" is just fine, thank you, and would function perfectly, if it were not for continued interference by government.

You can read their sophisticated arguments daily in the major press, and hear them spout off endlessly in the electronic media. And now, through a proliferation of books on the "greatest financial crisis since the Great Depression," we are being bombarded with their self-congratulatory paeans, as they wax on about how they have "saved civilization."

What nonsense!

As physical production continues to ratchet downwards at an accelerating rate, unemployment remains at



the highest levels in 80 years, and home and commercial foreclosure rates are skyrocketing, these self-proclaimed saviors are creating mountainous levels of debt which will never be paid off, through a continued bailout of worthless paper assets, which remain on the books of financial institutions, instead of placing those institutions into bankruptcy reorganization.

The debt, then, becomes the excuse for demanding Hitler-style fascist austerity, as in President Obama's so-called health-care bill, as human lives are being sacrificed as "useless eaters," just as they were in Nazi Ger-

many, to provide whatever minimal income stream can be squeezed out, to service the growing debt.

They Should Have Listened to LaRouche

Books such as the two which are the subject of this review, *Too Big To Fail*, by Andrew Ross Sorkin of the *New York Times*, and *On the Brink*, by former Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson, Jr., should be sold as fiction, because, in spite of the "facts" that are presented

by the authors, it is clear that they still have no clue as to the insanity of the financial-monetary system which they claim, in their books, has been saved, by the process of endless bailouts.

At the outset, let me note that, had these authors, and any of those self-styled “Masters of the Universe” with whom they collaborate, paid attention to the voluminous writings and accurate forecasts of economist Lyndon LaRouche, there would have been no reason to write these books, as the continuing crisis they purport to cover would never have happened.

On July 25, 2007, as the first signs of the “credit crunch” were becoming visible, LaRouche opened a webcast with a warning that should have been included by these authors, if they were seriously attempting to provide insight into what the nation, and the world, has been forced to suffer over the last several years.

He began: “[T]he world monetary financial system is actually now currently in the process of disintegrating. There’s nothing mysterious about this; I’ve talked about it for some time, it’s been in progress, it’s not abating. What’s listed as stock values and market values in the financial markets internationally is bunk! These are purely fictitious beliefs. There’s no truth to it; the fakery is enormous. There is no possibility of a non-collapse of the present financial system—none. It’s finished, now! The present financial system can not continue to exist under any circumstances, under any Presidency, under any leadership. . . . Only a fundamental and sudden change in the world monetary financial system will prevent a general, immediate chain-reaction type of collapse.”

Within days after this warning, LaRouche specified precisely what he meant by a “fundamental and sudden change,” with his drafting of the Homeowner and Bank Protection Act (HBPA). Had this legislation, which was endorsed by local and state governments throughout the United States, been passed by Congress, more than 2.5 million families would still be in their homes. Further, the banking system, as a whole, would have been put through a Franklin Roosevelt-style bankruptcy reorganization, freezing trillions of dollars of worthless assets, to be written down, or written off entirely, later, and there would never have been the atrocity known as a bank “too big to fail.”

In addition to the HBPA, which would have protected the legitimate functions of banks, an utterance of hundreds of billions of dollars of productive credit, by the U.S. Congress, focused initially on job creation in pro-

ductive infrastructure, including, but not limited to, high-speed rail construction, nuclear power production, and water and power management, would have reversed the 45-plus years’ collapse of physical goods production and employment, and initiated a real economic recovery.

It’s Called ‘Physical Economy’

What the financial wizards, whose thoughts and actions are chronicled in Sorkin’s book, have not yet grasped, is that an economy is not about money, but about the production and distribution of the physical goods needed, today, to sustain a global population of more than 6.8 billion, while, at the same time, investing in the future, in areas which will allow for the scientific and technological progress needed to provide for the next several generations.

Physical economy is the subject of LaRouche’s life work, centered around his assimilation of the crucial discoveries of scientists and physical economists of the past, such as Johannes Kepler, Gottfried Leibniz, and Bernhard Riemann, and his advancement of their work, through his own unique discoveries about the American System of economics. It was this system, introduced by Benjamin Franklin and his protégé Alexander Hamilton, and revived by John Quincy Adams and Abraham Lincoln, which allowed the United States to break successfully from the monetarist system of the British Empire, to establish our nation as the world’s leading industrial-agricultural producer, and the model for the unprecedented physical economic development of nations such as Germany, France, and Japan, at the end of the 19th Century.

Under the mis-leadership of pro-British traitors, from Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, to Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover, the American System of physical-economy was replaced by a typical imperial, speculative, bubble economy in the 1920s, which popped, causing the Great Depression. The City of London bankers and their Wall Street allies, such as the Harriman family, backed the coup that placed Hitler in power in Germany, to accelerate the looting of the German people, to pay the debt allegedly owed to the British and American bankers.

Fortunately for the U.S., Franklin Roosevelt rejected fascism as a solution, and moved quickly to reverse the speculative, free-market policies which led to the Depression, imposing instead, bankruptcy reorganization, on the day of his Inauguration, and using legislation, especially the Glass-Steagall banking regulation



creative commons/lkradionews



White House/Pete Souza

The assumptions of officials such as Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke (left), and former New York Federal Reserve president (and current Treasury Secretary) Timothy Geithner (right, with Larry Summers looking on), that led to the meltdown of the financial system, were repeatedly, devastatingly wrong.

bill, to return the U.S. to an economy based on infrastructure development (called “internal improvements,” under our early, anti-British, anti-monetarist leaders), and investment in energy-intensive forms of agro-industrial production.

FDR’s American System approach was again reversed, by the same London-centered financial forces, to some extent, after FDR’s death, and then with a vengeance, following the British assassination of President Kennedy. In the subsequent five decades, we have seen an all-out assault against physical production and a regulated system, in favor of what is known as “globalization,” a radical free-market, deregulated monetary system, where increasingly bizarre and worthless “financial instruments” have become the main product of the so-called economy.

The ‘Crash’ Occurred Before 2007

The sophisticated trick that underlies the writing of economic “journalists,” such as Sorkin, and fraudsters such as the mega-speculator and former Goldman Sachs CEO Paulson, is that they argue that the “wealth” produced by these “financial instruments” is real, and is the basis of a strong economy. Instead of viewing the detachment of investment from physical economy, to purely speculative churning of financial instruments, as a net loss for the real economy, they look only at the monetary profits which can come from the building of a

bubble, as a plus for the economy.

Although they, at times, accurately portray the manic and dangerous tactics of policymakers to manipulate the “market,” to save their firms, their careers, and their personal portfolios—for example, both books are full of stories of CEOs who acknowledge that what they are carrying on their books, for their own accounts and their clients, and trading with their counterparties, is “crap” (see below)—they argue that there is nothing intrinsically wrong with the systemic shift, from the production of goods, to proliferation of instruments of “risk,” such as collateralized debt obligations (CDOs) and credit default swaps (CDS), and such hyperinflationary, non-productive investments as those typified by currency speculation in the “carry trade.”

Given that he has spent the last years studying the disintegration of this system of “financial innovation,” from his perch as “Dealbook” editor of the *New York Times*, Sorkin’s book must qualify as an outright fraud. His opening statement of the problem shows that he had to be “in” on the game, as it is impossible that he could believe the absurdity of the explanations offered by himself, or the players involved.

Sorkin writes that, by 2008, Wall Street had gone from “celebrating its most profitable age to finding itself on the brink of an epochal devastation.... As the unraveling began, many on Wall Street confronted a market unlike any they have ever encountered—one



CSPAN videograph

Alan Greenspan's belated admission, before a Congressional committee (shown here), that there was a "flaw in our system," came too late for the millions of Americans who have now lost their jobs, their homes, and their savings, in the economic collapse, and the bailout of Greenspan's Wall Street cronies.

gripped by fear and disorder that no invisible hand could tame. They were forced to make the most crucial decisions of their careers, perhaps of their lives, in the context of a confusing rush of rumors and policy shifts, all based on numbers that were little more than the best guesses. Some made wise choices, some got lucky, and still others lived to regret their decisions. In many cases, it's still too early to tell whether they made the right choices."

How dramatic! Lest the reader get caught up in what one reviewer described as an authentic modern tragedy, the "fall of the Titans," examine, instead, the fallacious implied assumption that the "most profitable age" of Wall Street was actually "profitable," and good for Americans! Even as he takes us through repeated examples of how insane the trading practices at leading banks were, and how the assumptions of officials such as Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke, and former New York Federal Reserve president (and current Treasury Secretary) Timothy Geithner, were repeatedly, devastatingly wrong, the assumption is that there was nothing wrong with the system—just a dose of over-exuberance related to the housing market, and the subsequent failure to price assets properly, such as mortgage-backed securities (MBS).

Contrary to the assertions of both Sorkin and Paulson, the problem was never caused by housing per se,

but the dicing and slicing of mortgages from home purchases into the now-notorious MBS—then, using them as leverage for short-term borrowing to purchase even more exotic, unregulated financial derivatives, while arguing that the short-term speculative profits derived from this practice represented real economic growth. Both authors argue, foolishly, that the collapse of manufacturing and productive jobs—which, in reality, has been ongoing since the mid-1960s—was a mere side effect of the popping of the housing bubble, and these jobs will ultimately come back, thanks to the bailouts!

Thus, in spite of massive evidence, presented in these two books, of the insanity of the post-industrial, speculative casino economy, and the criminal lunacy of creating trillions

of dollars of new debt to bail out the bankers and financiers who created history's greatest Ponzi scheme, neither Sorkin nor Paulson ever question its underlying legitimacy!

'So I'm the Schmuck?'

An astute reader can, if sufficiently motivated, find massive evidence of the hypocrisy of the leading players in both of these books, though that is clearly not the intention of either author. One such example is the belated admission, before a Congressional committee, by former Fed chair Alan Greenspan, who deserves much of the blame, as architect and chief cheerleader for the disastrous policies imposed since his tenure began, at the time of the October 1987 stock market crash, that there was a "flaw in our system."

Greenspan, who at the height of the speculative bubble was nearly universally proclaimed to be the "guru" or the "maestro" (except, of course, by LaRouche, who repeatedly exposed him as a faker), said of his once-beloved "financial innovations," which he had promoted with a vengeance, that "...some of the complexities of some of the instruments that were going into CDOs bewilders me. I didn't understand what they were doing or how they actually got the type of returns out of the mezzanines and the various tranches of the CDO that they did. And I figured if I didn't understand

it, and I had access to a couple hundred Ph.D.s, how the rest of the world is going to understand it sort of bewildered me.”

These “complexities” never interfered, however, with traders at Lehman Brothers, Merrill Lynch, Goldman Sachs, and Morgan Stanley, just to name a few, who were buying and selling these instruments for their own profit, while filling up the portfolios of their unsuspecting clients with this garbage, benefiting from the churning of the markets that they caused.

Following the government takeover of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in a vain effort to halt the collapse of the market for mortgage-backed securities (MBS), the collapse of Bear Stearns, and with Lehman and Merrill heading into the dump by September 2008, a “sudden,” momentary honesty emerged among the principals, which is chronicled by both authors, and shows that they knew all along that their high stock valuations and super-profits were based on fraud.

After all, when in history had any sane investment banker accepted leverage rates of 30.7 to 1, which was the valuation at Lehman, or 26.9 to 1 at Merrill, with the “1” representing the value of the firms’ overpriced assets? Sorkin reports that, “the CEOs of the firms that sold these products had no better comprehension of it all.” Instead of mark-to-market accounting, by which the value of an asset is determined by the price it would get if sold, “banks valued their illiquid investments simply at the price they paid for them, rather than venture to estimate what they might be worth on any given day.”

The arbitrary nature of who was to be bailed out, and who would be allowed to fail, i.e., whose worthless assets would be guaranteed by the Federal government—and whose not—was too much for the anguished CEO of Lehman Brothers, Richard Fuld, who responded when told that Lehman would not be bailed out, “So I’m the schmuck?”

‘Free Money’

Of Merrill Lynch, which claimed its CDO exposure was “nearly fully hedged,” Sorkin writes that as “market condition worsened, it became clear that the metrics they were using had no grounding in reality.” AIG, which sold a new form of “risk insurance” called credit default swaps (CDS) manufactured by their financial products division in London, concluded from their computer models that these devices “seemed fool-proof.” The holders of such swaps—mostly banks and investment firms—could expect, according to Sorkin,

“to receive millions of dollars in premiums a year. It was like free money.”

AIG has already received over \$180 billion in Federal bailout funds, in addition to untold billions more in loan guarantees, and is lining up for yet-another bailout. Its counterparty exposure in notional derivatives stood at over \$2.7 trillion when the bailout began. Lloyd Blankfein, who replaced Paulson as CEO of Goldman Sachs, said of AIG, that it was “marking to make-believe”; while James Lee, a J.P. Morgan Chase official involved in the review of AIG’s books, is quoted asking, “Who is going to buy this shit?”

The answer is, that the American people, and their children and grandchildren are buying this “shit,” as the bailout continues. The question which should be posed is: “free money” for whom?

Sorkin, whose book contains page after page of such raw material, which would be of great value for a Pecora Commission, to prosecute the swindlers who have, instead, been the beneficiaries of the largesse of both the Bush and the Obama administrations, nevertheless fails, because of his acceptance of the axioms of globalization and the post-industrial economic paradigm. His failure, therefore, to treat what he has chronicled as real crimes against the American people, sadly deserves for his book the subtitle, “Too Big To Read,” as it ultimately leads the reader nowhere.

It would be a much better use of time—and money—for one wishing to reverse the collapse of our nation’s, and the world’s, economy, to spend time at LaRouchePAC.com, and study the webcasts and writings of Lyndon LaRouche, to become a knowledgeable adherent of the American System of physical economy. One can begin with LaRouche’s answer to the fifth question from his March 13, 2010 webcast, and his follow-up discussion of that answer, posted as the “Special Weekly Update” on April 1, 2010 [in last week’s *EIR*].

As for former Secretary Paulson, it is hard to believe that he could have been as self-deluded as he presents himself. Typical is his description of his state of mind after another one of his “weekends at Bernie’s” in the Autumn of 2008, as he and his fellow superheroes, Bernanke and Geithner, crafted one bailout after another, to prevent “a meltdown” and to “save” the system: “Perhaps I should have foreseen the problems ahead, but for the moment that night, as I fell asleep, I just felt good.”

That is more than can be said for the rest of us, who will likely spend many sleepless nights undoing the damage done by these criminals.

NEW OPIUM WAR THREATENS WORLD PEACE

Wage a War on Drugs in Afghanistan, or Pull Out

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

The author is the national chairwoman of the Civil Rights Solidarity Movement (BüSo), the party of the LaRouche movement in Germany. This article, which is also being circulated as a leaflet, was translated from German for EIR.

April 9—Can a war be won in which 1) the enemy, 2) the nature of the threat, and 3) the war aims, are all falsely defined? Obviously not! This is exactly what we are now experiencing in the case of the war in Afghanistan, of which [German] Minister of Defense [Karl-Theodor] zu Guttenberg said, that what is going on there could be “colloquially” described as a war!

As long as these three misdiagnoses are not corrected, the dangers posed by Afghanistan will increase, and Bundeswehr [German Army] soldiers will continue to put their lives at risk and lose them—for a military mission that absolutely cannot be carried out!

U.S.-Russian Cooperation Needed

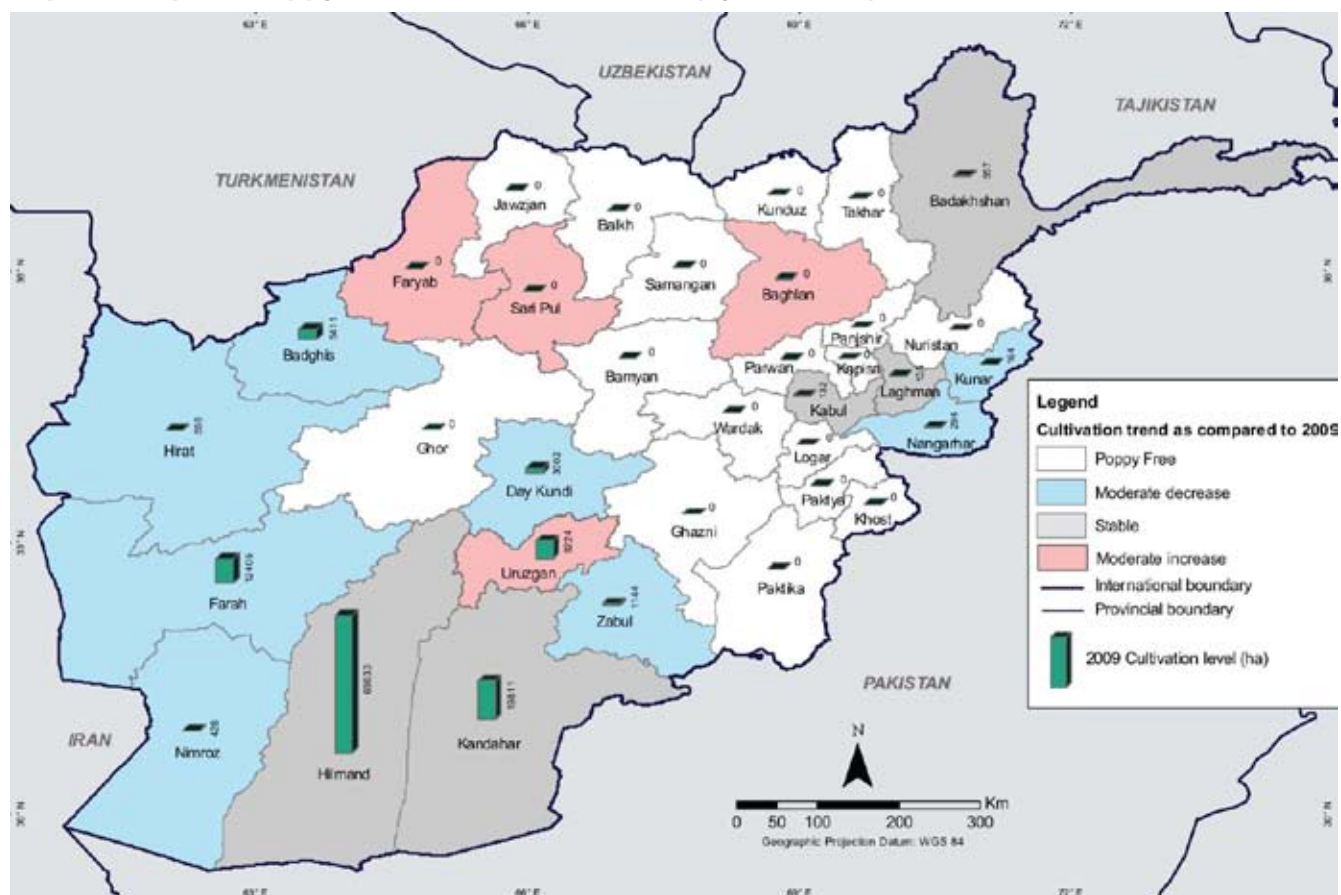
The main problem in Afghanistan is the drug cultivation and trafficking: 90% of world heroin production occurs there and constitutes the main source of funding for, among other things, the recent terrorist attacks on the Moscow subway and on other cities in Russia and the Caucasus. The refusal of NATO and the British and American governments, up to now, to act jointly against the drug cultivation and trafficking, threatens

to expand into a serious strategic conflict with Russia. However, important military circles in the United States have recently been responding with increasing openness to Lyndon LaRouche’s proposal that only joint U.S.-Russian action against drug production can defeat the threat. Such cooperation would also involve Iran, China, and India, which are themselves affected.

Meanwhile, it has become crystal clear who is identifying drugs as the primary problem, and who is protecting the drug lobby. Victor Ivanov, the head of the Russian drug enforcement agency, the FDCS; Adm. James Stavridis, the commander of U.S. forces in Europe (EUCOM); and Gen. Barry McCaffrey (ret.), formerly President Clinton’s drug czar, are unanimous that the greatest threat from the production and trading of opium, heroin, and hashish in Afghanistan is that these drugs are not only killing more people than the military operations, but that the drug trade also financed the most recent terrorist attacks in Russia and Central Asia. They further agree that absolutely nothing can be accomplished in Afghanistan without international agreement to dismantle the drug trade. But this is not the mission of NATO’s ISAF troops at all, since the Obama Administration canceled the programs for drug eradication [in March 2009].

Ivanov stressed that drugs are a special kind of

FIGURE 1

Expected Opium Poppy Cultivation Trends, 2010 (by Province)

Source: UNODC, *Afghanistan Opium Winter Rapid Assessment 2010*.

weapon of mass destruction, and that the situation in Russia has reached the dimensions of a national catastrophe. Indeed, in Russia during the last year alone, 30,000 addicts, ages 18-24, died from an overdose of heroin; according to official statistics, there are 2.5 million drug users, a figure which is rising explosively. According to McCaffrey, Afghan heroin kills about 10,000 people per year in the NATO member-states, which is five times as many as NATO loses in all its combat actions. No less dramatic for national security in Russia is the fact that the terrorist attacks that shook Russia in recent weeks were perpetrated by terrorist groups that are financed by the proceeds of the Afghan drug trade.

At the meeting of the NATO-Russia Council in Brussels on March 24, Ivanov offered the NATO countries his country's cooperation in the fight against drug production in Afghanistan. The Western states' refusal

to participate actively in destroying opium fields led the Russian Foreign Ministry to issue a statement the following day, condemning this decision and accusing the United States of "conniving" with the drug lords in Afghanistan.

Obstruction from Obama, London

But while EUCOM chief Admiral Stavridis warned at a conference that the Caucasus is developing into a "zone of terrorism," and that especially the heroin from Afghanistan and the associated human and weapons smuggling are contributing to growing instability of the region, and that NATO must do more to stop the influx of heroin from Afghanistan, neither Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the head of the ISAF troops in Afghanistan, nor Richard Holbrooke, special representative of the Obama Administration for Afghanistan and Pakistan, see any reason to do anything against drugs. Hol-

brooke disputes the idea that opium production and trafficking are a significant source of funds for the Taliban, while U.S. troops, under the command of General McChrystal, are under explicit orders to leave the opium poppy fields alone.

In January 2009, Gen. Bantz John Craddock, NATO's Supreme Commander in Europe (SACEUR), authorized NATO military operations against the drug lords, drug dealers, drug laboratories, and storehouses in Afghanistan. But in the same month, the magazine *Der Spiegel* leaked a secret NATO document on the matter, and a short time later, Craddock's term as SACEUR ended, and with it the attempt to combat drug cultivation.

Shortly afterward, in March 2009, Richard Holbrooke announced in Brussels, that the fight against Afghanistan's opium cultivation was being discontinued because it cost too much, and deprived Afghan farmers of their livelihood, driving them into the arms of the Taliban. In May 2009, Obama suddenly fired the commander of the Afghanistan mission, Gen. David McKiernan, who had supported the action against drug lords and laboratories, and replaced him with Gen. Stanley McChrystal, under whose command the troops are explicitly instructed to leave the poppy fields, laboratories, and storehouses alone.

The fact is that opium production has risen 40-fold since the start of the U.S. and NATO occupation of Afghanistan in 2001! The fact is also that Helmand Province, the main growing area, which has been controlled by the British since 2005, produces about 60% of the total, or about 4,000 tons of opium a year. So the Brits are the most determined opponents of fighting drugs. "Nobody knows better than Afghan politicians do, the history of their people and their way of life. Therefore the best thing is for them to decide themselves, what to do with the plantings. Without participation from the international forces," said Richard Connelly, a British officer with the ISAF.

According to a report by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), control of the drug trade has been consolidated since 2005; a pyramid of drug lords has been constructed, financed by sales revenues; district police chiefs and local police provide protection for the cultivation, trafficking, and the so-called Hawala system which transfers the drugs and money, and is closely linked to the financial centers of Karachi, Dubai, Mumbai, and London. UNODC Director Anto-

nio Maria Costa told the Austrian magazine *Profile* where the laundered drug money ends up: There are indications that since the credit crunch broke out as a result of the financial crisis, money from the drug trade and other illegal activities was used to "save" some banks.

If you think about the role of the British Empire in the Opium Wars of the 19th Century against China, then the British policy of protecting Afghanistan's drug cultivation is as unsurprising as the role of laundered drug money in the financial system. Another urgent reason to establish a Pecora Commission, which will have to clarify all these relationships.

There can only be a solution for Afghanistan if the measures proposed by LaRouche, Ivanov, and McCaffrey are implemented. The poppy and cannabis fields must be eliminated by proven methods. The heroin laboratories and storage buildings must be destroyed from the air; the authorization and obligation to do so must be included in the ISAF mandate. The United States and Russia, in particular, must cooperate in this program.

Sufficient resources must be made available to the farmers for an alternative crop. Only if the United States, Russia, China, India, and Iran cooperate in implementing this policy and destroy the drugs apparatus, including the money laundering, can there be a real reconstruction program, particularly the expansion of infrastructure, energy and power generation, and the creation of at least 2 million jobs.

The Bundeswehr

As long as these conditions are not met, the Bundeswehr has no business being in the Hindu Kush, and must immediately be withdrawn. Only after drug cultivation and trafficking are eliminated, can the Bundeswehr's Pioneer Corps be deployed for the economic development of Afghanistan!

The facts that opium production has risen 40-fold since the war began in 2001; that, according to McCaffrey, 68% of the Afghan people have never known peace; that life expectancy there is 44 years; and that Afghanistan has the highest maternal mortality rates in the world—all this makes unmistakably clear that the Afghanistan War is a total failure, because the war aims were wrongly defined.

Not a single additional Bundeswehr soldier's life should be sacrificed to a war that only serves those who gain from the new Opium War!

'Khuda Hafez,' Hamid Karzai

The Farsi phrase means, "May God protect you," and is usually said at leave-taking. Ramtanu Maitra reports, and warns: Don't forget Ngo Dinh Diem!

April 7—Outside of Afghanistan, President Hamid Karzai has two formidable enemies—Pakistan and Britain. What has kept him in power and out of harm's way, during these eight-plus years of war in Afghanistan, is the protection of the United States. However, the breakout of acrimonious relations between Kabul and Washington in recent months makes one wonder how long Washington will be willing to continue providing full protection to the Afghan President. The latest news, that the White House may disinvite Karzai, who is scheduled to visit Washington next month, is an indication that Washington is no longer interested in further discussions with Kabul.

The good news, is that while every Tom, Dick, and Harriet associated with the Obama Administration, who wears the garb of an Afghan expert, blames Karzai and his "corrupt administration" for the eight-plus years of mess, the so-called "search" for an alternative leader to replace him has not yet turned up any viable candidates.

With the advent of the Obama Administration, and induction of Obama's Af-Pak envoy, Richard Holbrooke, into the Afghan theater, Karzai began to come under pressure. Although Washington never made transparent what its plans were for Afghanistan, Karzai was nonetheless pressured to accept them. As the security situation worsened, with the insurgents gaining control of more and more territory by pushing the U.S. and NATO-led troops onto their bases, and maintaining security of major towns, Washington and NATO headquarters in Brussels became increasingly reckless, killing Afghans by the hundreds, and identifying all of them as "Taliban."

Random Killing of Pushtuns, Alienation of Karzai

Those killings, however, did not go off well with Karzai, a Pushtun, and created intense mistrust of him

among the majority of his fellow Pushtuns. Kabul repeatedly spoke out against killing of the innocents, but it was to no avail. In retaliation, Washington heaped blame on Karzai, blaming his "corrupt" administration for all the ills and misfortunes. However, no one talked about why and how opium production in Afghanistan multiplied 25-fold from 2001 to 2007, under the watch of the British and U.S. troops, bringing in oodles of cash to all and sundry, including the so-called Taliban and al-Qaeda insurgents battling and winning ground rapidly against the foreign troops.

This was "business as usual" in Afghanistan throughout 2006-09. A noticeable shift began to emerge with the Jan. 28, 2010 London Conference, which was attended by high-level diplomats from almost 70 countries. What came out of that conference, was a tacit agreement among the participants, under pressure from Karzai's enemy, Britain, that called for reconciliation with some "good Taliban," with the intent of bringing them in to share power in Kabul. How that would be achieved, remained a big question mark, but, Karzai got the message. For Karzai, the options left to him at that point were: to hand over power to the "good Taliban," and leave Afghanistan to spend the rest of his life in exile; or, to fight back, and somehow gain the confidence of a majority of the Pushtun community, a small fraction of which supports the Taliban—"good" or "bad."

Following the London Conference, Karzai visited Riyadh, where he spoke to Saudi King Abdullah, a strong proponent of bringing the Taliban to power, and Islamabad, where he met the Pakistani Army chief. Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani, who made no bones about the fact that the arrival of the Taliban in Kabul would provide Islamabad, once more, with an opportunity to set up Afghanistan as its "strategic depth" to counter any potential Indian plan to invade Pakistan. Karzai realized that he will have to buck the tide, and

go for the second option.

Prior to his visit to Pakistan, Karzai invited Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to Kabul, on the heels of a trip there by U.S. Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates. Gates was still in Afghanistan on March 10 when the Iranian President predicted, from Tehran, that American efforts in Afghanistan would fail. Later, at a news conference with Karzai at the Presidential Palace, Ahmadinejad charged that the United States was using the excuse of fighting “terrorists that they themselves created, supported, and financed,” to maintain its occupation of Afghanistan.

This visit of Ahmedinejad did not go over well in Washington. Only two days before it, , Gates told reporters, while traveling to Kabul for his own talks with Karzai, that Iran was “playing a double game in Afghanistan.” “They want to maintain a good relationship with the Afghan government,” Gates said. “They also want to do everything they possibly can to hurt us, or for us not to be successful.” He said he believed that Iran was providing money and “some low level of support” to the Taliban in Afghanistan. Asked about those comments by Gates, Ahmadinejad responded: “What are you doing in this region? You are 12,000 kilometers away from here, your country is the other side of the world. And what are you doing here? This is a serious question.”

Karzai’s China and Iran Gambit

Karzai’s next move was to embark on his first-ever visit to China, where he found a warm reception. Chinese President Hu Jintao and the Afghan President signed three deals on March 24, which covered economic cooperation, technical training, and preferential tariffs for some Afghan exports to China. China is seen as a key player in an international coalition seeking to secure and rebuild Afghanistan, particularly after U.S. troops pull out, analysts said, adding that Beijing is striving to help boost security and revive the economy in Afghanistan. It was earlier reported that the state-owned China Metallurgical Group promised to invest a record US\$3 billion in Aynak, one of the world’s largest copper mines, south of Kabul. Afghan



U.S. Army/Spc. Michael Zuk

Afghan President Hamid Karzai doesn’t have many good options left, since the January London Conference, where a tacit agreement was reached, that the “good Taliban,” should be brought into a power-sharing arrangement in Kabul.

Foreign Minister Zalmay Rassoul told *China Daily* on March 24 that China has contributed tremendously to Afghan economic development, especially in infrastructure building.

“There are some security issues. We are trying to deal with it, and I hope the security situation will allow Chinese investment to operate without any risks,” Rassoul said. Afghanistan is heavily dependent on international aid, but its government hopes the vast reserves of minerals will provide the key to eventual financial independence, Rassoul added.

Gong Shaopeng, a professor in international politics at China Foreign Affairs University, said the major goal of the Afghan government is to revitalize the country’s economy. He said China’s step-by-step aid has helped stabilize the country and provide job opportunities. “We have helped Afghanistan rebuild facilities damaged by the war, like roads and canals,” he said.

Subsequently, Karzai antagonized his Western allies further, when he joined leaders from the region to cel-



DoD/USAF Master Sgt. Jerry Morrison

Defense Secretary Robert Gates told reporters, while traveling to Kabul for talks with Karzai, that Iran was “playing a double game in Afghanistan.” “They want to do everything they possibly can to hurt us, or for us not to be successful.” He is being interviewed on Afghan television, in this December 2009 photo.

celebrate the first festival of the International Day of Nawrooz, held in celebration of the Persian New Year in Tehran on March 27. Leaders from Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Iraq, the Turkish deputy prime minister, and senior representatives from 20 other countries attended.

Thanking leaders of the regional countries for taking part in the festival, Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said that celebrations at the regional level were first observed in 2008 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, with the participation of the foreign ministers from Afghanistan, Iran, and Tajikistan. The following year, he said, it was celebrated more gloriously

in Afghanistan’s northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif. President Karzai was among the speakers on that important day and expressed the hope that 2009 would be a year of peace, stability, and progress for Afghanistan.

On March 30, 2010, under the cover of darkness, U.S. President Barack Obama made a surprise visit to Kabul. Before he departed, also after sundown, Obama had a long talk with Karzai. While the discussion was not made public, reports indicate that Obama made clear that he was highly displeased with the Afghan President’s performance.

On the substance of this quarrel, the *Washington Post*, in its lead editorial on April 6, said that Obama has been pressuring Karzai “to crack down on the rampant corruption in his government, especially in the southern provinces where U.S. troops are trying to break the hold of the Taliban.” The White House also resisted Karzai’s attempt to exclude UN representatives from the election commission. The Afghan President’s claim of electoral interference, according to the *Post*, although perhaps prompted by that pressure, is not credible; his steps toward initiating negotiations with insurgent leaders appear premature, at best, the editorial concluded.

It is evident that it was the substance of his discussions with the U.S. President that enraged Karzai. On April 1, addressing the Independent Election Commission (IEC), Karzai lashed out against Washington’s accusations against him, that he had committed vote fraud in his reelection last October. He said: “There is no doubt that the fraud was very widespread, but this fraud was not committed by Afghans, it was committed by foreigners.... This fraud was committed by Galbraith, this fraud was committed by Morillon, and this fraud was committed by embassies.” Karzai was referring to Peter W. Galbraith, the deputy United Nations special representative to Afghanistan at the time of the election, and the person who helped reveal the fraud, and Philippe Morillon, the chief election observer for the European Union.

Karzai's Principal Enemies: Britain and Pakistan

Later in the speech, Karzai accused the Western coalition fighting against the Taliban of being on the verge of becoming invaders—a term usually used by insurgents to refer to American, British, and other NATO troops fighting in Afghanistan. “In this situation, there is a thin curtain between invasion and cooperation/assistance,” said Karzai, adding that if the perception spread that the Western forces were invaders, and the Afghan government their mercenaries, the insurgency “could become a national resistance.”

That speech, particularly the formulation that implied that the insurgency could become a national resistance, got Washington's goat. There was a hue and cry in the U.S. capital, where Obama Administration officials expressed dismay at the “outrageous” allegations by a “corrupt” Afghan administration. But Karzai was in no mood to back down.

Three days later, on April 4, Karzai, visiting his home town, Kandahar, the seat of Pushtun royalty and the birthplace of the Taliban, spoke to local parliamentarians, chastising the U.S. for “interference” in Afghanistan's politics. His statements centered chiefly on attacking the U.S. and its NATO allies, as well as parliament itself, warning that if the parliament didn't assent to his takeover of the Electoral Complaints Commission, it would give the impression that Afghanistan was dominated by the West, thereby granting legitimacy to the Taliban. Some parliamentarians present say that Karzai even threatened to join the insurgency.

President Karzai is not only fighting back, but has put himself at a great personal risk. Unless he is able to garner quick support from China, Iran, and Russia—the three major nations in the immediate vicinity not antagonistic to him—he will be the main target of a number of recognized, and not-so-well-recognized, killers gunning for him.

His principal threat comes from Britain and Pakistan. He has crossed swords, over the years, with the British. To begin with, London never liked the appointment to the Presidency of an Afghan Pushtun close to the United States and India. In 2005, Karzai spoke out against the explosion of opium production in southern Afghanistan's Helmand province, accusing the British troops stationed there of allowing the large-scale growth of opium production.

He expelled two British MI6 agents on Dec. 27, 2007, on charges that they posed a threat to national security. Afghan government officials said the decision to expel them was taken at the behest of the CIA, after the two agents were caught funding Taliban units. One of the agents, Mervyn Patterson, worked for the United Nations, while the other, Michael Semple, worked for the European Union. Both were alleged Afghan specialists who had been operating in the country for over 20 years; that means they must have been interacting, on behalf of London, with the al-Qaeda and Taliban leaders there. The London *Times* wrote that, when Patterson and Semple were arrested, they were in possession of \$150,000 cash, which was to be given to Taliban commanders in Musa Qala, in the opium-infested Helmand province.

An unnamed Afghan government official told the London *Sunday Telegraph* at the time, that “this warning”—that the men had been financing the Taliban for at least ten months—“came from the Americans, who were not happy with the support being provided to the Taliban. Washington gave the information to our intelligence services, who ordered the arrests,” the source added, “The Afghan government would never have acted alone to expel officials of such a senior level. This was the information that was given to the NDS [National Directorate of Security] by the Americans.”

In 2006, U.S. military commanders in Afghanistan had loudly protested the British decision, in a deal with local tribal leaders, to withdraw troops from Musa Qala, opening the door for a Taliban takeover of the region. Michael Semple has since been laundered, and currently holds a fellowship with the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School. He is now in the seminar circuit of various American think tanks, proffering his “expertise” on issues concerning insurgency, reconciliation, and political developments in Afghanistan.

In addition to throwing out the two MI6 agents, Karzai also drew the wrath of the British Empire establishment when, in January 2008, he turned down the joint effort of Washington and London to appoint Lord Paddy Ashdown as the UN's super-envoy to Afghanistan. Ashdown, a “liberal” and a “democrat,” who wears his vainglorious feudal title on his shirtsleeves, was ready to pinch-hit for London and Washington, which had begun to look increasingly like colonial powers

trying to occupy Afghanistan and further undermine the “duly elected” President.

The second powerful threat to Karzai emanates from Pakistan. Karzai has reiterated over the years, the existence of a tacit agreement between Pakistani intelligence, the ISI, and the insurgents. He has claimed, over and over again, that the insurgents, who have committed terrorist acts inside Kabul, had the fingerprints of Pakistan’s ISI. He has also insisted, on a number of occasions, that the insurgents were not only sheltered inside Pakistan, but also protected. It is widely known that Karzai is intensely hated by a section of the Pakistani military, and by the political grouping close to both the Pakistani Taliban and Saudi Arabia.

Moreover, the Pakistani Army may conclude that Karzai, developing an independent base among a large section of the Pushtun community, may prevent the Pakistan-backed Taliban from gaining control in Kabul. Also, Karzai is close to India, and his coming to power on his own strength will necessarily allow a larger Indian presence in Afghanistan in the future. On the other hand, if Karzai can bring both China and Iran, in full force, into Afghanistan, Pakistan will have to give the elimination of Karzai a second thought.

The Elimination of Ngo Dinh Diem

It is evident that Islamabad has strong reasons to eliminate Hamid Karzai. If one jogs one’s memory, it is not difficult to fathom that the scenario developing in Afghanistan, vis-à-vis Karzai, is not much different from what occurred during the Vietnam War. On Nov. 2, 1963, South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem, who years earlier was eulogized by Washington’s policymakers and American media as the “demigod” and “savior,” was removed, and killed a day later, along with his brother, Nhu Dinh Diem, his close collaborator, by a military coup carried out by Gen. Duong Van Minh. The coup was carried out hours after Diem met with President Kennedy’s envoy, Henry Cabot Lodge, and Adm. Harry D. Felt.



U.S. National Archives

South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem was killed in a 1963 U.S.-backed coup. There are lessons to be learned here.

According to *The Pentagon Papers*, Vol. 2, “Washington was deeply concerned about Diem’s unpopularity and was confronted with the following choices: The choices were: (1) continue to plod along in a limited fashion with Diem—despite his and Nhu’s growing unpopularity; (2) encourage or tacitly support the overthrow of Diem, taking the risk that the GVN (Government of the Republic of Vietnam, or, South Vietnam) might crumble and/or accommodate to the VC (Viet Cong); and (3) grasp the opportunity—with the obvious risks—of the political instability in South Vietnam to disengage.

“The first option was rejected because of the belief that we [Washington—ed.] could not win with Diem-Nhu. The third was [sic] very seriously considered a policy alternative because of the assumption that an independent, non-communist SVN [South Vietnam] was too important a strategic interest to abandon—and because the situation was not sufficiently drastic to call into question so basic an assumption. The second course was chosen mainly for the reasons the first was rejected—Vietnam was thought too important; we wanted to win; and the rebellious generals seemed to offer that prospect. . . .”

Hendrick Avercamp and The Last Little Ice Age

by Bonnie James

The Earth is presently in an Ice Age, and has been for approximately the past 2 to 2.5 million years. This Ice Age has been characterized by successive advances and retreats of a glacial ice sheet, originating in Greenland and extending across the northern portions of the North American and Eurasian continents. Just 12,000 years ago, the undisputed geological evidence shows that New York, Chicago, and all of North America northward to the Arctic regions were under a sheet of ice, estimated to have been from 1 to 2 miles thick. Mountain glaciers also extended downward from the Rocky Mountains and the Appalachians, in regions further to the south than the main glacial mass. A similar situation prevailed over most of Germany, northern France, the British Isles, Scandinavia, Poland and other parts of eastern Europe, and Russia.

Such had been the state of things on Earth for probably at least 100,000 years. Before that, a short period known as an interglacial had allowed for a warm climate, somewhat like the present, and before it another extended period of glacial advance....

Can this happen again? The most plausible theory of the causes of the Ice Ages, the theory of astronomical determination, suggests that the time is ripe for it to happen sometime soon.... Perhaps it will be the beginning of a period of several hundred years' duration, known as a

Little Ice Age, perhaps the onset of a full-scale glacial advance to last for another 100,000 years.¹

From the 14th to the early 19th Century, the planet experienced what is known today as “The Little Ice Age.” While the lowest temperatures were recorded in the half-century from 1675 to 1725, there was a particularly severe cold period from 1550 to 1650. The effects were manifested in the Northern Hemisphere by the end of grape-growing in the northern areas, the abandonment of settlements in Greenland, and a substantial advance of the glaciers down into the valleys.² As evidenced by numerous documents from the period, such as chronicles, weather diaries, ships’ logs, and local administrative records describing seasonal activities, especially those related to agriculture, Winters saw temperatures plunging well below normal, for extended periods, from November until March. From Spring to Autumn, temperatures were unusually cool as well.

In the Netherlands, freezing temperatures and deep snow had a dramatic impact on everyday life. The Winter of 1607-08 was especially harsh. One diarist in Zeeland wrote: “It froze so hard in the whole month of

1. Laurence Hecht, “Is Nature Warning Us of a New Ice Age?” *EIR*, Jan. 30, 2009.

2. Adriaan M.J. de Kraker, “Little Ice Age. Harsh Winters between 1550 and 1650,” in *Hendrick Avercamp: Master of the Ice Scene* (Amsterdam: Rijksmuseum, 2010).

FIGURE 1



Pieter Bruegel's "Hunters in the Snow" was painted during the extremely cold Winter of 1565-66; his Winter landscapes strongly influenced those of Hendrick Avercamp, who was painting half a century later. Both artists employed abundant irony to force their audiences to confront often unpleasant realities.

February that here had never been such a freeze in living memory; people walked on the ice from Harlingen to Amsterstam and from Wieringen to Texel. In England, people drove coaches with six horses on the Thames and it was so cold on the 14th, 15th and 16th of January that many people froze to death." The register of tolls on the Maas in Limburg recorded that, "From the first of January 1608 until the twenty-seventh of February inclusive, nothing received because of the long duration of the great freeze." Reports indicate that the people, especially the poor, suffered tremendous hardships: Food was difficult to come by; warmth, nearly impossible; work was scarce; and there were a high number of deaths, particularly of children, as a result of the bitter cold.

Painters of the Little Ice Age

The National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. has mounted a wonderful exhibition, "Hendrick Avercamp: The Little Ice Age" (on view through July 5); it presents powerful visual evidence, in paintings and drawings from the period, mainly through the paintings and drawings of Avercamp (1585-1634), and a few of

his contemporaries, of the effects of the Ice Age on the lives of the Dutch people, as they struggled to cope, but also adapted to the harsh conditions, by learning to live, work, and play on the ice.

Not included in the exhibit, but prominently mentioned in the exhibition catalogue, is the influence of the great Flemish master, Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1526/30-69), on the development of the Winter landscape as a genre, and on Avercamp in particular. Among Bruegel's most well-known and beloved paintings are "Hunters in the Snow" and "Census at Bethlehem"; both were painted during one of the hardest Winters of the 16th Century, that of 1565-66.

But it was not only in subject matter that Avercamp paid homage to the earlier artist.

From 1482 until 1556, the Low Countries were under the domination of the Austrian and Spanish Hapsburg dynasties, which imposed the cruelty and injustice of the Inquisition to maintain their power. In 1556, the Dutch declared their independence from Spain, and fought a war to establish a republic, which succeeded in 1581. For the southern Netherlands, or Flanders (today's Belgium), that oppression lasted until 1794. Throughout Bruegel's works, we find evidence of this cruel tyranny, perhaps most strikingly in such paintings as the "Triumph of Death," in which can be plainly seen, those implements of torture and death widely employed by the handmaidens of the Inquisition; there is often something sinister lurking behind the apparent beauty and stillness in his paintings.

For example, a close look at "Hunters in the Snow" (Figure 1) reveals not only the beauty of the Winter landscape, but also its bleakness: You can almost feel how cold it must be, as people struggle to find food and warmth. The craggy, snow-covered mountains in the distance, seem to literally cut off the occupants of the

FIGURE 2



National Gallery of Art

Avercamp's "Skaters and Tents along the Ice" (c. 1620) presents us with a lively scene, and tells many "stories." But, there is more than meets the eye.

little village from the rest of the world. As far as the eye can see, everything is frozen. And there is something ominous about those few black crows and magpies perched on snow-covered tree branches.

Avercamp learned not only the principles of composition from Bruegel, but also his sense of dramatic irony. Think of the paintings as stage plays: Not only are there numerous "stories" being told within a single composition, but, if you peer into the drama portrayed, you will find the ironies.

Looking Past the Surface

Now, look at Avercamp's "Skaters and Tents along the Ice," from 1620 (**Figure 2**). What do you see? People from every walk of life, and every social station, gathered on the ice, which stretches back as far as the eye can see, to the small city at the horizon. (Avercamp has placed figures along perspective lines that converge in the distance, to emphasize the vast extent of the ice sheet that covers everything.) Along the perimeter, there are tents, where vendors sell their wares, and skaters can stop to warm themselves, and have a bite to eat and a hot

FIGURE 2a



National Gallery of Art

This detail shows a beggar, who stands at the center of the painting (Figure 2), ignored by all, as his more privileged neighbors swirl around him.

FIGURE 2b



National Gallery of Art

The fisherman shown in this detail from Figure 2, is very much on the sidelines, both visually and socially. He must struggle to survive under the harsh conditions.

FIGURE 2c



National Gallery of Art

This disturbing image of the gallows from Figure 2, is a powerful indication that life in the Netherlands in the second decade of the 17th Century, was cruel in more ways than simply the climate conditions.

drink. In the right foreground is an elegantly dressed family, while similarly dressed figures pass through on horse-drawn sleighs. All seems well, at first glance.

But then: Notice the figure at the center foreground—a beggar, in the midst of all the gaiety (**Figure 2a**); and there is a poor fisherman, trying to eke out a living, or perhaps just feed himself and his family, in the left foreground (**Figure 2b**). These are hints that all may not be as it appears on the surface.

If you now shift your gaze to the horizon on the far right, you will see the deeper truth emerge. What is Avercamp telling us about life in the northern Netherlands in 1620, even after independence? There are three bodies hanging from a gallows (**Figure 2c**). The wall text in the National Gallery exhibit tells about this gruesome sight, which often reappears in Avercamp's landscapes: "Such scaffolds were erected on the outskirts of cities as a warning to travelers to behave properly in that jurisdiction."

But the text fails to mention that, during this period, the genocidal Thirty Years War, beginning in 1618, raged across Europe, until the Peace of Westphalia of 1648 brought it to an end. Clearly, such scaffolds reflect the attempt on the part of civic leaders to keep the war from their doorsteps; and the gallows are ignored by the townspeople who pass underneath them, just as the beggar and the poor fisherman are ignored by their more comfortable neighbors (among whom are several ladies wearing masks—or are they blindfolds?).

Now, when you hear *your* neighbors prattle about "global warming," perhaps you will think about the last Little Ice Age, and what could be coming our way today. Of course, we needn't view this possibility with alarm, as long as mankind breaks out of the current planetary crisis, and moves rapidly to establish a Moon-Mars colonization program. The scientific breakthroughs associated with such an endeavor will allow us to solve any potential challenges on the horizon.

The artists of the Little Ice Age would surely agree.

They Have Murder on Their Minds

The horrific crash of an airplane carrying the Polish President and a large part of his government, on April 10, underscores the warning that Lyndon LaRouche and this magazine have been putting out over the last weeks: The British, in a desperately bankrupt condition, and hysterical about holding on to global power, are going for broke, including the potential assassination of President Barack Obama.

“This event is not an isolated event,” LaRouche said. “When a Polish pilot, a military pilot, entrusted with the Presidential government, overrides an order, a warning given on Russian territory, for a Russian landing, on weather conditions, and proceeds, and gets everybody killed, you have to think.”

“This is part of the . . . environment of the death threat, to President Obama. You’re in a situation, where the nearest comparison, to the present situation, internationally, is the assassination of President Kennedy. . . . When you’re going to assassinate the President of the United States, you run a number of operations, which create an atmosphere of instability, a dynamic, which enables you to at least have a fighting chance of covering up who did what to whom.

“We had the same thing with 9/11, at the beginning of 2001. I warned that we had to expect an attack, a terrorist attack on the United States. We continued through that; that warning stood. All the evidence was there. We had a big flurry of diversionary business. . . .

“This is a warning of a threat to the President of the United States. You have a President who is absolutely worse than useless. He has just put through this health-care plan, which is what he was assigned to do. He has completed his mission, as President! And the British who employed him

for this mission, are about to get rid of him, in order to create a situation for imposing an actual dictatorship in the United States, by disposing of a President, who has already given up all of his political usefulness! In which key members of his government, including Rahm Emanuel and others, are trying to quit the government, because it’s a disaster area. . . .

“You’re in that kind of period. The entire financial system of the world is collapsing, disintegrating. It’s hopeless. The present world situation is absolutely hopeless. Now, they couldn’t solve it, but we have to solve it. . . .”

In the wake of the Polish tragedy, the environment portending other violence has only increased. Most notable is the upsurge of threats, both legal and potentially physical, against Pope Benedict XVI. The hand of the British oligarchy, itself notorious for pederasty, behind this campaign against the Catholic Church is out in the open. As LaRouche has identified, the Monarchy, with its commitment to world depopulation, is fanatically committed to destroying one of the chief obstacles to its aims, the Roman Catholic Church.

The other major obstacle to the British, of course, is the Constitutional tradition of the United States, now rendered virtually impotent by the British puppet Obama in the White House, but still threatening to Britain’s ultimate objective of eliminating the world’s premier republican nation-state. To accomplish this, the British are considering the assassination of the now largely useless President Obama, as a means of throwing the United States into chaos, and establishing a dictatorship.

Can the British be stopped? That, dear reader, has everything to do with the way you think.

See LaRouche on Cable TV

INTERNET

- BCAT.TV/BCAT Click BCAT-2 Mon: 10 am (Eastern Time)
- LAROUCHEPUB.COM Click *LaRouche's Writings*. (Avail. 24/7)
- MNN.ORG Click *Watch Ch.57* Fri: 2:30 a.m. (Eastern Time)
- QUOTE-UNQUOTE.COM Click on *Ch.27*. Tue. 6 pm (Mtn.)
- SCAN-TV.ORG Click *Scan on the Web (Pacific Time)*. Ch.23: Wed. 7 am Ch.77: Mon. 11 am
- WUWF.ORG Click *Watch WUWF-TV*. Last Mon 4:30-5 pm (Eastern)

INTERNATIONAL

THE PHILIPPINES

- MANILA CH.3: Tue 9:30 pm

ALABAMA

- UNIONTOWN GY Ch.2: Mon-Fri every 4 hours; Sun Afternoons

ALASKA

- ANCHORAGE GCI Ch.9: Thu 10 pm

CALIFORNIA

- CONTRA COSTA CC Ch.26: 2nd Tue 7 pm
- COSTA MESA TW Ch.35: Thu 5:30 pm
- LANCASTER/PALMDALE TW Ch.36: Sun 1 pm
- LONG BEACH CH Analog Ch.65/69 & Digital Ch.95: 4th Tue 1-1:30 pm
- ORANGE COUNTY (N) TW Ch.95/97/98: Fri 4 pm

COLORADO

- DENVER CC Ch.56 Sun 10 am

CONNECTICUT

- GROTON CC Ch.12: Mon 5 pm
- NEW HAVEN CC Ch.23: Sat 6 pm
- NEWTOWN CH Ch.21: Mon 12:30 pm; Fri 7 pm
- NORWICH CC Ch.14: Thu 7:30 pm
- SEYMOUR CC Ch.10: Tue 10 pm

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- WASHINGTON CC Ch.95 & RCN Ch.10: Irregular

FLORIDA

- ESCAMBIA COUNTY CX Ch.4: Last Sat 4:30 pm

ILLINOIS

- CHICAGO CC./RCN/WOW Ch.21: Irregular
- PEORIA COUNTY IN Ch.22: Sun 7:30 pm
- QUAD CITIES MC Ch.19: Thu 11 pm
- ROCKFORD CC Ch.17 Wed 9 pm

IOWA

- QUAD CITIES MC Ch.19: Thu 11 pm

KENTUCKY

- BOONE/KENTON COUNTIES IN Ch.21: Sun 1 am; Fri Midnight
- JEFFERSON COUNTY IN Ch.98: Fri 2-2:30 pm

LOUISIANA

- ORLEANS PARISH CX Ch.78: Tue 4 am & 4 pm

MAINE

- PORTLAND TW Ch.2: Mon 1 & 11 am; 5 pm

MARYLAND

- ANN ARUNDEL CC Ch.99; FIOS Ch.42: Tue & Thu: 10 am; Fri & Sat: midnight
- P.G. COUNTY CC Ch.76 & FIOS Ch.42: Wed & Fri: 6 pm
- MONTGOMERY COUNTY CC/RCN/FIOS Ch.21: Tue 2 pm

MASSACHUSETTS

- BROOKLINE CV & RCN Ch.3: Mon 3:30 pm; Tue 3:30 am; Wed 9 am & 9 pm;
- CAMBRIDGE CC Ch.10: Tue 2:30 pm; Fri 10:30 am
- FRANKLIN COUNTY (NE) CC Ch.17: Sun 8 pm; Wed 9 pm; Sat 4 pm
- QUINCY CC Ch.8: Pop-ins.
- WALPOLE CC Ch.8: Tue 1 pm

MICHIGAN

- BYRON CENTER CC Ch.25: Mon 2 & 7 pm
- DETROIT CC Ch.68: Irregular
- GRAND RAPIDS CC Ch.25: Irreg.
- KALAMAZOO CH Ch.20: Tue 11 pm; Sat 10 am
- KENT COUNTY (North) CH Ch.22: Wed 3:30 & 11 pm
- KENT COUNTY (South) CC Ch.25: Wed 9:30 am
- LAKE ORION CC Ch.10: Mon/Tue 2 & 9 pm
- LANSING CC Ch.16: Fri Noon
- LIVONIA BH Ch.12: Thu 3 pm
- MT. PLEASANT CH Ch.3: Tue 5:30 pm; Wed 7 am
- SHELBY TOWNSHIP CC Ch.20 & WOW Ch.18: Mon/Wed 6:30 pm
- WAYNE COUNTY CC Ch.16/18: Mon 6-8 pm

MINNESOTA

- ALBANY AMTC Ch.13: Tue & Thu: 7:30 pm
- CAMBRIDGE US Ch.10: Wed 6 pm
- COLD SPRING US Ch. 10: Wed 6 pm
- COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CC Ch.15: Tue 9 pm
- DULUTH CH Ch.20: Mon 9 pm; Wed 12 pm, Fri 1 pm
- MARSHALL Prairie Wave & CH Ch.35/8: Sat. 9 am
- MINNEAPOLIS TW Ch.16: Tue 11 pm
- MINNEAPOLIS (N. Burbs) CC Ch.15: Thu 3 & 9 pm
- NEW ULM TW Ch. 14: Fri 5 pm
- PROCTOR MC Ch. 12: Tue 5 pm to 1 am
- ST. CLOUD CH Ch.12: Mon 6 pm
- ST. CROIX VALLEY CC Ch.14: Thu 1 & 7 pm; Fri 9 am
- ST. LOUIS PARK CC Ch.15: Sat/Sun Midnite, 8 am, 4 pm
- ST. PAUL CC Ch.15: Wed 9:30 pm
- ST. PAUL (S&W Burbs) CC Ch.15: Wed 10:30 am; Fri 7:30 pm
- SAULK CENTRE SCTV Ch.19: Sat 5 pm

- WASHINGTON COUNTY (South) CC Ch.14: Thu 8 pm

NEVADA

- BOULDER CITY CH Ch.2: 2x/day: am & pm
- WASHOE COUNTY CH Ch.16: Thu 9 pm

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- CHESTERFIELD CC Ch.8: Wed 8 pm
- MANCHESTER CC Ch.23: Thu 4:30 pm

NEW JERSEY

- BERGEN CTY TW Ch.572: Mon & Thu 11 am; Wed & Fri 10:30 pm
- MERCER COUNTY CC Trenton Ch.26: 3rd & 4th Fri 6 pm Windsors Ch.27: Mon 5:30 pm
- MONTVALE/MAHWAH CV Ch.76: Mon 5 pm
- PISCATAWAY CV Ch.15: Thu 11:30 pm
- UNION CC Ch.26: Irregular

NEW MEXICO

- BERNALILLO COUNTY CC Ch.27: Tue 2 pm
- LOS ALAMOS CC Ch.8: Wed 10 pm
- SANTA FE CC Ch.16: Thu 9 pm; Sat 6:30 pm
- SILVER CITY CC Ch.17: Daily 8-10 pm
- TAOS CC Ch.2: Thu 7 pm

NEW YORK

- ALBANY TW Ch.18: Wed 5 pm.
- BETHLEHEM TW Ch.18: Thu 9:30 pm
- BRONX CV Ch.70: Wed 7:30 am
- BROOKLYN CV Ch.68: Mon 10 am TW Ch.35: Mon 10 am RCN Ch.83: Mon 10 am FIOS Ch.43: Mon 10 am
- BUFFALO TW Ch.20: Wed & Fri 10:30-11pm
- CHEMUNG/STEBEN TW Ch.1/99: Tue 7:30 pm
- ERIE COUNTY TW Ch.20: Thu 10:35 pm
- IRONDEQUOIT TW Ch.15: Mon/Thu 7 pm
- JEFFERSON/LEWIS COUNTIES TW Ch.99: Irregular
- MANHATTAN TW & RCN Ch.57/85 Fri 2:30 am
- ONEIDA COUNTY TW Ch.99: Thu 8 or 9 pm
- PENFIELD TW Ch.15: Irregular
- QUEENS TW Ch.56: 4th Sat 2 pm RCN Ch.85: 4th Sat 2 pm
- QUEENSBURY TW Ch.71: Mon 7 pm
- ROCHESTER TW Ch.15: Sun 9 pm; Thu 8 pm
- ROCKLAND CV Ch.76: Tue 5 pm
- SCHENECTADY TW Ch.16: Fri 1 pm; Sat 1:30 am
- STATEN ISLAND TW Ch.35: Mon & Thu Midnite. TW Ch.34: Sat 8 am
- TOMPKINS COUNTY TW Ch.13: Sun 12:30 pm; Sat 6 pm

- TRI-LAKES TW Ch.2: Sun 7 am, 1 pm, 8 pm
- WEBSTER TW Ch.12: Wed 9 pm
- WEST SENECA TW Ch.20: Thu 10:35 pm

NORTH CAROLINA

- HICKORY CH Ch.6: Tue 10 pm
- MECKLENBURG COUNTY TW Ch.22: Sat/Sun 11 pm

OHIO

- AMHERST TW Ch.95: 3X Daily
- CUYAHOGA COUNTY TW Ch.21: Wed 3:30 pm
- OBERLIN Cable Co-Op Ch.9: Thu 8 pm

OKLAHOMA

- NORMAN CX Ch.20: Wed 9 pm

PENNSYLVANIA

- PITTSBURGH CC Ch.21: Thu 6 am

RHODE ISLAND

- BRISTOL, BARRINGTON, WARREN Full Channel Ch.49: Tue: 10 am
- EAST PROVIDENCE CX Ch.18; FIOS Ch.25: Tue: 6 pm
- STATEWIDE RI INTERCONNECT CX Ch.13; FIOS Ch.32 Tue 10 am

TEXAS

- HOUSTON CC Ch.17 & TV Max Ch.95: Wed 5:30 pm; Sat 9 am
- KINGWOOD CB Ch.98: Wed 5:30 pm; Sat 9 am

VERMONT

- BRATTLEBORO CC Ch.8: Mon 6 pm, Tue 4:30 pm, Wed 8 pm
- GREATER FALLS CC Ch.10: Mon/Wed/Fri 1 pm
- MONTPELIER CC Ch.15: Tue 10 pm; Wed 3 am & 4 pm

VIRGINIA

- ALBEMARLE COUNTY CC Ch.13: Sun 4 am; Fri 3 pm
- ARLINGTON CC Ch.69 & FIOS Ch.38: Tue 9 am
- CHESTERFIELD COUNTY CC Ch.17; FIOS Ch.28: Mon 1 pm
- FAIRFAX CX & FIOS Ch.10: 1st & 2nd Wed 1 pm; Sun 4 am. FIOS Ch.41: Wed 6 pm
- LOUDOUN COUNTY CC Ch.98 & FIOS Ch.41: Wed 6 pm
- ROANOKE COUNTY CX Ch.78: Tue 7 pm; Thu 2 pm

WASHINGTON

- KING COUNTY CC Ch.77: Mon 11 am, Wed 7 am BS Ch.23: Mon 11 am, Wed 7 am
- TRI CITIES CH Ch.13/99: Mon 7 pm; Thu 9 pm

WISCONSIN

- MARATHON CH Ch.10: Thu 9:30 pm; Fri 12 Noon
- MUSKEGO TW Ch.14: Sat 4 pm; Sun 7 am

WYOMING

- GILLETTE BR Ch.31: Tue 7

MSO Codes: AS=Astound; BD=Beld; BR=Bresnan; BH=BrightHouse; BS = Broadstripe; CV=Cablevision; CB=Cebridge; CH=Charter; CC=Comcast; CX=Cox; GY=Galaxy; IN=Insight;

MC=MediaCom; TW=TimeWarner; US=US Cable. FIOS=Verizon FIOS-TV.

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