

Russian TV Airs LaRouche Warnings on Mideast War

On the evening of Aug. 16, Russia's biggest prime-time TV news show featured warnings from Lyndon LaRouche, and his magazine, *Executive Intelligence Review*. LaRouche, who had been interviewed that morning by Russia's First Channel (1TV), was shown on the 9:00 p.m. *Vremya* program. He was quoted, along with other experts, including former Russian Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov, on the previous week-end's truce in Lebanon.

Three minutes into the program, correspondent Grigori Yemelyanov presented a segment titled "Experts comment on the outcome of the war in Lebanon." Primakov, Knesset member Roman Bronfman, and Lebanon's Minister of Energy Muhammed Fneish were heard talking about Israel's failure to achieve its objective of wiping out Hezbollah in Lebanon. The segment emphasized that the situation remains dangerous: "The truce is fragile and unstable. The situation may develop in any direction: towards consolidation of peace, or it could lead to a new conflict."

In amplification of this warning, the *Vremya* broadcast then shifted to a recent exposé, published in *EIR*. The clip displayed the headline of Jeffrey Steinberg's Aug. 11 *EIR* article, "Will Bush 'October Surprise' Scam Trigger World War III?" Yemelyanov reported, "The American weekly *Executive Intelligence Review* writes about the plans of the White House to draw Syria into the conflict and, through it, Iran, which has a mutual assistance treaty with Damascus. The journalists call this plan 'Bush's October Surprise': according to their information, the American administration is planning to provoke war between Syria and Israel in October. The plan would involve the planting of some weapons of mass destruction in Syria, by special forces, which would then 'accidentally' be discovered by Israeli soldiers during an intervention."

The video then cut to footage from the interview with LaRouche. As LaRouche, identified as editor-in-chief of *EIR*, was shown speaking to First Channel's correspondent, the Russian voiceover continued to summarize Steinberg's article: "If events develop according to that scenario, Iran would

be unlikely to stay out of the conflict. And then it would already be impossible to stop a big war in the Middle East. Instead of seeking a compromise at the negotiating table, the American administration is doing everything it can to provoke a full-scale war."

The fact that 1TV is largely owned by the Russian government, clearly indicates that the Russian state itself considers LaRouche's warnings to be of crucial importance in the current strategic situation.

The remarks by Primakov, included in *Vremya*'s broadcast, came from a special briefing the former Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, and intelligence chief gave at the Russian Foreign Ministry press center. Primakov said that Israel had to be considered to have lost the Lebanon campaign, because its objectives were not achieved.

Primakov, who is Russia's senior expert on the Arab world, made additional, very pointed statements about the outbreak of the conflict. "The kidnapping of the Israeli soldiers was a pretext, not the cause of Israel's invasion of Lebanon," he said, according to *Izvestia*. He referred to "reports in the U.S. media, that Israel had been preparing for this war for a long time." Echoing the analysis of Gen. Leonid Ivashov, Primakov charged that another scenario was for Syria or Iran, if they were to intervene in the conflict in some way, to be bombed, as well. "That is most likely the reason," he said, "that for such a long time the Americans were so lukewarm about seeking a speedy ceasefire." (See *EIR* of Aug. 18 for translated excerpts of Ministry of Defense international department chief Ivashov's Aug. 7 analysis, in which he quoted LaRouche.)

Primakov expressed hope that diplomacy can now be pushed ahead. About the current U.S. role, he commented with irony about the "Trotskyite" ("permanent revolution/permanent war") factor: "I don't think it's in U.S. interests to support confrontation in the Middle East. But they won't pressure Israel, due to the upcoming U.S. elections. I hope Washington has learned some lessons from what happened, and will correct their plans to export democracy and revolu-

tions around the world. The Trotskyites already demonstrated that this doesn't work."

At the same time, Primakov said that it is essential now to use the recognition of Israel's miscalculation, "in order to prod Tel Aviv into peace negotiations." He said that Russian diplomacy is working hard in that direction. Indeed, a Russian Foreign Ministry statement on talks held Aug. 14 between Foreign Ministry Sergei Lavrov and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, announced that they had focussed on the need to "work out a formula for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East." Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Kamynin said that, with the ceasefire in effect, "everything possible should be done to secure a decisive breakthrough to something better, and prevent backsliding." On Aug. 16, Kamynin said that Russia is calling for resumption of Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, without which other long-standing crises in the region cannot be addressed.

The Aug. 16 Vremya news broadcast, in Russian, can be viewed on www.ltv.ru.

Documentation

Lyndon LaRouche was interviewed Aug. 16 on Russia's First Channel TV, for its "Vremya" evening news, which aired a segment among its top news items. Footage of LaRouche filmed during its recording was included in the broadcast, but with a different text voiced over. Here is the interview transcript.

Q: So, the war is over, but who is the winner? Who is the loser? What do you think?

LaRouche: Well, there's no winner, there's no loser, really. Because what you're dealing with is an aspect of global asymmetric warfare, which is the situation in Southwest Asia, which threatens every part of the world. This could be an ignition point for the world as a whole. My concern has been to stop this war. We apparently have temporarily delayed it: Now we have to do something to stop it.

Q: And what do you think about the role of the United States, about the role of the Bush Administration in the conflict?

LaRouche: The Bush Administration, I think the President himself is completely confused, and he's shown no comprehension of the situation he's in. Cheney is a sociopath, and knows fully what he's doing. Their intention was to create a situation for the bombing of Iran; that was their target. But the target is much bigger: It's global. We're looking at the danger of a crash of the financial system, which always is dangerous in world politics, and this means the whole world could be involved in asymmetric warfare, of a new type. Not something without precedent, but asymmetric warfare under today's conditions.

Q: Do you think there's going to be the next world war, because of the mistaken steps of the United States? Or—?

LaRouche: Well, it's more than that. The problem lies essentially with an international financier group, which is actually the same financier group which was behind the Hitler operation earlier. It's the Synarchist International and certain of its London and Dutch relations. They're out to play a game now. It's a very dangerous game: It's called globalization, and they're determined to do it. So, it's the equivalent of a world war.

The problem is, that unlike the Nazis, these characters are not technologically competent. Therefore, they will only make a mess of everything. My hope is that by the methods proposed by Yossi Beilin, that we could introduce a factor from within Israel itself, which would open up the way for negotiation, so we can stabilize the situation, and then we have a chance, between now and November, hopefully, to deal with the problem inside the United States.

Q: How do you see the perspective in the Middle East in the future?

LaRouche: The future is—we have to look at, primarily, as I'm going to be dealing with this in Berlin, in a conference I'm giving there on the 6th of next month; we need to go to what is understood in Russia as the Eurasian model of cooperation: Which means a Eurasian approach, in which the technology of Europe is harnessed again, to be of service to developing Asia. If we have a Eurasian orientation of that type, we can then use that as an economic recovery program to bring peace to Eurasia. If we bring peace to Eurasia, we have secured peace.

Q: The United States sold different kinds of weapons to Israel. What do you think? Was it right? Or . . . ?

LaRouche: The U.S., right now, on weapons, is crazy. The Administration is crazy. And most of our senior generals, and others who are experts, and intelligence people, would say this is crazy. The U.S. policy is clinically insane.

They're proposing a war which nobody can win, and everybody can lose. This is a different kind of situation. And their mentality is such, they have no comprehension of what they're doing. In my view—I know some of these people, they're absolutely crazy. They have no conception of reality whatsoever. They're living in an illusion.

Our problem is, to bring forces in the world which are rational, including those in the United States, into conjunction to bring about a new world order, based on the reality of a breakdown of the system; and use the Eurasian cooperation, which is typified by the relationship to the Shanghai Cooperation Council, use that as a vehicle for rebuilding the world economy. You have to change the mission from one of conflict to one of cooperation. And I think the possibility exists, because the need for cooperation is great, particularly on economic questions.