

## LaRouche: 'Could be worse than Sarajevo'

*Lyndon LaRouche had the following comments to make on the unfolding Middle East conflict on Aug. 16. His statement was transcribed from remarks he made by telephone from the federal facility in Rochester, Minnesota, where he has become the nation's most celebrated political prisoner.*

The report from London goes somewhat as follows: "We, of British Petroleum, are prepared to fight the enemy on the air, on the sea, and in the desert, until the last drop of American blood is shed."

We all know who that is, but it may have been, for all we know, Margaret Thatcher. In any case, the word today seems to be, and I find it highly credible, because of the sources and because of the specific kinds of points these sources make, that the Anglo-Americans—i.e., American blood steered by British brains, if you know what I mean—will be going into Iraq, and possibly something earlier against King Hussein of Jordan, by between the first and the middle of September, approximately.

There are a lot of typically American features to this deployment, the famous American *Erdgeist* which are called "snafus." They come from all kinds of places: the ground, the trees, the rocks, the sky—they're all over the place; but even barring snafus, which seem to be all over the place, they're often in command. You can tell a snafu: It wears either a colonel's eagles or a star or two. Four-star snafus are to be expected these days. This bunch of idiots is headed for a war.

The interesting thing, when I say the Anglo-Americans—and I cite the interests of British Petroleum in a kind of post-graveyard neo-Winston Churchill deployment—is that this thing was indeed set up and conceived by the British. What's conceived here is to train the Americans to conduct "splendid little wars, you know," on behalf of the mother country. The mother country being, in this case Shakti or the Whore of Babylon. That's what we're headed for.

This has to be laid out—not as a prediction; we can't predict anything. There are major diplomatic moves. We would hope that by emphasizing this as our bit in the process, that previously brought to bear, we would prevent a very stupid thing from happening. Nonetheless, we have to fore-

cast that that is the direction in which preparations are moving, for a capability between the first and middle of September approximately, at which point the general in whom George Bush places the greatest confidence, four-star General Snafu, will unleash some kind of a war against Iraq of the type we saw in the Malvinas—which the British call the Falklands, the illiterates call the Falklands—Grenada, Panama, and now this "splendid little operation" in the sands of the desert out there athwart Kuwait.

### **The economy is collapsing**

What the devil do these idiots think will happen to the price of petroleum under these circumstances? And if petroleum should go up, nothing would be a geyser in petroleum, except the price. What happens then to the related price of gold? And what does such a rise of oil and gold signify, respecting the values of the British and U.S. economies?

The U.S. and British economies are ready for the scrapheap. Britain can stand it, because in Britain, they don't care about people or the domestic economy. Britain is, today, merely a place in which to situate the City of London and Buckingham Palace. Otherwise, Britain doesn't count. It just runs the world, sort of like the Venice of the North. The U.S. doesn't function, except to the degree it has muscle, because we don't have much in the way of brains in Washington. We have to function on brawn. Good old popular brawn! No brains! And what happens when our brawn goes? Our economy is collapsing. What happens to the economy, if the price of petroleum goes to \$40 to \$50 to \$60 or even higher per barrel? With the U.S. dollar collapsing in the way it is, as a signal of which direction we're going in?

Somebody must awaken to reality. The problem here is that George Bush and company, in Washington, are besieged and occupied by a flight from reality, a flight forward from reality. They believe that somehow this war is going to carry them away from the reach of a financial crisis at home. They don't understand the situation. They don't understand, because they don't wish to understand; in net effect, they are hysterically determined not to understand.

So, barring calmer heads' intervention, or the intervention of events, such as a collapse of the U.S. markets beforehand, we may expect a dirty operation in the Middle East by mid-September, approximately. That's a general forecast of one aspect of this thing. We must hope, however, that something *does* intervene to prevent that from happening. We must hope that some of these diplomatic initiatives will be successful. And we must contribute our warnings of the consequences, to emphasize the point that "you'd better find another way, buddy, rather than that bloody business/bloody sand operation" which some people have planned.

You unleash something that cannot be stopped. A U.S. attack on Iraqi forces, of the type seemingly now in progress, would be worse than Sarajevo. You think the world is under control? See it come apart fast, in the wake of that.