

last year, formally through General Dudayev, the ex-Russian Air Force general who seized power in the North Caucasus republic of Chechnya, and seceded from Russia. In reality, however, it is steered by Russia as an ideal tool for stripping away territories from Georgia, thus allowing Russia to reconquer the Caucasus with most of the casualties occurring among the "natives." The Dudayev operation has tapped the reservoir of Afghan war veterans among ethnic groups like the Chechens, Ossetians, Cherkessians, and Kabardiners, who, outfitted with weapons and hard currency, have become the main cannon fodder in the war against Georgia.

Documentation

LaRouche warned about 'Third Rome' in 1983

In a recent radio interview, imprisoned U.S. statesman Lyndon LaRouche warned that an imperial policy is returning in the former Soviet Union, and harkened back to his forecasts of ten years ago. Recalling the spring of 1983, "in our study of the way in which the Soviet reactions to the Reagan announcement of SDI had come," LaRouche said: "We assumed that what was in process in Russia, was a process of a breakdown of the Soviet system, the bolshevik system, and that all the indications showed culturally a medium- to long-term trend in progress toward a Great Russian revival." The Soviet Union would cease to be a bolshevik state, and would become a "Dostoevskyan Third Rome state centered around the ideology of the Russian Orthodox Church (not the church as such, but its ideology), as a replacement for the Communist Party for defining a new kind of Russian imperium," he recalled.

LaRouche underlined in his recent comments, "We were not forecasting or predicting in any astrological sense, but that was what was going to happen unless the United States and other states did something to make the SDI work." Instead, "The Russians, first Andropov and then Gorbachov, rejected President Reagan's offer" to share the SDI technologies.

Later, "once the 1989-90 breaking of the Wall had occurred, when the United States, led by filthy, dirty carpetbaggers like this George Soros of derivatives notoriety, had gotten his four feet in the trough over there in Moscow, and the United States began to back him with things like Soros's pet from Harvard Jeffrey Sachs, the policy in Russia shifted away from a momentary turn toward affection and trust in the United States, back toward rage against the United States and others."

Thus, in the past 12 months or so, LaRouche observed, Russia rapidly has been moving in the direction of the "Third Rome" model, based on the Russian Orthodox Church as an

ideological reference point, to replace communism. The Third Rome was the self-description of Moscow as capital of the "third and final" Roman empire, which was coined in the 16th century to justify the Muscovites' intransigent rejection of western ideals of the necessity of progress, coming out of the Golden Renaissance. Today, this trend "is accelerated by the cowardice of the United States in backing down before Britain and France" on the murders of Bosnians by Milosevic's fascist Serb party.

LaRouche's first in-depth analyses of the "Third Rome" danger were printed in the June 7 and 14, 1983 issues of *EIR*. In the June 14, 1983 issue, in a feature-length article titled "Yuri Andropov: 'Czar of Holy Mother Russia,'" LaRouche described the situation thus: "The variety of 'Russian soul' which these scholarly gentlemen have brought to the surface in Soviet foreign policy, is of the stuff of which a Czar Ivan the Terrible or Rasputin was made in the past. It is a sly, dissimulating, religious-fanatical beast. It can be clever, intelligent in matters of technique, and to that extent appear urbane and civilized. It is at the same time a monster obsessed, beyond all reach of reason, with mystical faith in the magical powers of the Holy Russian Soil and People. . . ."

"There is only one way to deal with such a beast, to offer it peace and Russian survival from a standpoint of overwhelming raw power and manifest determination to use that power if necessary. As long as we refuse to present Moscow such a clear set of alternatives of this exact type, [the Russian leader] will alternately hiss and smile—like a cobra—until he strikes."

Already, as LaRouche put it in 1983, "Over the middle 1960s, recognizably 'Marxist' philosophy lost efficient grip in the shaping of Soviet policies, except as part of institutions left over from preceding periods. . . . By 1972, the drift toward a Third Rome policy-paradigm in Soviet foreign policy was sufficiently evident, that the author and his associates elaborated and published a review of these features of 'detente' which we entitled 'The New Constantinople' hypothesis."

For issuing this analysis in 1983, LaRouche recalled, "We were attacked for that from many quarters; we discussed that extensively with the National Security Council, the CIA, and other people in the United States in particular; they acknowledged some of this material, but they disagreed. They saw no danger of this sort. They didn't agree with us on this, and here we are, and all those in the world who disagreed with us, or who took policies in a direction which ignored our warning, have now failed rather miserably."

He concluded: "We are now at the point where, unfortunately, what I warned against back in 1983, is now all coming true. And we want to see how many people are honest enough to admit that we were right, not just for the purpose of admitting we were right, but to admit that our *method* of policy outlook was correct, whereas their contrary methods of policy outlook, have been discredited by reality."