

Lee: 'The best bloody Englishman east of Suez'

Singapore has shared with Hongkong the distinction of being an island run by British intelligence. Although Singapore became nominally independent in the 1960s, Lee Kuan Yew continued to serve as, in effect, the British Governor General, overseeing the offshore banking haven and protecting the drug-money laundering.

With the death of Mao Zedong, Lee began a collaboration with the reform faction in the Chinese leadership, centered around Deng Xiaoping and Zhao Ziyang, while his economic czar, Goh Keng Swee, went to Beijing as an adviser. At about the same time, Lee converted overnight to Confucianism, although grossly misinformed about the true character of Confucianism, which had previously been neither part of his education nor part of his political worldview. He began discussing the potential of a "Greater China," an Asianized update of Max Weber's *Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. Just as Weber had argued that Protestantism turned Western man into a profit-

oriented, Darwinian beast of prey, which supposedly caused the development of modern industrial capitalism, so Confucian ethics were declared by Lee to be at the root of the economic miracle of Japan and the "Little Tigers" of Taiwan, South Korea, Hongkong, and Singapore. Lee made no distinction between the State-directed, American System methods which guided the development of Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea, and the British, "Dope, Inc." source of the free-trade economies in Hongkong and Singapore. This confusion has had a dramatic impact on the course of the reform in China, since Deng Xiaoping and Zhao Ziyang modeled much of the reform on Lee Kuan Yew's Singapore, which Zhao referred to as "the eyes and mouth for China's stomach."

Lee embraces a bestial concept of man which is coherent with that of the Legalists of ancient China: "Certain basics about human nature do not change. . . . You are just an evil man, prone to do evil things, and you have to be stopped from doing them. Westerners have abandoned an ethical basis for society, believing that all problems are solvable by a good government, which we in the East never believed possible." Such a view, that the Chinese have always believed that strict punishment and reward, rather than "good government," is the primary basis for a moral society, or that man is essentially evil rather than essen-

proposal for an Asia-wide rail network to interface the Eurasian land-bridge, which will be pursued by a committee.

New 'balance of power': containing the U.S.

Pervading the diplomatic reports and media coverage of ASEM has been an overt declaration of intent to contain the influence of the United States in Asia. A cute formula, worthy of British geopoliticians, was invented, declaring that the world has become "triangular," with Europe, Asia, and the United States representing the three primary vertices of world trade, and that this triangle must be subject to a "balance of power." Accordingly, the United States is portrayed as too influential in Asia, due to its domination of the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, while the Europeans had been lax in their relations with Asia. In this manner, the establishment of a European-Asian dialogue at ASEM is construed as a "step toward establishing Europe as a strategic counterweight to the U.S.'s often overweening presence in the region," as editorially expressed by a newly established voice for the Empire, the *Asia Times*.

An examination of the U.S. policy changes over the past few years reveals a different story, however. APEC was set up in 1989 primarily through the efforts of Australia, the Commonwealth's primary asset in Asia, in close collaboration with the Bush administration, to create the semblance

of dialogue between Asian nations and the United States, Canada, and Australia, while the free trade policies of Margaret Thatcher and her lap dog George Bush were imposed, under the aegis of "supranational consensus." APEC encouraged the "globalization" of the West's low-skill process industries, which poured into the tax-free trade zones across Asia, exploiting the cheap labor, while the speculative disease from the hyperinflated financial markets in the West infected the increasingly deregulated Asian economies.

However, President Clinton initiated a dramatic change in U.S. foreign policy. In the summer of 1994, Commerce Secretary Ron Brown declared a new "National Export Strategy," which pledged government support for the fostering of advanced technological and heavy industrial exports into the developing sector, targeting 10 "Big Emerging Markets." These included China, Korea, and Indonesia. The policy explicitly called for an end to the "sourcing" of low-technology industries in the Third World (which simply used cheap labor to produce goods subsequently exported back into the United States), in favor of investments in major infrastructure and heavy industry, helping the most productive sectors of the U.S. economy while promoting real development in the underdeveloped nations. Commerce Secretary Brown announced that Clinton had "junked a 12-year tradition of *laissez-faire* government."

tially good, is to totally deny the very existence of Confucius and Mencius in Chinese history.

Lee Kuan Yew is a virulent eugenicist who believes that tropical races are genetically inferior to those from the temperate zones, which says much about his attitude concerning the racial differences between the Chinese and the Malays in his native land.

In a 1994 *Foreign Affairs* interview, Lee explicitly endorses the racist and fascist policies which were to be published later in the year by Charles Murray and the late Richard Herrnstein in *The Bell Curve*. He explained that the American Indians came from the same stock as the East Asians, but were cut off by the separation of the Bering Straits. "But if you start testing them," says Lee, "you find that they are different, most particularly in their neurological development and their cultural values. Now if you gloss over these kinds of issues because it is politically incorrect to study them, then you have laid a land mine for yourself. This is what leads to the disappointments with social policies, embarked upon in America with great enthusiasm and expectations, but which yield such meager results. There isn't a willingness to see things in their stark reality." It becomes clear why the 1960s British foreign secretary told Lee he was "the best bloody Englishman east of the Suez."—*Michael O. Billington*

Also, in March 1994, the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) system was scrapped, with the blessing of the Clinton administration. Cocom had been used to prevent the export of essential technologies to various nations under the guise of "dual use," whereby virtually any civilian technology could be demonstrated to have a potential military application, whether machine tools, computers, or fertilizers. Cocom's demise ended a wide range of senseless restrictions on development. Not surprisingly, *Far Eastern Economic Review* (owned by Dow Jones) has engaged in a crude slander campaign against U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry and other U.S. officials over supposed corruption in connection with high-technology exports to China, with the stated objective of reviving Cocom in its old form.

Although the Clinton administration has not been consistent in the application of the new National Export Strategy, the imperial free traders considered the policy to be one of several signs that Clinton would not follow the Royal Decrees emanating from London, as had his predecessor, George Bush. APEC was destined to be less effective in disciplining its member-nations to accept the free trade manna of deregulation, privatization, lower tariffs, and open markets. At the November 1995 APEC meeting in Osaka, which Clinton decided not to attend (primarily due to the budget battle with

the Conservative Revolutionists), the pro-development, anti-free trade impulses among the Asian nations tended to dominate the discussions. The international banking set had hoped that firm target dates would be set for reducing tariffs and implementing related concessions to free trade, but the declarations which emerged from the Osaka meeting were all modified by an agreement that such measures were "voluntary," according to the needs of each nation.

Palmerston and the 'Asian way'

To counter the perceived threat from the Clinton Presidency of a renewed American "FDR" tendency, the British have adopted classical colonial strategic methods, made infamous by Lord Palmerston in the 19th century, by sponsoring a "radical" identity for a new "Asian nationalism," carefully structured to be anti-American, but pro-free-trade and pro-British. Their anointed leader is Lee Kuan Yew, whose life has been dedicated to overseeing Singapore as a British banking enclave, a sister State to the drug-money haven of colonial Hongkong. Like Hongkong, the island of Singapore is small enough that the profits from financial flows, including from the Golden Triangle drug business, are adequate to create the appearance of prosperity without any agriculture or heavy industry. Lee has become the darling of the fascist economists promoting Newt Gingrich's murder spree against the U.S. population, and similar austerity in Europe.

Lee Kuan Yew, educated at Cambridge and admitted to the English bar in 1950, led Singapore through the process of achieving nominal independence from the British in the 1960s. He subsequently, in the 1980s, adopted a persona as a "Confucian" (based on an outrageously distorted view of Confucianism, as the accompanying box explains) as part of an effort to create an "Asian identity," custom-made for the Empire. Lee and his associates openly modelled their Singapore on Venice, which had allowed free rein for international banking and financial speculation, while retaining dictatorial control over the population.

Lee has been joined in this new Asian ideology project by his neighbor and Commonwealth ally, Malaysia's Mahathir Mohamad. Mahathir has built a reputation of himself as the radical among the Asian leaders, by standing up against often hypocritical Western demands in regard to human rights, environmentalism, etc. In 1994, Mahathir co-authored a book with the raving Japanese nationalist Shintaro Ishihara, called *The Asia That Can Say No*, which virulently defends British-style free trade and speculation, but under "Asian" control, and with the yen replacing the dollar as Asia's reserve currency. The copyright for the English edition states: "Sale of this edition is authorized only in Asia, but is strictly prohibited in . . . other countries throughout the world." Ishihara blames the demise of the West on monotheism (which doesn't seem to concern arch-Muslim Mahathir), while both of them virtually deny the existence of the Renaissance or the scientific revolution in Europe, accrediting the West's superior strength over