

into a suicidal Thirty Years' War misadventure across their northern border.

Sources close to the White House have been reporting for several months that Cheney has been waiting in the wings for Rice's diplomacy to hit a brick wall. At that point, the sources report, Cheney intends to step back into the limelight, and press President Bush to order military action against Iran. Plans have been on the drawing board at the Strategic Command for a year or more, for vigorous air strikes against as many as 40 sites inside Iran, said by the Cheney faction to be part of an underground nuclear weapons program.

Furthermore, the administration has been in talks with European NATO allies and Israel over the need to "take out" Iran's alleged asymmetric warfare asset, Hezbollah, prior to any direct confrontation with Tehran. From Cheney's point of view, the now ongoing Israeli incursion into Lebanon, which is moving as of this writing, into a fullscale ground invasion, is a critical first step towards a military confrontation with Iran, that, he hopes, will result in regime-change in Tehran. David Frum, the former Bush speechwriter who authored the now infamous "Axis of Evil" State of the Union address in January 2002, told the McClatchy newspapers that, "The reason he's [President Bush] been giving the green light

to Israel in southern Lebanon is he's heading toward a confrontation with Iran. Hezbollah is Iran's strongest weapon. That's what this is about—the United States benefits from taking away Iran's weapon."

Bush Eyes Armageddon

But for all of their imperial fantasies, Cheney—and, perhaps, even Abrams—are driven by real-world considerations like oil geopolitics, and the larger Synarchist drive to foment perpetual asymmetric warfare all across Eurasia, to shatter the Westphalian nation-state system. They are sickos to be sure, but not religious zealots, caught up in End Times fantasies and God complexes. Bush, on the other hand, is believed by some close observers to be in a paranoid, megalomaniacal state, in which he harbors Armageddonist delusions that God personally intervened to place him in the Presidency, to support Israel in the present bloody fiasco in Lebanon. If these reports have even a shred of truth behind them, the U.S.A., Israel, and the extended Southwest Asian region are in even more grave danger.

Dr. Justin Frank, the noted George Washington University Medical School psychiatrist and author of the book-length diagnosis of the President, *Bush on the Couch—Inside*

LaRouche Offers Qualified Endorsement of UN Res. 1701

On Friday, Aug. 11, 2006, the United Nations Security Council unanimously approved Resolution 1701, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Lebanon, and spelling out the terms of a phased withdrawal of all Israeli forces from Lebanon, as both an augmented United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL) and troops from the Lebanese Army, assume security control of the area south of the Litani River. The resolution held Hezbollah responsible for initiating the crisis, demanded the unconditional release of two Israeli hostages, and also encouraged "efforts aimed at urgently settling the issue of the Lebanese prisoners detained in Israel."

After carefully reviewing the events at the UN Security Council, Lyndon LaRouche declared on Aug. 12 that the resolution represented a qualified triumph for former Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, Brent Scowcroft, and others who worked with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to get the Lebanon crisis under control. Although critical of some features of Res. 1701, including the focus of blame on Hezbollah, and other concessions to Israel and to President Bush, LaRouche observed that

"these kinds of things happen" in the course of difficult diplomacy. "Sometimes the truth is sacrificed for the sake of peace."

LaRouche, however, added that the full truth must be told. The situation remains, he warned, "tricky as hell." There are players in Washington, Tel Aviv, and elsewhere, who want the war to go ahead, despite the actions by the UN Security Council. The recent hype of the terror threat in London is but one indication that there are many possible triggers for a renewed larger war. LaRouche called for effective security and intelligence work, to roll up the potential terrorist networks, while refusing to succumb to the kind of war-hype tactics employed by Bush, Cheney, and Blair around the London arrests.

LaRouche added that the greatest threat to peace is the state of mind of President Bush, himself. Watch for Benjamin Netanyahu to pull some major move inside Israel, in the name of Dick Cheney, LaRouche cautioned. While saner voices in the United States prevailed for the moment over the would-be mass murderers, the threat of war has not been eliminated. Just one look at John Bolton's face as Condi Rice was casting the vote in favor of Res. 1701, tells you that the war party is very upset, and will not give up.

LaRouche concluded, the people around the Bush Sr. family deserve credit for trying to stop the war. Will it succeed? That is unknown.—*Jeffrey Steinberg*