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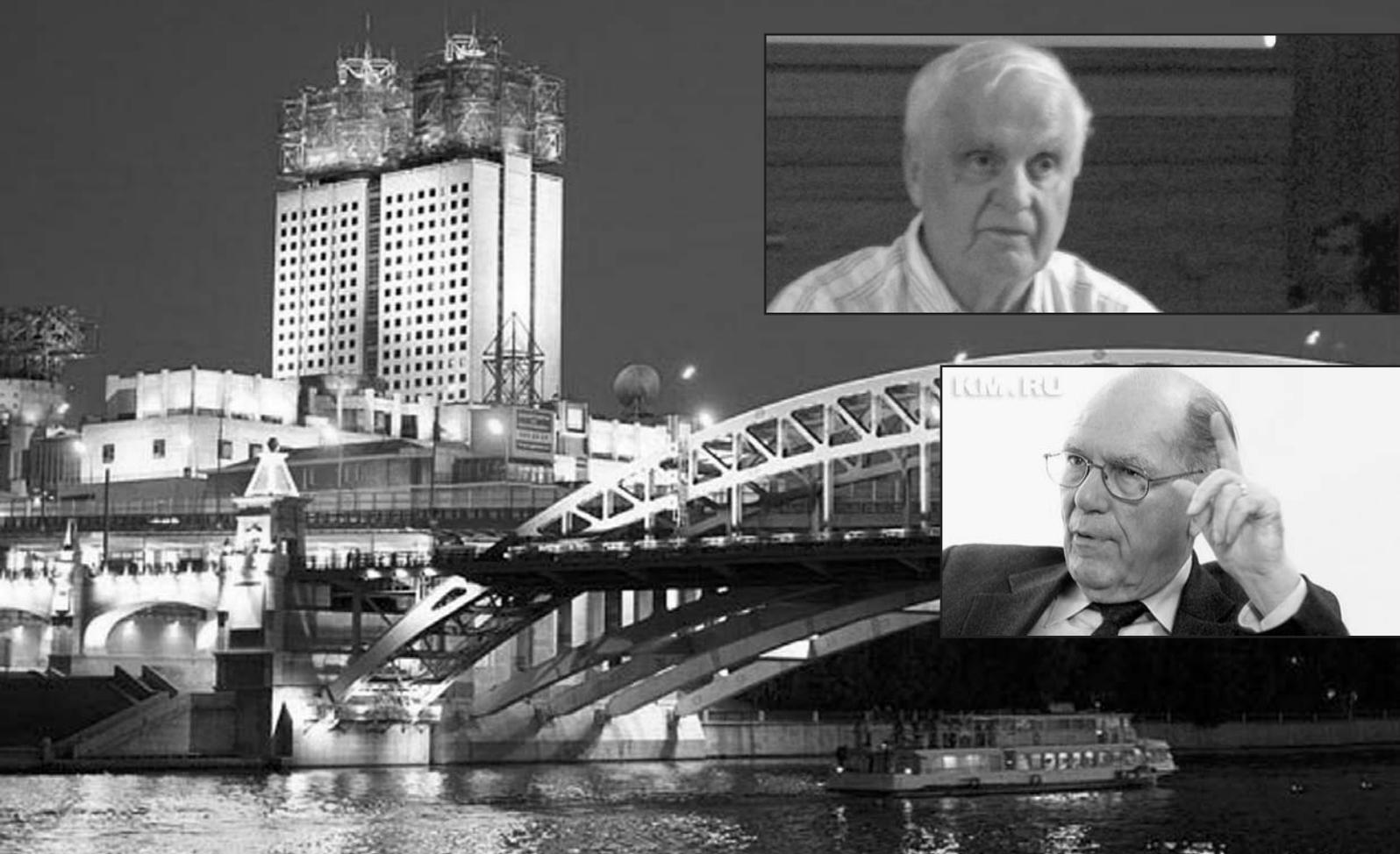
Executive Intelligence Review

May 25, 2007 Vol. 34 No. 21

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EIR (ISSN 0273-6314) is published weekly (50 issues), by EIR News Service, Inc., 729 15th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. (703) 777-9451

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Postmaster: Send all address changes to EIR, P.O. Box 17390, Washington, D.C. 20041-0390.

EIR

From the Editor

In the two weeks since the last *EIR* came out, the world has changed dramatically, and we have done our best to capture that shift in this issue, which is full of exclusive stories on the developments which will shape world history in the short term.

We begin with the most dramatic occurrence, Lyndon LaRouche's return to Moscow. LaRouche himself characterized that visit as crucial to the needed shift in the world strategic situation, toward a new partnership between the United States and Russia based on FDR principles. "We have re-established our presence and influence in Russia," LaRouche said, referring particularly to his personal intellectual presence. The impact in leading Russian circles is reflected in the introduction by the popular Russian web portal KM.ru to their May 15 interview with LaRouche: "The major American economist and political figure Lyndon LaRouche . . . was one of the first to launch a fight against the global financial oligarchy and its chief financial institutions, the World Bank and the IMF. His forecasting track record is unparalleled. . . ."

We also include LaRouche's speech to foreign diplomats in Washington prior to his trip. Next week, we will continue coverage of the Moscow visit, with transcripts of the speeches by Academy of Sciences honoree Prof. Stanislav Menshikov, and LaRouche, at the gathering of leading Russian personalities for Menshikov's 80th birthday.

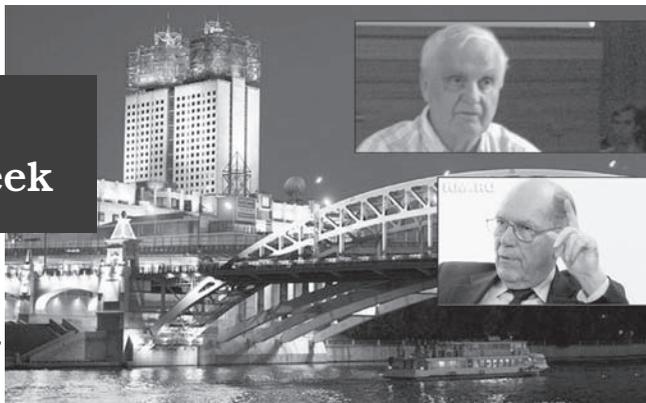
The last two weeks' strategic shifts also include the results of the French election, whose import is analyzed by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, and the motion toward impeachment of Dick Cheney and his puppet, which was the implicit topic of an extraordinary forum at the University of the District of Columbia on May 7. We publish a nearly full transcript of what amounts to expert testimony on Cheney's high crimes and misdemeanors.

Last but not least, as we go to press, we learned of the Massachusetts Democratic Convention's passage of two resolutions presented by the LaRouche Youth Movement, one on applying FDR's principle of the General Welfare to stopping the housing foreclosure crisis, and the other on "double impeachment." LaRouche commented: "There is a surge for dumping Cheney, which will overwhelm the efforts of moribund Democrats to stop it."



Cover This Week

The Academy of Sciences in Moscow, with insets of Prof. Stanislav Menshikov (top), who was honored there May 15-16, and Lyndon LaRouche, who was a guest of honor at the event.



4 Fête for Professor Menshikov: LaRouche in Russia Is Featured Guest at Academy of Sciences

Lyndon LaRouche travelled to Moscow to participate in the Russian Academy of Science's celebration of the 80th birthday of Stanislav Mikhailovich Menshikov, the prominent Russian economist. Professor Menshikov introduced LaRouche as his personal guest at the events.

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A popular Russian web portal interviewed LaRouche in Moscow, noting his opposition to the IMF and World Bank, and asking him about the economic crisis in the United States.

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- 72 Globalization Kills!**

Corrections: In the interview with Dr. Syun-Ichi Akasofu in *EIR* of May 11, pp. 57-61, the following errata should be noted: 1) the sea level rise over ten years is 1.7 cm (instead of 17 cm), and over 100 years is about 17 cm (instead of 170 cm); 2) on page 58, “a glacier is a river of ice”; 3) the last sentence should refer to an “auroral scientist” instead of “ordinary scientist.”

FÊTE FOR PROFESSOR MENSHIKOV

LaRouche in Russia Is Featured Guest at Academy of Sciences

by Rachel Douglas

Russian-American relations—adversarial as they were during the Cold War and collaborative as they might become in the next 20 to 50 years if the outlook and policies of Franklin Roosevelt were revived in the United States—were the thread running throughout the Russian Academy of Science’s celebration of the 80th birthday of Stanislav Mikhailovich Menshikov, the prominent Russian economist. Professor Menshikov introduced *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche as his personal guest at the events, held May 15 and 16 in Moscow. LaRouche’s own contributions, and responses to them by Academicians, Russian economists, and specialists in international affairs, shaped an impassioned discussion of the Earth’s next two to five decades.

During his short visit to Moscow on this occasion, LaRouche was in demand for a series of newspaper, Internet, and television interviews. In all these exchanges, LaRouche stressed the urgent need for such changes in the U.S. government, as would allow an American approach to Russia, China, and India with a proposal to immediately organize a new, development-oriented international monetary system. This “four-nation” policy for cooperation on transforming the world economy through the high-technology development of Eurasia, in particular, was put forward by LaRouche as a path away from the looming danger of spreading “permanent war,” and into the development of our planet, for which the next generations thirst. LaRouche emphasized that Russia’s own scientific heritage, from the time of Peter the Great in the early 18th Century, through scientists of the stature of Dmitri I. Mendeleev and Academician Vladimir I. Vernadsky, will be an essential element of the success of this effort.

Looking to 2027

At a special gathering, held in Menshikov’s honor on May 15 at the the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the retrospective on his long and varied



Courtesy of KM.ru

Lyndon LaRouche was an honored guest at the 80th birthday celebrations in Moscow of economist Stanislav Menshikov. Here, LaRouche is being interviewed by the popular Russian Internet site KM.ru, on May 15.

career was also transformed into a very forward-looking deliberation, by the honoree himself. Menshikov keynoted the session with a 20-year economic and strategic forecast, looking at the world as if from the standpoint of his 100th birthday, in 2027.

Menshikov first introduced his foreign guests, starting with LaRouche and Helga Zepp-LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute. He then developed alternative scenarios for Russia up to 2027, returning at the end of his lecture to LaRouche and Zepp-LaRouche's Land-Bridge and New Bretton Woods proposals as crucial to a shift for the better.

More than 50% of Russia's current economic growth, Menshikov said, is derived from burning up the skilled labor and fixed capital, created during the Soviet period. Those are "one-time" factors, meaning that in order to grow, Russia cannot do without new productive investment. President Putin took note of this in his recent speeches, Menshikov said, by talking about the need for an industrial policy. So far, Russian oligarchical capitalists do not want to make productive industrial investments, despite exhortations from Putin, but Menshikov pointed to the prospects for investment in infrastructure opening the way to a better policy.

If one might expect the world's largest economies in 2027 to be those of China, the U.S.A., India, Japan, and Russia, Menshikov said, clearly cooperation among them is essential. In particular, he said that the LaRouche Land-Bridge program can restructure the economies of all Eurasia.

This involves long-term projects, and thus the question of financing is a serious one, which can be solved through LaRouche's New Bretton Woods idea, Menshikov said. If Rus-

sia can rely on the China-India-Russia Eurasian triangle, but not forget cooperation with the industrialized nations, a "conflict-free situation" for development may be created, as against the stagnation and downturn that would otherwise occur.

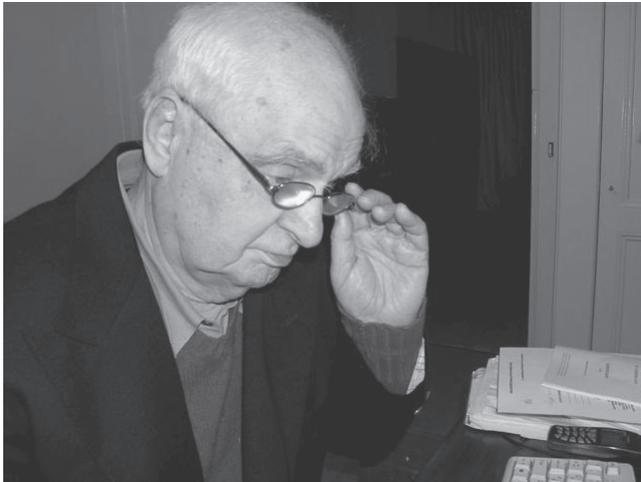
Lyndon LaRouche addressed the meeting immediately after Menshikov. He posed the question: What do we give to the future? In a situation where practically every country in Europe to the west of Belarus and Russia is close to being ungovernable and a "failed state," LaRouche said, the need is to change the world agenda. While politicians may be corrupt or incompetent, a quality of clearer thinking is available, for example, in the U.S.A., from among senior professionals in and around the institutions of government.

What happens in the next 20 years can be changed, LaRouche said, but the question is, who will do it. Who will not only forecast reality, but change it? LaRouche noted that President Putin has repeatedly cited the legacy of Franklin Roosevelt, especially, recently, in the context of the commemorations of World War II. Thus, the United States must approach Russia, India, and China with a Rooseveltian agenda for economic cooperation, subsequently bringing in smaller nations. Russia's scientific culture will be of great importance, LaRouche concluded, in furthering a dialogue among senior figures from those four countries, which will establish a sense of the reality of the possibilities for large-scale economic recovery and development.

Academician Valeri Makarov, a well-known mathematical economist, presided over the Academy of Sciences special session for Menshikov's jubilee. Among other speakers were Academician Ruslan Grinberg, and Academician Alexander Granberg, who worked with Menshikov in Novosibirsk. Last month, Granberg chaired the Moscow conference on "Megaprojects of Russia's East: A Eurasian-American Multimodal Transport Link Across the Bering Strait." Representatives of the U.S.A.-Canada Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences and of the Higher School of Economics also spoke.

The well-known former *Pravda* journalist Georgi Mirsky described Menshikov as a "flying creature," who worked all over the world, and always shared his talent. "You could never catch up with Menshikov," he said.

Professor Menshikov's wife, the economist Larissa Klimenko-Menshikova, as well as his daughters and other family members, were with him throughout the celebrations.



Stanislav Mikhailovich Menshikov, the prominent Russian economist, was honored at his 80th birthday by two days of events at the Russian Academy of Sciences. Menshikov keynoted the celebration May 15 with a 20-year strategic forecast, looking at the world as if from the standpoint of his 100th birthday.

Prof. Karel van Wolferen of the University of Amsterdam read greetings from University of Texas at Austin Professor James Galbraith, whose father, John Kenneth Galbraith, had a long and unique collaboration with Menshikov. Van Wolferen also made remarks of his own. A message from another long-time friend and associate of Menshikov, Prof. Angus Maddison of the University of Groningen (the Netherlands) and the University of Brisbane (Australia), was also read.

Love of Country, and Optimism

Dr. Sergei Glazyev, an economist who is a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences, arrived at the meeting directly from business at the State Duma, of which he is a member. Glazyev took up the difficulties of getting people to think (the Russian word for the parliament, *duma*, comes from the word for thinking) the way Stanislav Menshikov always has gotten people to think. He congratulated Menshikov on the great accomplishments of his life to date, which he said Menshikov had done, “with love for his country, and the confidence to live according to his own mind.”

Unlike some younger people who today are stuck in virtual reality, Glazyev said, Menshikov has always been reality-oriented, and, together with his willingness to look reality in the eye, he has provided in Russia and elsewhere a tremendous charge of optimism.

The celebratory session at the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences concluded with the presentation of three just-published books, which were announced by Georgi Tsagolov, a former student of Menshikov and now his co-author. One of them is the English translation of Menshikov’s *The*

Anatomy of Russian Capitalism, which EIR News Service brought out in March. This author, who translated *The Anatomy of Russian Capitalism*, reported to the meeting that the book is currently being circulated to members of the U.S. Congress, who need to grasp what Menshikov can tell them about the complex economic processes in Russia during the last 15 years. The exchange of key publications between Russia and America brings to mind, that 2007 also marks the 200th anniversary of Russian-American diplomatic relations, and of the publication in Russian of Alexander Hamilton’s *Report on Manufactures*.

Menshikov’s memoirs, just published in Russian under the title *About Our Time and About Myself*, were hailed by numerous participants in the Academy session and the May 16 celebratory banquet, for providing extraordinary insights into the history of the past 65 years. The third just-published volume is a survey, by Menshikov and Tsagolov, of some cases of Russian businesses that have actually contributed to development of the Russian economy, unlike the carpetbagging described in *The Anatomy of Russian Capitalism*.

Next week EIR’s report on LaRouche’s visit to Moscow will continue, with transcripts of presentations made at Professor Menshikov’s jubilee.

This English translation of the work of Russia’s authoritative economist, presents a critical analysis of the complex economic processes in Russia during the last 15 years.

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Top Russian Website Interviews LaRouche

On May 17 and 18, the popular Russian web portal KM.ru posted excerpts from an interview with Lyndon LaRouche, including a video of the conversation. LaRouche was interviewed in Moscow May 15 by correspondent Tamara Miodushevskaya.

A first installment ran in print on May 17, under the headline “American Economic Guru Forecasts Crisis in U.S.A.” The next day, the site put the whole interview online as the lead item at the center top of the KM.ru home page. It was illustrated with a picture of a nuclear mushroom cloud, and carried the headline, “World War III To Start in September,” which is not something LaRouche said in the interview, but serves as an attention-getter.

Our transcript of the English original is published by permission of KM.ru, while Miodushevskaya’s questions are shown as translated during the interview by Rachel Douglas of EIR.

KM.ru’s introduction: The major American economist and political figure Lyndon LaRouche is in Moscow for a short visit. He was one of the first to launch a fight against the global financial oligarchy and its chief financial institutions, the World Bank and the IMF. His forecasting track record is unparalleled. He gave us an exclusive interview about the future and present of the world economy.

KM.ru: Many people believe that there’s a very serious economic-financial crisis in the United States. The U.S. has the largest debt in the world, and there’s some belief that this could lead to a collapse of the dollar, and that the dollar could even stop being traded on international exchanges. How do you see this?

LaRouche: That’s often said, but it’s an inaccurate picture. The dollar has to be seen as the world’s reserve currency, still. If the dollar were to collapse, the Russian assets abroad would collapse. China would collapse. India would go into a major crisis. *The entire world economy would go into a dark age.*

The orchestrator of the problem is the British Empire. It’s the financial interests as-

sociated with Britain, which are the main enemy of the world today. Also, Russia, China, and India are enemies of Britain. These financier interests believe that they can sink the United States, and, by doing so, bring the rest of the world under British control. Actually, we’re on the edge of the threat of a new world war.

Therefore, just to give an indication, which may involve other questions: The only solution to keep the world from disintegrating now, is a very quick change in the composition of the government of the United States: It must occur this year. Beyond this year would be too late. And it must be on that basis, that the United States must make an offer to Russia (first), China, and India, to agree to set up a proposal for an immediate new, world monetary-financial system. And to bring other nations into that. But without the United States, Russia, China, and India, it’s not possible. That’s our situation.

KM.ru: At what point of decline of the dollar, what rate does the dollar have to hit, for it to be critically fatal for the whole world system?

LaRouche: It’s already ready to fall. The condition already exists. All it would take—it’s like a big balloon ready to explode. You prick the balloon, it goes. The greatest danger, is that the British interests will prick the balloon. The combination of financial interests which are controlled from London, and from the Cayman Islands, have the ability to blow the bubble any time they want to. There are a number of things, that could blow it: For example a war against Iran could blow



Courtesy of KM.ru

KM.ru’s interviewer Tamara Miodushevskaya speaks with LaRouche on May 15 in Moscow. “The only solution to keep the world from disintegrating now,” he said, “is a very quick change in the composition of the government of the United States: It must occur this year. Beyond this year would be too late.”



Stalin, Roosevelt, and Churchill at the Tehran wartime conference in 1943. Franklin Roosevelt's policy was to eliminate colonialism after the war—a policy which both the other leaders understood quite well. Churchill hated it bitterly, and after FDR's death, New York and London circles aborted the policy.

it. It would start a chain reaction. Or, there are a number of other conditions that could blow it. The global warming policy of Gore could blow it. For example, if the United Nations group got through a resolution in support of Gore's policy, it would blow the system.

This is a moment, where an entirely voluntary element in history is the crucial, deciding thing.

KM.ru: What are the prospects for the euro and the ruble on the world financial market?

LaRouche: The euro should die. The sooner it dies the better. If the dollar goes down, the world goes down. If the euro goes down, the world does not go down.

We have to be realistic: Every government in Europe, from the border of Russia and Belarus, is presently in an ungovernable state. Poland, bankrupt; Bulgaria, bankrupt; Slovakia's sick; Balkans, bankrupt; Germany, bankrupt. Italy is bankrupt, but that doesn't count.

France: France is ready to blow. The newly elected President is a fascist, *but* he is not going to have an easy time. Sarkozy is Vichy. It is a break with Gaullism; it is the end of

France.

Internally, Britain is bankrupt. The government of Britain is now unmanageable, since the last elections. Belgium is unmanageable.

So, Europe is, at this moment, as the nations of Europe, Western and Central Europe, now bankrupt. They've already been globalized: The power does not lie with the governments, it lies with a supranational financial interest.

KM.ru: In that kind of situation, you could see the euro being destroyed?

LaRouche: The euro *is* a destruction. It was created by Thatcher and Mitterrand to destroy Continental Europe. It has destroyed Germany. It's now virtually destroyed France. Every former Comecon nation, except Czechia, is bankrupt, and is ungovernable. And the governments are impotent. That's why Europe is not strategically significant.

It's the international financial interests: Russia, China, India, and the United States. That's it. The rest of the world is not deciding anything. If they don't work together, then the chain reaction of financial collapse will finish off the world. And after that, nobody knows.

KM.ru: So, as far as I understand what you're saying, if there's not very rapidly a change in the U.S. government, then the whole crash is going to just blow up. In your view, who could become a candidate? How would it work?

LaRouche: It's not important. You have a situation, in which a combination of forces in institutions inside the government will decide what will happen. There are powerful institutions, political institutions, inside and associated with the U.S. government. One part of it is fascist, already, including Al Gore and his friends. Another part is the opposition, of which I'm a part. We are mobilizing to try to do something. Throw Cheney away, put the President under supervision, and do what has to be done.

The discussion is around my proposal for the United States to approach Russia, China, and India. Our approach is based on President Putin's and others' statements on the subject of Franklin Roosevelt. That is the only way we'll make it, by having the United States adopt the image of Franklin Roosevelt in the last Depression for dealing with the present crisis. We're in a desperate crisis, where such kinds of sudden changes can be made.

KM.ru: Your views are very much respected and followed in Russia amongst economists, as well as politicians. Can you tell us the kind of discussions you are having, if it's not a secret? Or at least, what you're advising?

LaRouche: Well, the key thing, as I said, the solution is to go back to the philosophical basis and approach of Franklin Roosevelt. This was well known under the Stalin government.

Because Roosevelt had a plan for the post-war world, to eliminate colonialism. When Roosevelt died, financial circles in New York and London destroyed Roosevelt's policy.

As a veteran of World War II, I considered Harry Truman a pig.

We had a chance to bring together nations which did not agree with each other, to eliminate colonialism, and to organize an economic reconstruction of the world, and to use the United Nations as a vehicle for organizing sovereign nation-states to cooperate, and to assist nations which would be freed from colonialism. The world has changed, but the principle remains the same. And I believe that Russia, in its present situation, would accept such a policy. Therefore, that discussion is what I'm pushing. It's the only solution we have. Either that, or chaos.

KM.ru: Does there exist, or do you have a specific strategy for the development of Russian-American relations?

LaRouche: Yes, I do. But also, global.

There's a very specific problem—maybe I should explain this: Globalization is a fraud. Since 1989, you've had the destruction of the economy of Russia, deliberately. The greatest looting operation in history was run, up to the end of Yeltsin. Russia is, actually, organically, traditionally, what it is: It has its own culture. Russia has essentially an advanced European culture. It also is a Eurasian nation, by its recent history of the past four centuries. The great problem is typified by the problem of relations between Russia and the United States, on the one side, and China and India, on the other. The development of the natural-resources potential of Siberia and Central Asia is the key to the solution.

What's happened, is the destruction of Russia, and Western Europe, and the United States economies. The destruction of industry, the destruction of the standard of living of the lower 80% of family-income brackets. Then you have the fraud, which is typified by the case of China and India: India and China are the two nations which are most characteristic of the export of industrial production and so forth, out of Europe and the United States. But actually, China does not really benefit from this: China has billionaires, Communist billionaires. But the condition of the people is worse. The interior is collapsing. This is a colonial model! This is the British colonial model! You drop the price of production, by moving production into poor countries. You create a relatively wealthy class in a poor country, but you condemn the majority of the country to poverty. This is the globalization model.

China has achievements of some kind, which are very useful. *But*, China by itself would die, for lack of internal development of its whole population. India has a different, but similar situation. All of South Asia has the same problem. Africa is a disaster.

We've taken the industries, we moved them out of the formerly advanced countries, to poor countries, and we created the colonial model of Britain.

What you need is a 50-year agreement for high-technology investment. Europe and the United States are countries which have a high-technology culture, but they have been stripped of the ability to use it. Other countries have been given the technology to produce, but they haven't the culture to sustain it. It will take 50 years to fix that.

We must have a protectionist policy, worldwide: a fixed-exchange system, and a combination of 25- to 50-year, long-term agreements for high-technology development for the whole planet. It means that Russia, for example, has to change its ways and go in a high-technology direction for the whole population. And the high science culture of Russia is most important, especially in raw-materials development. Then we can solve the problem, if we get that agreement. Otherwise—*pf!*

KM.ru: Can you say in a little more detail: What would you identify as genuinely positive factors in Russia, that the West lacks?

LaRouche: Vernadsky. Mendeleev and Vernadsky. Look at the area of what was formerly the Soviet Union in Siberia. Look at the Arctic, the sub-Arctic region of Siberia. Under the tundra, you have vast valuable resources. You have to have the knowledge that the Vernadsky Institute, for example, in Moscow, typifies, in its archives. In the Academy of Science, you have buried talent and knowledge. Nobody, no other country but Russia knows how to develop that area in a rational way. And with the most populous areas of the world typified by China and India, 2-1/2 billion people, who are hungry for technology and for raw materials. Without a cultural revolution toward high-technology in China and India, the world can not survive.

You can not have this area looted; you have to have it developed. You have nations like Russia, Kazakstan, and so forth, which have this territory. You have knowledge in Russia, that goes from Peter the Great, with the development of mineralogy, to the end of the Soviet period. The other parts of the world would go into that territory and loot it, which would be a catastrophe for all Eurasia, if they did that. You can't go in the area to loot it, you must develop it.

So, we have a lot of work in that direction—we know how to do it.

KM.ru: Since you're speaking of the question of economic development policy, how do you see your cooperation with Yuri Krupnov and the Development Movement?

LaRouche: We've had discussion. We haven't had enough discussion. This involves a much deeper level of scientific and related discussion than we've had so far.



The Siberian Academy of Science, Institute of Fluid Mechanics. Asked about what Russia's unique contribution could be to a new world economic system, LaRouche pointed to the scientific legacy of V.I. Vernadsky and Dmitri Mendeleev, as well as the vast resources of Siberia.

EIRNS

KM.ru: I want to return to the smaller question of the position, or fate of the ruble in international markets. And if you would have any advice for Russian citizens on what currency they should keep their savings in?

LaRouche: No currency is safe in the world, as of now. It is possible to make the situation worse than it is, but it's not [possible], under the present circumstances, to make it better.

What you have to have, is, as I said, an initiative from the United States, to Russia, China, India. That would mean a long-term agreement, treaty agreements, of these four nations, plus others, to force the world into a fixed-currency system: the one crucial thing that almost no one in Europe understands has to be done. The advantage of the United States, the United States is, by its Constitution, a credit system, not a monetary system. Under the European system, especially the British system, governments are controlled by money, money is not controlled by governments. Under the U.S. Constitutional system, the only one in the world that's got it, *the U.S. dollar is controlled by the government*, not the government by the dollar. See, under every U.S. President, we have a fixed-exchange-rate system and a protectionist system.

The point is, the monetary interests would have to accept the fact that they have been defeated. You have to force a fixed-exchange-rate system on the world. Put the present world banking systems and monetary systems into receivership, for reorganization in bankruptcy. It's the American System: How can anybody complain? It's our system! The Constitutional system, not the one they have now. [laughing] It

takes nerve, but you've got to do it. Everything else would be a waste of time.

KM.ru: Some of our experts advise citizens to put their savings in physical gold, instead of securities. What do you personally do with your financial investments?

LaRouche: I don't have to worry about a problem like that. [laughter] I'm free of that option. Besides, it won't work anyway.

Governments must assist their people and protect them: protectionism. We don't want social chaos. We want people to have their own independence. Not just the millionaires, but also the poor people. The primary thing is, we must protect social stability. We must protect the poor people. If we don't protect essential industries, and the majority of the population is poor, around the world, 80%—you have to protect the stability of the family, protect the people, of the essential industries. You must have stable conditions for 50 years to come.

It's a matter of attitude: The people have to be convinced, justly, that the governments, together, whatever happens, the governments will work to come to the rescue of the people. The people must trust the governments, and the governments must be trustworthy. And the nations must be able to trust each other. We have to create that kind of system again, on this planet.

KM.ru: So, there have been discussions in Asia about the cre-

ation of the Asian currency unit, by analogy with the euro. So, you think it's fate will be the same as the euro?

LaRouche: That would be suicide. It's a delusion which would kill the people who enter into it. The problem is, people who think like this, are thinking in terms of monetary systems, *not* the human systems. They believe in money, not in people! My money! My money! My money! What about the people?

Money has no wealth! People are wealth! Their productive powers, their education, their development. And you have to build a system, where the currency is used by governments to assist these moral objectives. The most important thing, is the difference between the Asian model of poverty, and the European model, which is development. It's the development of science and competence in science *in* the people. Technological competence, innovation competence. And to promote small entrepreneurs, who are technology-oriented small entrepreneurs: physicians, scientists, and so forth. *This* is the secret of society.

I know how to design laws to make monetary systems overnight, eliminate all systems, make new ones—that's no problem. You can not invent people. You must develop the people that you have. And control the monetary system, so that it serves the people.

See, the thing is, Europe had a great revolution which was made in the 15th Century, which resulted in the modern nation-state. Up to that time, in all known history, society was dominated by the so-called oligarchical model, in which the majority of the people were kept ignorant and treated as slaves, like cattle. The advantage of European civilization, which is lacking in Asia, is freedom. We have oligarchical models, *but*, our culture is not oligarchical, although we've had oligarchical systems in it. Asia is cursed by oligarchical culture. We must eliminate the practice and tradition of oligarchical culture. We can not have 80% of the human race treated as cattle.

KM.ru: What do you think about the retirement of Tony Blair?

LaRouche: Well, I think he should not have existed, rather than retire.

He's a personal enemy of mine. He's also a personal enemy of the human race. He was the controller of the Iraq War policy. It was the British: Margaret Thatcher organized the first Iraq War. She destroyed Europe with the euro, with the euro system; she destroyed it—she and Mitterrand.

Blair is a typical representative of one of the most evil things on this planet, as a movement, the Fabian Society. You see that in Russia most clearly: The British organization is the one that's trying to get a war going involving Russia. What you see in Estonia, what you see in Lithuania, and so forth? That's London. That's the evidence.

Blair has been used up. He's ruined a lot of things. He's



Courtesy of KM.ru

Lyndon LaRouche and translator Rachel Douglas in the studio of KM.ru.

completely evil. But the time has come for him to go. And that's what you have to look at: He's being retired after winning a war, by causing one.

KM.ru: If the Democratic Party wins, how will Russian-American relations move?

LaRouche: I don't know if the Democratic Party is going to continue to exist. If they go with the early primary elections, in February, this round, in that case the Democratic Party will break up. After February, if the Democratic Party goes with these primaries, the way they're doing, after February, by about March or April, you'll find a lot of independent candidates running for President, that could take between 10 and 20% in a general election. The present party system would disintegrate.

But before then, before the end of the year, the major, present crisis will come to a head, this year. I'll be 85 in September. I expect a great crisis for my birthday. [laughs] I'm celebrating the birthday of a Russian of 80 years, today. I'm thinking of inviting him to come celebrate my birthday in September: Professor Menshikov. By that time, we may have a new world, of one kind or another, to celebrate!

No major dates are necessarily inevitable in history. But you can pick a date to indicate the area in which a great confrontation could occur. The world strategic volcano is going to erupt some time earlier than September, or some time later than September, either one. *The present world system, the present parameters, can not survive.* The present system will never get better: It will get worse. There are no solutions within the framework of the present system. The party is over! Gone! My birthday will come; maybe we'll have a world around still. But, to think about the year 2008 as big events, that's too late! It's coming now.

KM.ru: Thank you for the interview.

LaRouche: We Need a Mission-Oriented Planet To Defeat Globalization

Lyndon LaRouche made the following introductory remarks at a private luncheon with Washington-based diplomats on May 8. There followed 90 minutes of animated dialogue with the approximately two dozen diplomats and military attachés from 18 countries who participated in this latest in an ongoing series of such private sessions.

We are now at one of the most critical points in all known history. The entire international monetary-financial system of the world, is now in the process of disintegration. Now, in these matters, you can never, as most so-called economists do, you can never predict an exact date of an event. In fact, this is a result of their use of the wrong method of economics. Since there is human will, you can not predict an event, because human will might change the date of the event. It's always possible. It happens often. For example, the United States went into, really, a depression in October 1929, and then, again, a similar depression in October 1987. But in 1987, the system did not crash, it went into hyperinflation. Because, you had incoming [as Federal Reserve chairman] Alan Greenspan then, and Alan Greenspan used hyperinflationary methods, especially in the area of utterance of currency, electronically—not in the normal way, but electronically—especially using mortgage-based securities as an inflationary instrument, like a John Law Bubble, and for a long period of time, using what's called the Y2K Bubble, that is, the massive flood of money into investments and subsidies of the so-called information theory business.

Now, of course, that came to an end, really, essentially, in the Summer of 2000, when you had a crash of the Y2K bubble. We now have a general crash of the mortgage based securities bubble, which is international, and we're at the point where the countries of Western and Central Europe are all, now, internally ungovernable. You just had an election in England, a series of elections: Scotland, Wales, and England itself, which came out with a change of government, which is now domestically ungovernable. Belgium is already domestically ungovernable, and will become more so whatever the result of the coming election. France has entered an ungovernable condition under a man of tyrannical disposition, but nothing he's going to do is going to work. Actually, France has gone, with this election, from the Gaullist tradition to the Vichy tradition, and that is go-

ing to become evident in a certain pace, rapidly. Italy is ungovernable, but they're used to it, and they manage it fairly well. Germany is about to break up, the present government is about to break up. It's not stable. As a matter of fact, there's no part of Western or Central Europe which has a stable government at this time. It may look stable on the outside, but in point of fact, *globalization is the real government of Europe*. That's the problem.

We have reached a point, therefore, at which we face, not a depression, like 1929-1931; what we're faced with, is a general breakdown crisis, which in European history is comparable to what happened in the middle of the 14th Century. Because the amount of obligations outstanding, could not be reorganized. Only by putting the entire system through bankruptcy reorganization, could the monetary system itself be prevented from absolutely blowing up, at some time in the relatively near future, within weeks or months ahead. It could be tomorrow morning, it could be six months from now. The system in its present form is doomed: Nothing can save it. Reorganizing the system in its present form is impossible. You need a new system.

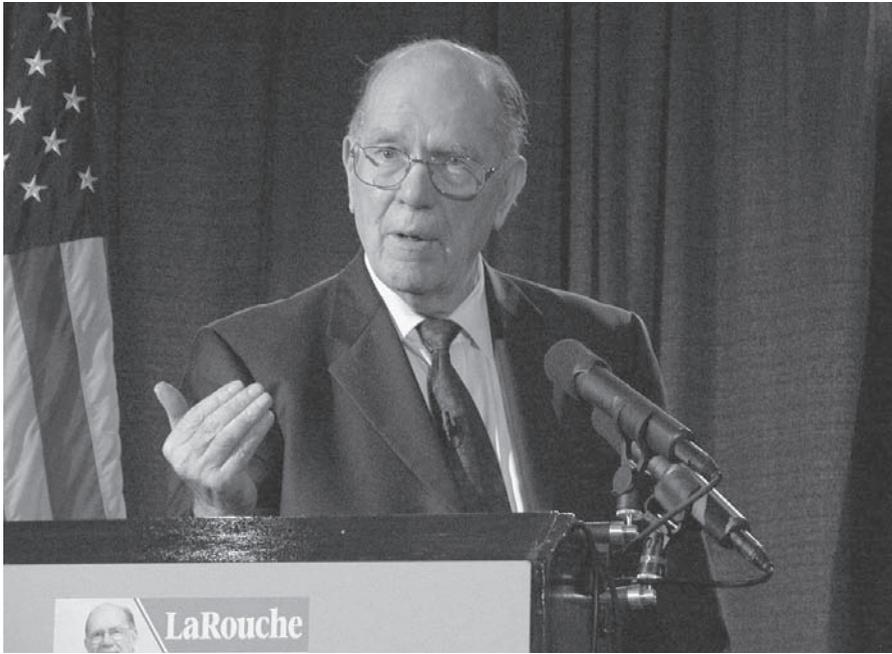
The World Depends on the U.S. Dollar

But, there's only one way we can get a new system: Because as many of you know, were the U.S. dollar to collapse, which is what London is thinking of doing, and could do, then the entire world would go into a collapse. Because, much of the world depends upon the obligations of the U.S. dollar. If the U.S. dollar is not worth anything, then what is the effect on China, on India, and many other countries?

And there's another aspect to this thing, which is really crucial and important.

Therefore, the only remedy is to reform the monetary system in a fundamental way: To use the model of what Franklin Roosevelt did in the 1930s, in reorganizing the U.S. currency at that time, and U.S. debt at that time. So, he transformed a United States, which was almost 30 to 50% bankrupt, and transformed it into what became the greatest economic power the world had ever seen, within a period of less than a decade, from the time of his inauguration.

We can do that again, in a sense. But the problem today, is the obligations of the United States dollar, which are really the assets, to a large degree, of most countries of the



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

LaRouche, shown here at a May 1 webcast, told an audience of diplomats May 8, that it is time for a change, "from the kind of thinking and policies we have ruling the world now," to a new system based on that created by Franklin D. Roosevelt, and centered around an alliance among the United States, Russia, China, and India.

world. Notably in Asia, especially. A collapse of the dollar would mean a chain-reaction collapse of the entire world monetary-financial system, which would mean a collapse of trade and everything else. That is what we must prevent. The United States government would get rid of Cheney, which is a feasible and commendable attempt, and take care of putting the President of the United States under adult supervision. And under those conditions we could negotiate an agreement with certain large nations, or powerful nations, and make an agreement which would actually get the support promptly of a lot of smaller nations or weaker nations. That is, if the United States, Russia, China, and India agree on a decision to put the international monetary-financial system, based on the dollar, into reorganization, financial reorganization, to freeze what has to be frozen, and to maintain the functioning of what must function; and then agree, with other nations joining them, to set present currency values at a fixed exchange rate: Under those conditions, after a period of five to ten years of reorganization, which we could survive quite nicely, the problems of the world could become manageable.

But that depends upon a change in the U.S. government, and its policy, to approach Russia, China, and India: Because, remember, China has the greatest amount of U.S. obligations, and without the credibility of the U.S. obligations to China, the world system goes into chain-reaction. India has a comparable situation, not quite as severe. Other countries are entire-

ly dependent upon the stability of the dollar, otherwise, their exports collapse! If their exports collapse, their internal economy collapses. Therefore, we must maintain the present level of trade, and must increase the level of trade, especially in hard-commodity categories. This can only be done by the radical reorganization of the international monetary system, by putting the IMF and related institutions into bankruptcy reorganization. Then we can make it.

Now, there are some other things that have to be taken into account. We must go to a protectionist system, and end the free-trade system, otherwise we can not save the world from such a calamity. Look, for example, let's take the case of China, which is typical of many countries: China is able to have a world market, largely because the United States decided to dump its production on China. China works at cheap prices, and amasses a lot of dollars as assets, which may not be paid at

the present rate. But in the meantime, China's internal population has not prospered. Many people in China, many sections of the Chinese population have prospered. The overall population of China has not prospered. The overall population of China is in a desperate situation, which the government of China realizes and would like to do something about. But under the present system, it's difficult.

Now, look at what the fact is: We shipped out U.S. production to China. Did China benefit? Well, that's questionable. There's a good side and a bad side. China was able to build up certain industries, and produce the phenomenon of Chinese Communist Party billionaires. This, of course, is something of a miracle. But, there are many Chinese, and many parts of China which are not developed. The development is impeded by the fact that the Chinese do not get enough income from the exports to the United States and other countries, to develop the interior population. Now, most of the countries of Asia, and Africa, and South America are in a similar condition. There is not enough income from export to the world market, to provide for growth of the internal economy of these countries. You need a protectionist system, which establishes price levels, which enable countries to continue to produce and to export; but to export at price levels in which the internal economy of the entire country can be developed.

The worst case, of course, is the case of Africa, where the present policies toward Africa, especially Sub-Saharan Africa, are literally genocidal. And this is conscious genocide



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We had a crash of the Y2K bubble in the Summer of 2000; now, we have a general crash of the mortgage based securities bubble, "and we're at the point where the countries of Western and Central Europe are all, now, internally ungovernable."

against southern Africa. The idea is to kill the population off, reduce it; take the raw materials, grab them, and use them as they choose.

So therefore, we need a protectionist system which establishes a fair-trade system, in which a country may export, but it has a right to a price which enables it to develop its own internal economy, and develop the conditions of life of its own people. We need that kind of program. It is perfectly feasible to do this.

Virtually All Economists Are Incompetent

One of the problems, today, in this connection, is, in my view: Virtually all economists in the world are incompetent, because, they base their studies on two things: First of all, they base their studies on a monetary system, and money does not determine value. Because essential values are physical values, consumable values. Secondly, they operate on a kind of system that doesn't function. To make it short, ask yourself, what is the difference between a gorilla and a chimpanzee, on the one side, and a human being on the other? What is the potential population of chimpanzees at any time in the past 2 million years on this planet? What is the potential population of gorillas on this planet, at any time in the past 2 million years? And today, it's not improved; as a matter of fact, it's worse. What is the potential of a human being and the human species on the planet over the past 2 million years? What has been the change in the population of the planet, since the middle of Europe's 14th Century, since the last great dark age? We've gone from less than a billion people—about a half-billion people—we've gone to a present

level of 6.5 billion people. How is that possible? It was possible through the effects of technology and related things, and organization of conditions of life around improved technology.

The point is, that no chimpanzee and no gorilla, can make a legitimate discovery of universal principles. They don't change. They have no souls. They have no eternity. They have no personality which outlives their mortal death. Human beings do: Human beings live in honor of their past generations, and live in anticipation of the good they pass on to future generations. Monkeys can't do that; chimpanzees can't do that; gorillas can't do that.

And therefore, what's lost is, a conception of what a human being is. A human being is a creature which is based on the ability to make fundamental discoveries, artistic creations, improve the powers of mankind on the planet, per capita and per square kilometer; to pass on improvement, as a perspective for future generations; to develop a people. And to find one's immortality in the good one contributes to the future generations, yet to come.

In former times, it was normal, for example in the United States, that people who would immigrate to the United States, would come here often as poor people, especially in the latter part of the 19th Century and 20th Century, as we have people coming from South America, now. They were poor people, but they came here with the idea, that their sacrifice for the sake of their children and grandchildren, would mean that, where they were working as labor, unskilled or semi-skilled labor, today, at poor wages, poor incomes, their grandchildren would become the scientists, the physicians, and so forth, of the future generations. So, a sense of the future.

All of us, who are involved in statecraft, think in those terms. We think of what we're doing with our nation, and with the world, to create a better future than we enjoy now. And we find satisfaction in what we do, to preserve and to improve, upon artistic and scientific developments, for the benefit of future generations, and to develop nations, as sovereign nations, with that intent in mind.

The Common Ends of Mankind

That is now destroyed by the present system. Therefore, we need a mission-oriented planet, which is based on a rejection of globalization, on the sovereignty of the nation, and the essential sovereignty of the individual; and cooperation among these sovereignties to a common end, the common ends of mankind; to allow present cultures to continue, as

present cultures, not to dictate changes in culture upon them. But to cooperate among these cultures, to develop these nations to the common end, that the condition of humanity in each of these nations, and in humanity at large, will be better than it is now.

And we need that kind of agreement. We need a change from the kind of thinking and policies we have ruling the world now. We need that change. We've come to the point, that the present system, powerful as it may seem politically, can not exist! This entire world system can vanish within weeks or months, or a year or so. We don't know when, because you can never predict exactly when a thing like this will happen: But the *preconditions* are there, and the direction is there. Exactly when the crash will come, we don't know; but it's coming. And it would be better to be prepared, before it comes, than afterward.

And therefore, what we need is an understanding of the world situation, an understanding of the common objectives which we must have, a replacement of this dog-eat-dog world we live in now, this world of globalization and predatory conditions, into a world of sovereign nation-states, as Franklin Roosevelt had intended at the time he died, and before. We need to turn away from the United States' perspective, since the death of Roosevelt, beginning with Truman, into a perspective which is consistent with Franklin Roosevelt's intention for the post-war world: To take the greatest economic power the world had ever known, that of the United States, which had been developed as a miracle out of the Depression, into the 1940s, to become the greatest economic power the world had ever known, and to convert the economic potential which we had developed for military purposes to defeat Hitler, and to convert that military potential into a productive potential, for the development of nations which had been colonialized, or otherwise.

We must resume that Roosevelt tradition today, and I suggest we must adopt it as a Roosevelt tradition by name: Because that is the last time that the world had hope of a cooperation in development of the planet as a whole. Since the death of Roosevelt, we have never had agreement among leading forces in the world, on uniting nations in cooperation, for the betterment of all mankind. That has not existed. The time has come, when that must exist. If it does not exist, this planet is going to Hell. And a world population of 6.5 billion people, will become a world of much less than 1 billion within a generation. Whole cultures will vanish, whole sections of humanity and languages will disappear. That is the danger that faces us, now.

We must change that. And the way to do it, is to have a sense of a consensus among nations, and among people within nations, that the major nations of the planet, especially the United States, because it holds the dollar, and the dollar is the great point of risk right now; the United States, Russia, China, and India, must agree on initiating a plan, a plan of action,

which draws in other countries which wish to be included, to establish a new, international monetary-financial system, and to agree on protectionist terms, under which equitable progress, equitable development of each nation can occur. And instead of looking for conflict, to rejoice in the achievements of another nation. It's in looking for the benefit of the other, that any nation is great, as was laid down in settling the great religious warfare of 1492 to 1648, on the initiative of the Treaty of Westphalia, in which the principle was, *each must think first, of the other!* Of the benefit of the other.

And we need that kind of thinking among nations today, or at least the patriots of nations: On the basis of that conception, we can solve the problem. The resources exist. It will be sometimes difficult, but we can do it.

If we don't do it, we're going into a dark age, on a planet-wide basis. A horror beyond belief, which only funny people like me understand. But most people can understand something of it.

So, that's what I think the issue is, which I have in mind today.

Thank you.

LaRouche: Will There Be an '08 Presidential Election?

The LaRouche Political Action Committee (LPAC) released a statement from Lyndon LaRouche on May 8, 2007. Under the headline, "My May 8th Declaration," LaRouche wrote:

"The pattern expressed by recent waves of elections in the United Kingdom, in France, and next in Belgium, poses the question: Will there actually be a 2008 Presidential Election in the U.S.A.? I make no prediction, either way; my intention here is to pose the deadly reality of the situation in which presently leading U.S. pre-Presidential candidates appear as virtual actors in a Laurel and Hardy version of 'Babes in Toyland,' a situation which presents all of the present nations of western and central Europe as relics of the presently oncoming crisis of 'ungovernability.' This state of affairs--and affairs of state--is to be recognized as the crisis which U.K. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her accomplice, France's François Mitterrand, have inflicted, still to the present date, on those regions of Europe as a whole. . . ."

The complete statement is posted at www.larouchepac.com and at www.larouchepub.com/eiw/.

Cerberus Takeover of Chrysler Sends Auto Deeper Into Hell

by Nancy Spannaus

The aptly named Cerberus Capital Management corporation improved its capacity to send the U.S. auto industry to Hell May 14, when it announced its \$7 billion takeover of the Chrysler Corporation, the third-largest U.S. automaker. The Cerberus private equity fund, which is named after the legendary three-headed dog of Greek mythology, which guarded the gates of Hades, has already moved in on General Motors' financial division (GMAC), and the auto-parts manufacturers Delphi Corporation, Tower Automotive, and Collins and Aikman. Auto unionists, and long-term industry observers, are already predicting that a "bloodbath" will quickly ensue, with layoffs and sell-offs, if not total shutdowns.

In February 2005, Lyndon LaRouche warned that the financier crowd behind Vice President Dick Cheney was intent on dismantling the U.S. auto sector. As the signs of impending bankruptcy and looting of General Motors grew, LaRouche urged the U.S. Senate and House to take emergency action, Franklin Delano Roosevelt-style, to save the vital machine-tool capacity and skilled workforce of the United States, by putting it to work rebuilding the dilapidated U.S. transport, power, and water infrastructure. Fascist financier, and Democratic Party moneybags Felix Rohatyn moved in to counter LaRouche's plan, which initially garnered significant support. The line went out: "They" won't let the auto industry disappear.

Tragically, as well as stupidly, the leading Congressional Democrats, many of them beholden to Rohatyn or to hedge funds directly, for their financing, bought the line.

More than two years later, the evidence is overwhelming that LaRouche was right. The international financial powers who run the likes of Cheney and Rohatyn, have pursued a systematic course of looting and shutting down the U.S. auto

industry, starting with GM, Ford, Delphi, and other auto parts suppliers. Tens of thousands of autoworkers have already lost their jobs to "buy-outs," which have devastated communities and families, and shut down invaluable production centers. Where plants are still operating, they are now often staffed by replacement workers, paid half the wages of the unionized workforce they replaced. Many factories have been literally dismantled, and either blown up or sold to overseas buyers for pennies on the dollar.

LaRouche's emergency measures to save the auto sector are still available, if Congress has the guts to act—not only to enact legislation like his Emergency Recovery Act, but to clean the political saboteurs out of both the Republican *and* the Democratic Party—Cheney and Rohatyn, to be precise.

The Takeover

The Cerberus Capital Management buyout of Chrysler announced May 15 is likely to result in the carving up and resale of parts of Chrysler in the near future, accompanied by plant closings and accelerated layoffs above the 13,000 Chrysler has already announced, according to auto industry and union sources, and private equity analysts.

Auto analyst David Cole told the *Wall Street Journal* that foreign buyers, including Chery of China, were anticipating buying up parts of Chrysler, "waiting for the private equity companies [i.e., Cerberus] to do some of the cleanup work to make Chrysler an attractive deal."

For public consumption, Chrysler's management has been putting out the line that the company does not plan to sell off any of its three models—Dodge, Chrysler, and Jeep—and that, at least in Canada, "there will be no layoffs as a result of this ownership change."



Cerberus, the snarling, three-headed canine at the gates of Hades, from which the destroyer of the auto sector proudly takes its name (watercolor by William Blake).

Labor on the Chopping Block

In fact, the only question is whether Cerberus will dismantle the company, or try to dismantle the United Auto Workers' (UAW) contracts, first.

UAW president Ron Gettelfinger's sudden endorsement of the Cerberus takeover he was publicly fighting a month earlier has dismayed many unionists. Gettelfinger said in a May 14 press conference that he had been assured by Daimler-Chrysler management that Cerberus would not dismantle the company. He had not, however, talked to Cerberus management itself, when he backed the takeover. And Cerberus, or the Chrysler Holdings entity it is forming to take control of Chrysler in late Summer, will take the lead from GM and Ford in confronting the UAW in the 2007 national contract negotiations, demanding wage cuts for the 55,000 current production employees of Chrysler, and health-benefit and pension cuts from its retirees.

Cerberus management has already pushed hard for severe cuts from the UAW employees at Delphi Corporation since December 2006, when it appeared to begin a takeover of Delphi. This has been its *modus operandi* in many previous takeovers and "restructurings." Cerberus, like other big private equity funds, expects 20% return on investment—on a company which has been losing money.

Chrysler is known to have a huge \$18 billion in unfunded liabilities for retiree health care and pensions (\$19 billion, according to the *Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report May 15*); this is where the Cerberus restructuring knife will demand to make the biggest cuts. "There's going to be bloodbath there" in health benefits and pensions, Gerald Meyers, former CEO of American Motors, and now a university professor, told the

Detroit Free Press May 14. "It's going to be wicked in Southeast Michigan and Indiana," he said, referring also to wage-cut demands and possible plant closings.

The already-announced 13,000 Chrysler job cuts, to be made in the U.S. and Canada (16% of the company's workforce), were justified as a means to make the company "saleable" to a Cerberus or a Blackstone, when it put Chrysler on the block in February. And the rehired Wolfgang Bernhard was the Daimler-Chrysler executive who, between 1999 and 2002, eliminated 26,000 Chrysler jobs and closed down six of its U.S. plants.

Ironically, it was precisely Bernhard's drastic shrinkage plan that made Chrysler "profitable" for three years, which has created the huge unfunded liabilities in health care and pensions, since the cuts sent the ratio of retired Chrysler production workers to active ones, zooming up to four to one.

The Private Equity Disease vs. FDR

The destruction of the U.S. auto industry, which is crucial if the U.S. economy is to have a productive manufacturing base again, is a particularly serious crime. Older Americans will recall that the conversion of the auto industry to war production provided the indispensable economic engine for the defeat of fascism in World War II. Now that capacity, which has the unique potential for being retooled to build the infrastructure and industry of the future, is being thrown onto the scrapheap. GM, Ford, and Chrysler are all in the hands of pirates, looking to make nothing but money.

Equally serious is what this takeover of industry by predatory private equity and hedge funds means to the entire economy. As a result of the successful assault on the FDR tradition, which had brought the Federal government back into its rightful role as the protector of the General Welfare, the lives and living standards of the American population have been turned over to the "markets," which now means the ruthless, quick-buck mega-financiers who run private funds.

Essentially, what's being established is a new feudalism, where private *fondi* run a world financial empire for the sake of the oligarchs of London, and use the entire world as their plantation. There was *one* successful revolution against that system—the American Revolution. As LaRouche has emphasized, it's going to take the reassertion of those same American Revolutionary principles, as revived by Franklin Roosevelt, to prevent this new wave of looting turning into a New Dark Age. As the case of Cerberus' takeover wave shows, however, the time is short indeed.

Trans-Korean Rail Opens Way For Eurasian Development

by Mary Burdman

At mid-day May 17 on the Korean Peninsula, the new “Iron-Silk Railroad” opened for the first time. Two trains, one North Korean and one South Korean, crossed the 4-km-wide, heavily fortified Military Demarcation Line (MDL), the first trains to run between the two sides since early 1951. The brutal 1950-53 Korean War was only officially stopped by an armistice, and North and South Korea are still technically at war. North Korea, named part of the “Axis of Evil” by the Bush-Cheney Administration, has developed a nuclear capacity at Yongbyon facility, where it carried out a test in October 2006. Yet, these May 17 rail exchanges are the evidence of another strategic dynamic which can work, even in extremely difficult conditions, when what Lyndon LaRouche has named the “four key nations” Russia, China, India, and the United States cooperate against war and for development.

South Korea has gone forward with its “Sunshine” policy, even though the Feb. 13 accords on shutting down the Yongbyon facility have not yet been fulfilled. Seoul is taking this initiative in the context of the Six-Party talks of North and South Korea, with China, Russia, the United States, and Japan. These talks were launched in 2003, and laid the groundwork for this new breakthrough. The “Iron-Silk Railroad” was one of the key projects launched at the historic 2000 summit between then-South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and North Korean leader Kim Jong-il. The “Sunshine” policy was to use economic and cultural initiatives to gradually reconcile the interests of North and South, despite profound economic and military differences. Over 1 million troops are stationed near the MDL.

South Korea’s economic future is also at stake. The South has no rail connections to the rest of Eurasia; the North has a single rail link, to China, and the potential to build a link to Russia and the Trans-Siberian Railway. Kim Dae-jung and Russian President Vladimir Putin had agreed on this project in February 2001. If South Korea could use rail instead of ships, it could reduce freight costs by some 25% and shipping time by 50%. The port city of Busan, at the southern tip of the Peninsula, is already expanding to become logistics hub for Northeast Asia.

In February 2003, in his inaugural speech, current South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun said: “The Korean Peninsula should turn into a peace zone for the peace of the entire world. The peninsula should be reborn as a Northeast Asian peace gateway linking Eurasia and the Pacific Ocean. The

day when the South Korean railway is linked with those of Russia and Europe via North Korea should be advanced as soon as possible.”

Trains Go Through

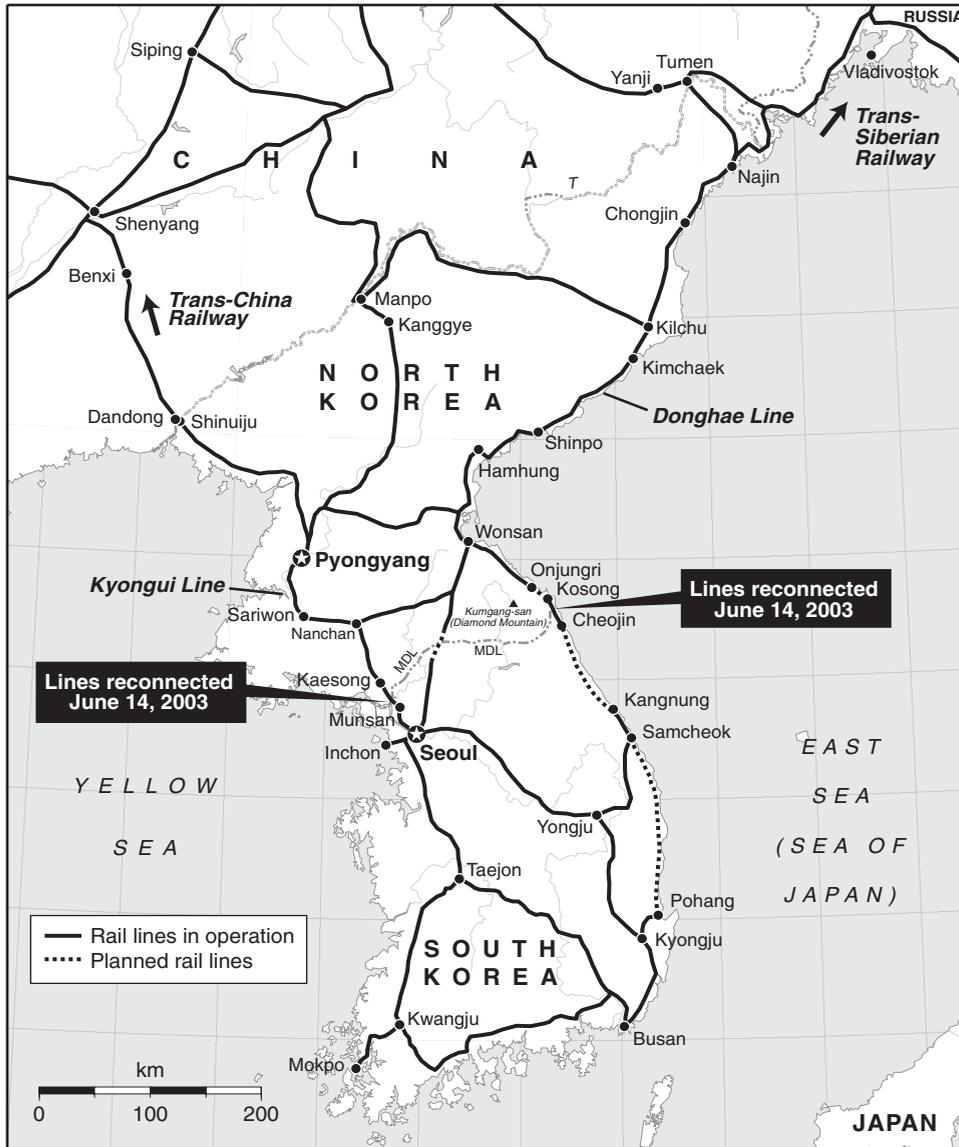
The rail connections—each just over 25 km long—were completed on June 14, 2003, one on the east and one on the west coast of the Korean peninsula. Three or four test runs were scheduled, the last in May 2006, but never carried out. Roads next to the rail lines were opened for limited traffic in 2005, and the Kaesong industrial complex, where 22 South Korean factories employ 13,045 North Korean workers, was built just north of the MDL. The other key project was to open tours to Mt. Gaeseong, an ancient capital city in North Korea, from the South.

This time, the trains went through. Each carried 100 South Koreans and 50 North Koreans, the North Korean train travelling south on the eastern Donghae rail line, and the South Korean train travelling north on the western Gyeongui (Seoul-Sinuiju) line, and returning over the same track. Passengers included political leaders and journalists from both sides, and also a conductor from one of the last trains that made the crossing before the rail link was severed in 1951.

Whatever the reactions from the Bush-Cheney war party will be, this was a profound development for Koreans. “It is not simply a test run. It means reconnecting the severed bloodline of our people. It means that the heart of the Korean peninsula is beating again,” Unification Minister Lee Jae-joung, who led the South Korean delegation to the North, said on May 17 after he boarded the North Korean train in Kumsongsan Station for the trip across the MDL. North Korean Railway Minister Kim Yong-sam said, after his arrival at Jejin Station in the South: “It took more than half a century to cross this short, approximately 20-kilometer distance. We have to prevent anyone from blocking the railways. They were so hard to reconnect.” Kwon Ho-ung, chief councillor of the North Korean Cabinet, led the 50-member delegation to the South, and boarded the train at Munsan Station with his South Korean counterpart, Lee Jae-joung. The trains were decorated with flowers and greeted with celebrations.

Unification Minister Lee said of the rail test: “I hope it will contribute to forming a joint economic community and making balanced development on the Korean Peninsula. A new

Major Railways of South and North Korea



Source: Ministry of Construction and Transportation (MOCT), Seoul, Korea.

curtain of peace has been raised on the peninsula. We should make great contributions to everlasting peace on the Korean Peninsula, and begin a new era by establishing a new inter-Korean transportation system. We have no time to waste over this great mission.” Councillor Kwon said that the two Koreas “should not be derailed from the track or hesitate” to ensure that the “train of unification” runs along a “track” of inter-Korean collaboration, with its emphasis on peace and understanding.

But he also warned: “Right at this moment, however, the challenge inside and outside is continuing from divisive forces at home and abroad who don’t like reconciliation and unifica-

tion of our people. We should not waiver or be derailed from the track of national sovereignty and inter-Korean collaboration.” President Roh Moo-hyun issued a statement that, “From now on, the government will gradually develop inter-Korean relations with patience.”

Both sides took immediate measures to sustain the momentum. On May 18, South Korean Unification Minister Lee Jae-joung said on Seoul radio that joint rail services were definitely being opened, no matter if in a phased process. “The North has shared the view that the test runs are based on the opening of the rail services between the two sides. South and North Korea agreed to do so step by step,” Lee Jae-joung said. There will be inter-Korean ministerial talks on May 29-31, where a formal opening of the rail lines will be discussed, Yonhap news service reported. “I hope the two Koreas can begin train operations on a regular basis this year, even if it’s only partially allowed on a short-distance track,” Lee was quoted by the *Korea Times* on May 18. He said that there is “no problem with using the Gyeongui (Seoul-Sinuju) line” which “serves the Kaesong industrial complex right now.” Yonhap also cited a government source proposing to use the railways to transport raw materials for Kaesong to the North.

The *Korea Times* also quoted Lee Churl, CEO of the Korea Railroad Corp. (KORAIL), saying that senior North and South officials will meet their Russian counterparts by late June, to discuss linking the Trans-Korean Railway (TKR) and the Trans-Siberian Railway (TSR). “We’ve already reached an agreement with Russia and received a positive reply from the North,” he said. At the beginning of May, President Roh officially invited Russian President Vladimir Putin to visit Korea, to discuss speeding up the rail connections. Roh’s handwritten letter was carried by former Prime Minister Han Myeong-sook, the envoy to the funeral of former Russian President Boris Yeltsin. Han also met

Russian Railways president Vladimir Yakunin.

Discussion of another potential extension of the TKR is also being revived. On May 15, the Busan City government and Busan Development Institute sponsored an international conference to discuss constructing a tunnel to connect Busan under the Korean Strait, to Japan, *Chosun Ilbo* reported. There are three proposals for the tunnel systems, which would run over one of the two Japanese Tsushima Islands. All three of the tunnel systems would be more than 200 km long, three times the length of the Channel tunnel in Europe, and by far the longest undersea tunnel in the world. Costs are estimated to run between \$50 billion and \$100 billion. The tunnels would take 15-20 years to build. The project could create an industrialized economic zone including the Busan region of South Korea and the Kyushu region of Japan, *Chosun Ilbo* quoted Prof. Jung Hun-young of Busan National University saying.

A Way Out

The Six-Party talks led to an agreement on Feb. 13 for North Korea to shut down its Yongbyon nuclear reactor, allowing inspections within 60 days, in return for help which would make up the energy difference. The deadline of April 14 was set to shut down the reactor, but this was not done, due to the ongoing dispute over North Korean funds worth \$25 million, held at a Macao bank which is accused by the United States of laundering money and other financial crimes. But the agreement has not been cancelled. The whole process was of strategic importance, as former Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov described in the *Moscow Times* on Feb. 24. The key element of the Six-Party talks, Primakov wrote, was the U.S. shift from its "regime change" policy towards North Korea. In the end, he wrote, "the U.S. faced up to reality and started moving away from its 'unipolar' line." These talks were held amidst international reactions to Vladimir Putin's February speech on international security in Munich. While much still has to be done on the Korean Peninsula, Primakov wrote, the Beijing talks were "nothing short of success, but this success should not only be reduced to North Korea's nuclear weapon problem. I am confident that no matter what might happen in the future, the Beijing breakthrough has a broader dimension." The "first signs of progress emerged when the United States started moving away from its original position of dictate and ultimatum with respect to North Korea, including the threat to use military force. At first, the U.S. apparently expected that its line would be endorsed by other mediating/negotiating parties, but that did not happen for quite an obvious reason: Russia, China, Japan, and North Korea strongly object to regime change and chaos in the D.P.R.K. [North Korea]." Next, he proposed, "based on the experience gained from the negotiations on North Korea's nuclear program, perhaps it would not be a bad idea to set up a group, comprised, for example, of the U.S., Russia, China, India, and the EU, to facilitate negotiations with Iran."

The Power of Humor

The last barrier to the test runs, was the necessary agreement by the North and South militaries, to provide security and open up the MDL to allow the trains to pass. In this process humor played a surprising role. The ultimately successful three-day talks were opened May 8 when North Korean Lt.-Gen. Kim Yong-chol told his South Korean counterparts at the Panmunjom peace village a well-known joke about George Bush.

Earlier, on April 23, the Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation Promotion Committee had decided in Pyongyang to hold the railroad test run. The South Korean Unification Ministry report on these talks did mention the Feb. 13 Six-Party agreements, but the Agreement signed by both sides made no reference to North Korea fulfilling any commitments made on its nuclear capabilities. The statement said that long-standing barriers in transit, telecommunication, and customs continue, and therefore, "the two sides agreed to cooperate to remove such barriers. The two sides agreed to actively cooperate so that the military guarantee measures can be implemented before the test run of the railways. Following the test run, the South will strengthen technical aspects of the railways and actively discuss opening of the railway with North Korea." The two sides held further discussions on cooperation in developing light industry and North Korea's mineral resources, as well as potential joint ventures with other countries, especially Russia and China.

The subsequent military talks—the first in over a year—were prolonged, difficult, but ultimately fruitful. General officers of both militaries signed a provisional agreement to open the border—the first joint statement by the two militaries since 2000, Yonhap reported. While no renewed border openings are provided for, the joint statement does say that the "two sides have decided to discuss the issue of adopting the statement of agreement on the military security for the operations of railways and roads." They also agreed to further negotiations on their western coastal border, on the Yellow Sea. "The two sides have shared the view that preventing military conflict and creating a joint fishing zone in the West Sea is an issue to be urgently resolved in the course of easing military tension and establishing peace," the statement said.

General Kim's joke must have been another element in the rapidly shifting political dynamic. He greeted his colleagues by telling them: "Bush goes out jogging one morning and, preoccupied with international affairs, fails to notice that a car is heading straight at him.

"A group of schoolchildren pull the President away just in time, saving his life, and a grateful Bush offers them anything they want in the world as a reward.

"'We want a place reserved for us at Arlington Memorial Cemetery,' say the children. 'Why?' asks Bush.

"'Because our parents will kill us if they find out what we've done.'"

A Special Kind of Incompetence?

If you're an oligarch, you'll like what they have in mind. If you're human, it's time to stop them.

One of the scariest phrases in the English language is, "Relax, we have a plan," and that is especially true when the statement comes from that collection of bumbling boneheads known as the international financial oligarchy. They have a plan all right, and that plan is to turn the calendar back 200 years, to the days when the Sun never set on the British Empire, when Lords were Lords and peasants knew their place. One can easily envision the pompous twits digging out their powdered wigs in anticipation of the new days of imperial glory.

Of course, implementing their plan will involve cutting the world population by at least half, destroying the nation-states, and condemning those who survive to a brutal and austere existence, but hey, no plan is perfect. The British Empire may not have been a pleasant place for the slaves who did all the work, but it was a sweet deal for the tea and crumpet aristocracy, the lords and ladies, the dukes and barons, the knights, and all the other silliness which ought to be relegated to the dustbin of history.

Look at the number of Americans who fawned over the British Queen in her visit to America. She should enjoy her visit, since it is rare for her to meet another leader who is dumber than she is, but she ain't Cinderella. The British monarchy is a brutal, repressive system that builds itself up by keeping other people down. We fought a revolution against this nonsense, and showed the world a better way. How quickly some of us forget.

Their contempt for humanity is stag-

gering. Take front-man Al Gore and his "global warming" campaign, for example. What these clowns have done is, essentially, to declare human beings and progress as pollutants, something to be kept under control. At the same time, they have declared pollution to be an asset, by turning limits on pollution into pollution allowances, which can be bought and sold. They've turned reality on its head!

The scam they call globalization is just as transparent. In the name of "progress," they have destroyed America's industrial capacity, the family farm and small productive businesses, and turned the American economy into a collection of financiers, lawyers, corporate drones, and Wal-Mart employees. We have become like the Brits, a small upper class living high on the hog, and a large lower class descending into Hell.

Add to this the Big Brother capabilities created by the advances in electronics, and you have a fascist's wet dream. The British, and the Venetians before them, raised to an art the techniques of spying on both their friends and their enemies, and in a world where "everyone who counts" is connected, spying, tracking, bugging, and monitoring are easier than ever before. The old adage of keeping your friends close and your enemies closer is especially true in the intelligence business, and particularly necessary when, as the Brits are so fond of saying, one has no friends, only interests.

Lyndon LaRouche recently observed that the oligarchy does not have a finan-

cial plan, but a strategic one. Their goal is not to save the bubble; they know that trillions of dollars worth of nominal assets will be swept away, but they also know that as long as they can maintain their power, they will have an income stream. They will be perfectly content as long as their palaces and castles remain perched upon whatever pile of rubble is left.

We have passed the point where the strategy is to keep the bubble going, and are well into the fight over what type of system will replace the current, hopelessly bankrupt system. The oligarchy's plan is to keep us all occupied while they manage the transition toward their new imperial system. To this end we are treated to a variety of soap operas, from the "everything is okay, despite a few problems" economic coverage to the salacious details of the latest celebrity meltdown and the latest political scandal. All of it is carefully crafted to keep us waiting to see what will happen next, instead of doing something about it.

The media coverage of the war in Iraq and the series of scandals hitting the Bush/Cheney Administration shows how this works. Everybody knows the American people voted for a sharp change in policies, and there is strong support for the impeachments of Cheney first, then Bush. Yet Cheney brazenly continues to lie and bully, Bush continues to play the role of idiot king, and the press continues to treat them as if they were not insane. Why?

What cannot be allowed, is for the citizens to realize their power, to not only demand, but actually force change. If the people demand something and then get it, they will demand more next time, and pretty soon the citizens will be running the country. That, say both Bush and the Queen, and the bankers behind them, just would not do.

THE WORLD NEEDS A 'NEW DEAL'!

After the French Elections: Is All Europe Going Neo-Con?

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Mrs. LaRouche, chairwoman of Germany's Civil Rights Solidarity Movement (BüSo), issued this statement on May 11. It has been translated from German.

The election of Nicolas Sarkozy as President of France has drastically worsened the world political situation. Europe threatens to go completely in the direction of the neo-cons, who are headed for World War III, and at the same time to become ungovernable due to the financial crisis

Joan of Arc would turn over in her grave. For while she heroically liberated France from the British occupation, and thus created the conditions for the development of France as the first sovereign nation-state, the French population voted May 6 for British control of the Elysée. And thus, happy about the new situation in Europe, the *Financial Times* wrote at the beginning of the week: "How often has there been a combination of heads of governments, which had such British instincts?" Tony Blair, the primary architect of the war in Iraq built on lies, immediately expressed his joy about the change in France, and German Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel now expects an improvement in German-French relations—effectively under British design.

For his part, Sarkozy announced as his first objective the improvement of France's relations with the Bush Administration; and his massive rejection of President Vladimir Putin and Russia is well known. Overall, therefore, the situation in Europe has deteriorated. For in the face of the increasing tensions, which have evoked a state of ungovernability in more and more European states, it is now even less likely, that Europe will step forward with political initiatives, which could effectively counter the existential dangers, with which the world is confronted.

On the contrary, a complete assortment of people leaning to the right, who are affiliated with the Synarchist International, rushed to acclaim Sarkozy's coming to power. Thus, the arch-neo-con Richard Perle expressed satisfaction in *Le Figaro* over the fact that France would now finally be "liberated" from the Gaullist obsession, to want to be different from the U.S. The friend of Pinochet and the pseudo-Democrat Felix Rohatyn expressed his gratification, that Sarkozy will now be a close confederate of the United States and NATO. Very soon, it will become evident what Sarkozy meant, when, during the election campaign, he promised a break, a "rupture," with previous policy. And for starters, Sarkozy himself spent three days on the yacht of Vincent Bolloré, who, as a close friend of the president of the Assicurazioni Generali, Antoine Bernheim, is affiliated with the financial interests of Lazard Frères—that banking house, which in the 1930s supported the forces friendly to Hitler. After this short vacation, rumors circulated in Paris that Bolloré will buy up the first channel of the French television station TF1 from Sarkozy's friend Martin Bouygues, and he in turn will obtain the right to buy up the nuclear energy firm Areva, which Sarkozy wants to privatize soon.

The Strategic Threat

What does this new direction mean in strategic terms, at a time, when international oligarchical circles have launched a massive campaign against President Putin personally, and a policy of isolation against Russia? It was an aspect of this campaign to dissuade France and Germany from pursuing its earlier partnership with Russia, which now, in the case of France, has been completely successful, and in the case of Germany, nearly so. At the same time, not only Putin himself, but also many other well-known Russian personalities, such

as the head of the U.S.A.-Canada Institute, Sergei Rogov, are warning that the world is returning to the edge of a new Cold War, and the Damocles sword of nuclear war hangs over us. Gen. Leonid Ivashov recently warned that the U.S. has prepared nuclear strikes against Iran and wants to circumvent the resistance in Congress through a staged incident.

Last, but not least, it is clear to the traditional military in the U.S., that a military strike against Iran, in which so-called “mini-nukes” would be employed, would lead in all probability to a global asymmetrical war. Well-informed sources from this milieu warn that the current trip of U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney to the Southwest Asian region must be seen in this connection. In this context, how is it to be assessed that in various locations in Southwest Asia and South Asia, the U.S. is demanding the right to station American troops, for of its warships to utilize the ports of these nations? And what is the real intention behind the American plans to station missile defense systems in Poland and the Czech Republic, to which Putin has responded with the suspension of the CFE [Conventional Armed Forces in Europe] Treaty? In many places the answer given is that, with all of these different elements, what is at stake is an orientation towards World War III.

While Europe, in the era of Schröder-Chirac, represented a clear counterweight to the war policy of the Anglo-American neo-cons, it now threatens, in the event of an emergency, to be involved in a world war as part of a new combination, in which Russia, China, and India, among others, would stand on the other side.

A Crisis of Ungovernability

However, even without this extreme sharpening of the crisis, in many European states, globalization has already produced a state of ungovernability. Thus, the recent elections in Great Britain, despite all the pretensions of London to be the world capital of the hedge funds, have shown how much the antagonisms among Scotland, where the Scottish National Party became the strongest power, Wales, and England are splitting up the country. The Scottish National Party aims at holding a referendum on the independence of Scotland, which the future Prime Minister Gordon Brown completely rejects; Brown has formed an inherently unstable minority government, after negotiations with the Liberal Democratic Party collapsed.

In Belgium, the antagonisms between Flemings and Walloons are likewise unbridgeable under the present circumstances. The election of the chairman of the Radical Party in Serbia, Tomislav Nikolic, as Speaker of the Parliament, has increased the tensions on the Kosovo issue. Nikolic declared that, in an emergency, he will wage war, if the West supports the independence of Kosovo. If a government is not formed in Serbia by May 15, a new election must take place.

The situation in almost all Eastern European states is extremely unstable. In Germany, there are cracks in the Grand Coalition on so many topics, that despite the mutual love of

power, it is always a question as to whether this alliance will endure for long under this stress. And in France, with increasing difficulties in the economy, Sarkozy will polarize the country very much more than has already happened.

In fact, the political and economic situation in Europe viewed up close, is much more fragile, than that which the EU would like to present to the rest of the world. Nowhere is this clearer than in Germany, the country which once was in the vanguard of nuclear technology, and which today no longer possesses the know-how to reverse its ban on nuclear power. While there is a renaissance in nuclear energy throughout the whole world, our rotund Environmental Minister, Sigmar Gabriel, sits on the leadership and blocks every rational discussion. And while there are concrete plans in dozens of countries to build the Transrapid [high speed magnetic-levitation trains] over great distances, as, for example, in Venezuela or along the [Persian] Gulf Coast, Germany will presumably not be the beneficiary, rather, if anything, it will be China or Japan that will export their models. For it is questionable whether the technology of the Transrapid, subsidized by taxes, which, due to the greening of the brains of the politicians, was never built here commercially, still belongs to us at all, or whether it was not traded away long ago.

The current ungovernability in Germany becomes clear from the simple fact that in Berlin neither the Grand Coalition, nor any other combination of parties represented in the Bundestag [the lower house of parliament], is able to make the decisions, on which the political and economic survival of Germany depends. Indeed, there are by all means members of the Bundestag who know that we need nuclear energy, and that there are inherently safe forms such as the high-temperature reactor; who know that the Transrapid could be one of *the* top export items for Germany; who know that the scare about so-called man-made Global Warming is a swindle—but who would never stick their necks out so far as to endanger their careers.

This moral quagmire and the degree of sophistry represent the greatest problem. If one observes in detail how exhausted the situation in Europe really is, it might be clear that the increasingly acute financial crash threatens to plunge the political structures completely into chaos. If one compares this desolate state with the manifold plans for the development of transportation corridors and extensive projects in Russia, India, and other parts of Asia and Ibero-America, it becomes clear that the measures proposed by Lyndon LaRouche for action by an internally transformed U.S., without the war party of Cheney, in combination with Russia, China, and India, represent the only, and final chance. Only if the realization of a new financial system in the tradition of Franklin D. Roosevelt and a New Deal for the reconstruction of the world economy is placed on the agenda very quickly by these four nations, can there be a positive solution. Intelligent individuals will stake everything on orienting Germany and the other nations of Europe towards this alternative.

Dick Cheney's Journey of Failures to Southwest Asia

by Hussein Askary

“He returned with only Hunain's shoes!”
—Arabic proverb

The background story of this classical Arabic proverb, dating back to the Eighth or Ninth Century's Islamic renaissance, is that a brutish and vulgar nomad went to a city in Hira to do some shopping for his family and tribe. In the marketplace, he saw a nice pair of shoes in the shop of the famous shoemaker Hunain. The nomad started bargaining with Hunain in an unpleasant manner, using harsh words. Hunain got angry and refused to sell the shoes to the nomad, who consequently started swearing and throwing very harsh and vulgar insults at Hunain. Therefore, Hunain decided to give the brute a lesson. As the nomad was on his way home, back to the desert, Hunain placed one of the shoes on the road, and the second some distance from the first, and waited there in hiding. When the nomad saw the first shoe, he said to himself: “Oh, how nice it is! It looks like one of Hunain's shoes. But I have no use for a single shoe.” He threw it on the roadside and continued. A few minutes later, he found the other shoe. So he left his camel and goods and ran back to pick up the first shoe. In the meantime, Hunain took the camel and goods and headed back to the city. When the nomad came home to his family and tribe, they asked him, “What did you bring us from the city?” He replied, “Only Hunain's shoes!”

The reader of this report should be forewarned that, at the current moment, the Arab nations are unable to prevent or stop a potential U.S.-British-Israeli military strike against Iran. They are not powerful enough, united enough, nor farsighted enough for such an historic endeavor.

The purpose of this report is to give the American people and policymakers a picture of the emotions legitimately percolating in the Arab world, especially among traditional U.S. allies and friends. The thuggish crimes and behavior of Vice President Dick Cheney personally and the neo-con-dominated White House of George W. Bush have created such a politically and militarily explosive situation inside these countries, that its leaders are saying: “With such friends, who needs enemies?”

Before Arrival, 'Impeach Cheney!'

Even before Cheney started his tour of the region on May 9, it was widely anticipated that the tour would become a

colossal failure for the Cheney-Bush Administration's drive to enlist the countries of the region in an alliance with the U.S.A. and Israel in a new war in the region, this time against Iran. Cheney visited Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Egypt.

That real purpose of Cheney's visit this time, as well as his visit in November 2006, was exposed in the region first by *EIR*. Days before Cheney arrived, dailies in Saudi Arabia, the U.A.E., Jordan, and other Arabic-language press launched a massive attack on Cheney, and exposed the intentions behind this tour, i.e., to create a sectarian “Sunni” alliance, with Israel and the United States, against “Shi'ite” Iran, and not to find a solution to the disasters created by Cheney in Iraq. What was more disturbing to the Arab nations, was that Cheney announced that he was not going to discuss the revival of the Palestinian-Israeli peace process, a key issue for all Arab nations.

On May 7 and 8, the Saudi daily *Al-Hayat* published columns by Jihad al-Khazen, its former editor-in chief and owner. “I've read that Vice President Dick Cheney is visiting us, and I call on all Arab leaders to decline to receive him. I hope that the Arab leaders would read the following,” stated al-Khazen. He listed all the lies used by this “war-party kingpin” to get the United States into war in Iraq, and asserted that, “the U.S. Administration did not commit any mistake in its information about Iraq; it lied intentionally.”

Al-Khazen referenced former CIA director George Tenet's new book as further proof of Cheney's leadership of the war-mongering operations in the White House. “Cheney is such a shameless person, that he dodged serving in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War five times, but now is sending young Americans to die in Iraq,” he wrote.

In conclusion, al-Khazen cited former American Democratic Presidential candidate George McGovern as saying in a recent article that “Cheney and Bush committed more serious impeachable offenses than Nixon and his Administration did, and I expect that Cheney and Bush will be forced to resign before 2008.”

“I don't expect that, but I demand it, hope for it, and live for it,” concluded al-Khazen. The following day, al-Khazen called on Arab leaders in *Al-Hayat*: “Please do not receive this man. His hands are stained with the blood of millions of Iraqis.”



Navy/Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class John Hyde

Vice President Cheney aboard the USS John C. Stennis in the Arabian Gulf on May 11. Though still a guest of the United Arab Emirates, he used the occasion to threaten Iran, in violation of the sovereignty of his hosts.

The Jordanian dailies *Addustour* and *Al-Rai*, with close ties to the government, both editorialized against Cheney's intentions. *Addustour* called him "a dangerous, wounded predator," and said that he was behind the war plans against Iraq. It emphasized that "Cheney visited the region before the 2003 invasion of Iraq, and again before the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last Summer, and the same Cheney is visiting the region now again. This is not so strange, because whenever the vultures hover around, there is blood and victims on the ground."

Addustour also blasted Cheney's description of the "moderate Arab states" (the Persian Gulf states, Jordan, and Egypt), and stressed that this is Cheney's intended "sectarian Sunni alliance" against Iran.

Al-Rai warned Cheney not "to harbor illusions about Arab support for war against Iran."

The U.A.E. dailies *Al-Bayan* and *Al-Khaleej* attacked Cheney's role in the U.S. policy disasters in Iraq and Palestine. *Al-Khaleej* called Cheney's tour "A Journey of Failures." The U.A.E. daily concluded: "After having bloodied the Iraqi nation and destroyed their country, this man has only one right choice to make, and that is to listen to the demands of all the people of the world: The time for a timetable for withdrawal has come."

Failure From Day One

Indeed, Cheney's visit was paved with failures all along. As soon as he arrived in Iraq, on a surprise visit (which vio-

lated Iraq's national sovereignty), a massive explosion took place in the Kurdish city of Erbil, claiming the lives of 60 people. As Cheney was meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Noori al-Maliki, on May 9, Katyusha rockets rocked the government's Green Zone, and thousands of Iraqis demonstrated in Baghdad, Najaf, Karbala, and other cities. Their banners called Cheney a "terrorist leader" and "filth which is staining our land." The day after Cheney left, a majority of Iraqi parliamentarians responded to Cheney's orders on how to stabilize the situation in Iraq, by signing a petition calling for an end of the U.S. occupation of Iraq and a timetable for withdrawal of U.S. troops. This was the first such dramatic move in

the Iraqi parliament since the invasion in March 2003.

During his short visit to the U.A.E., Cheney was coldly received, and told that that state and the other Gulf countries wanted to have peace with Iran and a diplomatic resolution of the nuclear issue. On May 12, Cheney, while still an official guest of the U.A.E., issued a threat to Iran from aboard the U.S. aircraft carrier *USS John C. Stennis*. Through this act, he even violated the sovereignty of his hosts.

Reports in the Arabic press cited U.A.E. officials as saying that Cheney demanded that the U.A.E. remove all Iranian companies operating in the Emirates. Cheney's demands were swiftly rejected. The trade between the U.A.E. and Iran amounts to \$10 billion annually. As many as 500,000 Iranians work in or regularly visit the U.A.E. for business. There are 8,050 Iranian companies registered in Dubai. Furthermore, Dubai, with its modern ports, is the transshipment hub for goods from Asia, Africa, and Western Europe to Central Asia, through Iran's Bandar Abbas port and railway system.

A few hours after Cheney left the U.A.E., the state was preparing for an historic visit by Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmedinejad, the first visit of an Iranian President since 1979. The U.A.E. and Iranian officials stressed the importance of peace and dialogue in the Gulf, and the Iranian President reportedly made a groundbreaking announcement to the Emirati leaders that Iran was ready to share the administration of the three islands of Amu Musa, Greater and Lesser Tunb, in the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz. The three islands have been disputed by the two countries, which has been and a

source of mistrust and tension, since the British Empire, which was occupying the Emirates, manipulated this issue in 1971, by allowing the Shah of Iran to take over the three islands. The Arabic press called Ahmedinejad's offer "a great gift to the Arab Gulf states"—which had a summit meeting the same week—and a gesture of goodwill and peace. Likewise, the U.A.E. had released 12 Iranian sailors who were arrested earlier by the Emirati coast guard, also a gesture of goodwill on the eve of Ahmedinejad's visit.

In the last part of his tour to Southwest Asia, Cheney was told by the Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to avoid a confrontation with Iran and seek a political solution for the Iranian nuclear program issue. At the same time, Mubarak urged Cheney to focus on the central issue in the region, which is the Israeli-Arab peace process.

The Egyptian official daily *Al-Ahram* published a lead editorial on May 15 stating, "Egypt's clear and unequivocal stance on how to bring down the tension in the region and finding a solution to the hot crisis spots in the Middle East, was delivered in President Mubarak's talks with U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney on Sunday."

Al-Ahram defined three points stressed by Mubarak: 1) The Palestinian issue is the key to dealing with the other crises in the region. The Arab peace initiative does not need more clarification; 2) a solution in Iraq will depend on national reconciliation among the Iraqis themselves; 3) Mubarak warned Vice President Cheney against any military confrontation with Iran around the Iranian nuclear program. If such a military confrontation takes place, it would have "dangerous consequences for the whole region."

Al-Ahram welcomed the possibility for U.S.-Iranian talks, even if they are limited to the Iraqi crisis.

Official Rejection of Cheney's War

Just one day after Cheney ended his tour, the leaders of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) held a summit meeting in the Saudi capital, Riyadh, on May 15, to discuss the aftermath of U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney's and Iranian President Ahmedinejad's visits to the region.

The General Secretary of the GCC, Abdulrahman Al-Atiya, who read the final statement to the press after the summit meeting, stated: "The leaders of the GCC discussed the details of the visit by U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney to the region, and were thoroughly briefed by the leaders of the United Arab Emirates and Oman about their discussions with Iranian President Ahmedinejad." The final statement called for "the necessity of finding a peaceful solution [to the Iranian nuclear program issue] which would spare the region more tension." Al-Atiya told the press that "the six leaders discussed the dangers posed by a military strike against Iran," and emphasized that "the summit renewed its commitment to the principled position of the GCC that it would not support a military strike against Iran."

Al-Atiya, who did not disclose details of the briefing given by the leaders of the U.A.E. and Oman to the summit about their talks with the Iranian President, said that Ahmedinejad's visit was "focused on Iran's desire to develop friendly and fraternal relations with the Gulf states." He emphasized that the leaders of the GCC "expressed their hope that the Iranian President's visit, which was an historic one, would contribute to easing the tension between the U.A.E. and Iran concerning the dispute over the three islands in the Gulf." He also stressed that "the leaders of the GCC expressed their hope that the U.S. and Iran would use their coming talks [in Iraq] to reach objectives that would enhance security and stability in the region."

The GCC includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the U.A.E., and Oman, all U.S. allies with facilities hosting American Air Force and Marine bases.

Al-Atiya described the U.S. presence in Iraq as "illegal occupation." When asked by reporters why he had used this description, he replied: "What is happening in Iraq now was described by King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz [of Saudi Arabia] in the last Arab summit as an illegal occupation, and it is this which has brought Iraq to this terrible crisis and all its consequences."

In Egypt, the former editor-in-chief of the official Egyptian daily *Al-Ahram*, Ibrahim Nafie, who is a close contact of President Hosni Mubarak, signed an op-ed in the same paper the day after Cheney concluded his visit to the region.

"There is no doubt left any more that the United States is fully responsible for everything happening in Iraq now: murder and mass destruction," wrote Nafie. "It was the U.S. which took the decision to invade Iraq on the basis of hollow pretexts, dissolved the Iraqi Army and government institutions, and created the vacuum which has led to the current chaos, and Iraq has become a theater for international terrorist groups which did not exist in that country during Saddam Hussein's reign."

Furthermore, Nafie charged that "the policy pursued by the U.S. Administration towards Iraq's neighbors, specifically Iran, has led to the worsening of the situation on the ground and the expansion of armed actions, killings and bombings." He argued that "Iraq has become a battle ground between the United States and regional powers that are settling their conflicts on the soil of Iraq by military means."

It is obvious that the Arab states are sick and tired of Cheney and his policy, but as the Jordanian daily *Al-Rai* put it, "Our Arab leaders are maybe polite with their foreign guests, but none of them is ready to go against their own nation's nationalist interests."

The Arabs cannot stop or overthrow Cheney. But the U.S. Congress can impeach him and put an end to the Administration which has made the republic of the United States of America the most hated "imperial" power in Southwest Asia and the world.

India Celebrates 150th Anniversary Of War of Independence Against British

by Ramtanu Maitra

On May 11, 2007, India began a one-year commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the 1857 rebellion by Indian soldiers against the British, at the time India was still ruled by proxy, by the notorious British East India Company. The rebellion, which took the British two years to subdue by violent means, is downplayed by British historians, and their underlings in the Indian subcontinent, as the “Sepoy Mutiny” (an uprising of the lowest-rank soldiers of the Indian garrison). In reality, this was India’s First War of Independence which, though it failed, it put the British colonialists on notice.

On May 10, paying homage to the 1857-58 martyrs, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said that events of 1857 stood as a great testimony to the traditions of Hindu-Muslim unity that stood as an example for subsequent generations. “What is significant is that, despite rallying under the flag of ‘deen’ [a concept which is at the core of Islam—ed.] and ‘dharma’ [a concept which is at the heart of both Hinduism and Buddhism—ed.], the rebellion was united. There was no division between Hindus and Muslims in their resistance to alien domination,” Manmohan Singh told a packed Central Hall in Parliament House in New Delhi.

India’s Weak Political Class

However, to the present political leaders who are in power, or vying for power, the 1857 War of Independence remains not only a distant event, but also an event that is understood as it was narrated by British historians. As a result, the commemoration of this nugget in Indian history has remained unenthusiastic and unimaginative. Meerut, where the first bell against the British East India Company was rung, has done little to make the historic sites as monuments which could inspire interest and provide education. As one Meerut resident wrote: “But the search for history has only shown that many sites related to 1857 have been left to rot, the heroes of that struggle mostly forgotten. And at least one spot here has turned into a garbage dump, and a den for drug [addicts].”

The proposed march from Meerut to Delhi faltered and left a bad memory. It was to cover the 40-mile road that mutineers traversed on the night of May 10, to enter Delhi and capture the Red Fort where an octogenarian Moghul emperor,

Bahadur Shah Zafar, resided as a virtual prisoner of the East India Company mercenaries. Some of these inadequacies could be dismissed as poor management and the general lethargy that overwhelms northern India in the May heat. But there were also ideological problems that continue to inhibit the now-old children of India’s 1947 independence, about the importance of the 1857 war. Today’s political leaders of India, with few exceptions, are burdened with the same ideology.

In his book, *The Discovery of India*, that covers India’s vast history in a few hundred pages, Jawaharlal Nehru, one the most important figures in India’s independence in 1947, and first Prime Minister of the Republic of India, summarized what he called “The Great Revolt of 1857”:

“Essentially, it was a feudal outburst, headed by feudal chiefs and other followers and aided by the widespread anti-foreign sentiment. As such, inevitably, it looked up to the relic of Moghul dynasty, still sitting in the Delhi palace, but feeble and old and powerless. Both Hindus and Moslems took full part in the revolt.”

First War of Independence

But, in reality, it was much more than a revolt by the feudal chiefs. In fact, most of the princes and nawabs either did not take sides, or joined the British. Nowhere in northern India was the support for the British more evident than among the Punjabis and Sikhs.

As Prof. Ishtiaq Ahmed wrote in Pakistan’s *The News* on May 5, the Sikh warlords and princes also sided with the British. “Only eight years earlier, in 1849, the English had defeated the successors of Ranjit Singh (1799-1839), and annexed the Sikh Kingdom of Lahore. The East India Company had deployed soldiers from northern India, called Purbi Bhiyas (eastern brothers), against the Sikh armies. Now, the British played upon Sikh anger against the Purbi Bhiyas, and made them crush the Sepoys with a vengeance. Also, Muslim tribal and clan leaders from the Punjab and the NWFP (North-West Frontier Province) helped the British. Afterwards, all of them were rewarded with titles and land grants,” Ishtiaq Ahmed said. At the same time, not all Punjabis sided with the British. In some places there were



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“The Attack of the Mutineers, July 39, 1857,” during the first war for Indian independence against the British. It was an anti-colonial outbreak unique in the 19th Century, and is still being celebrated in India today.

uprisings, and the British were driven out of some of the Punjab towns. (At that time Punjab was an undivided, and very large province.)

Irfan Habib, a Muslim scholar of repute in Delhi, pointed out recently in an article that the rebellion was “an anti-colonial outbreak, unique for its scale in the whole of the nineteenth century. The rebellion pitted against the colonial regime over 120,000 trained professional soldiers from the Bengal Army, the most modern army east of Suez, with tens of thousands of other armed rebels, reinforcing and aiding them.” In terms of the area affected, nearly a fourth of the population of British India (some 50 million people) passed under rebel control, Professor Habib said.

The trigger for the first round of shots was centered on the cartridge of the Enfield rifle used by the British-Indian Army. The cartridge was heavily greased with animal fat. Word went around the Indian soldiers’ barracks that the grease was a mixture of cow (sacred to Hindus) and pig (abhorrent to Muslims) fat.

The first revolt broke out at Barrackpore, about 15 miles northwest of Kolkata (Calcutta) on March 29, 1857. Mangal Pande, a young soldier of the 34th Native Infantry, shot at his sergeant major on the parade ground. When the British adjutant rode over, Pande shot the horse and severely wounded the officer with a sword. He was later arrested and hanged. As collective punishment, the 34th Native Infantry was disbanded. Mangal Pande became an icon to the revolutionaries, heralding the beginning of India’s First War of Independence.

A few weeks later, on April 24, 85 soldiers of the 3rd Light

Cavalry in Meerut refused orders, saying that they could not handle the cartridges that were contaminated with animal fat. These soldiers were court-martialed, and sentenced to ten years of hard labor.

On May 9, the British officers in Meerut outdid themselves. A ceremony took place on the parade ground of Meerut, ostensibly designed to teach the “natives” a lesson. The court-martialed soldiers were publicly humiliated. They were stripped of their uniform, shackled, and sent to the town jail.

The following day was a Sunday. As the British soldiers, officers, and bureaucrats were preparing to go to church services, Meerut exploded.

Enraged soldiers broke open the town jail and released their comrades. A mob from the nearby bazaar and a large group of Indian soldiers poured into the cantonment where the British lived, and the rampaging soldiers killed most of them. Then these soldiers began their 40-mile hike to Delhi to join three regiments of native infantry there. The march was undertaken at night to keep it a secret.

On the morning of May 11, the soldiers from Meerut reached Delhi. Gathering below the walls of the Red Fort, the mutineers called for last Moghul Badshah Bahadur Shah Zafar. A British officer, Captain Douglas, commanded Bahadur Shah Zafar’s personal guard. From the walls high above, Captain Douglas ordered them to disperse. Soldiers accompanied by a mob burst into the palace, killed Douglas and asked Bahadur Shah to reclaim his throne. The 38th, 54th, and 74th regiments of infantry and native artillery under Bakht Khan (1797-1859) joined the rebel army at Delhi during the month of May.

The loss of Delhi was sudden, and dealt a crushing blow to the British authorities. It took the British nearly two months to regroup and then they set out to reclaim Delhi. From Meerut and Shimla (in the hills about 250 miles north of Delhi), two British columns set out for the capital. Hampered by lack of transport, it was weeks before they joined forces based at the Ambala cantonment. Punishing disloyal villages as they advanced, their course could be charted by the scores of corpses they left hanging from trees.

At Badli-ke-Serai, five miles from Delhi, they met the main body of Indian soldiers. The British won there, but most of the Indian soldiers retreated to protect the walls of Delhi. The British established themselves on Delhi ridge, a thin spur of high ground to the north of the city. In September, under the command of Major John Nicholson, and with support of Sikh and Gorkha army, they were able to reclaim Delhi. They breached the walls with heavy guns and were met with a bitter street-to-street fight. In the attack on the Kashmiri Gate in Delhi, Nicholson (considered by some historians as an absolute butcher) was felled by a bullet.

The last tragedy occurred when British officer Hodson arrested old Bahadur Shah Zafar, and killed his three sons in cold blood. The emperor was tried for complicity to murder and other offenses, found guilty, and sent into exile to Rangoon (now, Yangon) in British Burma. His whereabouts were kept secret by the British.

Just before he died in 1862, in a British Army officer's garage in Rangoon, the poet-king Bahadur Shah Zafar wrote: "Who would pray on my behalf? Or bring me a bunch of flowers? Who would light a candle for me? I am nothing but a gloomy tomb." The last two lines of his poetry runs as follows, "*Kitna Hai Bad Naseeb Zafar Dafan ke liya, Do Gaz Zameen bhi na milee Kuye Yar mein*" ("Oh Zafar, how unfortunate are you when you cannot find two yards of land for your burial in your loved one's place," meaning his country).

The arrest of Bahadur Shah Zafar broke the back of the warring Indian soldiers. However, the War of Independence continued. Major battles were fought for another year in and around the cities of Kanpur, Lucknow, Gwalior, and Jhansi.

Simmering Anger

Although the 1857 revolt continues to be depicted in the victor's history books as nothing but an uprising by some low-ranking Indian soldiers because of the mistakes made by the cartridge manufacturers, the seeds of the revolt were sown long before.

According to historians, the arrival of proselytizing missionaries from Britain had caused great unease among the Indians. Evangelical Christians had little understanding of, or respect for, India's ancient faiths. The attitude of scrupulous non-interference in religious affairs that had characterized the British rule in the 18th Century was abandoned.

The native populations noted the British efforts to convert them.

The British passed Act XXI of 1850, which enabled converts to inherit ancestral property. The new law was immediately interpreted as a concession handed to Christian converts. At the same time, the British continued to describe the Indians as "barbarians." The Indians also came to notice that the European judges hardly ever convicted British for their crimes.

Thousands of soldiers and nobles became unemployed when Governor General James Broun-Ramsey (Lord Dalhousie) annexed Avadh in November 1855. He also annexed the Maratha States of Satara, Nagpur, and Jhansi, and several minor principalities. On the death of the ex-Peshwa, Baji Rao II, the pension granted to him was abolished, and the claims of his adopted son, Nana Sahib, were disregarded.

British administrative laws ruined both the peasants and landlords. Indian handicrafts completely collapsed and the craftsmen became impoverished. India became a marketplace for finished goods from England. Poverty increased, and the discontent among the masses motivated the Indians to join the revolt in large numbers.

Professor Habib's point that the Revolt of 1857 had its roots in the pressures exerted on India by the imperialism of free trade can hardly be denied; but the depth and breadth of the upheaval also raise the question of the classes and groups that became involved in it, and of their grievances and aspirations.

The Aftermath

The breakout of India's First War of Independence made the British Crown sit up. The British East India Company handed over India to the Disraeli government, and the British Raj in India began.

More importantly, the War of Independence set the ball rolling in the quarters of powers-that-were in England. The British Crown saw the ability of the Indians—Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs—to rally around a decrepit Moghul Badshah in their bloody battle to overthrow the British. Immediately, policies were designed which would keep the Hindu and Muslim interests at odds. The active politics of majority and minorities, the policy of divide and rule began in earnest. Over the next 90 years, the British manipulations succeeded in drawing almost every Indian within the policy structure. Intense hostilities broke out between Hindus and Muslims. They killed each other as if they, and not the British, were the usurpers of India.

This policy of the British Raj bore its poisonous fruits in 1947, when the country was broken up into two countries, and three parts. Thousands lost their lives killing each other, and millions lost everything that they had. The tree is still bearing those poison fruits, and Bahadur Shah Zafar's dafan still remains in Yangon, Myanmar.

LYM Butchers ‘Al Gordo’ With Exquisite Argentine Cut

by Gabriela Arroyo and Betiana González, LaRouche Youth Movement

Mr. Al Gore—or “Al Gordo,” as he has now been infamously dubbed all across Spanish-speaking Ibero-America for his ever increasing girth—may have foolishly believed that he had escaped to the one place in the world where he would be able to freely spew out his venomous lies on global warming to an unsuspecting audience sans the interventions of the LaRouche Youth Movement. But, as fate would have it, there was a much different plan in store for him.

Perhaps unbeknownst to Al Gordo, even before his arrival in Buenos Aires had begun to buzz with controversy over his explicitly genocidal promotion of bio-foolery in the impoverished region of the Southern Cone. Perhaps also unbeknownst to him, the campaign to expose the fascist roots of the ecology movement was led by the International LaRouche Youth Movement in the spirit of a true transcontinental conspiracy, spanning the United States and Canada, traversing the oceans to the shores of Europe, Australia, and the Philippines, and back down to the tip of Argentina.

The aim of the activities of the Argentine LYM was to prevent Al Gore from coming to speak altogether. Two weeks prior to Gore’s visit there, we blanketed the city with 32,000 leaflets: On the front side, Al Gore could be seen triumphantly holding a swastika made out of leaves, proclaiming “We are Back!” On the reverse side, there was a detailed exposé of Gore’s genocidal policies and his call for population reduction throughout the world, and especially for the underdeveloped sector.

The leaflets were visible throughout the Congress, universities, downtown, and every nook and cranny where Argentine youth would be seen lounging around. Suffice it to say, there was a lot of controversy around this Gore-y issue by this point.

The moment of truth finally came on May 12, at the much anticipated event. The sponsors of the event, the “First Biofuels Congress of the Americas,” had only spurious arguments. They aimed to promote the use of biofuels, to petrify the audience over the issue of “climate change,” and to shamelessly promote unadulterated free trade. The Vice President of Argentina Daniel O. Scioli and Bush’s collaborator in Argentina Julio Gutiérrez, glorified “el excelentísimo” Al Gore, and his struggle for a “better world,” oozing with

pretentious flattery.

Scioli introduced Al Gordo to his audience of 600, as being practically the *only* immeasurable beacon of justice today who is battling for the sake of humanity. All of the press sitting with a LYM member, who was attending the event as a journalist, muttered “What an ass-kisser,” and began to laugh at the ridiculous thought. Al Gordo’s presentation, was overloaded with his customary potpourri of vacuous words and redundant, sophisticated banter. The inconvenient fact was that he had to parody himself, as he presented, nearly verbatim, the same Powerpoint slides that appear in his documentary “An Inconvenient Truth.”

In order to illustrate the inherent “problem” that development brings on by causing population growth, Gore used color satellite photos of Bolivia, year after year, starting from 1975 to the present. He then showed the first and the last photo side by side and said with a disgusted air: “See! What *we* do to mother nature with population development!”

As if that weren’t enough, to further hoodwink the audience into believing the lie that the underlying problem of overpopulation is caused by man’s audacious greed and thirst for development, Gore showed a graph with exponential population growth, depicting future growth projections and said that this inevitable misfortune poses a dangerous problem, because population growth will exceed that of the Middle Ages. At this moment a journalist in the crowd could be heard saying “Enough of this! I’m leaving,” as he abruptly stormed out of the event.

The Truth Gets Told

At the moment that Al Gordo finally finished his yawn-inducing monologue, the moderator of the event diplomatically cued the audience to clap. Amidst the timid, but polite applause, the LYM member who was attending the event as a journalist for *EIR*, dramatically unfurled a large banner from the balcony that read:

“Mr. Al Gordo:

- Why are you afraid to debate Lord Monckton on the issue of global warming?
- Why don’t you support nuclear energy, when it’s the cleanest and safest?



EIRNS

Al Gordo squeezed in Argentina: The LYM nuclear cooling tower protested outside the hotel where he spoke, while inside the LYM banner was unfurled, with pointedly inconvenient questions.

- How will you decide which race will be exterminated?
- Does it bother you that what you propose will depopulate the developing sector through underdevelopment?"

A sudden attentive hush fell across the room. The only thing that could be heard was a high-pitched but increasingly determined yell: "Hey Al Gordo! Al Gordo!"

An agitated Al scanned the room nervously, until he locked eyes with the LYM member, as if to anticipate whether what would come out of her mouth next would be another act of praise or an assailing truthful denunciation. Meanwhile, the entire audience sat quietly, unable to hide their shock, mouths agape. Neither Gore, nor the press, nor the organizers of the event could make sense of what was happening, but were nonetheless eager to witness the spectacle unfold before their eyes.

With the exception of Julio Gutiérrez, that is, who began to frantically clap and to motion the audience to join him, so as to muffle out the disruption from the balcony. But the only people he managed to get to join him in his frenzy were the other officials of the event sitting in the front row. The rest of the audience wanted to hear what the young lady had to say to Gore.

Despite all the commotion, and the muffled applause, the LYM member yelled out (in English): "Why don't you want to debate Lord Monckton?" Pause. She then proceeded to the next question: "How do you say we have to reduce population?"

At that moment, as Fat Al appeared to be searching for a hole to crawl into, personifying a cowardly imperial rat, a security guard asked the organizer to hand over the poster, which she promptly did, as she lunged into her third question: "Why did you stop generic drugs against AIDS in South Africa?"

As the LYM member was being removed from the hotel, another journalist approached her and asked excitedly "What

did you say to him?" "Why doesn't he want to debate Lord Monckton, and *who is this Lord Monckton?*" The LYM member managed to give a quick reply, and as she was escorted out, the press hurriedly followed her to take pictures and bombard her with questions about what the poster said, and if she could translate what she had said into Spanish.

As soon as the elevator doors closed behind them, the security guards let out a raucous laugh and said, "That was great! Absolutely great!" The organizer gave them a copy of the LYM's Spanish-language publication *Prometeo* and the leaflet of Al Gore holding up a swastika, and asked them if they would be so kind as to give that to Mr. Gordo himself as a token from the LaRouche Youth Movement. The chief security person promptly replied with a devious smile that he would do everything possible to give this message to Gore.

Outside the Hotel: More Truth Is Told

In close proximity to the hotel in which the event took place, three other LYM members and a friend organized amidst an increasingly rowdy protest of about 75 people which consisted of an "anti-everything human" radical ecologist group, and a Jacobin group identified as "Quebracho." The LYM members provocatively placed their signs, which read "Nutritional sovereignty *YES*, biofuels *NO*" among the 30 or 40 radical ecologists who were self-professed haters of industry, but whose prime choice of transportation was, amusingly enough, bicycles made by industry, and who claimed to love nature above and beyond human beings.

Everything was unbearably cordial, that is, until the LYM's human "nuclear cooling tower" appeared on the scene holding a sign that read, "Let's defeat the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy and its biofuels with plenty of nuclear energy!" This unleashed the Pandora's box of fury from the ecologists, who made absurd exclamations along the lines that human beings are a plague, and that the world is overpopulated.

Overall the response was one of disbelief that the former Vice-President of the United States was speaking less than 300 feet from where the protest was taking place. The responses were diverse: From "Let's see what this son of a ***** is up to" to "you guys are against progress if you are against global warming!" Exemplary of the characteristic response, one passerby, after reading the poster that said "Hey Al! LaRouche knows you are a fascist" said matter-of-factly that Al Gore was "too stupid" to be categorized as a "fascist".

Both inside, and outside of the event, the atmosphere was visibly stirred up, by the mere introduction of an otherwise missing principle—that of telling the truth, boldly, loudly and with the use of humor, Argentine style.

As for Señor Gordo himself, it would be a vast understatement to say that for some time to come, he will feel paranoidly hostile around anyone under the age of 30, for fear that they may be with Lyndon LaRouche.

Enéas Carneiro: Brazil Loses a Patriot, The LaRouche Movement a Friend

by Dennis Small and Gretchen Small

Dr. Enéas Carneiro, Brazilian cardiologist and Congressman, died of leukemia on May 6 at the age of 68. Enéas, as he was known since he broke into national prominence in his first run for President of Brazil in 1989, was a fierce patriot and opponent of globalization, and an outspoken friend of the LaRouche movement. In 1998, when interviewed on national television during his third Presidential campaign, he cited the call of “the brilliant economist” LaRouche for a New Bretton Woods, and held up an *EIR*, which attacked George Soros on the cover.

In August 1998, he invited Helga Zepp-LaRouche to join him in speaking in São Paulo, and in June 2002, he organized an invitation for Lyndon LaRouche himself to visit Brazil to receive honorary citizenship from the São Paulo City Council. (Excerpts of Enéas’s remarks on that occasion are printed below.)

Five months later, Enéas was elected to Congress by the greatest number of votes received by any single candidate, before or since (over 1.57 million), in a campaign on which he spent, at most, \$22,000. In his first address on the floor of the Chamber of Deputies, in February 2003, Enéas called on President Lula da Silva to break with the IMF system, “this nauseating and infected model that sucks out the innards of the nation,” and pointed to LaRouche as the man whose ideas could save Brazil, and the world. Enéas explained:

“Fabulous fortunes on the order of \$1-2 trillion circulate daily from one point of the planet to another, by means of computer pulses. Of these, barely some 2-3% correspond to commercial transactions. The rest are *pure speculation*, with no correspondence with the physical world, as has been pointed out by the renowned American economist and thinker Mr. LaRouche, in the weekly *Executive Intelligence Review*. . . . Your Excellency has in your hands an opportunity without equal in the history of Brazil. . . . *Order* that, by unilateral rupture, no more interest payments will be made on the Public Debt, the which reached 114 billion reals in 2002. . . . Your Excellency will be followed by all the Brazilians who lifted you into your current position.”

Over subsequent months, the media blacked out Dr. Enéas’s speeches from the floor of Congress, despite their

significance. He nonetheless maintained his attacks on the IMF system. On Feb. 18, 2003, he stated that Brazil’s indebtedness “is the central question from which all others flow.” And on Aug. 21, 2003, he asserted that “the only solution is a rupture with the international financial system, but not a trade rupture. What I am proposing is a rupture with the IMF, with the World Bank. . . . Rupture! For that, you have to have courage. Courage which His Excellency, the President of the Republic, has not had. Only in that way can we think of being a free and sovereign nation, that can portend a better future for our children.”

Enéas was a totally unforgettable, unique individual. Perhaps five feet tall, with an enormous black beard, Enéas exploded on the national scene with a 1989 legendary Presidential campaign TV spot of less than a minute, which ended with what became his trademark: “*Meu nome é Enéas!*”—“My name is Enéas!” He rapidly gained folk hero status, as a fighter who just wouldn’t back down.

Enéas had a raucous sense of humor, which accompanied his brilliant intellect, and a fierce, polemical commitment to see justice done in the world. He was, above all else, a volunteer and a teacher.

Born on Nov. 5, 1938, and working from age nine to help support his family after his father’s death, Enéas became a mathematician, a physicist, and one of Brazil’s preeminent cardiologists. He authored a textbook on the electrocardiogram, and over 28,000 medical students took his legendary course on the electrocardiogram, which he continued to teach twice-weekly, even while he was a sitting congressman.

In 1989, he founded a political party, PRONA (Party for Rebuilding National Order), because he decided that only by changing the political and economic system, could the genocidal disregard for human life which he saw around him in his medical work be ended. PRONA’s ranks were filled with many of the doctors whom he had inspired with his love of science—and of Brazil.

His stunning election victory in 2002, which carried him into Congress with five other PRONA deputies in the same election in which Lula da Silva entered the Presidency, sent

Who Is Mr. LaRouche?

The following excerpts are taken from a “Salute to Mr. Lyndon LaRouche” which was delivered by Dr. Enéas Carneiro, head of Brazil’s PRONA Party, at the June 12, 2002 ceremony awarding LaRouche honorary citizenship in the city of São Paulo. Subheads have been added.

Who is Mr. LaRouche?

Until 1994, I knew of him only as a great political leader. I could also see the convergence of our thinking, but I had no idea at all of his immense and extraordinary culture in almost every field of human knowledge. . . .

Reading Mr. LaRouche’s articles in *EIR* and later on in *Fidelio* and *21st Century* magazines, I became increasingly astonished and deeply curious to know more and more about that man.

Who really is he?

Recently, reading an article appearing in the May 10, 2002 issue of *EIR*, I was struck by Mr. LaRouche’s deep philosophical and technical analysis on the catenary, and I recalled my classes as a university physics student 40 years ago. . . .

The catenary is the curve describing the form taken by a uniform chain when it is suspended from its endpoints. Any freely hanging cable or rope assumes this shape.

The catenary represents the constant search of nature for a state of order, with a minimum expenditure of energy. That is a universal principle, which, like many others, Mr. LaRouche explains magnificently in his writings.

But, let’s stop for a moment and think: What Presidential candidate in Brazil, or in the United States, for that matter, has ever heard of a catenary?

Imagine someone showing Mr. Bush in the United States, or [Presidential candidates] Mr. Lula [Luís Inácio Da Silva] or Mr. [Antonio] Garotinho in Brazil, an hyperbolic function or an integral. Any one of them, at the sight of an integral, would immediately think of a rattlesnake ready to bite him. None of them, in their absolute ignorance of the scientific principles governing nature, has the slightest idea of the importance of scientific knowledge to the statesman who would lead a nation.

Besides being a mathematical philosopher, Mr. LaRouche has a keen intelligence and exceptional fluency in matters of the physical world, speaking with intimacy and profundity about the ideas of Gauss, Ampère, Oersted, and Kepler, and many other mainstays of physics.

Regarding philosophy as such, Mr. LaRouche is really a scholar. From Plato to Leibniz, from St. Augustine to St. Thomas Aquinas, or Descartes, Spinoza, and many others, the



EIRNS/Stephen Meyer

Enéas Carneiro insisted that “the only solution is a rupture . . . with the IMF, with the World Bank.” Here he is shown (left) with Lyndon LaRouche, whom he invited to São Paulo, Brazil in 2002 to receive honorary citizenship in the city.

the financiers into a rage fit. The *New York Times* labeled Enéas a “neofascist.” Within eight months of the election, *EIR*’s office in Brazil broke with LaRouche, and went over openly to the international Synarchists, in part in a failed effort to sever Enéas’s active connection to his friend LaRouche. Over the next year, all but one of PRONA’s congressmen were “persuaded” to switch parties.

Undeterred, Enéas gave an interview to LaRouche’s *EIR* in February 2004, reiterating the urgency of changing the global financial system, as LaRouche proposes (see below for excerpts). Diagnosed with leukemia in early 2006, he came back to fight after his treatment, having lost only his beard, but none of his spunk. As he told the media at the time, with his contagious laugh: “With a beard or without a beard, my name is Enéas!”

He was re-elected to Congress in October 2006 with the new Republican Party, of which he was vice-chair. Enéas’s commitment to principle won him the respect of many in Congress. As the President of the Chamber of Deputies, Arlindo Chinaglia, stated after his death, Enéas was known for his “determination, which can be read also as courage, because he firmly maintained his ideological and political positions, no matter whom he was speaking to.”

Enéas will be replaced in Congress by his alternate, who is a 33-year-old woman dentist.

depth of his reasoning and wise analysis is, for me, breathtaking.

He speaks about ancient history as if he were there, at the same table, on the same sofa, at Plato's *Symposium*, the "Banquet of Love." He who reads Mr. LaRouche's articles receives a refreshing shower of science, fine arts, and philosophy.

The Fight for the General Welfare

But, beyond such incontestable knowledge, what most impresses me about Mr. LaRouche is his concern for social questions, poverty, and the destiny of humanity.

Mr. LaRouche defends, in the United States and the world, the same ideas which we, of PRONA, defend here in Brazil.

He fights for the existence and presence of the sovereign nation-state. In one of his speeches, he said: "We want no empire. We want no hegemony. We want the general welfare. We want to protect and to promote national sovereignty. That is the cornerstone."

He condemns economic globalization, so dear to the rotten press, the corrupted media which do not allow ordinary people to know what is the reality hidden behind those sweet words, such as "privatization," "the minimal state," "economic globalization," and so forth and so on. In reality, all of this is a lie; what exists, in fact, is neo-colonialism.

I became aware in 1989—but Mr. LaRouche had seen it much earlier than I—that a diabolical plan of destruction was under way, and accelerating with incredible velocity, to destroy our moral values—all that was handed down to us by our forefathers, and which makes us a sovereign nation.

With the establishment of the free-market empire, with the neoliberal wind blowing in almost every quarter of the planet, it followed naturally that our country would also be engulfed by this wave of destruction.

The floodgates of our economy were intentionally opened. Our nation was flooded with junk and trash from around the world. The barriers against imports of all industrial products were taken down, in such a disastrous manner that our national industry was almost destroyed.

But, the whole process did not stop there. With no subsidies, with almost no lending by the Banco do Brasil to small and medium-sized farmers, bankruptcy also struck the countryside. Thus, they destroyed agriculture, too.

Millions of unemployed were thrown onto the streets. Today, a shocking 20% of the economically active population is unemployed. They wander hopelessly, hungry, desperate, joining those already in the informal economy, selling imported products at traffic lights on the streets, doing anything to survive, and a considerable number of those unfortunate people finally end up in criminal marginality.

Criminality, in turn, is reaching terrifying levels, reaching as high as one murder every hour in the Rio-São Paulo region, as stated quite correctly by Dr. Havanir, president of PRONA

in São Paulo.

They destroyed the fundamentals of Classical education. They destroyed respect for the nation, for religion, for the family, as well as respect for life. And, with that, death became just a banality. They transformed human beings into machines.

With complete freedom for speculation, with capital flowing from one point of the planet to another, without any restrictions, it was natural that the big monied interests wished to increase—doubling, tripling, quadrupling their fortunes—simply by speculation in the financial market.

The world economy became a no-man's-land, with no relationship between real wealth and the amount of money in circulation.

Money is no longer a symbol of wealth. It has become wealth itself. I say that, because there is no correspondence between the money that circulates and the real wealth of nations, as Mr. LaRouche has so brilliantly proven in his analyses, repeatedly presented in the four corners of the planet.

We have come to live under the Empire of Money, the Empire of Fake Money, the Empire of Painted Paper.

Brazil, in 2001, paid the fabulous amount of some \$60 billion in service on the public debt alone, including the interest on domestic and foreign public debts. And the domestic debt jumped from \$50 billion in 1994 (at a dollar-to-real ratio of 1:1), to about \$240 billion, the equivalent of a stunning 600 billion reals at today's exchange rate. . . .

There is no saving this model, unless there is a joint statement, issued by the governments of the major countries of the world, that the current international financial system is insolvent; and calling for the establishment of a new accord between nations, with the creation of a New Bretton Woods agreement. . . .

Thank you very much, Mr. LaRouche, for your presence here in Brazil, and for all that you represent for all mankind.

LaRouche's New Bretton Woods Is 'Sensational'

Dr. Enéas Carneiro granted this telephone interview to Dennis Small—Ibero-American editor for EIR—on Feb. 9, 2004, from which the following excerpts are taken.

EIR: You are known throughout Brazil for your famous phrase during your first Presidential campaign: "My name is Enéas." But there is another expression, which is almost as well-known, which people identify with you: "Rupture, now!" Why do you say that a rupture with the International Monetary Fund system is necessary?

Enéas: I have said—and I know you have heard me say this on several occasions—that I see no way out under the current

model. Let's look at the government's official figures.

According to the official numbers for 2003, government spending averaged some 12.5 billion reais a month [on interest payments], which comes to about 150 billion reais a year. That is nearly half the Federal budget. That is absurd; it is unthinkable. There will be no money left for *anything*—not for public schools, hospitals. So, there is no way out.

And there is no end to these interest payments. After paying all that interest, one need only look at the public debt, which kept growing, under the government of Mr. Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. The publicly-held domestic debt, alone, which are the bonds held by the market, which they say are held by the public, totalled 50 billion reais when Fernando Henrique Cardoso took office in 1994. When he left office in 2002, it was a little over 700 billion.

So, the interest is paid, and the debt increases, because it is impossible to pay all the interest, and a part is of it transformed again into increases in the debt. . . .

Real joblessness—I have a serious, careful study of this—I can prove that real unemployment is 25% of the EAP [Economically Active Population]. That is, one out of every four people in the EAP are unemployed. It is the rare family where no one is unemployed—whether the family is middle class, lower middle class, or poor. It is a truly distressing situation. There is desperation.

And now, when the pensioners, in just a few months, begin to have 11% deducted from their benefits—the pensioners!—begin to pay taxes, since the retiree helps out the young people who are unemployed in the family—they always help—then things are going to get worse. It seems to me that the government is now starting to deteriorate, despite all the optimistic speeches by Brazilian officials, speeches which are no different from those in other countries.

EIR: Dr. Enéas, in mid-2002, you invited Lyndon LaRouche to São Paulo, Brazil, so that the City Council there could make him an honorary citizen of São Paulo, and so that he could speak about his solutions and his proposal for a New Bretton Woods—which also involves breaking with the IMF. What do you think of those ideas that LaRouche raised, and the alternatives available to the world at this time?

Enéas: The idea is excellent—the idea that all countries should sit down at the table, led by some countries, such as Russia, and reach a healthy consensus. . . . To the extent this were accepted, it would be beautiful. I have my doubts that this will come to be accepted.

That is why I propose a rupture, not just with the IMF, but also with the World Bank. Look how the World Bank, over the last five years, for every dollar that they placed here, got 1.4 dollars back. What interest do we have in such “help” from these organizations, to which we already owe so much? The truth is that they don't give any help at all.

So that is why I propose rupture: because of that. We will

face a period of difficulties, a period in which we would not be able to import computer chips, perhaps; but we have our own quartz. It would be a difficult period, but there would be light at the end of the tunnel.

Mr. LaRouche's idea is sensational . . . from a theoretical standpoint, it is the best way, what should be done . . . a new financial architecture is the way to go. The problem is, and it is the problem before us now, how to bring about that architecture? How? What *de facto* power do we have to be able to impose this on Wall Street and the City of London?

EIR: In this international context of such a serious crisis and of growing opposition to the current system, what role should Brazil play in international politics? Who should be your strategic allies? What can be done with other countries, including the United States? . . .

Enéas: I think, for example, that contact with Russia is fundamental; contact with China (which I haven't yet visited); with the Malaysia of Dr. Mahathir. That is, a unity of these persons around a common idea could, I want to believe, at a certain point, unleash some kind of international movement that *could* catch on. I am not saying that it *will* catch on. . . .

To sum up, I think that that movement of unity could bear fruit: a union with Russia, and perhaps, who knows, with some forces that even exist in the United States. You are there; I want to believe that you are not all alone. If you were alone, you wouldn't be able to have that movement. Some groups in the world have been able to reach agreements. . . .

The moment Brazil kicks over the chessboard, it would be followed by an enormous number of countries. But it is necessary for Brazil to issue its cry of independence. . . .

EIR: Mr. LaRouche is building a youth movement, which is causing a political and scientific explosion in the country and in the world. . . . What do you think, philosophically, about this question of the role of youth, and truth, in politics?

Enéas: I am an enthusiast for this, an *enthusiast!* I have some difficulties, for now, putting that into practice—difficulties of a financial nature, and other sorts. But I agree fully. Because young people—of course, we are talking about youth who have had access to education, who are in a position to understand that message. We can't talk about our young people who sadly are still floundering at the primary or pre-primary level of instruction. You know that education in Brazil is in terrible, terrible, terrible shape.

But I fully agree. Further ahead, I have to participate in a process similar to that. Once thinking leaders move the multitudes—because the masses never made a revolution, they were always led. I want to believe that leaders will emerge from that collection of youth. I fully agree with the ideas and the articles and magazines you have sent me.

I am not yet able to do that; I lack the resources. But further ahead, I will do so.

Book Review

Cervantes Would Have Been Impressed

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

The Golem, and the Wondrous Deeds of the Maharal of Prague

by Yudl Rosenberg, Curt Leviant, transl.
(New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007)
hardbound, \$25

May 11, 2007

This book is, without the least bit of exaggeration, a gem! It is a joy to read; but, beware, there are deeper meanings of a certain importance, meanings which employ fictional irony to seek to render frightful realities harmless.

A certain amount of special, added credit for the beauty, which must capture the reader of the book as a whole, belongs to the translator, Curt Leviant, whose introduction impressed me as the work of a truly important contemporary mind, in whatever language his Preface might be translated. Even at that distance from the Hebrew text, the effect of the translation could not have been other than a reflection of the intent, and also the adducible authentic genius, and sense of humor of the author of the core work of this publication, Yudl Rosenberg. Rosenberg followed in the footsteps of Miguel Cervantes with such delightful, and truly creative insolence, and Curt Leviant succeeds in making the most of it in his setting of the stage. Since I do not read Hebrew, my comments are written at a certain distance from the original text of Yudl Rosenberg's work, but some meanings defy such barriers.

That defect of my role as reviewer taken duly into account, I am a seasoned American native with many relevant associations among adult American Jews of four generations, chiefly of respectively German and Eastern European descent, as from my own adolescence and adulthood in the greater Boston and New York City areas of the late 1930s through the 1960s and 1970s. I read that experience with aid of my special emphasis on Moses Mendelssohn's role in the great Classical revolution of the late Eighteenth Century, as contrasted with Heinrich Heine's struggle to resist and defeat an enemy which he hated as the depravity of the post-1815

Romantic School, as I do. This experience affords me the advantage of knowing the principled, historical features underlying that European historical setting, in which the European Jew usually struggled to find and defend a sense of identity in a largely menacing, surrounding world.

All these and related considerations taken into account, this book can be appreciated as a gem. In due course here, I shall tell you why I say this, without risk that I might be justly accused of some exaggeration on this account.

The subject of the inner life of peoples subjected to prolonged, and recurring persecution, on account of their origins or religious beliefs, has fascinated me since my childhood, especially since my adolescence in the greater Boston area, in an environment where I hated the vicious discrimination against people of Italian, Eastern European Jewish, and African-American origins, which was typical.

In this setting, two models of Jewish resistance to this form of discrimination inside the U.S.A. itself have been of continuing crucial importance for me, since then, to the present day. The happiest recollections are of the triumphant achievements of Moses Mendelssohn, and the relatively melancholy, contrasting case of the Heinrich Heine who fought most of his adult life for a great cause, the Classical Renaissance of Germany's late Eighteenth Century. Heine fought, for much of his adult life, until near the end, against the malignant filth of the post-Napoleonic Romanticism of Prince Metternich's secret correspondent, the proto-fascist G.W.F. Hegel, and the Romantic School generally. Then, from a more recent time, we have the Yiddish Renaissance, typified by what was known in the U.S.A. of my youth and young manhood by names such as the "Workman's Circle" and the writings of Sholem Aleichem.

As Yudl Rosenberg demonstrates in his *The Golem*, the relative defeat, almost the obliteration of the heroic achievements of Moses Mendelssohn, created a kind of vacuum in which there came into being a thus much-needed, late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Century's Jewish humor, which is based implicitly, like Yudl Rosenberg's *The Golem*, on the image of the young child's "secret friend," his "Big Rabbit."

About two decades ago, during one of my visits to Florence, my wife and I chanced to sit in a grassy area, across the Arno, when I could fancy that this might have been where Boccaccio sat, writing his *Decameron* while viewing the holocaust of the Black Death in those streets of Florence, across the river, which I could view from where I sat. Cervantes' treatment of a morally failed Sixteenth-Century Spain under Philip, does echo Boccaccio, using the morally, utterly failed characters Don Quixote and Sancho Panza as the key foils of his account. It is important for readers of *The Golem* to recognize that Yudl Rosenberg is no gloomy Romantic pessimist; he expresses a truly delicious sense of humor also characteristic of the greatest Classical tragedians.

On this account, reading *The Golem*, one should think of Schiller's famous observation on the intent of Classical drama: that the citizen entering the theater, and seeing the pervasive folly enacted there, should resolve, leaving the theater, to be a better citizen upon leaving, a citizen who considers himself warned to adopt a sense of responsibility for the way things go in his or her society. Schiller points, thus, to the essential optimism, the optimism of the citizen provoked to take care of what a society neglected by its citizens might inflict upon itself, which is implicit in the Classical tragedy, when all within the action of the drama on stage is horrifying.

There had been no tragic element in the work of Moses Mendelssohn and his dear friend and collaborator Gotthold Lessing. Mendelssohn, the poor, young Jewish son of a minor religious figure of Dessau, raised the banner of Gottfried Leibniz and Plato before him, and thus shook the pillars of the Philistine temple of Friedrich der Grosse's Berlin, in the onslaught against the corruption of the empiricist school of the Voltairians, D'Alembert, Leonhard Euler, and Joseph Lagrange. This pair of friends, together with Lessing's mentor, the great mathematician Abraham Kästner, unleashed, from within Germany, the great Classical upsurge which spread throughout Europe, and, was, in fact, crucial for the creation of the U.S. Constitutional Republic.

These often almost penniless friends shook the world in their time. For example, as some of my collaborators have published the relevant evidence of this, the greatest musicians, the leading followers of J.S. Bach of their time, including Wolfgang A. Mozart, Ludwig v. Beethoven, Franz Schubert, and others, were within the family circles, from Leipzig and Berlin, of Moses Mendelssohn. From that time on, there is nothing truly great in German culture which has not been rooted in the Classical conspiracy in which the circles of Lessing and Mendelssohn played a crucial part, the circles from which the genius of Friedrich Schiller leaped upward to shape much of the best which lingers still in the world of today.

This was echoed in the circles of Benjamin Franklin in the U.S., in the exemplary circles of Percy B. Shelley and John Keats in Britain. Then came the evil of the siege of the Bastille, the Satanic reek of the Jacobins and their Terror, and of Count Joseph de Maistre's virtual "Trilby," Napoleon Bonaparte. The Vienna negotiations of 1812-1815 turned back the clock of European history.

The genius of Schiller, Beethoven, and Schubert, had been a reflection of a glorious time past. The disease of what Heinrich Heine called "The Romantic School" and its wickedness took charge of a new trend. Later than that came the ouster of Germany's Chancellor Bismarck, and, with that, what became known as World Wars I and II was the result of the intended effect launched by Britain's "Lord of the Isles," Prince Edward Albert, Edward VII. In that same time came a turn typified by the strange police chief and torturer, the Okhrana's

Zubatov, who served as architect of Russia's 1905 Revolution, a plot pivoted on the Okhrana programs against the Jews of Eastern Europe.

The Bund of that time created a tradition, which spilled over into the communities of Jewish immigrants pouring into the U.S. version of ghettos. This was a generation with a deeply felt need of a secret life shared among those who enjoyed a sense of the presence of a child's "invisible friend." The Golem, as presented by Yudl Rosenberg's referenced work, reflected that desire for "an invisible friend," with whom the hopes for a miraculous justice could be expressed in whispers. Every child, once tucked into bed, may think of what he, or she imagines to be the whispers of the parents in a room below. To sleep, that child, thinking his or her parents brave but helpless against the lurking danger, must whisper silently to the consoling presence of an imaginary, powerful friend.

Moses Mendelssohn, 'The Socrates of Berlin'

Moses Mendelssohn (1729-86), the philosopher and Orthodox Jew, played a pivotal historical role in keeping alive the Platonic tradition in philosophy, music, the natural sciences, and statecraft. A scholar of Plato and Leibniz, he was known the world over as "the Socrates of Berlin." He provided the educational pathway that emancipated and transformed the backward, hermetic majority of the Jewish community of Europe and Russia into modern citizens.

For further reading:

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., "Affirm the Mendelssohn Defense of the Soul," *EIR*, June 14, 2002.

Moses Mendelssohn, *Phaedon, or On the Immortality of the Soul*, Patricia Noble, trans. (New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2006).

Steven P. Meyer, "Moses Mendelssohn and the Bach Tradition," *Fidelio*, Summer 1999 (available at schillerinstitute.org).

David Shavin, "Philosophical Vignettes From the Political Life of Moses Mendelssohn," *Fidelio*, Summer 1999 (schillerinstitute.org).

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, "The Classics Against the Enlightenment in the 18th Century," *EIR*, Sept. 3, 1999.

What is important about the sensed presence of the child's invisible friend, is not what the child might believe explicitly, but, rather, the fear which underlies that hopeful wish. That child, at his or her best, is Schiller's ordinary citizen, leaving the theater a better citizen than he had entered, despite the playwright's inspired, warning depiction, as by Shakespeare and Schiller, often of the total depravity of all of the principal characters of *Wallenstein*, and such as those of Posa and the King in *Don Carlos*, of the conduct of virtually all of the characters of the tragedy itself, and of the fears lurking in the hushed voices of the parents in a room below.

Under the Floorboards of Dreaming

On this latter account, I urge the reader to give special, thoughtful attention to pages xxiii-xxxiv of Curt Leviant's Introduction. Now, permit me to speak briefly on those deeper implications of the work, as I see them for myself, and as those indicated pages from Leviant's Introduction prompt my own deeper thoughts on the same matter of the "invisible friend."

Albert Einstein described our universe as finite in its wholeness, and yet self-bounded without external "fences." As Einstein credits Johannes Kepler and Bernhard Riemann on this account, the human individual's power to discover those unseen principles which shape the universe in which we act, reflects a kind of knowledge pertaining to that which lies beyond an attempted literal reading of sense-experience. We meet this higher realm in the discovery and mastery of universal physical principles; we meet the work-product of the same marvelous human faculty, in great Classical artistic composition. A child, drifting toward sleep in an attic room, may sense the presence of universal principles more powerful than the mere objects of sense-perception. In fact, that sense reflects the mental faculty on which discovery of universal principles of the Solar system and galaxy depends, the sense of some power which is good by nature, acting upon the shadow-world of simple sense-perceptual experience in the small.

In judging this just-described irony, we must take into account the fact known to every great physical scientist, that what we regard as simple sense-perception is our image of the experience of sense-perceptual faculties of the mortal flesh, and that images of sense-perception are merely the shadows cast upon sense-perception by a reality which the person does not see directly. The reality lying behind that sense-perceptual view of experience, is what we locate as the domain of experimental knowledge of the certainty of existence of certain principles.

The result of the exploration of these types of ironies, has been, repeatedly, the notion of a physical universe like the domain of *Sphaerics* of the ancient Pythagoreans and Plato, and, in modern times, of Nicholas of Cusa's restatement of the Py-

thagorean-Platonic principle of *Sphaerics* under the title of *De Docta Ignorantia*. This was the method employed by Kepler, and such among his followers as Fermat, Leibniz, and Riemann. This is the anti-Euclidean, anti-Cartesian notion of the universe associated with the work of Kepler, Leibniz, and Riemann, as Einstein referenced this.

If we extend this properly, we trace the development of the notion of harmonics by Kepler into the developments, reflecting both Florentine *bel canto* vocal methods and Kepler in the system of counterpoint of J.S. Bach. We see reflections of this in the revolution in painting by Leonardo da Vinci. These experiences demonstrate that the mind is able to know the principles of physical geometry located within the real universe beyond our sense-perceptions. The power to do this, and the impulse to do this lies within the mind of the growing child who invents his or her "invisible friend." This is not mere fantasy; it were fantasy to deny the efficient significance of that rather commonplace phenomenon of the young child. Yudl Rosenberg's Golem is fictional, but the faculty of the human mind which generates the fancied existence of the Golem is not fictional.

Those among us, who have long since rejected the Euclidean and Cartesian fantasies, and recognized the basis for a Riemannian physical geometry in the ordering of the demonstrated lawful processes of qualitative change in principle of processes, can assure the child that something like an invisible friend does exist in a universe which is essentially good. The child's mind reaches out, saying: "Please!" Some day, if that child follows the thread which leads into real science and real Classical artistic composition, the child will find there the evidence of the the real friend for which he or she had hoped in early years.

Yudl Rosenberg's Golem does not exist, but the world in which he should exist is real. The nightmares associated with the Golem's adventures seem to speak of pessimism, but Rosenberg's Golem is an expression of a deep optimism. Rosenberg's delicious sense of humor, as expressed in his creation of a fictive universe like that of Cervantes' *Don Quixote* earlier, expresses a form of deeply innate optimism expressed in a world which seems otherwise an abomination. There is a rustling of hope which whispers from behind the curtain of an awful tragedy; it is not on stage, but it is there. As adults we call this science, and Classical artistic composition; each of those is conceived as an expression of the same essential substance as the other. That substance is to be known as the expression of individual human creativity.

That sense of the presence of creativity, is the essence of what I read in the course of the Transatlantic flight where I had the opportunity to concentrate on the reading, essentially uninterrupted, from cover to cover. I thank Curt Leviant very much for that. I suggest that you do the same; however, remember, the price of the ticket is on your account.

Nuclear Energy Renaissance Spreads Around the World

by EIR Staff

A dramatic series of new initiatives for large-scale transportation and energy infrastructure projects has been announced throughout Eurasia this Spring, putting nuclear power back in the lead for world economic development. Most spectacular, commitments were announced in April, to construct the Bering Strait rail and utility line tunnel that will link Asia and North America. In turn, this implies constructing the vast connecting rail routes in eastern Siberia, and the long-planned Alaska-Canada-Lower 48 States railroad. Vast new power supplies will be required for electrified rail, not just from the plentiful coal deposits in Siberia and the Yukon, but from new nuclear plants.

Such Great Projects, championed in detail by Lyndon LaRouche and Helga Zepp-LaRouche in the 1980s, will reshape the international economic and political landscape. The Eurasian Land-Bridge, promoted in 1997 by the LaRouches, is now in the top rank of priorities, as the Bering Strait breakthrough shows. Going ahead with these projects lays the basis for the overall rebirth of the world economy, once the bankruptcy reorganization of the moribund financial system frees nations from the last vestiges of monetarist strangulation.

None of the projects now under way for expanding railroads, magnetic levitation transport systems, pipelines, communications systems, or the housing, health-care, and education infrastructure that such great projects will require (including man-made water resources from desalination), can be carried out without massive increases in each nation's production and consumption of electricity. An increasing proportion of the power required to carry out these projects will necessarily be provided by the most efficient, versatile, and energy-dense form of energy available today: nuclear fission.

Whereas in late 2005, the total number of nuclear power plants in operation around the globe was 443, with only 25 under construction, as of May 2007, more than 30 plants are under construction, with dozens more newly announced commitments. This puts the near-future nuclear power plant inventory of the world in the range of 700, and rising fast.

This is a start, but what is needed to provide for the anticipated industrial growth of the Eurasian Land-Bridge and other Great Projects, is 6,000 nuclear plants by the year 2050.*

In 2005, the United States had 25%, or 104 operating nuclear plants out of the world total—which has been stalled out in the same range for decades. But that share of the growing world total is rapidly changing. Nations throughout Asia, Eastern Europe, and Ibero-America that have been pressured for decades not to even consider nuclear power, are carrying out feasibility studies with potential vendors, to begin the process of ordering their first nuclear power plants. Nations that have already carried out those studies, are now opening the bidding process and securing contracts to build their first nuclear plants.

China, South Africa, India, and Argentina, which have developed an indigenous nuclear industry, are competing with traditional nuclear suppliers in the United States, Western Europe, Russia, and Japan, to offer nuclear technology to non-nuclear countries. And research and development programs have been accelerated around the globe, toward the development of next-generation nuclear technologies.

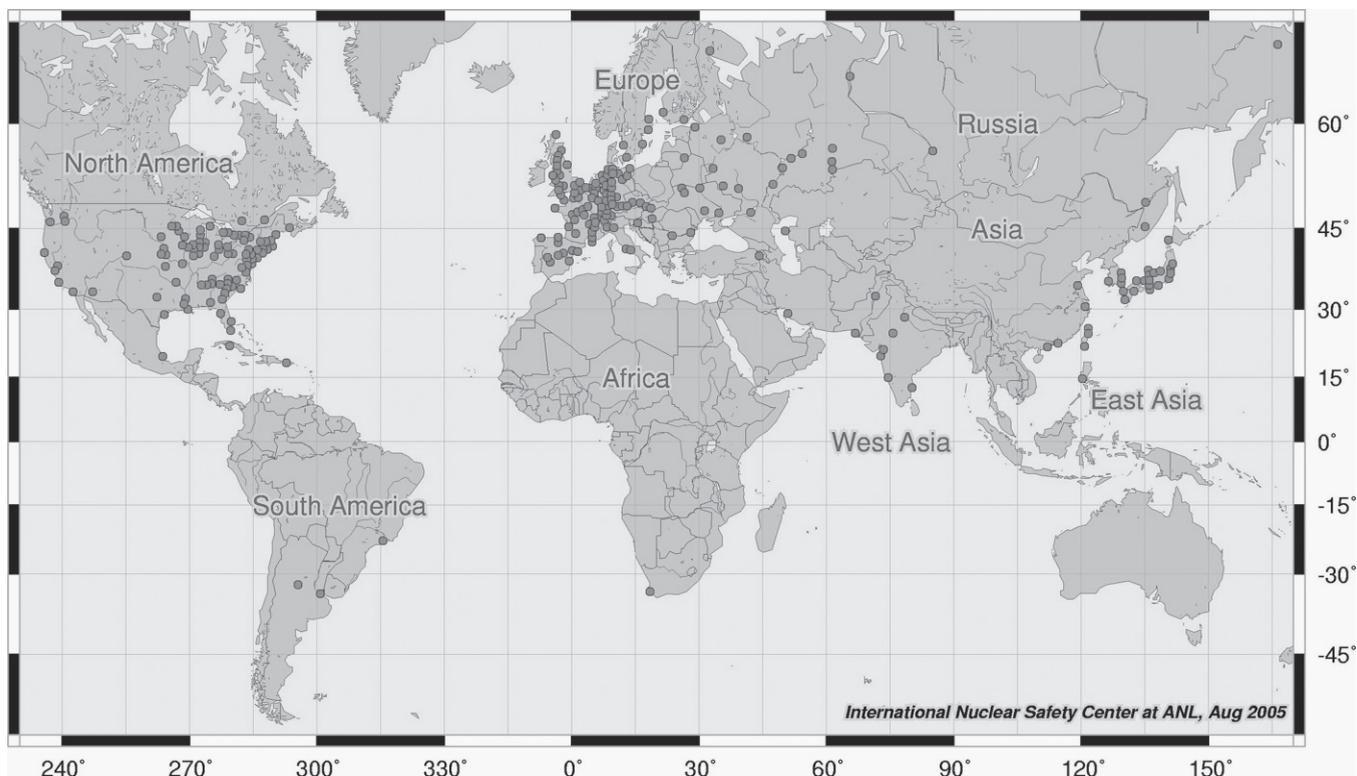
The world's nuclear renaissance has been centered on Eurasia. China, Russia, and India are each undertaking programs to build dozens of new nuclear plants over the next two decades. They are also now making nuclear energy available to other nations, while pursuing development of new generations of nuclear technology for the future. The nations that are optimistic about the future, are preparing for it, as this overview shows.

Russia—Preparing for the Future

On April 27, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a decree to restructure the national nuclear energy industry, an effort that has been in progress for more than a year. The dis-

*How to build 6,000 nuclear plants is discussed in an article by the Massachusetts State Nuclear Engineer James Muckerheide, in EIR, June 24, 2005. An online version is at www.21stcenturysciencetech.com/Articles%202005/6000NuclearPlants.pdf

FIGURE 1
Nuclear Power Reactors Worldwide



Source: International Nuclear Safety Center, Argonne National Laboratory

As of this month, 30 countries are operating 436 nuclear power plants for electricity generation, producing 16% of the world's electricity production in 2006. For an interactive version of this map with more details, see http://www.insc.anl.gov/pwrmaps/map/world_map.php

parate enterprises that have until now been responsible for prospecting for uranium, producing fuel, building power plants, manufacturing equipment, and exporting nuclear technology, will all be under the roof of one nuclear corporation, controlled by the government.

In his annual State of the Nation address to Parliament on April 26, President Putin said that this major reform of the nuclear sector will be “the country’s second comprehensive electrification,” a reference to the massive project to bring electricity for the first time to Russia’s population, starting in the 1920s. “Power generation in Russia is to grow 66% by 2020,” he reported. The share of nuclear energy in that power production will be raised to 25%.

Russia’s nuclear industry is spreading its activities and inviting international participation. On April 10, RIA Novosti reported that Russia is considering inviting foreign nuclear companies to cooperate in the construction of a new nuclear power plant in Russia’s energy-short Far East. “Given the fact that the [nuclear] compound will be built in the immediate vicinity of Japan, I deem it right and realistic to consider coop-

eration prospects, and to engage Japanese companies—and possibly Chinese and South Korean ones, as well—in supplying equipment for the plant, and in designing it jointly,” Russian nuclear chief Sergei Kiriyenko said in Moscow. “Cooperation on the first such new nuclear power plant could pave the way to international integration in building nuclear power plants in third countries.”

In January last year, Putin made the first Russian initiative to create International Uranium Enrichment Centers in Russia, under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Any nation will be allowed to participate, if it respects IAEA policy and uses the uranium purely for civilian energy generation.

On May 10, Putin and **Kazakhstan** President Nursultan Nazarbayev oversaw the signing of a bilateral agreement to set up an enrichment center in Angarsk, East Siberia. This civilian-use policy of Putin is important for Japan, because it separates Russia’s military and civilian nuclear facilities. Speaking in Tokyo May 14, Shunsuke Kondo, chairman of the Japanese Atomic Energy Commission, said: “Russia’s

nuclear energy world in the past was one solid unit. There's been a great effort on the Russian side to divide these two functions." Japan has no atomic weapons and will cooperate only in civilian use of nuclear technology with other nations. Kondo said that Japan supports the idea of international uranium enrichment centers, which Russia and Kazakhstan have agreed to set up.

Japan is very interested in Russia's advanced fast-breeder-reactor technology, which produces plutonium which can be used for nuclear fuel. "We also want to diversify our supplier base," Kondo said. Japan already has 53 nuclear plants, generating 30% of its electricity; it plans to increase this to 40% by 2030, and to develop fast-breeder reactors.

Looking toward the future, Russia's Kurchatov Institute of nuclear science has been participating in experiments with the U.S.-based company Thorium Power on fuel rods that use thorium instead of uranium as a nuclear fuel. One of the experiments conducted was with a fuel assembly that would be applicable to those used in Russian-designed VVER pressurized water reactors. A few nations, such as India, which are poor in uranium resources, are rich in thorium reserves.

China—Mobilizing for Nuclear

With ten operating nuclear power plants, China is now in the midst of a nuclear power plant build-up with the aim of adding two new power plants per year in the near term. Although China's largest plants to date have been imported, its indigenous nuclear power plant program is catching up to what is available from international vendors.

China is determined to become a major player in world nuclear energy technology. While experimental work is ongoing in development of its fourth-generation pebble bed high-temperature reactor, China plans to become independent of foreign conventional fission technology as quickly as feasible. Speaking at a conference on nuclear technology in Shanghai, as reported on April 24 by *China Daily*, Ouyang Yu of the Chinese Academy of Sciences stated that by 2017, China will have its first indigenously developed pressurized water reactor in operation.

Ouyang was seconded by the head of the China Atomic Energy Authority, Sun Qin, who stated, "By 2020, we could basically rely on our own technology." The nuclear technology China develops will also be slated for export.

China's ongoing cooperation with both the United States and Russia in building advanced nuclear power facilities is bearing fruit, to the advantage of all sides. The Chinese government has approved construction of what will become its largest-ever nuclear power plant, to be built in Shandong province on China's east coast. This project, approved in May by the National Development and Reform Commission, will use advanced technology from the U.S.

Westinghouse Electric Company, which provides third-generation million-kilowatt pressurized water reactors for the plant, according to a *Industrial Info Resources* report from Beijing May 15.

There is also progress on the large Russian-Chinese cooperation project, the Tianwan nuclear plant in the city of Lianyungang, Jiangsu province. On May 15, Russia's state-owned Atomstroyexport announced that it had completed a 100-hour test of the first power unit of the Tianwan plant and restarted it, after it had been shut down for maintenance. The tests showed no faults in the unit, and this clears the way for the unit to be put into commercial operation. Tianwan features improved Russian VVER-1000 reactors. Lianyungang, on the Sea of China, is the Eastern Terminus of the Eurasian Land-Bridge, that will connect via Central Asia to Rotterdam in the Netherlands, and therefore it is a world-class strategic rail and port center.

India, Thorium Leader, Plans Dozens of Plants

The domestic nuclear energy plans of India rival those of China. At present, India has 17 operating nuclear power plants, producing 3,483 megawatts of electricity. Dozens of new nuclear plants are slated to be deployed over the next two decades, as India, at the same time, pushes ahead with development of frontier thorium-based nuclear fuel cycles. Speaking in Athens, Greece, on April 27, Indian President Kalam explained: "Thorium, a non-fissile material, is available in abundance in our country, and energy independence is India's first and highest priority." India plans to push ahead with its nuclear power technology development, whether or not the bilateral agreement negotiated with the United States is passed into law by both governments.

India's drive to expand reliance on nuclear includes the vital issue of water management; a solution to India's water problems demands the extensive desalination of seawater or brackish water. In the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, the governor is waging a campaign to establish 45 desalination plants, and urging Federal backing to power them with nuclear energy. But the same need exists throughout India, and there is increasing national discussion in this direction.

India is also involved in discussions with its poorer neighbors, including Bangladesh, about exporting its highly developed nuclear capability.

Nuclear Power Across Eurasia

There are new nuclear power initiatives across Eurasia, many in conjunction with Russia, China, or India. In a reflection of all the motion, on May 4, even the director of energy for the Asian Development Bank, WooChong Um, said in an interview with the Associated Press, at the Bank's annual meeting, that the Bank is considering supporting the use of nuclear power. "We'll decide in the next three months or so which way we'll go." He remarked that the Bank would have

TABLE 1
Nuclear Units Under Construction Worldwide

Country	Units	Total MWe
Argentina	1	692
Bulgaria	2	1,906
China	5	4,220
China, Taiwan	2	2,600
Finland	1	1,600
India	6	2,910
Iran	1	915
Japan	1	866
Pakistan	1	300
Romania	1	655
Russia	7	4,585
S. Korea	1	960
Ukraine	2	1,900
Total	31	24,109

Source: International Atomic Energy Agency PRIS database. Updated: 5/07/07 by Nuclear Energy Institute, <http://www.nei.org>

to add in-house nuclear experts, to be able to promote nuclear energy.

Here are a few examples of new initiatives:

On April 18, **Pakistan's** Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz reported in Beijing on his talks with his Chinese counterpart, Wen Jiabao. Aziz said proposals to build six new nuclear power plants in Pakistan with Chinese cooperation were under discussion.

Upon return to Islamabad, Aziz added that Pakistan's energy needs were increasing by 10-12% annually, and that peaceful nuclear cooperation with China would be enhanced. Pakistan's 300-MW Chasma-1 nuclear reactor was supplied by China, and began operation in 2002. Its twin reactor is now under construction. Pakistan's 2005 Energy Security Plan calls for an increase of more than 8,400 megawatts of nuclear capacity by 2015, and by 2020 to have two additional 300-MW reactors from China, two 600-MW units, and seven 1,000-MW reactors.

Elsewhere in Asia, in early April, the National Energy Policy Council of **Thailand** established a committee to conduct a feasibility study for its first nuclear power plant. The panel's chairman, Kopr Kritayakirana, said on April 23 that its first task will be to educate the public about nuclear energy, and to study the "capital and personnel required before undertaking the project."

Thailand's 15-year Power Development Plan, ending in 2021, calls for the construction of 31,800 megawatts of new power plants, 4,000 megawatts of which are to be nuclear. Kopr, who is an advisor to the Science and Technology

Minister, said that using nuclear power was necessary, because of high oil prices and the high cost of other renewable sources.

For the past few years, **Vietnam** has been discussing the prospects of building its first nuclear power plant. "We hope that this year the official approval from the government will be sealed [so] we [can] start to carry out the feasibility study on nuclear power," Ta Van Huong, from Vietnam's Minister of Industry, told Dow Jones at a conference in Singapore on March 21. The plan is to build the first plant by 2015, with a second unit on line five years later. Vietnam is now heavily dependent on hydropower. The country already has a test reactor, which will be vital for training the required skilled manpower. The nation's electricity demand is forecast to grow at a rate of 15% per annum.

Russia signed an agreement with **Myanmar** May 15 to build a nuclear research center there, including a 10-MW research reactor. Myanmar plans to send some 300-350 people to be trained in Russian universities to work at the nuclear center. The research center would include a medical isotope production laboratory, a silicon doping system, and nuclear waste treatment and burial facilities, a Rosatom press release stated. Myanmar, one of the world's poorest nations, is under economic sanctions imposed by the United States and Europe.

The Eastern European Corridors

The nations of Central Asia and Eastern Europe—the long-neglected critical links of needed development corridors between Europe and Asia—have no choice but to go nuclear. They are doing so in spite of the political pressure being applied by the brainwashed leaders of the European Union, who have made "no nukes" the price of membership.

Poland, which is anticipating membership in the EU, must go nuclear, and this is "matter of reasons of state," stated Economics Minister Krzysztof, on March 14. Following a meeting with the International Energy Agency, where economist Fatih Birol said that nuclear energy should be used more widely by countries facing energy shortages, the Polish Minister announced that within five years, Poland should decide on the site for the first nuclear plant in his nation.

The Energy Minister of **Bulgaria**, Roumen Ovcharov, has been lobbying members of the European Union to reverse their anti-nuclear stance. "There is no other solution than nuclear power," Ovcharov said in an interview in New York on March 10. "Bulgaria has already 30 years of good experience in running a nuclear power plant. It is safe. It provides very cheap energy."

Bulgaria was forced to shut down the two units at its Kozloduy nuclear power plant last December, to meet safety demands, before joining the EU on Jan. 1. Now, that country is seeking to reopen the plants, and wants to build two new reactors by 2014. "Bulgaria used to be the fourth-biggest

power exporter in Europe,” before the plants were closed, he said. Russia’s nuclear agency, OAO Atomstroyexport, has signed a contract with Bulgaria to build two 1,000-MW pressurized water reactors at Belene, on the Danube River.

On April 11, ARKA News Agency reported remarks by the Deputy Minister of Energy of **Armenia**, Areg Galstyan: “A long-term assessment of the uptrend in natural gas prices until 2025 ... shows that Armenia practically has no alternative to the construction of a new nuclear power units.” Armenia has come under international pressure to shut down its existing Soviet-designed Metsamor nuclear plant by 2016, but has made any shutdown contingent on building a replacement nuclear plant. “All the measures to put the power unit out of operation,” he said, “must not affect the development of Armenia’s energy sector and economy.” Energy forecasts, according to the Minister, suggest Armenia will need a 1,000-MW unit by 2016, and a second, similar unit, four years later.

On April 23, the Russian and Armenian governments signed an agreement to jointly develop Armenia’s untapped uranium reserves, which could make Armenia self-sufficient in nuclear energy production. An intergovernmental agreement for a joint venture for uranium enrichment will be signed in May. Armenia could become one of the few countries in the world with a full uranium production cycle, said Russian Federal Nuclear Agency head Kiriyenko, and the fuel could be supplied to the power station at Metsamor and the new ones in the future.

Russia is ready to send nuclear specialists to Armenia to begin work on a new nuclear plants, Kiriyenko said, and *IA Regnum* reported that Russia is ready to fully finance the construction project in Armenia. Russia would jointly own the plant.

In **Belarus**, President Alexander Lukashenka stated bluntly, “We are in a situation [where] only a fool will not construct a [nuclear power] station,” according to Belarusian Radio April 12. He stated that some foreign companies, interested in bidding on a power plant contract, link their participation with Belarus’s “democratization,” and its efforts to amend electoral legislation. “We will build a nuclear power station on terms that are beneficial to our country, because we have no way out. ... I wish we had at least one station on our territory,” he said. Belarus plans to start up a new power reactor in 2012, with a second following in 2015.

Middle East Crossroads Going Nuclear

Southwest Asia, under present Anglo-American geopolitical maneuvering, is the potential cockpit for a worldwide nuclear war. But in the spirit of Pope Paul VI, who stated that the new name for peace is development, an increasing number of nations in the region see nuclear energy as the pathway to follow. Critical developments are occurring in Egypt and with the Gulf Cooperation Council.

In early April, Russian Industry and Energy Minister Viktor Khristenko told a press conference in Cairo that Russia and **Egypt** are preparing documents for cooperation on civilian nuclear energy. Egyptian press reported that Russia would provide up to three 600-MW nuclear plants. A memorandum of understanding was signed on April 11 between the two nations, to establish a Russian free-trade zone near the port of Alexandria, where parts for the nuclear plants, as well as airplane equipment and auto parts, would be manufactured.

Egypt had fully planned to go nuclear in the 1980s, but the accident at the Chernobyl plant in Ukraine, and ensuing anti-nuclear hysteria, stopped Egypt’s plans, as it did those in most of the rest of the world.

The Russia-Egypt initiative parallels an extraordinary decision made at the meeting of the **Gulf Cooperation Council** (GCC) in December 2006, to undertake a study for a proposed common nuclear program for peaceful purposes in the Persian Gulf nations. On May 6, GCC Secretary-General Abdul Rahman bin Hamad al-Atiyya reported during an interview with *WAM* that he had briefed GCC President Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed al-Nahyan, on the progress made in the study so far. Atiyyah said that the meeting was in preparation for the forthcoming consultative summit of GCC.

Already, a series of pro-nuclear commitments is in progress. In **Jordan**, in early April, King Abdullah II said in an interview with Agence France Presse that Jordan needs “to secure the transfer and establishment of nuclear energy technology as an alternative to importing oil for generating electricity and water desalination.” Jordan imports 95% of its energy, and is one of the 10 most water-impooverished nations in the world. It hopes to have a nuclear plant operating by 2015. According to the nation’s Natural Resources Authority, Jordan has “tens of thousands of tons” of uranium reserves, which could be used to power nuclear plants.

On April 15, Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the IAEA, said after talks with Jordan’s King Abdullah II, that the IAEA “is ready to help Jordan take advantage of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.”

In **Saudi Arabia**, a series of agreements were signed in February between Russian President Putin and Saudi King Abdullah, which are reported to include cooperation in civilian nuclear energy. Apparently Saudi Arabia would like to have other options beside allegiance to Great Britain and the United States. For decades, and back to the 1950s U.S. Atoms for Peace initiative, even oil-rich countries in the Middle East, had recognized that their wealth in the ground was finite and had planned to go nuclear.

In **Yemen**, just after the GCC announced its nuclear energy intentions in December 2006, the government expressed its support. On Dec. 29, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh was quoted as saying: “We in Yemen support the decision by the ... Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to study the launch of a joint Gulf program in nuclear energy for

peaceful purposes. Yemen is ready and interested to join such a program.”

Africa—Development Agenda Restored

The only nuclear power plants on the continent of Africa are at the two-unit site at Koeberg Nuclear Power Station near Capetown, **South Africa**. The South African government is strongly committed to nuclear energy, and the state utility, Eskom, plans to complete its version of the German-designed Pebble Bed Modular Reactor, the PBMR, in 2011. Once this 165-MW prototype is online, South Africa intends to mass produce this versatile reactor for domestic consumption and export to developing nations—up to 30 plants. South Africa, which has a looming energy shortage, is also considering adding another conventional nuclear plant to its electricity grid.

Elsewhere in Africa, initial steps have been thwarted. In 1964 then-President Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana moved to build a nuclear plant in his nation, but this project was aborted when he was overthrown in a coup d'état in 1966.

Now, there is a small, but critical, renewal of effort and interest. **Angola** Minister of Science and Technology João Baptista Ngandajina said recently that his “country has limitation in the production of electricity, so why not start thinking of projects that in future could produce power from nuclear sources?” according to an online report by *Macauhub Today* May 7. Macauhub is a news service of the Macau government, used to foster business deals between the People's Republic of China and countries with Portuguese as an official language.

“What we plan to do here is the scientific development linked to nuclear energy: staff training, development of projects that help the economic and social development of the country,” Ngandajina said. Angola is now finalizing a Nuclear Energy Law to facilitate research projects and staff training, according to the report, which also points out that the new law is part of a plan to build nuclear power plants in Angola, supported by the People's Republic of China.

In **Namibia**, and among certain other nations possessing uranium deposits, bilateral negotiations are under way with Russia, to jointly develop the resources, in exchange for their first small, modular nuclear power plants.

South America: IMF, NO! Nuclear Power, Sí

After decades of being pressured, cajoled, and threatened by the United States and the non-proliferation Malthusians to scrap their nuclear energy programs, an increasing number of nations “south of the border” are throwing the money changers of the international financial institutions out of their countries, and restarting their nuclear energy programs.

Late in 2006, **Argentina's** President Néstor Kirchner, who has led his nation back to economic sanity by kicking out the International Monetary Fund (providing a critical example to the rest of Ibero-America), announced that Argentina's

Atucha II nuclear reactor, which has been stalled for two decades, would be completed by 2010. He added that Argentina would begin construction of a fourth reactor that same year.

In late April, a ceremony was held in Australia to inaugurate the Argentine-built 20-MW Open Pool Light-Water Reactor, which will be used to produce radio-isotopes for medicine and research. Argentina has also provided indigenously built small research reactors to Algeria and Egypt.

Argentine Planning Minister Julio De Vido explained in Australia that “over the next 25 years,” 5,000 megawatts of electricity in Argentina “must come from nuclear.” That nation's nuclear technology will also be vectored toward export. Speaking on April 20 in Sydney, De Vido stated that the Argentine-designed and built standardized CAREM nuclear reactor will be ideal for developing nations.

Argentina began the CAREM Project in the mid-1980s, to produce small (under 300MW) modular reactors for export. The training and education of specialists would be included in the project. Although delayed for two decades, the program has now been revitalized. The first-generation CAREM reactor would be 25 megawatts, with later versions generating 100-300 megawatts of power.

Following the lead of Argentina, and the stated commitment of **Brazil** to move ahead with its own uranium enrichment technology to produce nuclear fuel, non-nuclear nations in Ibero-America are considering going nuclear. On April 30, Dow Jones reported on remarks made by **Venezuelan** President Hugo Chávez, at an energy summit with other Presidents from the region. “Argentina also has nuclear energy. No?” Chávez said. “I think they're even exporting. I hope they export a small plant that we can put on the border,” he remarked to his Colombian counterpart, President Alvaro Uribe.

Venezuela first entertained nuclear cooperation with Argentina and Brazil in 2005, for a research reactor. Now, the CAREM modular reactor is becoming an attractive alternative for commercial power production, even to Venezuela, which holds the largest oil and natural gas reserves on the continent.

In mid-March, a conference on nuclear power was held in Santiago, **Chile**. Sebastian Bernstein, an energy consultant based in that city, stated that “nuclear energy is now clearly an option. The cost of these projects would be competitive.” Although as of now, there is no commitment from the Bachelet government in Chile to “go nuclear,” the debate is ongoing, and a commission to study the possibility of building a nuclear power station there has been promised by the government.

Mexico—Ibero-America's third nuclear nation—decided two years ago that it would make the investments necessary to up-rate, or increase the electricity-producing capacity, of its Laguna Verde nuclear plants. Although new plants are under discussion, a break from the international financial locusts

will be necessary before critically needed large-scale energy investments are made.

Western Europe: 'Back' to Nuclear

Even in Western Europe, which, with the United States, led the way in destroying its nuclear industry potential, in the hysteria generated after the accident at Chernobyl, there are second thoughts. In **Germany**, a fight, led by the LaRouche Youth Movement, is under way to reverse the insane policy of shutting down that nation's operating nuclear power plants. **France**, with 78% of its electricity coming from nuclear—the highest in the world—is planning to restart construction of new reactors. And in the **United Kingdom**, more and more policymakers see no alternative to replacing Britain's aging reactors by starting to build new plants.

In **Italy**, in mid-May, the Industry Committee of the Senate reversed a no-nuclear policy that has been in effect since 1986, and voted in favor of building nuclear power plants. The vote came in the form of passage of two amendments to a bill (N. 691) on general liberalization of the energy market. One amendment promotes research into nuclear technology. The second, calls on the government to see to installing new nuclear power plants.

The new bill marks a major shift from past policy, which had allowed the Italian state-run utilities, ENEL and ENI, to invest in nuclear research and even operate nuclear plants—but only abroad. The amendments were supported by all of the opposition and a few members from the center-left alliance, including the Speaker, Sen. Antonello Cabras. It will be taken up next by the full Senate, where a similar cross-party vote could take place. It will be more difficult to obtain the same result in the Chamber of Deputies, where the anti-nuclear lobby has greater numbers. The whole procedure will take several weeks, but in the meantime, a signal has been sent.

Scandinavia, which has been a center of anti-nuclear sentiment, is currently in the midst of a turnaround, led by **Finland**, which is building a new nuclear plant.

Is the United States Following Behind?

And what about the slumbering United States giant, which has nearly one quarter of all the world's 400-plus nuclear plants? Although more than a dozen electric utilities and consortia have expressed interest, and some have taken the preliminary steps toward the construction of more than 30 new nuclear power plants, none has yet made the commitment to build one. The shortage of adequately trained nuclear personnel in the U.S. is acute; advanced civilian nuclear technology research programs progress at a snail's pace, if at all; and thanks to the aggressive foreign policies of the Cheney/Bush Administration, fewer and fewer nations, even traditional U.S. allies, are willing to put their economic future in the hands of the United States.

There is a dramatic shift going on throughout the world toward a high-technology, nuclear-powered future. Russia, China, India, South Africa, Japan, and even Western Europe are following that lead. So far, the United States is not even following behind.

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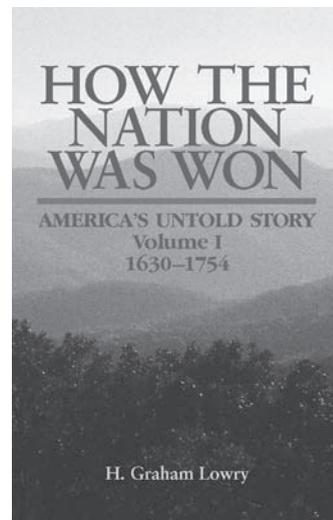
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Resounding Battle Cry for Bush-Cheney Impeachment

by Pascal Chevrier, LaRouche Youth Movement

“Right now, the test of freedom, is the impeachment of Cheney.”

—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.,
international webcast, May 1, 2007

The momentum has been building up during the last few months. All around the country a tension is palpable. Hordes of angry citizens are demanding that justice be granted them. Exasperated by a system which seems blocked by some mysterious clot, some are even thinking of getting out of the two-party system.

No, we are not back in 1773; no Boston Tea Party is planned for next week. Although, the fight that has to be waged today is of a common character with the one fought back then, more than 200 years ago. There is a feeling that some outside grip on the shoulders of the nation is estranging and separating the political process from the common life of the people. National and community concerns are not being acted upon, and the population is preparing a reply.

The most recent development of this kind of reply is the resolution passed on May 16 by the Detroit City Council, calling for the impeachment of both President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney. Co-sponsored by Council president *pro tempore* Monica Conyers and Council member JoAnn Watson, the resolution was passed unanimously. It enjoins the U.S. House of Representatives to initiate the proceedings for impeachment, as of now!

The U.S. Congress has to take up impeachment, under the Jefferson Rules, when both houses of a state legislature pass a resolution calling for it. There is already a bill for the impeachment of Cheney, House Resolution 333, introduced by Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio), who filed three articles of impeachment against Cheney on April 24, in an effort to stop him from starting a war against Iran. So far, there are three co-sign-

ers: Rep. Albert Russell Wynn (D-Md.) Rep. Janice Schakowsky (D-Ill.), and Rep. William Lacy Clay (D-Mo.).

Another example of the population's reply on impeachment is the turmoil in Vermont. The state has at least 40 towns which have passed resolutions for the impeachments of Bush and Cheney. Those resolutions were followed by a similar resolution passed by the State Senate in April. This resolution almost went all the way to Washington, but the Vermont House voted it down, under pressure from Vermont Congressman Peter Welch (D), and other national Democratic leaders who do not want to make impeachment a priority.

As a result, there is growing anger in the population, and the satisfaction that the people had after the November elections dealt a heavy blow to Cheney's neo-cons, is fading away. But instead of a crazed Jacobin reply to this situation, town hall meetings are being set up around the country to take on the "leadership" on the impeachment issue.

After the rallying songs and organizing of the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM), the California State Democratic Party Convention on April 27-29 adopted a resolution of impeachment against Vice President Cheney. Since then, the whole country has been shaken up, with a multitude of rallies organized to get the torture Vice President and his spouse out of their Naval Observatory home.

These events are being led by, and fuelled with, ideas and projects by the LYM, whose efforts to educate the population on the importance of acting as quickly as possible to get rid of the despicable Dick, have had a great effect on the overall discussions in political meetings throughout the country, notably in Detroit, but also in Vermont, California, and Texas.

The Smell of Burning Dick

The heat is on. Vermont Rep. Peter Welch tasted some of that medicine when his constituency at a town hall meeting

on May 12 made him re-recite his Congressional oath to defend the Constitution. The only time the audience of 200 clapped was when impeachment was mentioned. An improvised chorus of *Raging Grannies* was there to demonstrate that the fight is for the future generations.

The reluctance of our supposed leaders, like Welch, even to mention impeachment is surprising, given the amount of support they would receive from their constituents were they to take up the fight. The LYM went to the Vermont town hall meeting to remind Mr. Welch that the youth are ready to replace him if need be. One LYM organizer asked him: "If you don't sign on to Kucinich's bill to impeach Cheney, how are you going to get re-elected when you have members of the young generation running against you who are willing to do what's right? I will run against you."

Before and after the Vermont event, there was widespread audience recognition of the past six years' fight led by Lyndon LaRouche and his youth movement to impeach the Cheney-Bush Administration. Despite the fear that gripped most of the Democratic Party leaders (at the time in the minority) in both Houses, the LYM and LaRouche had stood up and confronted the snarling-thug himself, Cheney, and the synarchist apparatus behind him.

Readers probably remember the publications of the "LaRouche in 2004" Presidential primary campaign and LaRouche PAC. The "Children of Satan" pamphlets and book in great detail exposed the recent history of the Synarchist plan to destroy the American people once and for all. Many Vermonters got and read their copy of the *Children of Satan* book.

Since 2004, a generation of youth has emerged from around the United States and the world, committed to bringing the United States back to its republican roots. These youth will not accept the errors of their older folks: "We want Freedom, Now!" is their cry. And as LaRouche stated May 1, this leads us first to the uprooting of the roots of vice in the United States: Vice President Dick Cheney and his controllers.

The Vermont event is not an isolated case. The LYM has been able to shape similar events around the country, so that the impeachment question could not slip through the cracks. Even some people who had initially pushed for it were ready, after the first roadblocks, to give up this vital flank for the recovery of the sovereignty of the United States and its institutions and foreign-policy shaping.

City councils got it, state legislatures got it, so what is wrong with our national leadership?

'2008 Is Too Late!'

"2008 is too late!" and "Where are your balls?" are some of the organizing signs the LYM has used.

The U.S.A. is almost as ungovernable as Europe now, because of the lack of courage from the so-called leadership in the U.S. Congress. The U.S. citizenry is ready for action and

Massachusetts Dems Pass Impeachment Resolution

The Democratic Party of Massachusetts, meeting May 19, voted for impeachment of Bush and Cheney, and for an Franklin Roosevelt-style reorganization to address the accelerating housing crisis.

Both issues were brought before the convention by elected delegates from the LaRouche Youth Movement, who gathered enough petition signatures from delegates to bring the resolutions to the floor of the convention.

is making it clear: The issue is Impeachment. LaRouche was right when he said that "the impeachment of Cheney is more popular than ice cream." The only factors holding back the Democratic Party leaders are the compromises they made with synarchist Felix Rohatyn and his hedge fund financier buddies. These Congressmen need to be reminded, "There is nothing to fear, but fear itself!"

The population is ready, immediately, for a change. Indeed, they are asking for the New Politics to begin now. Since the November election, the message sent around the world was loud and clear: No more of this "Old Politics" party routine. As one woman put it in the town hall meeting of Vermont: "We're here to discuss impeachment!"

Now, the question is: Are our leaders in Congress going to act soon enough on impeachment to change the course of the U.S. economic collapse? Take a look around: The plans are on the table and the solutions available. The development proposals, such as the Eurasian Land-Bridge, which LaRouche and his collaborators have been promoting for years, are now back as the main topics of discussion in Asia. We need an alliance of the sane, in the pursuit of this new, more just economic order worldwide. This cannot be brought to accomplishment without the four-nation cooperation that Lyndon LaRouche has outlined for the United States, Russia, China, and India.

For all the impeachable offenses committed by Cheney, it is criminal for today's "wannabe" Democratic leaders to lack the courage to impeach the current Vice President. Voters will remember this blatant cowardliness. If human civilization is to continue, we need the impeachment of the pathetic puppet duo—Dick Cheney and George W. Bush—and a fast trip back to a pro-American, FDR-type policy.

That's what the LYM has undertaken and is in the process of accomplishing. Like the youth of 1773 who had to revolutionize America and the world, the youth of today have to preserve this precious gift, which was first called a Republic.

What Are Cheney and Addington Hiding About NSA Spying on Americans?

by Edward Spannaus

Former Deputy Attorney General James Comey's Senate testimony on May 15—that the entire leadership of the Justice Department was prepared to resign over their disagreement with the White House, particularly with Dick Cheney and his lawyer David Addington—around the NSA domestic surveillance program, raises the question once again: Is the NSA spying program much bigger than has ever been admitted?

And it also adds still more evidence for the bill of impeachment against Vice President Cheney which is growing every day, and which demands urgent Congressional attention.

It has been the gnawing suspicion of many observers all along, as to the real reason that the White House, under Cheney's direction, has continuously stonewalled, and shrouded the NSA surveillance program in such secrecy. There have been hints, such as in a January 2007 PBS "Frontline" interview with former Justice Department official John Yoo, that the program involved tapping into the entire data flow of electronic communications, and then using data-mining techniques to search for suspects and targets.

Sixteen months ago, on Feb. 6, 2006, when Attorney General Alberto Gonzales was testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee, he was asked by Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) about reports that Comey and others had disagreed about the NSA program. Gonzales answered, "there has not been any serious disagreement about the program that the President has confirmed. There have been disagreements about other matters regarding operations which I cannot get into." When pressed by Schumer, Gonzales repeated that, "none of the reservations dealt with the program that we're talking about today. They dealt with operational capabilities that we're not talking about today." And a little later, Gonzales stated: "I'm here only testifying about what the President has confirmed. And with respect to what the President has confirmed, I do not believe that these DOJ officials that you're identifying had concerns about this program."

Attempted Cold Coup

Now, consider Gonzales's bland denials back then, in light of the dramatic testimony presented by Comey to the Senate Judiciary Committee on May 15, in which he described the events of March 2004, when the entire top leadership of the Department of Justice (DOJ) blocked the continuation of

the White House's domestic surveillance program (whatever it was at the time), after having concluded that there was no legal basis for it.

In their desperation to continue whatever it was they were doing, Cheney and his allies in the White House attempted to carry out what can only be called a "cold coup" against the entire DOJ leadership.

Comey's testimony revealed that on March 10, 2004, while then-Attorney General John Ashcroft was critically ill, and had been in intensive care for a week after a severe attack of pancreatitis, then-White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales and Chief of Staff Andrew Card, clearly acting on behalf of Cheney and Addington, invaded Ashcroft's hospital room to attempt to get the weakened Ashcroft to sign a document re-authorizing the surveillance program. This, even though they knew that Ashcroft himself had earlier agreed that the DOJ should refuse to do so, and further, that he had designated Comey as Acting Attorney General with full powers, during his hospitalization. Furthermore, Ashcroft's wife had ordered that her husband have no visitors.

When Comey was alerted by Ashcroft's wife that Gonzales and Card were on their way to the hospital, Comey and FBI Director Robert Mueller raced to the hospital, sirens and emergency lights flashing, to get there first. Mueller even ordered the FBI agents guarding Ashcroft's room, that under no circumstances should they allow Comey to be removed from the room.

Despite his weakness and sedation, Ashcroft made it clear to Gonzales and Card that he was opposed to the continuation of the surveillance program, and then told them: "But that doesn't matter, because I'm not the Attorney General; there is the Attorney General," indicating Comey.

"I was concerned that this was an effort to do an end-run around the Acting Attorney General and to get a very sick man to approve something that the Department of Justice had already concluded—the Department as a whole—was unable to be certified as to its legality," Comey testified.

After Ashcroft's refusal to sign the re-authorization document, the White House went ahead and re-authorized the illegal program the next day, *without* DOJ approval. At this point, Comey and all the top DOJ leadership—including Ashcroft—were prepared to resign, along with FBI Director Mueller. "I couldn't stay, if the Administration was going to

engage in conduct that the Department of Justice said had no legal basis,” Comey told the Senate committee.

When Sen. Arlen Specter, the ranking Republican on the Judiciary Committee, asked Comey if he had had discussions with anyone else in the Administration, besides Gonzales and Card, who disagreed with the DOJ’s conclusions over the NSA program, this was the colloquy:

Specter: Well, Mr. Comey, did you have discussions with anybody else in the administration who disagreed with your conclusions?

Comey: Yes, sir.

Specter: Who else?

Comey: [The] Vice President.

Specter: Anybody else?

Comey: Members of his staff.

Specter: Who on his staff?

Comey: Mr. Addington disagreed with the conclusion. . . . I don’t remember any other White House officials telling me they disagreed.

Ultimately, according to Comey, President Bush agreed, after meeting privately with Comey and Mueller, *without Cheney present*, to allow them to make changes in the surveillance program which the DOJ believed put it on a better legal basis.

It was already well-known, in early 2006, that Cheney and Addington were the ones running the NSA spy program. Prior to the Feb. 6, 2006 hearing, all the Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee (then still the minority) had asked that Addington, “who reportedly played a leading role advocating for the program,” be summoned to testify. Two days after the hearing, senior *Washington Post* columnist David Ignatius wrote: “Gonzales mouthed the no-compromise rhetoric before the Senate Judiciary Committee Monday, but policy decisions on this issue are made in the bunker occupied by Vice President Cheney and his chief of staff David Addington.”

‘Bigger and Broader...’

Now, back to the February 2006 hearing. At a certain point, as reported at the time (*EIR*, Feb. 17, 2006), Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) raised the obvious issue: that the spying program was much bigger than the Administration wanted anyone to know. She listed the number of changes that the Congress had already made to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) to accommodate the war on terrorism, and continued:

“Now, in view of the changes that we have made, I cannot understand why you didn’t come to the committee, unless the program was much broader and you believed it would not be authorized. That’s the only reason I can figure you didn’t come to the committee, . . . that this program is much bigger and much broader than you want anyone to know.”

This question has now arisen again in light of Comey’s testimony. Peter Swire, who dealt with privacy issues in the

OMB for the Clinton Administration, writing for the Center for American Progress on May 16, said that Gonzales’s February 2006 testimony raises two possibilities: that Gonzales made serious misstatements under oath, or that Comey’s objections “applied to a different spying program.” Swire explained that, “then we would have senior Justice officials confirming that ‘other programs’ exist for domestic spying, something the Administration has never previously stated.”

The *New York Times*, in a May 17 editorial, picked up on this, noting that there are “clues” in Comey’s testimony, and Gonzales’s earlier testimony, “that Mr. Bush initially ordered broader surveillance than he and his aides have acknowledged”—and that it was this broader surveillance that Ashcroft, Comey, et al., refused to endorse, triggering the “bizarre events in Mr. Ashcroft’s hospital room.”

As to what was involved in the broader surveillance program, there are a number of questions to which the Congress should seek answers. Among these are:

- What is the relationship between the Pentagon’s “Able Danger” data-mining program, which was used in two known areas, terrorism and suspected technology transfers to China, and other areas which are still classified, and the known NSA domestic surveillance program? Investigative journalist Seymour Hersh, speaking at a forum at the Georgetown University Law Center in February 2006, said that his sources had told him that the NSA surveillance program was an outgrowth of a data-mining program targeting China in 1999, which, *EIR* has confirmed, was one of the so-called “Able Danger” programs.

- What triggered the testimony of long-time NSA employee Russell Tice, to a House Government Reform subcommittee in February 2006, that he was concerned about the legality and constitutionality of another “special access” electronic surveillance program being conducted by the NSA? Tice said that this program was different, and more far-reaching, than the warrantless wiretapping program which the *New York Times* had revealed in December 2005, but that he was forbidden to discuss the program because of its highly-classified nature.

- What really happened to the so-called Total Information Awareness (TIA) program, a massive data-mining effort developed in the Defense Advance Research Projects Agency (DARPA) under retired Adm. John Poindexter? TIA was somewhat similar to what is known about the “Able Danger” program, except that TIA was to create a permanent data-base using government and commercial records, such as bank and credit card records, telephone bills, travel records, etc. Although TIA was officially terminated in 2003, the *National Journal* reported on Feb. 23, 2006, that the program had been secretly transferred from DARPA to the NSA, with the same funding, and still using the same private defense contractors.

If and when Congress decides to find out what exactly it is that Cheney is covering up, these are some excellent places to start.

Cheney's Impeachable Crimes Highlighted at UDC Forum

On May 7, a group of leading U.S. intelligence and military veterans joined investigative authors Peter Eisner and Knut Royce in a forum at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), that provided, among many revelations, dramatic new evidence as to why Vice President Dick Cheney should be impeached for "high crimes and misdemeanors." Originally convened as a book-signing forum for Eisner and Royce's new book, The Italian Letter: How the Bush Administration Used a Fake Letter To Build the Case for War in Iraq (see review, below), an invaluable documentary account of the Bush Administration lies that led the country to war against Iraq, the authors decided to open the event to a panel of leading retired intelligence officers, to comment on the just-released memoirs of retired CIA Director George Tenet.

The event, which drew over 100 students, faculty, and community activists, provided one of the most damning indictments of the Bush-Cheney Administration's manipulation of intelligence and other crimes. The panelists who joined Eisner and Royce—former CIA officers Larry Johnson and Mel Goodman; retired Defense Intelligence Agency Middle East chief Col. W. Patrick Lang; and former chief of staff to Secretary of State Colin Powell, Col. Lawrence Wilkerson—presented such a significant amount of previously unknown documentation about the crimes of Bush and Cheney, that *EIR* has decided, as a public service, to publish an only slightly edited transcript of the entire event.

After a brief introduction by Dr. Bill Pollard, president of the University of the District of Columbia, the forum began with an introduction by Eisner, who served as the moderator for the panel discussion.

Bush's '16 Words'

Eisner: We originally had thought that this was going to be a more traditional book event, about *The Italian Letter*, which is the book that Knut Royce and I have written, which talks about, especially, the effort by the Bush Administration to sell the war in Iraq to the American people and to Congress, focussing especially on evidence about uranium supposedly having been purchased in Africa, and having been sold to Iraq, which became known as—that claim became known as the "16 words," President Bush's 16 words in the [2003] State of the Union message.

And we thought that that event, those 16 words, would encapsulate the story of leading the United States to war, and how we got to that moment.

So we took a narrow approach toward telling the story of the march toward war, by just focussing on that one event, from the first day at least, if not earlier, the first days after 9/11, to the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003. The difference today was, that we decided to put together very suddenly, and quickly, a panel that could go beyond that as well, and deal with the issues surrounding the recent release of George Tenet's book [*At the Center of the Storm: My Years at the CIA*], his memoir of his time as Director of the CIA, and his version of the lead-up to war in Iraq. And we're delighted, and thrilled, to bring together a panel that rarely has just come together, such an eminent panel, to say the least, and some of them have spoken to each other, known each other for years, but hadn't even met. . . .

First, let me introduce Larry Johnson, who was an intelligence officer with the CIA from 1985 to 1989; served in the State Department's Office of Counter-Terrorism from 1989 to 1993; and who now provides consulting services and helps



At a May 7 forum at the University of the District of Columbia, a panel of top military and intelligence veterans provided dramatic new evidence to bolster the case for impeachment of Dick Cheney (top, left to right): Peter Eisner; Col. Lawrence Wilkerson; Larry Johnson (bottom, left to right): Col. Patrick Lang; and Mel Goodman. (A photo of Knut Royce, the sixth panelist, was not available.)

the U.S. train military forces carrying out counterterrorism missions.

Next, let me introduce to you, Col. Larry Wilkerson, the Pamela Harriman Visiting Professor of Government at the College of William and Mary. And he raced back from the College of William and Mary, today, where he was giving finals, to join us here at this panel. We very much appreciate that. He, of course, was the former Chief of Staff to the Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Next, we have Mel Goodman, a 24-year veteran as a CIA analyst on the Soviet Union, 18 years on the faculty of the National War College, currently senior fellow at the Center for International Policy, and adjunct professor of government at Johns Hopkins University, the author of six books on international relations. The latest is *The Failure of Intelligence: The Decline and Fall of the CIA*.

And last and not at all least, among our special guests, Pat Lang, who was head of the Middle East section with the Defense Intelligence Agency, for seven years.

My colleague is to his immediate left, Knut Royce. Knut, besides being my friend for decades, is an eminent investigative reporter, has held a share of at least three Pulitzer Prizes over the years; and it's a pleasure to have worked with him to write this book.

What we're going to do is, start with Knut. And this will more or less, in my concept, make a link between what he and I have done, again, focussing on the uranium story, and also

comparing that uranium story to the larger story of what George Tenet has been saying. From there, I'm going to ask our guests to speak a bit toward those points, and as we move along, ask them some questions. And then finally, we'll open it up to the floor, as well.

So, I want to ask Knut to start.

Royce: You know, as we look at what George Tenet has written about, how do we compare what we see there, compared to what we found in the course of our investigation?

George Tenet devotes about half of his book to Iraq. He starts out, he starts carrying on, we're in Iraq ... It's a pretty apologetic tack and there are some obvious contrasts between what he writes about and what we write about. ...

Although Tenet does have some very interesting political tidbits in there, they don't make a book. Tenet is apologetic. There are several passages where he admits the CIA really screwed up—especially on the weapons of mass destruction part—but nowhere does he mention the key center at CIA for analyzing and publishing reports, and briefing policy-makers on weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. This was critical. The largest center at CIA is called WINPAC, and that's the Weapons Intelligence and Non-Proliferation and Arms Control division. He mentions WINPAC—they're the ones who put together, who were responsible for collating and analyzing the intelligence—in this book, he mentions WINPAC just once.

We devote at least a chapter, and probably more than that,

because WINPAC was such a key player in the bogus information that came out. We devote at least a chapter, and actually more than that, to WINPAC, and the head of WINPAC at the time, Alan Foley.

Foley's a fascinating character, and one of the persons we interviewed to get a sense of Foley, is sitting here on the panel, Mel Goodman. Foley, we describe as somebody who, later in his career, decided that fighting wasn't worth it. That—no, it wasn't worth it. He never fought anything. . . .

Goodman: He's a careerist.

Royce: He is a careerist.

But we mention in the book, when he was asked by the Administration, and when he was asked later on by the Senate Intelligence Committee, which was conducting an investigation of what had gone wrong, he told them he actually believed that Iraq had indeed tried to buy uranium from Niger, from Africa. That was a key point. Because without uranium from Africa, there was no mushroom cloud, and that was the main pitch of the Administration.

However, he told Mel, before the war started—Mel asked him: "So, what do you think we're going to find in Iraq?" And Foley said, "Little, if anything, of weapons of mass destruction." So, here was a guy who would tell people different stories at different times.

Again, WINPAC was the key agency, the key division within CIA, and Tenet only mentions WINPAC once, and Foley twice, by name, and that's only because he had to reach—. At one point, when everything was falling apart after Ambassador Joe Wilson had published his letter in the *New York Times*, that he thought the Administration knew there was no [evidence] that Iraq had tried to purchase uranium, he tried to get ahold of—and then the CIA and the White House had to get their story straight, on whose fault was it that there was no uranium, and that Iraq hadn't tried to get uranium. He had to try to track down Foley, because it was Foley who had discussed the whole issue, the 16 words that went into the State of the Union address in 2003. It was Foley and Bob Joseph at the National Security Council. . . .

At any rate, he mentions him. He tried to get ahold of him before he wrote a paper basically taking the blame for having screwed up.

Again, that's the main highlight I wanted to touch on.

'Mushroom Clouds on the Horizon'

Eisner: What I'd like to do is just, ask Pat Lang, and some of the other folks, a diverse number of types of questions. Question: From your perspective, between 9/11 and the U.S. invasion of Iraq, what did you hear, and what was received from your sources, about changes, since the National Intelligence Estimate of 1998.

Let's start from square one, which we did in our book. The

United States invaded Iraq because President Bush, the Bush Administration, said that there was a clear and present danger for the United States, if there's no action now. If the United States does not invade Iraq now, mushroom clouds may be on the horizon.

So, Pat Lang, first. What was your take on weapons of mass destruction?

Lang: Well, I had the advantage of being around in DIA in the first Gulf War, and for several years thereafter, before I left to go into business, and I knew, with great certainty, having participated, along with my friends and companions out at CIA, in the total destruction of the Iraq nuclear program, to the point that—I won't say how we did that, but it was a very thorough job. And that went on for a couple years, and it wasn't any doubt at all, that it was just wreckage, and the only thing left were a bunch of people, maybe 5,000 scientists, engineers, technicians, who were very smart folks who had nothing to work with. And we knew that was just gone.

And then, if you talk about the biological weapons program, that was never more than research, in my opinion. It was research. . . . Every Arab country plays around with biological warfare research. It's kind of a prestige item. It shows "we're big people," you know that "we're doing that kind of stuff."

And then there was the chemical weapons thing. Well, you know, people are frightened of chemical weapons with good reason. In this room here, some sarin would wipe us all out easily. But this is not really a strategic weapon. In fact, this is really a battlefield tactical weapon. Even the most persistent kinds are not persistent for a very great period of time. And it isn't the kind of thing you can threaten the life of a great country with, really. It's harassment basically. Even a real job in the subway in Tokyo, but you know, including in the subway in New York City; yet this is not something which threatens the life of the United States.

So, people started talking about how this guy had these weapons programs, I knew for a fact that the BW [biological weapons] thing, and the chemical thing, even though I'd been away for a few years—I'd been hanging around the Middle East all that time, since I left—and I knew very well that these things did not fill the bill for the terrible, terrible threat that was being portrayed. And the nuclear program, we'd smashed it up so totally that I didn't see how they could be doing more than maybe trying, after '98—that's when the inspectors left. And after they'd left, maybe they were trying to resume some kind of furtive thing. But this is a big enterprise, making nuclear weapons. This is not something you do in your garage. And you have to have an awful lot of equipment, and people, and stuff.

So, my impression was, when I started to listen to this, and the drumbeat got higher and higher, and heavier and heavier all the time, that there's something really screwy about this.



Carol Joynt/Nathan's Restaurant

Ambassador Joseph Wilson and his wife, Valerie Plame, were “desperately hounded” by the Cheney cabal, after Wilson published an op-ed in the New York Times July 6, 2003, reporting that he had found no evidence that Saddam Hussein had attempted to purchase uranium yellowcake in Niger.

There’s something here that doesn’t add up. In fact, in terms of what the realities could possibly be, what they could be doing.

So, I became increasingly suspicious as time went along after 9/11. Here we kept hearing this more and more and more. And then it became increasingly clear after a while, that the intelligence was being driven, the analysis of information and the evaluation of the information, was being driven by policy, rather than being a free-standing object intended to limit policy, which is the way I always did it. (People always thought I was pretty limited anyway.)

And, in fact, I thought there was something very basically wrong. But I’ll shut up there, because other people will have other things to say, and I could go on for a couple hours.

The CIA Caved In to the Administration

Goodman: Well, let me make three points, to join what Pat was saying.

Number One, you have to realize that the best source of intelligence that the CIA had, was the fact that they had operational people on the United Nations inspector teams. They had a significant number in every round of inspection. And they were there to collect intelligence, not only in terms of WMD, but on Saddam Hussein, and on a variety of Iraqi chiefs.

When the UN inspectors left, and tried to get back in after Desert Fox, the Clinton bombing attack on Iraq in 1998, Saddam Hussein said no. What that meant was the CIA lost the very best intelligence collection, the clandestine collection

that it had. The reason why this is important, is, they went from 1998, when they had some collection, and were very cautious about what they said about chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons—and if you look at all of their intelligence throughout the ‘90s, up to ‘98, they were extremely cautious—they went in 2002, all of a sudden, with no additional collection, the CIA claims they have high confidence—and Tenet talks about high confidence in this book.

So, I knew that was nonsense. They had no reason to be confident, and they had no reason to claim that they had any specific information, because for four years, they had nothing.

The second point that’s important—and remember I was at the War College then, so I still had all the clearances I had when I was at the CIA—I called up NSA colleagues from times past when I worked on the Soviet Union, and I basically asked them, without telling me anything in terms of sources and methods, what were they picking up that would give them any indication that Iraq was working on either chemical weapons, biological weapons, or nuclear weapons?

Now, the background of that was, I knew from my Soviet experience, there was no way that Iraq, or any other country, could be moving things around without certain circuits pulsing, that NSA [the National Security Agency] had access to, particularly in the Middle East. NSA knew there was nothing in terms of nuclear weapons.

So, if NSA says there was nothing—and I consider NSA a very fine professional outfit, and in some ways, it’s the most professional outfit in the intelligence community—it was clear to me that there was nothing there.

Then, the third thing that’s very important, and gets to the heart of the corruption of the tradecraft of the CIA—and this is what I blame Tenet for, as much as anything else: Not only did they politicize the intelligence, but they didn’t honor any of the basic tradecraft of how you go about doing intelligence analysis. The fact of the matter is, the CIA had made a decision—I think they made it in August/September of 2002—basically to cave in to the Administration and to give them what they wanted.

The White House, according to the Downing Street memo, had decided to fuse the issues of terrorism and WMD, to make a case for war, and [then head of British MI6 Richard] Dearlove, the author of that memo, has said that the agency was fixing its intelligence to that policy. And the clearest indication of that was the very good intelligence the CIA was collecting on the fact that Iraq had nothing. And that was intelligence from Saddam Hussein’s son-in-law, remember, who defected, went out to Jordan in the middle of the 1990s, somewhere around ‘94 or ‘95; he was debriefed by the Jordanians,



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Former CIA Director George Tenet “caved into the Administration” and “gave them what they wanted,” thus, corrupting the basic tradecraft of intelligence.

and debriefed by the CIA, and he told them, since he was the head of the Iraqi military mobilization department, he was responsible for destroying a lot of the chemical and biological stocks and missiles—they didn’t have a nuclear program after ‘91—and he told them all of this.

The CIA didn’t put *any* of this information in its finished intelligence products.

Number two, the CIA was doing a very good job in recruiting a former foreign minister of Iraq by the name of Sabri, until the White House said, lay off of Sabri, we don’t want his information any more. As Tyler Drumheller says in his very useful book, this isn’t about WMD any more, this is about regime change. Well, Sabri was telling us everything we needed to know about what Iraq did not have.

And also the CIA had a very curious character who I’m not going to get into by the name of Charlie Allen, who’s now over at the Department of Homeland Security, who was very controversial at CIA, but he came up with something very interesting in the 2002 period. It was Charlie Allen’s idea to go around the country, to find Iraqi-Americans who had relatives in Iraq who worked in the weapons area, who were scientists, engineers, technicians. Send them back to Baghdad and Iraq, before the war started, to see what they could find out from family members, who had access. These people came back, and they reported, and they said, “All of these programs have been shut down.”

And again, the CIA had never printed *any* of this material in the President’s daily brief, in the National Intelligence Estimates, in any kind of intelligence assessment.

So, what the CIA did, and it’s a violation of the Holy Grail—I mean, this is the worst possible thing you can do,

they ignored all of the intelligence that you could argue, you could make one series of assumptions from, and they trumped up the intelligence that for the most part was single source, or primary source. And any good investigator or reporter—Knut is one of the best investigative reporters, and he’ll tell you that you don’t go into print with one source—and that’s exactly what the CIA did. They found the source that told them what they needed to know. And when I testified against Bob Gates in 1991, when he was confirmed as CIA Director, I said the CIA and Gates and Bill Casey were guilty of judge-shopping in the courthouse. That’s what exactly what George Tenet did. It’s what John McLaughlin did. It’s what Paul Pillar did, it’s what Robert Walpole did, and it’s what Alan Foley did. And it’s *totally unconscionable*, and it needs to be corrected.

Throwing a ‘Curveball’ at Powell

Wilkerson: I come at this from a very different perspective, because for some 35-36 years, I’ve been an intelligence user, not an intelligence officer. Tactical-operational and strategic level in the military, principally the strategic level at the State Department. And like the other members of the panel, I could probably talk forever, but I’m going to focus on George Tenet. Because I have grave concerns about what he’s written in his book, and what I saw him say on “60 Minutes,” and other interviews that I’ve witnessed, over the last few days.

I also have grave concerns about John McLaughlin, the DDCI, his deputy, because I spent five of the most intimate days of my life, and five nights, without sleeping, as did my team, staring into George Tenet’s, and John McLaughlin’s, and Robert Walpole’s, and Larry Gershwin’s, and other people’s faces, at Langley.

And while I agree with my panel members up here, and I think I’m going to hear the same thing over here, and Carl Ford, who is assistant secretary for intelligence research at the State Department, and for whom I have a great deal of respect, that this was one *colossal* intelligence failure, my concern is even deeper than that. And my concern has grown, and grown, as I have been able to do some research since I left the State Department, and listened to people like this, and others—investigative reporters, and so forth.

And here’s where my concern focuses: Either George Tenet is lying through his teeth, or Tyler Drumheller is lying through his teeth—the chief of the European division for CIA—with regard to one of the most important pillars of Secretary Powell’s presentation at the United Nations: the mobile biological laboratories. One of the things Secretary Powell and I told Mr. Tenet and Mr. McLaughlin at the outset of our frenetic five or six days, trying to get ready for the UN, was “multiple sources.” We will not take anything and put it in this presentation, unless there are *multiple, independently corroborated sources* for the items we’re putting in the testimony. That was the going-in position.

Now, I learn, I think—although George has again put



UN photo/Mark Garten

Secretary of State Colin Powell, briefing the UN Security Council on alleged evidence of Iraq's WMD, Feb. 5, 2003. Someone threw Powell a "Curveball," on key points placed in Powell's speech.

some doubt in my mind—that there was a single source for the mobile biological laboratories; that his codename was Curveball; and that there were several, some very key, dissents as to this individual's testimony, during or before the preparation of the Secretary of State. None of that, ladies and gentlemen, *none of that* was revealed to the Secretary of State, or to me, or to any member of my team, by either John McLaughlin or George Tenet.

So, that's my first area of concern: Who's lying? This isn't an intelligence matter. This is worse, far worse. This isn't just cherry-picking, or political spin on intelligence. This is plain-out outright falsehood to the Secretary of State.

The second point is even more dramatic. Secretary Powell, on my advice and others', was getting ready to whittle the terrorism portion of his presentation, from 25 pages that had been given us by the CIA, down to about 5; and then, about the third day, we were going to eliminate it altogether, because frankly, it stunk.

At the moment that we were having this discussion, about whether or not we were going to include anything about Saddam's contacts with terrorist groups and so forth, a dramatic thing occurred. All of a sudden, we were told that a high-level al-Qaeda operative—I was never told his name, I'm not sure that the Secretary was either, you'd have to ask him—had been interrogated; and that that high-level al-Qaeda operative had revealed that there was major training going on by the Mukhabarat in Iraq—Saddam Hussein's people—of al-Qaeda operatives in how to use chemical and biological weapons. This was quite a revelation, and, as you can imagine, changed the Secretary's mind about how much he was going to include about contacts between al-Qaeda and Iraq in his presentation.

I have subsequently learned, once again—as best as I can tell from numerous sources—that this information was gained

from a Libyan al-Qaeda operative named al-Libi; that it was gained under torture, or near-torture, waterboarding and other. It was gained in Egypt, and no U.S. personnel were even present when this interrogation was going on. Nonetheless, the moment the information came forth, if indeed it did come forth, it was hurried to the appropriate authorities, and was given to the Secretary of State, and created quite a dramatic moment in Langley.

I have subsequently learned that the DIA dissented, very quickly, on this information. I was told that a "computer glitch" kept us from seeing that dissent. I'm also told that even as we were in Langley, and in New York, preparing the Secretary for his presentation, that al-Libi himself recanted the entire confession—which you might say, "aw, who'd believe al-Libi?" Nonetheless, it should have been known, and it should have been delivered to the Secretary of State, that this had happened, not to mention the DIA dissent.

So, we went ahead with two central pillars of his presentation at the United Nations, essentially based on information that I have every reason to believe now, was *known* to be unreliable, and even false, by the DCI George Tenet, and the DDCI John McLaughlin. And yet, I never heard a *single word of doubt* on their part, as to these two pillars of the presentation.

Quite the contrary. I heard words to the effect of "slam dunk." As you know, George Tenet is a real basketball fan, and so he uses terms like that a lot. And I heard those kinds of terms, or similar phraseology, a number of times, with regard to these kinds of points. Because Secretary Powell was very skeptical about some of this stuff. After all, we'd started out with a 48-page script handed to him by Scooter Libby, chief of staff to the Vice President, which we had, within eight hours of arriving at Langley, completely debunked and thrown out, and turned to the October 2002 National Intelligence Estimate, in lieu of that script, because that script was so full of holes, and uncorroborated.

So, we were highly skeptical as to what we were going to take, and what we weren't going to take, and the Secretary laid down the law. And as far as I'm concerned, the DCI and the DDCI, at a minimum, had a responsibility to be as honest as possible with him, in following his dictates. And I am increasingly of a mind that they didn't, and they knew they weren't.

'The Books Were Cooked'

Johnson: Cooking the books is something I personally became acquainted with back in 1986, as a new analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency. I became the Honduran analyst, and Honduras was important in the context of U.S. policy in Central America, because Honduras was the aircraft carrier for Contra forces attacking the Sandinista government. And,

being caught in that position, and learning how intelligence analysis and politics at the White House, particularly in terms of what the White House and the President want to say, it was an important, let's say, it was a formative experience.

I recall sitting in a morning meeting, where Bob Vickers, who was the morning officer for Latin America at the time, and as I referred to the Contras, he stopped me. He said, "You have to refer to them as the Democratic National Resistance." And I said, "But the President calls them the Contras!" And his response was, "Yes, but he's the President." And that insight, how we start playing with words, where you can no longer describe something for what it is, and you have to make up euphemisms and other things, is one of the, if you will, warning signs, or the canary in the mineshaft singing, that the oxygen is running out quickly.

In the lead-up to the war, I was constantly bouncing things off of Pat [Lang], because, apart from his tenure with the Defense Intelligence Agency, he set up the Arabic program over at West Point, and he had basically trained every colonel, most of the Arabist colonels that are running around the U.S. Army today, and had spent a lot of time out in the field, and was a combat officer. So, he had a broad base of experience. It struck us at the time, we talked on several occasions and said, "they must have something else."

And I recall during my time at State Department, when there was a terrorist attack. And we put together a brief—that was the Tiny Star, it was a maritime attack off the coast of Israel—we put together a briefing team of NSA and CIA analysts who went around with a State Department official to brief friends and foes in the Middle East, and around the Mediterranean about, "here's the goods that we've got on 'em," and at that time, people said, "Okay, yeah, you got it."

So, I was proceeding on the assumption. "Surely, they've got something they're not telling us." I would like to say I was one of those who, before the war started, said this is a crock. I didn't. However, I did get fired from the Fox News network as a news analyst for having the audacity in November of 2002 to say, that if we went into Iraq, it would be a diversion in the war on terror. And in January of 2003, I put together a paper—this was in my pre-blog days. I'm convinced, if I'd known more about blogs then, and there were more blogs active, we might have stopped the war.

But, I wrote this paper. It was detailing Iraq's involvement, or lack thereof, in terrorism. And I gave it to Jerry Bremer, L. Paul Bremer, and my old boss at State Department, Morris Busby. Both Jerry and Buzz had been coordinators of counterterrorism, and the thrust of the paper was this: It is true that Iraq is a state sponsor of terrorism, or was. But when you broke out and looked at what those acts were, Iraq was not responsible for any mass-casualty attacks. Iraq's targets were Israel and Iran, with the UN inspectors to a lesser extent. And it was not terribly effective in using terrorism, and the last known attack of its involvement against U.S. targets, was in



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White House photo/David Bohrer

Information provided to Powell "was known to be unreliable, and even false, by the DCI George Tenet, and the DDCI John McLaughlin" (left). A 48-page script handed to Powell by Cheney's chief of staff Scooter Libby (right), had been "completely debunked and thrown out."

February of 1993, when they tried to blow up former President Bush—I think it was '95; no, '93—in Kuwait.

And I wish I would have saved the e-mail back from Jerry, but he basically came back and said, "Hey! You're barking up the wrong tree here. Nobody's interested in the facts. We're going to war."

Our friendship, you'll be surprised to know, has evaporated in the light of his excellent, and not-so-excellent, adventures in Iraq.

In May of 2003, I got an e-mail from one of my former colleagues. Now George Tenet has tried to run away from the letter that several of us drafted decrying his book, and calling upon him to give back the proceeds, at least some of the proceeds, from his advance, to the soldiers, and the families of soldiers, who were killed or wounded in Iraq. Because in my view, and our view, the man has blood on his hands. He had a chance, if he would have spoken up, he could have *stopped* this rush to war. He chose to remain silent, but not just remain silent, he chose to be an active participant in a deception that was carried out, not only against other U.S. government officials, but against the American people.

And it's not a matter of my word against his. The evidence is quite clear.

In May of 2003, I got a note from one of my former colleagues in the CIA. A senior person. And this person said, "the books were cooked." And I went, "Uh oh." And so at that point, I started looking back, and pushing into other areas, and it became clear, that this was a deception that was being carried out on the people of the United States. So, if you haven't bought George Tenet's book, let me put in a plug: Don't buy it. Don't give the bastard a dime. If you need to read it, you can probably borrow Mel [Goodman]'s copy, or go to the library. But for this man to now pretend—"Look, I had doubts from the beginning"—and he said nothing.

Mel's point, and Pat I know would endorse this, because as intelligence professionals, your responsibility is not to take

sides in an issue; your responsibility is to tell what you know, it's to tell what you don't know, and it's to give policy-makers at least a range of options about other, be it different circumstances and assumptions—what's the likely outcome.

But George Tenet has now admitted that in saying “slam dunk,” he was signing on as the chief cheerleader for the Bush-for-war team. And he was going to help lead the cheers to the American people. And if that doesn't disqualify him for public service ever again in the United States, I don't know what does.

A Corruption of the Process

Lang: I have a couple points I'd like to make. As I started to say earlier, you know, at the strategic level one of the main functions of intelligence production, analysis production, is to reduce policy options from the level of fantasy, to that of extreme reality. In order for that to work, the intelligence function has to have—its products have to be respected, and they have to be given due weight by policy-makers, the decision-makers, as to what you're actually going to do.

This is also true of the military, by the way, at a different kind of level.

But in fact, a problem arose in this Administration, which is inherent in any administration, but it really got out of hand in this one, in my opinion. I'm more or less retired now, so I can get to do just the things that I feel like doing, pretty much. So I spend a lot of time on things like academic panels, seminars, and boards of academic people, things like that, foundations boards, you know. And I get to associate with a lot of young fellows who were big-time staffers in the first term of the Bush Administration, and now, a lot have returned to academia, and I listened to what they say. And one of things that's very noticeable here, that amongst these guys, there is almost universally a great disdain for the functioning of intelligence. As far as they're concerned, what the function of the intelligence community, is to gather raw information, repeat it to them, so that they apply to it their understanding of history, and what the nature of history is, and where it's going, so as to say what the meaning of that information is.

Of course, I always resist that pretty strongly, and it gets fairly heated at times. But in fact, the belief is, amongst folks like this, that the old sweats in the intelligence community, the guys who apply the tradecraft of analysis, as Mel says, are really people who are kind of second- or third-rate people. Nothing like as grand as the guys who've got two or three degrees from Ivy League universities or Stanford, or someplace like that. And really, what you need to do is you feed the stuff up—give us the raw data, and we'll tell you what it means, we'll tell you what it means in every case.

And that is a terrible corruption of the process of decision-making in foreign policy, I think. Because if you do that, and you no longer have an independent brake on the fantasies and the option generation of the decision-makers, of their staffs—

nobody tells them, this is a crock, which is what they need to be told if it's a crock: that it's a crock. So that tends to go down the drain in situations like this, and it certainly did in this case, I think.

The other thing I would like to make an observation about, is the fact that most analysts in the community are people of some integrity, varying integrity—and of course, there are always outright careerists, as Mel would say. I know a few. But in fact, most people would like to do the right thing. And they study very hard, and I think, as Ruskin said, that the life's so short, the craft's so long to learn. Well, it's just exactly like that. So, in fact, they want to do the right thing.

But when they go up to tell the policy-maker, “Hey, this is a crock, you're full of it,” right? Then this guy is going to push back, because, as I said before, he and his kids—and they usually are kids—

And so, when that happens, and it always happens—it happened a lot at the beginning of this administration; because my old friends, colleagues, and subordinates used to come to me and say, “These guys beating the bejesus out of us up at the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and won't listen to us. They just say we're wrong, we're stupid, they imply that we're stupid.” And when that happens, then the leaders of the analysts, the working-level analysts, have to go back to the leadership, the real leadership, George Tenet, the Vice Admiral Jacoby over in DIA, this one, that one there, and say: “Boss, you've got to stand up for me. You got to back us up. Because the very thing we do in life, is at stake here. And if you don't do that, then we'll all be dead. We will all, as somebody said, ‘have drunk the kool-aid.’”

And, in fact, that didn't happen. So, I don't give a damn about George Tenet, personally. I hope he collects his royalties, and lives to be miserable with them. But in fact, the problem is that it doesn't seem that this process has ended, in fact. If you look around right now, as to what the Administration is broadcasting, and there are a million little signals everywhere about Syria and Iran—what you see is a similar case being made against these places, by innuendo, half-truth, exaggeration, refusal to interact with people who tell them the truth, or even offer to cooperate, and things like that. The same kind of case is being built. The underpinnings are the same.

So I think you have to ask yourself, do we have better leadership now in the intelligence community? Do we? I don't know. Maybe my friends do.

A ‘Cabal’ in the Administration

Eisner: I have a question for everyone here. It's going to be moving into a slightly different direction. As Colonel Wilkerson said, he has a different position, has held a different position, was a customer of intelligence during this whole period. He also was famously, I'm not putting him on the spot, but he's famously known for saying, that there was some form of cabal working in the Administration. When I am asked the

whys of this story, when I talk about the fact that the 16 words were well-known to be false before they were uttered by President Bush, how the CIA almost, if not immediately after first getting the information about nuclear weapons, didn't even investigate very much, because many analysts discarded the information, because Iraq didn't need uranium, because it already had it. Iraq had no program to process uranium, because the act of obtaining uranium from Africa, would have been very difficult. And beyond all those things, the source for the information was highly questionable.

So, people started talking about how this guy had these weapons programs, I knew for a fact that the BW [biological weapons] thing, and the chemical thing, ... did not fill the bill for the terrible, terrible threat that was being portrayed. And the nuclear program, we'd smashed it up so totally that I didn't see how they could be doing more than maybe trying, after '98—that's when the inspectors left. ... But this is a big enterprise, making nuclear weapons. This is not something you do in your garage. ...
—Pat Lang

So, adding that to everything that's been said so far, people then come to the question: Why? What was the superstructure? Who was cooking the books?

You're talking about cooking the books, you're talking about the hijacking of intelligence. Where did it come from? And why?

Dick Cheney's War

Goodman: I don't think that's a very difficult question to deal with. I think the master of this war, and the one who outlined the strategy for the war, and designed—and I agree with Larry [Johnson] that it was just a classic case of agitprop: There was a propaganda campaign, and we were taken in by it, and the press was taken in by it—but the chief operator in all this, let's call him "Geppetto," was Dick Cheney. This is Dick Cheney's war. It has always been Dick Cheney's war.

Now the one thing that Dick Cheney needed to sell this war, to market his war, was nuclear reconstitution. And re-

member, I think it was September the 8th, [2002], when all of the high-level members of the Bush Administration went on national television with "smoking gun" and the mushroom cloud. And what Joe Wilson was threatening, was to take down the argument about nuclear reconstitution, when he said, "I'll tell you what I found in Niger. I found nothing."

So, you had only two pins for nuclear reconstitution. It was Niger, enriched uranium, and the phony 16 words; and you had the aluminum tubes. And frankly, I'll pass the question to Larry, because people feel that Tenet should have resigned. I've always thought that Colin Powell should resign. Colin Powell is a hell of a lot more popular in this country than George Bush. If Colin Powell had stood up, and said what he thought, and told us what he knew, there would have been no war.

George Tenet is an *apparatchik*. I'm not impressed with George Tenet. He should never have been CIA Director. But how did Colin Powell, a military officer, a Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, get taken in by the aluminum tubes, which was driven by a kid, a young kid engineer by the name of Joe Turner, at the CIA, who stood up somehow to all of the PhD scientists of the weapons labs, and Department of Energy, because Foley wanted this argument out there to make the case for war. I think Powell could have stopped this.

But that's why this was so important to Cheney. That's why they desperately hounded Valerie Plame—and again, sorry Peter, but I'll go after the *Washington Post* on this: I don't know why Fred Hiatt is so convinced that Joe Wilson was lying about many of these issues. The *Washington Post* owes Joe Wilson an apology. But Fred Hiatt *continues* to write and sponsor op-eds and editorials about all of the misleading advice that Joe Wilson gave the country. Joe Wilson was trying to get in the way of this moving train, that was moving toward war in 2002.

So, there are still a lot of things that we don't know. But I think the key element in the question: This was Cheney's war, this was Cheney's issue, and he had to run with it. He couldn't allow it to be compromised.

Wilkerson: I don't disagree with that. I think my previous comments about a cabal between the two Secretaries of Defense—one, then a Vice President, the other, another Secretary of Defense—you watch the body language around these two men, you wouldn't know which one was which. I didn't know whether Rumsfeld was running things, or Cheney was running things. On any particular issue, you could take your pick.

But the Vice President, in my mind, is the person who ran this country on a foreign policy perspective from 2001 to 2005, when I was at the State Department.

On the issue of the aluminum tubes: It's far more complicated than these people know. Another dramatic moment occurred: If you go back and review the Secretary's presentation, then you will see that he, himself, qualified his comment

at the UN about the aluminum tubes, because his mind was not clear on it.

When he was getting ready to toss it out completely, we suddenly got another dramatic moment. This dramatic moment, I still can't say the name of the country, but let's just say this—it was a well-respected country, with one of the best intelligence services in the world—a country suddenly reported to us that not only had it spun its consignment of tubes—there were different consignments intercepted. And they had spun them to 98,000 rpm, which means nothing to you, but everything to someone that's looking at potential centrifuges, over an extended period of time with no visible deterioration, etc., etc., etc. It was a very dramatic report. Not quite as dramatic as al-Libi, but nonetheless dramatic.

And we inquired, including the Secretary—if I recall right, I have to go back and check my notes—but I think Dr. Rice may have been there at that time, too; I think she inquired, too, as you might suspect, “Can we use this?” And Mr. Tenet, with Mr. McLaughlin sitting beside him, nodding his head up and down, said “Well, we're going to have to check with our counterparts, because their political authorities might not allow us to use this.” Duh! Damage was done! The Secretary had suddenly made up his mind that, at least, he was going to leave it in his presentation and qualify it, to express the fact that he knew there was debate still going on about the aluminum tubes.

And, needless to say, the next morning, when Mr. Tenet came back and said, reluctantly, the political authority would not allow that intelligence service to let us use that information, because it had been a commercial lab that had done this, and the bonds between this commercial lab and this intelligence service were delicate, etc., etc., etc.—sort of like “sources and methods”—we couldn't use that in the presentation specifically, but we didn't need to use it in the presentation specifically. It convinced the Secretary that he ought to leave that information, as has been said here, the only real information that constituted any proof of an attempt to reconstitute a nuclear program in Iraq.

And so, it was a little bit more complex. Carl Ford [head the Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR) in the State Department from 2001 until 2003, reporting directly to Powell] and I have argued about this a lot—it's a little more complex than even Carl knew. And if I fault myself for anything, in this particular instance, it's not calling Carl and getting him over there, and fighting in front of Tenet over this issue. Carl had decided, that the Secretary had access to him, I had access to him—which was true—and that we didn't need him or any of his people over at the CIA. The Secretary passed every script past him, called him, talked with him, and so forth. But I wish now, that I'd brought Carl over to the CIA with me, because he would have given me some *intelligence* professionalism to push back at McLaughlin and Tenet, when we doubted something.

A Finger in the Eye'

Johnson: “Poking a finger in the eye”: That's one of the phrases you learn as an analyst. The process of writing, whether it's for the Presidential Daily Brief, or the National Intelligence Daily, is, you start off in the morning, sort of like a newspaper reporter dealing with breaking news; we offer up a story-line; the section chief carries it forward to a morning meeting. At the morning meeting, the division chief says, “Yeah, I think we'll go with that.” Then the division chief has to go upstairs and present it to an office chief. So it's very much a bureaucratic function, and it's amazing that anything gets done, but somehow in that process, you're able to turn these pieces out.

So, anything that gets written like this, it's not just because somebody is sitting there on their own saying, “Boy! I've got a great idea for a story!” It is overseen, it is supervised; and in fact, my understanding is, over the last seven years, they have actually added layers of management review to the process. So the fact that someone like this analyst Joe Turner, in WINPAC, was able to run amok, it was not Joe Turner on his own: He was running amok with the witting cooperation of senior CIA officials, with Jamie Miscik, the DDI, with the people of Alan Foley who was in his chain of command. These people participated in that, willingly. These are not ignorant, stupid people.

One of the things you learn as an analyst early on, is, you have to properly present the information about what you know, and properly source it. And if you are faced with a situation in which you are dealing with only one source, then, that doesn't quite carry the weight of, say, three or four independent sources that corroborate one another.

But the other thing, I'd like to bring this home to you, because they're still saying it: George Tenet is out there saying, “Well, everybody knew that Saddam had weapons of mass destruction.” Most people go, “Well, yeah, that's true.” You gotta say, “Stop, right there.” Saying that, “Everybody in Virginia owns a firearm”: Okay. What's the nature of those firearms? If most of them are 19th-Century or 18th-Century collectors' items, that's a far different problem than saying, everybody's got an AK-47 or an automatic weapon, or a 50-caliber Barrett rifle. What are those weapons? How are they used? And this goes back to the point that Pat was making earlier: That it is always the context of looking at Saddam, who used to have X amount of weapons; a percentage of those were destroyed during the first Gulf War; an additional percentage were destroyed in the subsequent inspection period. And now, we're asked to believe that he's had this many weapons destroyed through one fashion or another, but now poses a greater threat? How does less become more? I've never understood it.

And one last observation on this “friends and family program” that became the Bush Administration. Dick Cheney got his job in Washington, in part—well, not in part—because of Don Rumsfeld. I know the man, and the man's a good per-



DOD photo/R.D. Ward

“Dick Cheney’s war” in Iraq was promoted by a “cabal” in the White House, at the center of which was Veep Cheney (left) and SecDef Donald Rumsfeld (right). “You watch the body language around these two men, you wouldn’t know which one was which.”

sonal friend of mine, who was called by Don Rumsfeld in 1972, and he said to my friend, “Hey, I’ve got this young man, his name’s Dick Cheney, and he needs a job.” So, my friend gave Dick Cheney a job for two years, and at the end of that two-year period, Cheney walked in and said, “Hey, I’ve been offered the Chief of Staff job at the White House.” So, this relationship between Rummy and Cheney goes back 40 years. And when they bring up Paul Wolfowitz—remember Wolfowitz was Under Secretary of Defense under Cheney. You know, so when you start doing the wiring diagram relationships on this, just like an anthropologist, you understand that you’re dealing with sort of an inbred tribe that would do a disservice to call it “West Virginia inbreeding.” [laughter]

Eisner: One other connection there, is that Colin Powell came into the mix pretty close to that period, being brought into in-

vestigate the My Lai incident, and is, I believe, widely recognized to have whitewashed the My Lai incident, having said that it was an isolated case, involving one person, one incident, and not anything broader than that. And as a result of that report, he suddenly hopped over about four levels of infantry officers, and found himself in the White House.

The Crucial Role of Colin Powell

Wilkerson: I’ve got to say something here. I was out in Monterey, California on Saturday at a conference, and Dr. Perry was in the audience, and a host of other people. And I got asked a question, you know, “Why didn’t Colin Powell resign?” And I’ll be very honest, as I was honest with them: It would have lasted a month. It wouldn’t have any impact. It might have had a little bit of impact initially, maybe a week’s worth of impact, but then it would have faded. And he would have been like any other Secretary of State, like [Cyrus] Vance or whomever. We tend to think it would have been very powerful—it wouldn’t have done anything. In fact, Dick Cheney would have exulted in his departure. And moved right out, just as ruthless, with the vision that he has, as he had before.

Here’s the key, I think, and if I ever write a book, this is what my book is going to be about: *You would not have liked at all, to have seen the first Bush Administration without Colin Powell.* We would not have relations with Germany, France, or probably any NATO country. Turkey would have told us to go to Hell long ago, not just taken a very close vote on whether they were going to be with us in the Iraq War—they’d have told us the strategic relationship was at an end.

We would have had a *real* mess. Colin Powell held [former German Foreign Minister] Joschka Fischer’s hand under the table; [former French Foreign Minister] Dominique de Villepin’s hand under the table. The French are the best counterterrorist people in the world. Donald Rumsfeld is sticking his finger in their eyes in every conceivable way he could, even to the nitty-gritty stuff, like telling the commandant of the Marine Corps that he couldn’t, for the 30th year in a row, go and celebrate the birth of the Marine Corps with his French counterpart. I mean, this was absurd! And every time something like this happened, Colin Powell stepped in.

Let me tell you something even more serious: The Defense Department, with Feith, Cambone, Wolfowitz, Rumsfeld, was dispatching a person to Taiwan every week, essentially to tell the Taiwanese that the alliance was back on. Essentially to tell Chen Shui-bian, whose entire power in Taiwan rested on the independence movement, that independence was a good thing. We dispatched either our AIT [American Institute in Taiwan] representative, or someone from the State Department right behind that guy, every time they sent somebody, to disabuse the entire Taiwanese national security apparatus of what they’d been told by the Defense Department.

This went on until George Bush weighed in, and told Rumsfeld to cease and desist, told him multiple times to re-

establish military-to-military relations with China, one time in a raised voice that even surprised Dr. Rice. And he fired the wife of Larry Di Rita, Therese Shaheen, who was the Taiwan rep here in Roslyn, Virginia. Because she went out, after the President finally *rebuked* Chen Shui-bian, *publicly*, she went out and said the President of the United States didn't really mean what he said.

And so, Colin Powell had the U.S.-China relationship, with, I will admit, strong backing from the President on occasion, in his hand, the whole time, too: from the EP3-F8 collision in April 2001, till the time he left the State Department. So, let me say again: *You would not have liked to have seen the first Bush Administration, without the balanced voice of Colin Powell.*

Cheney: 'Truly Delusional'

Eisner: Let me ask a question about Dick Cheney: Pat Lang might have one of the closer relationships with Dick Cheney over time; how has he changed, and why is he doing what he's doing, to the degree that you can analyze it?

Lang: Well, I contemplated this issue a lot. When I was the head Middle East/South Asia guy in the period of the first Gulf War, I used to brief the man quite a lot, and he was not an inspiring student or pupil, but he wasn't an offensive one. You know, he would listen politely and impassively, and ask an occasional question. But he didn't challenge anything you said, he didn't—he just asked for an elaboration of points occasionally. And so, I thought he was a reasonably balanced kind of guy.

And then all of a sudden, in this Administration, starting in 2000, you have this guy who is increasingly revealed as somebody who is really destiny-driven or something, by some sort of deep-seated animosity toward Iraq, especially, and has signed up to the historical theorizations of a lot of people like Wolfowitz, and Feith, and people like that. And the change-over is quite striking. You see, there either was a change-over there, or I just missed it completely the first time around. And a lot of people told me that. A lot of people who knew him in earlier days, say that they do not, in fact, recognize the man. Who was it who said famously, "I no longer know Dick Cheney?"

[From the audience: "Brent Scowcroft."]

Lang: Scowcroft. And I remember I briefed him the morning that he went to Saudi Arabia, under Bandar's supervision, I guess, to persuade the King to let us in the Kingdom after the Iraqis had invaded Kuwait. And he listened, listened, listened, and he talked, he looked at all the pictures and everything, you know, he asked a couple of questions; then, "Thank you very much," and left the room. And this is not—it doesn't add up to the guy who's encouraged all these analysts to be driven to the wall so that they had to fall back on their own resources of courage, or roll over and play dead, in the run-up to the Gulf

War, and I think that that's a puzzlement. And I don't quite understand the man at all.

Q: You described Cheney as delusional. Do you still believe he's delusional?

Lang: Yeah. The evidence of Cheney number 2, or Cheney version 22, or whatever it is—is that this man, I think, this man is truly delusional in a lot of ways, and he doesn't in fact have a good grip on reality, and is easily captive of various fantasies proposed to him about the nature of reality and history, what the Middle East is all about, and things like that. He seems to be very, very minimal in some ways, and it fits in with a pattern of rigidity in his thinking, which is—I think delusional would be still be my word.

Bring In 'Team B'

Goodman: Let me just tell one anecdote, because it shows there's been no change whatsoever in Cheney on policy or intelligence matters, and it also points to what Larry was talking about in terms of the inbreeding, and the Cheney-Rumsfeld relationship, which was incredibly tight, until I think Rumsfeld lost interest in this war, which was why he was forced to resign—it had *nothing* to do with the election, as far as I'm concerned.

In the mid-1970s, when Cheney was Chief of Staff for [President Gerald] Ford, and Rumsfeld was Secretary of Defense, they wanted to go after the CIA then. It was their idea to put together a "Team B" of troglodytes: people like Paul Wolfowitz, Gen. Danny Graham, Bill Van Cleave, people who were well-known as neo-conservatives, before we used the term neo-conservative. He wanted to send this group out to the CIA, but CIA Director Bill Colby, who I worked for for a short period of time, wouldn't let them in the building. Bill Colby was forced to resign.

And in comes George Herbert Walker Bush, where Rumsfeld wanted to put Bush in, because he thought Bush was a lightweight; but there's a chance that Bush could become nominated as a Republican candidate for President, something that Rumsfeld thought *he* deserved as the smartest person in all of Washington. And of course, they go back to the CIA, and George Herbert Walker Bush, says, "Yeah, bring in Team B."

So, they bring in these troglodytes to try to push CIA analysis on the Soviet Union to the right, at the very time, we're getting very sensitive information, including very sensitive intercepted information from NSA, about the efforts the Soviets now want to make to try to move toward arms control and détente. And this was '77, when—I don't want to get into the Kremlinology—the important Brezhnev speech at Tula, and they were starting to cut back on the growth in defense spending.

So, the point I want to make, is, Cheney and Rumsfeld have never wanted the kind of intelligence organization that



Defense Department

Paul Wolfowitz and Doug Feith were the “theorists” at the Defense Department, who provided the “Team B” of troglodytes,” aka neo-cons, with the intellectual justification for the war.

Harry Truman wanted to put together, and did put together, in 1947, in the National Security Act: that is, an independent agency providing intelligence, with the bark on, that was outside of the policy process; that would hopefully be as objective and balanced as you could make it, and not wedded to any specific policy. They wanted to end that role for the CIA, and intelligence in general, and intelligence would serve the same function that every other policy instrument serves: It would be part and parcel of the White House.

And just as this group now has politicized every agency in government, from what I can tell—every regulatory agency, every key domestic agency, the whole national security process has been militarized and politicized under this regime: This, to me, is what this cabal is all about. It’s very serious. It won’t easily be reversed. It has caused *incredible* mischief and problems for American national security policy.

Lang: Give me another shot at this, will you? I’d like to revisit what I said, for just a minute here, thinking about that. When Wolfowitz was Undersecretary of Defense for Policy under Cheney, in the early ‘90s, working for him, of course, there were two deputy-deputies, were Scooter Libby and Zalmay Khalilzad. Khalilzad had the portfolio for strategy formulation, and that intersected with my job—even if they had to talk to me about it, if they didn’t want to have a mess and an

argument all the time.

So, Zalmay Khalilzad drafted a policy statement to go into some sort of defense document—I forget what it was—and it essentially said that the United States should use its power to benevolently dominate the world, and not hang back from use of force if necessary. And we had several interesting dust-ups about that, because they kept saying if DIA would support this, in its aspects with regard to the real situation in the world, among others, I kept saying no.

And this culminated one day, in a nasty scene in the dining hall in the Army-Navy Club, downtown, in which Khalilzad got more and more angry with me and finally yelled at me, so that every head in the room turned around, and says, “The problem with you native Americans, is”—and he didn’t mean an Indian, either—“the problem with you native Americans is that you don’t understand your responsibility in the use of power.” And then, shortly after that, the Army General Staff leaked the documents in the *Washington Post* and the scheme came to an end.

Goodman: Actually, the *L.A. Times* as I recalled, the *L.A. Times*, the *New York Times*, and the *Washington Post* always felt that Scowcroft was responsible for that. It was a document, a defense policy review, from ‘91 to ‘92.

Wilkerson: I’d like to just say one thing here, as an academic: In 1963, in fact, Dec. 22, 1963, Harry Truman had an op-ed in the *Washington Post*—go Google it, you can find it; go read it, I recommend it to you—Harry Truman was accusing the CIA of being a beast, something he didn’t recognize, something he had not created, in 1963. And who could blame him? A 1953 coup run by Kermit Roosevelt and Allen Dulles, under John Foster Dulles, that overthrew the first democratically elected Persian government, in Iran, and put us where we are today; ‘54, coup in Guatemala. Need I say more? Harry, in ‘63, was not happy with the CIA.

Dialogue with the Audience

Question: Yes, my name is Michele Steinberg with *EIR* magazine: I cover U.S. policy in the Middle East. There’s a very famous quote, beside “slam dunk” which is, I think, from Secretary Powell. It’s: “You break it, you own it.” And the thing that’s broken more, in my mind, than Iraq, is the United States of America. And right now, there is a Congressional resolution on the table, H.R. 333: Rep. [Dennis] Kucinich, Rep. [Janice] Schakowsky from Illinois, Rep. William Clay from Missouri—and it’s about impeachment. And it’s not about impeachment of Bush, it’s about impeachment of Dick Cheney, and the documentation which is about—oh, I’d say about 60 or 70 items long—is on many of the issues that are addressed today, like the mushroom clouds, aluminum tubes, all of that.

Now, I wish that all of you folks were sworn-in witnesses before the U.S. Congress right now, but inasmuch as Colonel Lang mentioned something that is happening now, Syria and Iran, disinformation, cooking the books, etc., would you say that this is appropriate to get this kind of investigation going right now?

Wilkerson: I think that's an excellent question. I think our Founding Fathers would be appalled, that in some 200-plus years, we never used that clause they put in our Constitution, except fecklessly, and in one case, successfully. The Articles of Impeachment that threatened Richard Nixon certainly were the reason he decided to resign. I believe, if you asked Hamilton, Madison, Monroe, even Washington, they would probably say, "Yeah, probably about every 30 years, they'll take somebody out." And if you look at Clinton, and the peccadilloes for which they brought impeachment proceedings against him, as compared with the "high crimes and misdemeanors"—and that's a direct quote from Article II of the Constitution—with regard to Cheney and Bush, I think there's a helluva lot better case, with regard to Cheney and Bush.

Is it going to happen? I think it's a political impossibility right now, and it's a political impossibility, partly because of what you just said: Our political process, not just the Federal bureaucracy, but our political process is broken. And somehow, we as Americans have allowed that to happen. And I don't know what you think about it, but I'm damned mad about it, and I'm doing everything I can, across the country, to tell people that I believe this; to tell them how I think the Federal bureaucracy needs to be repaired—including the Congress of the United States; its committee relationship with the Executive branch is *absurd*, it's an anachronism. The Congress needs to be reformed, the Executive branch needs to be reformed.

But the *big* problem we're confronted with is going to come to bear again, very shortly: it's this insane process where you have less than 50% of Americans electing our President. And if you think about that, that means one in four, actually elect him or her. And this insane process of primaries, and factions, as Washington called it—not parties; he called it "factions"—who go out there and appeal to their extremes, and are successful in doing so! We have to do something about that, and the only people who can do something about that, are us.

Goodman: Just one quick point, because I agree with Larry so strongly: [Rep.] John Conyers has been saying for the last couple of years, and his [Judiciary] committee has written a wonderful report about the Constitutional crisis: We face a Constitutional crisis! The Congress doesn't work, oversight doesn't work. The media didn't do its job leading up to the war. The courts won't deal with national security issues. The FBI is abusing National Security Letters. A general at NSA

approved warrantless eavesdropping, the CIA is still torturing and abusing—and Tenet, one of the most disgusting and offensive charades he went into was that nonsense about "we don't talk about it, and we don't do it," when he referred to enhanced interrogation techniques. Of course they do it! You had two CIA directors violating the charter of the CIA, engaging in policy advocacy—both Goss and General Hayden, asking for exemptions. I'm not a big fan of John McCain, but on *this* issue, he is the leading authority, and he's totally right! And it's got to be stopped!

'The British Have Learned...'

Jeff Stein (*Congressional Quarterly*): Colonel Wilkerson, I'd like to hear you talk a little bit about your view of the uranium documents escapade from the vantage point of the State Department. In particular, do you think the SISMI, the Italian agents, were taking off on their own, busting into the embassy, the Niger Embassy and getting these stamps and so on, to help fabricate these documents? Is there a possibility in your mind? Did you discuss it at the State Department, that [former Italian Prime Minister Silvio] Berlusconi might have put this in motion?

Wilkerson: No, not in so many words, but I think there were a lot of suspicions, especially around Rich Armitage's office. If you know Rich at all, you know he's got his fingers in everything clandestine. And thinking about it, and was on the phone with John [McLaughlin] or George [Tenet] almost every day, multiple times. And probably had his fingers stuck in things, as well as Carl Ford did, and maybe even better.

But I think the fact that it got said, the way it's said, that "the British have learned," threw everybody off for a few minutes, maybe a day or two. And you also have to remember, that until I insisted with the White House cabinet secretary, that foreign policy speeches come over to the State Department—we weren't even seeing the speeches. And after those words appeared, my insistence was finally complied with. And even then, I had to call the Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries and other experts into my office, sit them down on my couch, and let them read the speech in *my* presence, and then I had to consolidate their comments and send them over to the White House. That's how hard it was to get a speech out of the White House that the Secretary of State could look at. That might mind-boggle you, but that's the way it was.

So, I don't remember any specific discussion. I do know there was a lot of doubt and wonderment, as to how this was happening. Because INR, and others in the State Department had already discounted that information.

For one reason, we knew the French controlled Niger, in terms of the nuclear. And we knew the French were talking to us, and we were talking to the French, despite Rumsfeld. And so, how could you get *that much* out, without the French

knowing about it? And they were absolutely cold on it. So.

Royce: Could I comment? The French, by the way, the Administration has insisted to this day, keeps insisting, that we weren't the only ones who screwed up on weapons of mass destruction, that all the major Western intelligence services also did.

The French did not. The French intelligence service *never* believed that Saddam, Iraq, was stockpiling weapons of mass destruction, and it passed its intelligence on to CIA, very clearly. That never got into any of the reporting, that we've been aware of. The French didn't believe it. The *Italians* didn't believe it. And Berlusconi, while he's a very a good friend of Bush, didn't really believe that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. SISMI, as an organization, didn't believe it, either.

So, it's kind of hard, given that, to believe that Berlusconi somehow, as a favor to his good friend G.W., ordered SISMI, the Italian intelligence service, to come up with this phony story of uranium. That's where it stands.

Lang: If you've ever been in the business of conducting liaison or relationships with a bunch of intelligence services—you know, with the exception of the French and maybe one or two others—most of these outfits are fairly bush league organizations, in fact. They have very, very limited means of collection; they may have some particular mission in Africa, or someplace where they had colonial possessions once or something like this, but they don't have anything like the kind of availability of information and things like that the U.S. intelligence community has. And the heads of these organizations are under tremendous pressure from the heads of their governments, to play up, to “be as good as the Americans, to give me something that I can argue with, like I'm one of the big guys.” So, the pressure to go along with American positions, on the part of a lot of these services, is—and then look who the boss, the head of the countries—is tremendous. Of course, the French don't give a damn about that, which is one of their strong callings, in my opinion.

The Rose Garden Speech

Johnson: There was one nugget that did come out of Tenet, that we noticed, and someone had asked me about it previously, which was: We thought that the first time that Tenet dealt with pulling a reference to uranium and nukes out of President Bush's speech, was the Oct. 7 speech that President Bush gave in Cincinnati. But Tenet speaks about a Rose Garden speech on Sept. 26, 2002, which would have been two days after the British white paper came out, mentioning this for the first time. And interestingly enough, Condoleezza Rice apparently recognized at that moment, that the material was questionable enough that it should be pulled out of the speech. So the question would then be, what's the track of the White House knowing whether or not there was a question about



State Department/Michael Gross

The White House knew that the British documents were “fabrications, they were forgeries, and could not be used.” When Condoleezza Rice said, on television, “‘Maybe someone lower down the chain knew, but no one told me’: That was a lie.”

uranium and nukes in Iraq?

Goodman: Well, here I think you have to give the CIA a certain amount of credit: The White House knew, almost from the beginning, that these documents were fabrications, they were forgeries, and could not be used. When Condoleezza Rice said, and I remember she said it on television, “Maybe someone lower down the chain knew, but no one told me”: That was a lie. And the person who told her was Jamie Miscik, who was the deputy director for intelligence, and she reported back to Tenet and McLaughlin that she had that conversation. So, Tenet wrote letters and memos to Hadley that he conveniently forgot about, but then I think in May, he suddenly remembered, “Yes, I do remember those memos from the CIA.”

The point that I always make is, up until around the first or second week in October, the CIA in some areas, was playing it straight. But I think once Tenet was convinced that this administration was going to war, regardless, and you weren't going to stop it, he had to face the fact, “Am I going to play this game honestly? Am I going to tell truth to power? Or do I want to put on my suit and tie every morning, and be an important person in Washington?” And he decided on the latter course: He wanted to be part of the team. And there's a certain jocularly about this book and a sophomoric bent in this book, that is almost—and I apologize for buying it [laughter], but I just couldn't resist...

It's what's so appalling about George Tenet. I mean, he is just, to me, a low-breed *apparatchik*. But on the issue of this fabrication, the White House knew everything they needed to know, and when Foley was on the phone, more than once or

twice with Bob Joseph at the NSC, working out this language, all Foley wanted was a sentence in that State of the Union that pinned it on something other than the CIA or the intelligence community. Whoever came up with the formulation, “the British have learned,” which got Foley off the hook—but he stupidly did not tell his boss; George Tenet did not know about any of these negotiations, Foley really dropped the ball. But Jamie Miscik was running this, and now, the number 3 man at the CIA, Mike Morrell, who handled the October episode over the Cincinnati speech, and handled it well, and made sure there was follow-up and policy process to get that language out of the speech.

But basically, the White House knew what they were doing, but that was the case for war: It was a nuclear case. It was to scare the hell out of us, because of our frail nature in the wake of 9/11. They took advantage of us. But I agree with Larry: It’s the American people.

Eisner: Well, again there, when you say the White House knew—I’m asked that question—who in the White House knew? Are we talking Rice?

Speaker: Rice knew, Hadley knew, Cheney knew, Powell knew. Powell, I believe, called the NCS and told them what to do about this, in addition to the CIA telling them. I assume that Bush knew. If he didn’t know, then someone failed him. And I think Rice was a disaster as the National Security Advisor anyway. She only has two jobs: One is to keep her President informed of all the various policy options and what you need to know about an option; and then two, to make sure that the policy agencies then follow up with any decisions a President makes. She couldn’t do either one! So, now she’s Secretary of State.

Someone in Cheney’s Office...

Johnson: Yeah, back to this “knowing,” and put some of the activity into context: I bring to the experience of having worked in the office of the CIA Operations Center and knowing how the paper’s generated and forwarded to principals: When Dick Cheney saw that reference in a Defense Intelligence Agency report, to the possibility of Iraq buying uranium from Niger, and queried his briefer, we now know, basically—I was in Valerie Wilson’s training class, by the way, at CIA—we now know from her testimony before Congress, that that very same day, somebody in Cheney’s office—and it had to be Libby; if it wasn’t Libby, it was Hadley—somebody called out and got a *junior* case officer in Valerie’s office on the phone, and said, “Hey! We really need this information!”

So, on the question of any information dealing with Iraq, uranium, Niger, that was on the radar screen for top-level officials. It’s not like we were talking, “What was banana production in Costa Rica?” Or, “How many diamonds came out of Liberia?” You know, this was something that was at the

very *top* of their issue. It was at the White House Situation Room there, it was at the top; the CIA Operations Center there was at the top, because when you’re sitting there as a watch officer, when you see these topics come across your screen, you hit the “print” button, and you make sure that certain critical documents are available for the principals the next day.

That’s why I’m *certain* Dick Cheney saw Joe Wilson’s report. Because the White House Situation Room hit the “print” button. Dick Cheney didn’t *like* Joe Wilson’s report that was generated based upon his trip, because it didn’t support the notions that they wanted. But the knowledge at the White House level, just the way the bureaucracy works, there is no way in Hell, that these people were not being briefed on a regular basis on anything that had to do with Iraq acquiring uranium, and the possibility of reconstituting the nuclear program—no way.

Eisner: Is there any trail that could show that, in any possible way?

Wilkerson: I think there was another part to it, too, and I can’t confirm this. I wish I could. I think what happened, a lot of times, is when Libby, John Hannah, two key players in the Vice President’s office, Hannah being sort of the pin and Libby being the orchestrator, the hatchetman, if you will: When there was any debate over an intelligence item, they call Feith’s shop in the Defense Department. Feith’s shop was running an alternative intelligence operation. It was kind of weird, because what they did, was produce, for example, that 48-page script that Libby handed to Secretary Powell to take to the UN, or out to Langley, and then eventually to the UN. But whenever they had a question over a particular item of intelligence, they got confirmation, *not* from the intelligence analysts. They might check with them, and see what happened. But they got their final confirmation, and usually made the decision as to whether or not they would run with a talking point, from Douglas Feith’s shop, and from Steve Cambone—*not* from the people at Langley.

Question: I’d like to ask a couple of questions. You’ve done a good job of painting the culprits, identifying the culprits. But what were their motivations to get up there? Why are we there? Was it to drum up business for Halliburton? Was it oil? Was it Bush avenging his Daddy? I mean, why are we there? That’s Question #1.

Wilkerson: Let me take a shot at this, because this is what I’m teaching right now. I usually can throw a hierarchy up on the board for my students, and I say “Take a hit. And when you get through, I want you to defend each one, and then I want you to put them in priority.” And what I throw up there, it depends on the individual who’s advising the President, and it depends on what the President makes of that advice—but I

throw up there everything from the military-industrial-Congressional complex; have you seen what Lockheed's share price is now? It went from \$26 to about \$98. Man, when war is profitable, you have an influence!

I throw up oil. If you look at Paul Wolfowitz's comments in *Vanity Fair*, you'll see that Paul Wolfowitz said, very candidly, "this is all because Iraq is floating on a sea of oil." I throw up there, "democracy and freedom," the neo-con mantra: "We're going to bring utopian society to the world or die trying." And I throw up there other things, like Bush's psychology. This is a naive, untutored, not-steeped-in-foreign-policy President! With all these pachyderms around you, who are steeped in something! They're particularly steeped in the militarization of U.S. foreign policy. We elected a defense contractor Vice President of the United States! And a former Secretary of Defense! And a former Secretary of Defense as a Secretary as Defense! And a Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as the Secretary of State: Talk about militarizing America! That's what we did. And we got war.

The 'Doug Feith Story'

Lang: I decided, at the urging of my friends, to tell my Doug Feith story. I've done this in print before, so I'm not shy about it.

In the first year of the Bush Administration, I had a friend who's an old Army friend, who was working for Rumsfeld in hiring seniors over there. And so he called me up one day, and he asked me, I think you'd make a wonderful Assistant Secretary of Defense for Whatchamacallit. And I thought about that, and you know, I'm not a Republican. Actually, I'm a helluva lot more conservative than these neo-cons, that's for sure. So I thought, "that'd be interesting," so I said, "Go ahead." So, he put my name in the hopper, and I ended up going around the Stations of the Cross in the Pentagon, you know, you see all these offices, all these people.

And I finally end up one day, in the penultimate moment of this, in Doug Feith's office. And he was sitting there munching a sandwich while he was talking to me (which I thought was remarkable in itself), but he also had these briefing papers—they always had briefing papers, you know—about me. He's looking at this stuff, and he says, "I've heard of you. I heard of you." He says, "Is it really true that you really know the Arabs this well, and that you speak Arabic this well? Is that really true? Is that really true?"

And I said, "Yeah, that's really true."

He says, "That's too bad." [laughter]

That was the end of the interview. I'm not quite sure what he meant, but you can work it out.

Speaker: Thank you. A lot of pieces of information, but it's largely in response to the question the lady just had asked. It must have been about three or four years, that I too kept saying "Why?" Because I had come out of the former White House, you knew that White Houses don't puff up overnight,

and all of a sudden policy is made; that there is history and research. And without it, you're going to be in a lot of trouble with the Constitution and the country. And I would just like to suggest that I have read most all of the books that were put out—whether it was the CIA, what happened in Afghanistan, whether it was Osama bin Laden; or all of the other ones.

There was one book that goes, not back to Truman, but far enough back, that gives us an answer to her question why. And it isn't just energy, and it isn't just oil, and it isn't just Halliburton. But if you read *American Theocracy* by [Kevin] Phillips, you'll understand how we have, literally, from our complacency, from our interest in our own personal lives—you want to call it a cabal, of a whole set of believers, ideological believers, that you don't do research, you don't look at history, they know what the Bible taught them, and they were going to take over this country. And they did it, with patience, and with people who had been in government and knew where they were going. And Dick Cheney is one of them, and Rumsfeld was another one, and all of them. And they had a very gullible guy, in the name of George Bush, who was Mr. Happy-Guy in college, and if they'd just let him be a CEO—not a President—but a CEO, he could do what they wanted him to do, and he would give them the responsibility.

And we do have a broken government: And until we realize how we got to where we are, I believe that we will not be able to change.

Wilkerson: I think you're right, in many of your comments. I didn't mention some of the other things I throw up for my students. One of them, is, depending on if you believe Kevin, and I let them read some of his books, especially the *Financialization of America*, which is quite good. How many of you know we're in \$42 trillion in corporate and private debt, right now, for example? That's the largest debt in human history. You can even do it in constant dollars, and it's still the largest debt in human history, and we're talking Spain and the New World, and gold and silver and so forth. So we're really walking down a road that no one's ever been on before, and Kevin does a good job of pointing that out.

The evangelical/Pentecostal population in America, which is part of the radical religion right, is astounding. When I tell my students about it, when I show them the polling data; when I show them how many Americans believe in the inerrancy of the Bible; how many Americans don't believe in evolution; how many Americans don't believe in science, unless it's supported by God-theory. And I'm a Christian: But my grandmother didn't teach me this version of Christianity.

You're stunned! By some accounts, and some polls, there's as many as 48 million Americans out there, who are actively, politically, pursuing their agenda through people like Falwell, and Pat Robertson, and so forth. And when I see Mitt Romney and John McCain and people like that, go over and cater to these people, I understand why: It's all about power—



DOD photo/Helene C. Stikkel

The “Principals” in 2001 (left to right): President Bush, Vice President Cheney, then-Defense Secretary Rumsfeld; then-National Security Advisor Rice. “There is no way in Hell, that these people were not being briefed on a regular basis on anything that had to do with Iraq acquiring uranium, and the possibility of reconstituting the nuclear program—no way.”

but it turns my stomach. I don’t know about you. It bothers me, because I don’t see that as a reasonable, practical future for this country.

But there are other influences on decision-making. But I come back to the bottom line, which I always try to convince my students of: *This is the most colossally inept, and incompetent administration in American history.* And even with all these other influences, that’s the real bottom line.

9/11 Created the Opportunity

Question: I have a question. This question’s for you, and you, sir: How did the Bush Administration pull this whole thing off? How did they sneak this by the press? It seems that everyone in Europe was privy to information, that wasn’t privy here? How did they pull it off? These guys must be the most amazing people in the world. Everything you’re saying is true. I believe you. How did they pull it off? How did the press not get wind of this? And how did they get into this war?

Goodman: I mean, look, what you had take place—and I agree with Larry, and what Larry said with reference to the incompetence of this administration. On the one hand, they have carried out a covert action, or—when I worked at the CIA, I participated in the Afghan Task Force covert action to manipulate the press overseas, to help accomplish foreign policy objectives, and in this case, the press became both, in most cases, witting participants, and in some cases, unwitting. But we saw that spectacle of Judith Miller, Michael Gordon,

being leaked information by the White House, and then the White House fanning out very quickly with Condoleezza Rice and Dick Cheney, to say, “Boy! Look what’s in the press today!” Well, they knew how it got in the press.

And the ultimate irony here, is, on the one hand, the Bush Administration is very aggressive about leaking information which will help make their case; at the same time, they are pressing more aggressively than any administration in recent memory, in trying to shut down the press from reporting anything that is critical, whether it’s the Sy Hersh articles about Abu Ghraib, or the *Washington Post* pieces about the secret interrogation and the torture. And, in this case, we’ve had press become witting participants in it.

9/11 created the opportunity: It opened the door. They took full advantage of it. They used the fear factor to drive people forward, and it worked.

It’s not that there was nobody out there trying to raise the warning voice. Anthony Zinni was quite clear. Scott Ritter was quite clear. There were some members of Congress, that were speaking out. But people, by and large, chose not to be informed, not to listen, and now we’re in this mess that everyone recognizes, “Boy, wish we hadn’t driven off the cliff.” But we have.

Lang: You’re probably not going to like this, and that’s what I’m here for. You know, one of the things I learned from the aftermath of 9/11, and Mel kind of touched upon it, but I’ll touch on it too, is the fact that the American people are amazingly fearful, really. And the level of abject terror and unreasoning fear toward these jihadi networks that had been sent into this country, you know, it’s astonishing! Really, astonishing!

Like, a couple of days after 9/11, a friend of mine called me from Chicago; he’s a hugely rich guy. And he said to me, “Well, Pat,” he says, “you knew what kind of misspent life I’ve had.” He said, “Now we all live in your world.” In other words, a world filled with fear and danger, you see?

And I must say, that one thing that I’ve learned, is that people in this country didn’t handle this all that well. They were easy to bulldoze after this. And this administration was set up to do it, and if you look at it in the aftermath, it’s pretty obvious they had a deliberate campaign to manipulate where people were going. How many people here saw Bill Moyers’ piece on PBS about manipulating the press? Well, anybody who hasn’t should go find it. How the press was manipulated

in the run-up to the war, because he's got it just about right, and it's very obvious, that if you've dealt a lot with the media, as many of us have here in last several years, you saw that the modern generation of journalists are not like the old guys. They're not this guy, the fellow down at the other end of the table there [Royce]. You know, they're not like them, who are well educated men of the world. In fact, you know, you got a whole bunch of new, young people who are working the field, who are communications graduates, and journalism graduates, who are terrific on process, but zero on content. And they can be told anything, if they're told by a sufficiently highly prized source, and it's said over and over again.

And then, these news media are all really, large, corporate structures. And you get down the ladder in someplace like this, what goes on down there, that affects what happens in the news process, is pretty astonishing stuff. There's great deal of pressure put on by advertisers, things like this, to manipulate the content of the news, things like this.

So basically, folks: You've been had. You've been had, in a big way. And you'll probably be had again, actually.

Goodman: I would just say one other thing about the media: There was another period in my lifetime, and there are others who can look at it, you can look at the Indian wars from 1866 to 1890 and see how the politics of fear were exploited to kill Indians, Native Americans. But the period that we look at extensively is the McCarthy period, where you had a man with the stature of Dwight Eisenhower, for example, actually refusing to defend a man with the stature of George Marshall, because he needed some Wisconsin votes. And Eisenhower said, afterwards, when he'd been on the stand in Wisconsin with McCarthy, that it was the most revolting moment in his entire life—when he had to cater to McCarthy. And Truman actually had to change personnel policies and ruin *countless* American lives, because of the fear of communism, and the ideology of the Soviet Union. And after '49, when they exploded the bomb, it got worse.

But we've had periods like this before. I'd just like to point out that one of the agencies, the fourth estate in this case, that brought McCarthy down, was Edward R. Murrow, and the kind of educated, talented, intellectual, "I'm going to get you if you're abusing power" press. And we just don't have that any more. We came to a peak, sort of, with [Bob] Woodward and Watergate, and that sort of thing, but it was more for entertainment purposes, and started sort of the entertainment industry that the news has become, rather than for "speak truth to power" purposes, and to keep the abuse of power from plaguing people like you and me.

When our Founders set this whole thing up, you know, they set up understanding that we're all evil people, and if we get too much power, we'll all abuse it. And so, what they did, was, they designed a system where we'd abuse the power, and you'd abuse the power, but we'd check each other. And we've

let that get all out of kilter.

Eisner: We're just about out of time. One more question.

Congress Was AWOL

Question: I would like to hear you guys, some elaboration on who in this entire process has earned your respect? And I haven't also heard as much talk as maybe I would like, about how Congress plays games with the whole story?

Lang: My hero in this whole deal, is a guy you've probably never heard of, Gen. [David] McKiernan. He was the ground force commander for the preparation for the invasion of Iraq, and I visited him and his staff in Kuwait, shortly before the invasion, got to talk to staff, I talked to various people. And I would say [about] that guy: He fought Rumsfeld and those dumbbells in the office of the Secretary of Defense *every day*. *Every day!* All the time! Over what the troop list was going to be for Iraq.

I went to see the famous John Hannah at OVP [Office of the Vice President] one time, because somebody working there asked me to come over and talk to him. And this guy, as we're sitting there, he says to me, "Well, we're advised that all you need for this invasion is two armored brigades." You know, I'm not a good soldier in the war, but I know better than that. This is like 10,000 men, and 100 tanks or something like this. And I just laughed, I thought it was a joke. And then I saw it wasn't really a joke; they actually were thinking things like that.

When I got over to Kuwait, McKiernan's staff told me how they fought *every day*, for every piece of everything, because Rumsfeld—not only did he not accept the previously existing contingency plan for Iraq, which was a really well-done thing; but in fact, he rejected the entire process of planning! Of systematic planning that the Army had for generating a force properly sized for this. Instead, he said, "You tell me what you want, and I'll tell how much of it you can have, and when I'll give it to you."

Now, that's hard to run a war like this, on the basis like that, when you've got to bring stuff 6 or 7,000 miles, to start. And McKiernan and these guys, they fought that big fight all the way to the end, and they managed to have a big enough force to do the job. And I nominate McKiernan, as a hero.

Speaker: And the second part of your question was Congress, and Congress was absent without leave. The seminal study, intelligence study, about Iraq and weapons of mass destruction and what a bad guy Saddam was and all that, was the October 2002 National Intelligence Estimate. It was created at the insistence of *Congress*. Normally, they're done at the insistence of the Executive. This one was unusual. Tenet didn't want to have an NIE on Iraq, because, as he says in his book, the administration just was bored about intelligence about

Iraq. But Congress ordered this. When it finally came out in October, before Congress voted to authorize the war, six Senators and a handful of Congressmen read the entire report. It's 90 pages.

Now, here, they're preparing to vote on whether or not the United States goes to war. They don't bother to read the National Intelligence Estimate.

Wilkerson: I have to say, that, when I first started speaking publicly, the main issue was detainee abuse, and the corruption of your Armed Forces in this process. And so I got up-close and personal with a couple of people as we worked, as Colin Powell put a letter, for example, on the desk of every Senator, as John McCain was finally able to get that 99-0 vote, to essentially stop the Armed Forces from doing this kind of thing. And I'd known him before, and I know him well, now. I told him one day, I'm talking about Sen. Chuck Hagel, who's the only Republican I know who's really a Republican; and I told him, I said, "You know, we ought to bring out Kennedy's book again, *Profiles in Courage* and make an addendum for you." So, he's my hero in this.

Johnson: I think Carl Ford over at INR, standing up—they have a good track record. They were the intelligence analysts who got it right more often than not. But out in the media, John Landay and Warren Strobel at Knight Ridder; Sy Hersh—they were it. It was a lonely group.

Goodman: I can't provide names, but if I had to put a medal on one group, it would be the military lawyers, the JAGs, the Judge Advocates General. I think they stood up for principle, they stood up for military ethics, they stood up for the Uniform Code of Military Justice; and I would compare them to the CIA lawyers who've been trying to get exemptions for torture and abuse, who've been pursuing ways to allow secret prisons to take place for conducting the worst *fascist* policy I've ever heard of: "extraordinary renditions," which has involved turning innocent people over to countries that practice torture. It's kind of interesting, in the Tenet book, we talk about, and everyone believes, that al-Libi recanted, because he had been tortured and abused, and he recanted when he got out of prison. Tenet is probably the only person in the world, who doesn't believe in the recantation.

So, to me, the JAGs have really represented the best of America. They've understood what the Constitution is about, and they've understood what the Founding Fathers wanted from this country. And I'm sure there are some heroes on the Hill. Frankly, I'm not happy with the Military Commissions Act of 2006. I think McCain and [Sen. John] Warner and [Sen.] Lindsey Graham, in the end, caved in. I'm not pleased with what they did with that bill. As always, we're continuing to torture, to render, to use former Soviet Gulag institutions in East Europe for our own CIA secret prisons: It means there's

a disease in this country. And we better find a way to treat it.

Eisner: I have three points to make, and then to thank everyone. One is, that, in terms of nominating people, you've been—we've had the rare opportunity to listen to the four gentlemen to my side, who probably have about 100 years of intelligence and government experience among them, if not more. And to be saying the things that they're saying—you're

I think our Founding Fathers would be appalled, that in some 200-plus years, we never used that clause they put in our Constitution, except fecklessly, and in one case, successfully. The Articles of Impeachment that threatened Richard Nixon certainly were the reason he decided to resign. . . . And if you look at Clinton, and the peccadilloes for which they brought impeachment proceedings against him, as compared with the "high crimes and misdemeanors"—and that's a direct quote from Article II of the Constitution—with regard to Cheney and Bush, I think there's a helluva lot better case, with regard to Cheney and Bush.
—Lawrence Wilkerson

hearing experience, you're hearing dedication to careers, dedication to democracy, and positions that have not been easily taken, and walking a road that's not been easy. But words that need to be listened to, otherwise, to our peril.

So, I'd nominate them in answer to the question, and like to thank them all very much for coming to join us.

And a shameless plug for the book that can be bought—*The Italian Letter*—which attempts, in a nutshell, to tell you how we got to where we are, by putting together a story of baked intelligence which led to 16 words that were known not to be true at all.

Thanks very much for coming. We thank the University of the District of Columbia and the staff for helping us. And good night.

Book Review

Cooking the Books For an Unjust War

by Jeffrey Steinberg

The Italian Letter: How the Bush Administration Used a Fake Letter to Build the Case for War in Iraq

by Peter Eisner and Knut Royce

New York: Rodale, Inc., 2007

268 pages, hardbound, \$24.95

Peter Eisner and Knut Royce have written a profoundly important and disturbing account of how a cabal of neo-conservative ideologues in and around the offices of Vice President Dick Cheney and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, lied America into the disastrous war in Iraq. Rather than attempting a broad panoramic account, the authors, both top-flight investigative journalists with major newspapers, with more than a half-century of experience between them, decided to spell out the story of a particularly vital piece of forged evidence—a letter purporting to show that the Saddam Hussein regime had struck a deal with the government of Niger to obtain vast quantities of “yellowcake” uranium to build a nuclear bomb. The so-called “Italian Letter,” which was passed to the Bush Administration by the Italian intelligence service SISMI, was a cornerstone of the propaganda drive during 2002-2003, which deceived both the U.S. Congress and the American people into believing that Iraq was aggressively pursuing nuclear weapons, that would be used against American interests, or, even worse, shared with al-Qaeda terrorists. Hence the need to launch a preemptive war to overthrow Saddam Hussein.

The Italian Letter has all of the excitement of a John le Carré novel, with the added virtue that it is based exclusively on true events, impeccably researched, and coherently presented. Through the prism of the forged documents, the reader is given an insightful picture of a policy-making process gone terribly wrong; and an intelligence community intimidated by policy-makers into fudging and faking the truth, to provide a rationale for a policy decision long-since made.

Good Journalism and Good Intelligence

Before Peter Eisner and Knut Royce took up the challenge of investigating and reporting on the “Italian Letter,” a great deal had already been written about the role of the forged Niger documents, in making the case for war. A great deal of speculation had spread around about the origins of the forged letters, and much of the speculation had the virtue of painting a very sexy picture about intrigues involving some of the leading American neo-conservatives, Iraqi “Contra” leader Ahmed Chalabi, and some of the nastiest of the Pentagon warhawks.

Much of the speculation centered around the person of Michael Ledeen, the self-professed “universal fascist,” who had a long history of collusion with the Italian spook circles described by authors Eisner and Royce as the “deviated service,” a parallel corrupt intelligence apparatus, penetrated into every level of the SISMI and other Italian intelligence services. The “deviated service” overlapped the Propaganda Two (P2) Freemasonic Lodge of former wartime Nazi/Fascist operative Licio Gelli, who, to this day, is alive and active in the sewers that link elements of the Italian security services with extreme right-wing political circles that yearn for the return of “Il Duce.”

Other tantalizing versions of the Niger forgeries story implicated Iraqi National Congress fraudster Chalabi, former Iran-Contra CIA officer Duane Claridge, Bush-Cheney White House Terrorism Czar Gen. Wayne Downing, and Pentagon officials Harold Rhode and convicted Israeli spy Larry Franklin.

In each instance, there were tantalizing hints, suggesting that the grand theory was valid. As authors Eisner and Royce note, Michael Ledeen, Harold Rhode, and Larry Franklin were in Rome, Italy during a crucial period of time, in the Autumn-Winter of 2001, when details of the forged Niger documents first surfaced in the hands of SISMI officials. Ledeen, by his own admission, had been, at times, a contract security consultant to various Italian ministries and intelligence services.

Unfortunately, none of these sexy versions of the “Italian Letter” story have panned out—so far.

This is an important point—and a significant selling card for the Eisner-Royce book. Good investigative journalism, like good intelligence work, requires a level of intellectual honesty, as well as a good deal of rigor and doggedness in pursuit of all leads. Perhaps the most damning indictment of the Bush-Cheney White House, along with elements of the intelligence community, that comes out of *The Italian Letter*, is the fact that there was a near-compulsive willingness to selectively report facts to fit a predetermined picture. At the White House and the Pentagon, Cheney and his apparatus, waged war against anyone who surfaced a shred of intelligence that contradicted their predetermined drive for war with Iraq. As authors Eisner and Royce amply document, the

overwhelming preponderance of true intelligence revealed that there was never any justification for the invasion of Iraq.

In stark contrast to the Cheney cabal's perversion of the truth-seeking process that is at the heart of good intelligence work, the authors of *The Italian Letter* avoided all temptations to sensationalize the story, and stuck to the truth, even when it presented a very different account than the "Ledeen and the neo-cons and Chalabi did it" version that would have been the seeds of a runaway best-seller.

This said, *The Italian Letter* provides the reader with a very rigorous, well-composed account of one of the most damning intelligence hoaxes in modern history—a hoax that played a far-too-important role in the Bush-Cheney Administration's drive for war against Iraq.

There are, furthermore, some real bombshells sprinkled throughout the book's 241 pages, that go beyond all previously published accounts of the Niger forgeries.

Iraq's Man at the Vatican

"The Italian Letter" was a forged document from the government of the African state of Niger, that purported to contract the delivery of 500 tons per year of yellowcake uranium to Iraq. The document, dated July 27, 2000, was part of a larger cache of forged and stolen documents that were passed to *Panorama* journalist Elisabetta Burba by a SISMI informant named Rocco Martino, in Rome, on Oct. 7, 2002. A year earlier, on Oct. 15, 2001, officials of the SISMI had provided the CIA station in Rome with a report on the alleged Niger-Iraq yellowcake deal, which CIA officials had greeted with skepticism, but had reported back to Washington. In the immediate aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in Washington and New York City, no such sensational intelligence lead would have been dismissed outright.

Among the allegations bolstering the claims of Iraqi-Nigerean collusion in a clandestine nuclear weapons program was a report that a top Iraqi diplomat, involved in the secret arms program, had led a delegation to Niger in 1999. Indeed, Wissam al-Zahawie, the Iraqi Ambassador to the Vatican, had made a diplomatic visit to Niger on Feb. 5, 1999. But any connection to the alleged yellowcake plot ended there.

Despite various media claims that al-Zahawie was a specialist in nuclear weapons, and was part of Saddam Hussein's inner circle, delegated to boost Iraq's nuclear weapons ambitions, the fact is: The diplomatic mission to Niger and to several other African countries in 1999 was part of an effort to win Third World support for an end to United Nations sanctions on Iraq, following the "Operation Desert Fox" bombing campaign by the United States in late 1998. The urbane, English-speaking al-Zahawie had never been a member of the Ba'ath Party, had been in the Iraqi diplomatic corp since 1955, and had sought out the Vatican posting because it was devoid of intrigue. In fact, the entire embassy to the Vatican consisted of al-Zahawie and a secretary/assistant.

In a series of e-mail exchanges with the authors, al-Zahawie recounted his mission to Niger; and U.S. Embassy files from 1999 reflected the accuracy of his account. Al-Zahawie made it clear that he had no background on Africa, knew nothing about Niger, and had no idea that the impoverished African state had uranium deposits. Nevertheless, war propagandists like British journalist Christopher Hitchens made a brief splash with accusations that al-Zahawie was Saddam's "main man" on nuclear weapons, and, swimming in the gutter, accused the Iraqi diplomat of being a "Jew-hater." The "proof"? He had attended the Bayreuth Wagner festival with a German diplomat—the same Wagner festival that Hitler had attended in the 1930s.

It is these sorts of well-researched and otherwise unknown details that make *The Italian Letter* a particularly delightful indictment of the Cheney-Rumsfeld cabal.

CIA Not Let Off the Hook

While much of the story of the Niger yellowcake hoax centers on the obsessive drive to war by senior Administration officials, led by Cheney and Rumsfeld, the Eisner-Royce account hardly lets the CIA and other intelligence organizations off the hook, for their own failures and complicities.

The Italian Letter provides the most comprehensive non-classified account to date of the role of the CIA's Weapons Intelligence, Nonproliferation and Arms Control Center (WINPAC), in fueling the Iraq nuclear hoax. Not only was WINPAC chief Alan Foley a full partner in the White House neo-con campaign to justify the war with the frightening image of nuclear "mushroom clouds"—he colluded with NSC arms control officer Dr. Robert Joseph in penning the now infamous "16 words" in President Bush's 2003 State of the Union Address, citing British reports that "Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa." Foley frankly admitted to colleagues, as reported in *The Italian Letter*, that he knew prior to the Iraq invasion that there would be no WMD found there. Foley, according to the authors, was one CIA "careerist" who shamelessly sold out to White House policy-makers who were hell-bent on war, and only wished to see intelligence that bolstered the case for invasion. Given that the entire rationale for war centered around the bogus claim that Saddam Hussein was on the verge of obtaining a nuclear bomb, Foley's failure to "speak truth to power" was a colossal sellout.

With the issue of Vice Presidential impeachment now squarely on the table, *The Italian Letter* is not only a very good read, it forms a vital part of the evidence that should be presented before the House of Representatives, leading to the removal of Dick Cheney from office for high crimes and misdemeanors. It is a matter of patriotic duty for all serious citizens to study this book, to assure that our nation never again marches down the path to war on the basis of forged documents and willful lies.

Globalization Kills!

There is one root cause of the strategic crises in the world today, and its name is “Globalization,” the popular word for the British imperial financial empire which is destroying lives and nations. Until globalization is effectively countered by a return to the principles of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, especially in the major powers of Russia, China, India, and the United States, the world is headed for Hell.

With the results of the recent French election, it has become clear that the campaign for globalization has created a pattern of *ungovernability* throughout the nations of Europe, west of Russia, which will accelerate that process of world dissolution. In a discussion recently, Lyndon LaRouche explained:

“When you are pushing hard for globalization as a *fait accompli*, you are de facto destroying the ability of the nation state to cope. You are *deliberately* trying to discredit the nation state as an institution, and therefore weakening the nation state’s ability to make the necessary decisions for saving Europe.

“The European people, in general, are paying attention to their personal gripes, not national interests,” LaRouche added. “What Sarkozy represents is, the French population voting *against* its national interests. What it represents, as we covered, is a shift back to Vichy, in France. Away from de Gaulle. That’s the key to this thing. And therefore, now what you have, what we really should have, is, one has to look not at the particular issues as they appear. You have to look at that which underlies all the particular issues. The fact that Europe, Western and Central Europe, is putting itself through a process of ungovernability, through its capitulation to the programs of globalization, such as the green program. The green program is a globalization program.”

The ungovernability is not going to be restricted to France. As Helga Zepp-LaRouche points out in her article in this issue, Germany is also ungovernable, and the process of disintegration is proceeding apace in the nations which make up Great Britain. Italy is almost in a constant state of chaos, worsened today by the globalization process. And virtually every Eastern European nation is being made ungovernable by virtue of the de-

mands for economic “liberalization” under the European Union, which demands prevent these nations’ governments from acting for the welfare of their populations.

The Anglo-Dutch imperialists know that they are deliberately creating chaos; it’s actually part of the time-tested plan of preventing powerful and progressive nation-states from acting to curb their imperial power. The classic example of this process was the British instigation of World War I, which the British considered necessary to preventing the spread of the American System of economics to Germany, France, and Russia. All they had to do was provoke war between them--and the British financial powers could move in again.

Today, what the Anglo-Dutch imperialists fear is the revival of what LaRouche has called the FDR reflex, a process of the defense of the nation-state in the interests of the welfare of the population. This process is already highly visible in Russia, and driving the globalizers berserk. They are also terrified of the potential of such a revival in the United States, around the leading representatives of the FDR tradition, Lyndon LaRouche and his youth movement.

Unlike many Democratic politicians today, FDR understood that the purpose of the United States government was to put the interests of the *people*, ahead of those of the *markets* and the *banks*, and he was determined to use the powers of the government to accomplish that aim. He made lifelong enemies of the “moneychangers in the temple,” and put into effect the programs which built the bulk of the heavy infrastructure--schools, parks, dams, sewer systems, and more--which we still rely on today!

Just as FDR was acting from a deep cultural matrix, last exercised under President Abraham Lincoln, so a large portion of the American population *still* retains the germ of the republican impulse that led Americans to support Roosevelt. In a crisis, with FDR-style leadership, the FDR reflex could, and must, re-emerge.

That’s what the globalizers are desperate to prevent, and what patriots here and abroad must accomplish, before it’s too late.