

Haiti: Obama Decisions Led to Mass Death

by Dennis Small and Marcia Merry Baker

March 29—President Barack Obama is directly and personally responsible for tens, if not hundreds of thousands of preventable deaths that occurred in Haiti on his watch. By failing to mobilize the scientific, engineering, and logistical resources at the disposal of the United States, both off-the-shelf and quickly within reach, that are needed to address the Haiti earthquake and flooding disasters of 2010-11—precisely the same capabilities needed for preparedness for the current “Rim of Fire” dangers threatening the world—Obama stands guilty of impeachable crimes, as Lyndon LaRouche stated forcefully at the time.

Jan. 12, 2010: Haiti was hit by a magnitude 7 earthquake whose death toll may have reached 300,000 people, injuring 300,000 more, and leaving about 1.3 million homeless and displaced amid the rubble. Subsequent readings from the French DEMETER satellite showed anomalous increases in various electromagnetic waves in the quake area for about a month prior to the event. This means that, in principle, prior knowledge of such quakes, and thus preparedness, is distinctly possible.

Feb. 22, 2010: LaRouche issued an urgent call for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to work with the Haitian government to help evacuate up to a million people to secure sites, to be built outside the coastal flood plain where Haiti’s capital, Port-au-Prince, lies. If we do not act, LaRouche stressed, Haiti will soon face conditions in which dengue, cholera, malaria, typhoid, and other epidemics will spread, with devastating consequences. By failing to act, President Obama is implementing a policy of intentional British-dictated Malthusian genocide, and must be impeached, LaRouche stated. “How many Haitians are going to have to die before it becomes obvious that Obama has to be impeached?”

Feb. 25, 2010: Senior U.S. political figures personally knowledgeable about Haiti went to the White House and presented their own urgent proposal for the U.S. to help Haiti relocate hundreds of thousands of people to higher ground before the April-October heavy rain and hurricane season struck the island. At the most senior level, the Obama Administration instantly shot the pro-



UN Photo/Logan Abbassi

Devastation in the Haitian town of Jacmel, Jan. 12, 2010. President Obama pulled out the U.S. forces that could have made a difference.

posal down, like Nero turning his thumb down at the Roman Circus.

March 12, 2010: *EIR* (<http://tiny.cc/t7obq>) published a feature on Haiti, with an action plan of what to do to prevent otherwise certain mass deaths: “The concept of relocation is to prepare transitional mass housing at chosen sites in selected, relatively safe zones, in various departments. Then mass-move residents out of the vulnerable zones, into the new camps, where they can have lodging, education, and cultural programs, and most of all, the opportunity for productive work on priority construction projects, ranging from roads, to flood control, sewer systems, water supply, reforestation, farming, light industry, and new towns.” The study emphasized the role of existing U.S. capabilities: “The entire history and orientation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [shows that they] . . . are up to the job, including the tasks of mobile construction, camp-building, flood control, road upgrades, airstrip establishment, ports, and cargo-handling, etc.” *EIR* also urged that such a mission for the Army Corps in Haiti, would help rebuild its capabilities for larger-scale future use—such as the current Rim of Fire dangers.

That issue of *EIR* also exposed the direct British hand in ramming through the contrary policy for Haiti, in the person of Oxford University’s Prof. Paul Collier, a self-styled Haiti expert who was named Commander of the British Empire in 2008, and was a senior advisor to former Prime Minister Tony Blair. Collier advocated denying Haiti access to advanced technology and in-

frastructure, and imposing “limited sovereignty” to boot—policies adopted fully by the Obama Administration.

July 12, 2010: As of the six-month anniversary of the quake, there were still 1.5 million dislocated, vulnerable people throughout Haiti. Rainy season flooding was underway. “Shelter” consisted in toto of some 700,000 donated tarps, 40% of which were already in need of replacement. A grand total of 28,000 people had been moved into new homes. Almost none of the 25 million cubic yards of debris had been removed, despite the fact that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had devised and initiated an aggressive debris-management program right after the quake. U.S. military aid forces were down to a token 500 troops, from a high of 20,000 in late January (including a small Army Corps of Engineers contingent), and 12,500 as of Feb. 23.

The 1,000-bed *USNC Comfort*, which arrived in Haiti on Jan. 20, left on March 9, against the wishes of doctors on the ground who said the ship’s departure would be “catastrophic” for those Haitians needing medical care. A determination was made by the Obama Administration that the ship “was no longer needed.”

Mid-October 2010: A cholera epidemic erupted in Haiti, thought to originate in the contaminated Artibonite River region in the interior of the country.

Nov. 5, 2010: Hurricane Tomas struck Haiti. Although the brunt of the storm steered clear of the island, it produced sufficient rain and flooding to produce a new catastrophe among the homeless displaced. The number of cholera cases exploded, with the United Nations forecasting that over 400,000 cases would develop by April 2011, while experts from the University of San Francisco and Harvard Medical School warned in early 2011 that the number will be *double* that amount. At last report, on March 22, 2011, by the Haitian Health Ministry, official cholera fatalities had reached 4,749—although it is widely admitted that these official numbers vastly underreport actual cases.

All of this was foreseeable, foreseen, and publicly warned about by Lyndon LaRouche. The resulting death and devastation—the result of London’s policy of intentional, Malthusian inaction—lie squarely on President Obama’s doorstep. Remove him from office before he does the same to California, around a potential upcoming great quake centered on the San Andreas fault, or similiar event.