

### *Ending a Century of War?*

It has been nearly a century now since the launch of what is called World War I in August 1914, a century of almost perpetual warfare, set in motion by a British Empire determined to dominate the world, and destroy any potential challenger. We now are reaching a new branching point: Either we supersede this imperial system in the very near term, or face the very real potential for the extermination of mankind through thermonuclear war.

Indeed, the heirs of those who launched World War I are still with us—and controlling the President of the United States, who is threatening to launch that next world war.

There have been two glimmers of hope for breaking this deadly cycle within this last century. The first came with the vision of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who, even as he agreed to mobilize the world's most impressive military-industrial machine to win the war against the Nazis, insisted on laying out a vision of a post-war world based on the end of empire, with a system of sovereign nation-states committed to what he called the Four Freedoms. As FDR put it in his discussions with his son Elliot, who reported it in *As He Saw It*, as long as there is imperialism, there will be war.

FDR's vision was almost entirely buried with him, as de facto British puppets such as Harry Truman took over the U.S. Presidency. And while President John F. Kennedy understood enough about the imperial genesis of world wars—including by reading Barbara Tuchman's *Guns of August*—to stop a thermonuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union, his assassination prevented him from following FDR's vision.

The second glimmer came with the initiative by Lyndon LaRouche for making nuclear weapons obsolete, specifically, his beam weapon defense

program which was proclaimed by President Reagan in 1983 as the Strategic Defense Initiative. The SDI concept called for collaboration among the world's leading nation-states to move the planet beyond war, toward what physicist Edward Teller called the "common aims of mankind."

But the British were also able to bury that concept, at least temporarily. Ironically, it has been Russia—whose previous government nixed the plan—which has repeatedly offered collaboration on an updated SDI. The most recent offer broadens the concept even further, to that of building a space-based system for the Defense of Earth.

Yet the Empire and its puppets refuse to say yes. Despite the fact that the Russians have made it absolutely clear that a strategy of overriding national sovereignty, whose principles still form the basis of the United Nations process, will inevitably lead to a thermonuclear war, that is the path that the Obama Administration, in particular, has chosen. U.S. military leaders have vigorously opposed this path, pointing to the disaster to which it will lead. Yet Obama is pushing ahead—as the escalation toward military interventions in Syria and Iran, show.

How will saner heads prevail? The first step must be to realize that the Obama Administration's commitment to pursuing its war strategy is suicidal, and can only be stopped by removing him from power. That's radical action, to be sure, but entirely constitutional. But what could better justify radical action than the determination to stop a global thermonuclear confrontation that could wipe out life on Earth?

The cycle of perpetual war is not closed by a new war, but by a new system based on collaboration among nations for scientific progress. We need it now.