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Libya Was the First Shot in Empire's Drive for WWIII
LaRouche Calls for a Science-Driver Recovery
Candidates Fight To Reverse 'Clinton's Terrible Mistake'

The Obama-al-Qaeda Connection Unveiled



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EIR

From the Managing Editor

You would think that when the U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (Gen. Martin Dempsey) and the Director of National Intelligence (Gen. James Clapper) say that al-Qaeda is responsible for recent suicide bombings in Syria, people would listen. You would think it would be the lead story in the press, that Congressional investigations would gear up, that the President would address the nation, saying that the U.S. is withdrawing support from the al-Qaeda-infiltrated Syrian opposition and will henceforth work with Russia for dialogue between President Assad and peaceful protesters who are demanding legitimate reforms.

But if so, you'd be wrong. This news has been almost universally blacked out. That is why we at *EIR* are devoting our *Feature* to the story of Obama, Osama, and the British Empire's drive for terrorism and war.

In *International*, we complement this report with updated news analysis: The lead article situates current developments in the context of the despicable R2P ("responsibility to protect") doctrine of Obama's National Study Directive #10, issued during the unconstitutional war against Libya. This doctrine turns the United States into a global policeman, under the condescending pretext of bringing "democracy" to nations that have not yet figured out that they should be running their countries according to the model of the Republican primaries. The Libya War was the test case, and Syria and Iran are to be next, according to Obama and his British controllers. We publish excerpts from an article by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin which makes clear that the Russians see through this ploy, and realize that it is *they* who are targeted. In a guest commentary, Ukrainian political leader and economist Natalia Vitrenko traces the "Get Putin Out" campaign to the global financial interests that abhor his efforts to develop an independent Russian industry and infrastructure.

A special feature is our interview with the Iranian ambassador to Germany, Ali Reza Sheikh Attar, who offers unique historical and cultural insights into the current conflict.

With this issue, we begin our coverage of the Schiller Institute's Feb. 25-26 conference in Berlin on the theme of "Securing Mankind's Future," with Lyndon LaRouche's speech and the discussion that followed it. More next week!

Susan Welsh

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FEMA/Andrea Booher

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Obama-al-Qaeda-Mujahideen Connection Unveiled

by an EIR Investigative Team

Feb. 22—British puppet President Barack Obama has entered into an alliance with two of the world's leading terrorist organizations—al-Qaeda and the Mujahideen-e-Khalq (MEK)—in his zeal to overthrow the present governments in Syria and Iran. The Obama-al-Qaeda marriage of convenience goes deep; it centers on the drive to overthrow the Bashar al-Assad government in Damascus, through an armed opposition.

U.S. intelligence agencies are aware that the so-called Free Syrian Army (FSA) has no actual military capabilities inside Syria, and consists largely of a group of defectors from the regular Syrian Army who are safe-housed on military bases inside Turkey. All of the significant military actions targeted at the Syrian government have been carried out by al-Qaeda terrorists, who have infiltrated the country from Iraq. The suicide bombings in Damascus and Aleppo, the assassinations of Syrian government and military officials, and the sabotage of pipelines and other infrastructure have all been carried out by al-Qaeda. Despite evidence presented by U.S. intelligence agencies, President Obama continues to join hands with the new al-Qaeda head, Ayman al-Zawaheri, in calling for the violent removal of President Assad from power.

The idea that the President of the United States is so blatantly in bed with the terrorists who carried out the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001 should be sufficient grounds for his immediate removal from office, under the impeachment provisions of the U.S. Constitution (Article 2, Section 4), or for reasons of incompetence as specified in Section 4 of the 25th Amendment.

Last year, following the U.S. Navy SEAL Team's killing of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, President Obama all but turned cartwheels in claiming credit for the act. Now, he is allied with the very same 9/11 perpetrators in pushing for a war in the Persian Gulf that will rapidly expand into a global thermonuclear confrontation with Russia and China.

The British Role

As well-documented in *EIR*,[1] the al-Qaeda attacks of 9/11 were carried out with the full support of the Anglo-Saudi Al-Yamamah apparatus. Under the Al-Yamamah oil-for-arms deal, launched in 1985, and continued through to the present, British intelligence and the Saudi monarchy created a string of offshore covert operations funds, which directly financed the 9/11 attacks. Al-Yamamah funds, in excess of $2 billion, were funneled to Saudi Prince and Ambassador to the United States Bandar bin-Sultan, and at least $50,000 of that went to the San Diego-based team of 9/11 hijackers. A Joint Congressional Select Committee, probing the

1. For example, see: Jeffrey Steinberg, "Scandal of the Century Rocks British Crown and the City," *EIR*, June 22, 2007; Ramtanu Maitra, "How al-Qaeda Is a British-Saudi Project," *EIR*, Aug. 12, 2011; and much more at: http://www.larouchepub.com/

9/11 attacks in 2002, found evidence of the Bandar-al-Qaeda funding, but the 28-page chapter detailing this evidence was suppressed by the George W. Bush White House. At the start of his administration, President Obama promised family members of the 9/11 victims that he would release the 28 pages, but he never kept his promise, and moved to further suppress the evidence of Al-Yamamah angle on the attacks, thus protecting his British masters along with the Saudi Royals.

To this day, former Sen. Bob Graham (D-Fla.), who co-chaired the Congressional probe, insists that the cover-up of the Saudi monarchy's complicity in the attacks must be exposed publicly.

President Obama's embrace of the 9/11 terrorists, after the fact, constitutes a scandal of enormous proportions for this Administration, and underscores the hypocrisy of Obama's efforts to exploit the bin Laden assassination, while he colludes with the remnants of al-Qaeda.

The same is true of the President's collusion with the Mujahideen-e-Khalq, an Iranian terrorist group that has been on the U.S. State Department's list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations since the list's inception in 1997. The MEK assassinated a number of U.S. military personnel in Iran in the 1970s, actively participated in the 1979 Iranian Revolution, and then fled to Iraq and allied with Saddam Hussein, after they were purged from the Islamic Republic leadership.

In recent weeks, the MEK has been linked to the assassinations of Iranian scientists. This week, the *Bangkok Post* revealed that Thai authorities believe that MEK terrorists were behind foiled attempts to attack Israeli officials. Those attacks were loudly blamed on the Iranian government, and fed the drive to launch military action against Iran.

While the Obama Administration has attempted to keep its distance from the assassinations and bombings and other acts of sabotage inside Iran over the past two years, the MEK has been protected by U.S. military forces at Camp Ashraf inside Iraq, ever since the U.S. invasion of that country in March 2003.

10 Years Later

An LPAC-TV Feature Film



Eight months before the September 11, 2001 attacks, Lyndon LaRouche forecast that the United States was at high risk for a Reichstag Fire event, an event that would allow those in power to manage, through dictatorial means, an economic and social crisis that they were otherwise incompetent to handle. We are presently living in the wake of that history.

http://larouchepac.com/10yearslater

Obama and al-Qaeda

Partners in Promoting Thermonuclear War

President Barack Obama and al-Qaeda share one thing in common: They are both assets of the British financial oligarchy. This new-found union should come as no surprise to those who understand how the U.K. and U.S. have used al-Qaeda in the past, and those who understand how Obama's fragile psyche makes him the perfect candidate to throw the United States into a thermonuclear war, beginning with the recent attempts at regime-change in Iran and Syria at the behest of the British. Will the American people take away the major tool of the British oligarchy by removing Obama from office? If we don't, we may not make it to the November elections.

Here is the script of an LPAC video dated Feb. 21, titled: "Obama and al-Qaeda: Two Peas in a Thermonuclear Pod."

The United States has come full circle. Ten years after the attack on the World Trade Center and the cover-up of the true string-pullers of that crime, the United



A decade on from 9/11, and the cover-up of the true authors of that crime, the Obama Administration is allied with al-Qaeda terrorists in the illegal regime-change operation in Syria. Shown: the World Trade Center after the impact; Osama bin Laden.

States, once the fearless enemy of al-Qaeda, is now working hand-in-hand with the terrorist group in the illegal regime-change operation now in Syria, in what should be considered not only a slap in the face to the American people, who were thrown into the unnecessary wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and were told to rip up the Constitution in the name of national security, but should be considered by all accounts tantamount to treason.

If that is not enough to convince the American citizen to act now to remove this President from office before the November elections, perhaps the intention of this new-found collaboration between the Obama government and al-Qaeda, namely to draw Russia and China into a thermonuclear war with shades of the Cold War which the original al-Qaeda organization came out of, might light the fire underneath our people.

Were there to be an overthrow of the Assad government in a similar fashion that had occurred in Libya, it would be a bigger fraud than the Iraq War, while continuing to cover up the British in their role as the authors of terrorism.

On Jan. 27, 2012, the Arab League Observer Mission which monitored the sequence of events in Syria from Dec. 24, 2011 to Jan. 18, 2012, with the cooperation of the Syrian government, released a report on the situation in Syria which has been subsequently buried in the mainstream press, and withheld from the UN Security Council meeting in the debate over the resolution to remove Syrian President Bashar al-Assad from power that was vetoed by Russia and China. The report documented that not only were the killings of innocent civilians, including the incident in Homs which killed hundreds, not committed by the Assad government as it was claimed, but rather:

"In Homs, Idlib, and Hama, the Observer Mission witnessed acts of violence being committed against Government forces and civilians that resulted in several deaths and injuries. Examples of those acts include the bombing of a civilian bus, killing eight persons and injuring others, including women and children, and the bombing of a train carrying diesel oil.

"Some of those attacks have been carried out by the Free Syrian Army and some by other armed opposition groups."

The body-count reports carried in the media, and reported at the UN about Syria were also found to be British-crafted lies and exaggerations, coming right out of London through the Syrian Observatory on Human Rights—a British monarchy creation that was funded by the murderous Bush-Cheney regime beginning in 2006, and which has continued to receive U.S. funding under Barack Obama.

The Arab League report also stated:

"The Mission also noted that, according to its teams in the field, the media exaggerated the nature of the incidents and the number of persons killed in incidents and protests in certain towns. . . .

"Arab and foreign audiences of certain media organizations have questioned the Mission's credibility be-

cause those organizations use the media to distort the facts."

The report has since been rescinded and the Arab League released a new report, which conforms to the British regime-change line; the Arab League member who authored the report was replaced.

Less than a month after the original Arab League report was leaked, on Feb. 10, the McClatchy News Service published a report by Washington, D.C. correspondent Jonathan Landay, confirming from U.S. intelligence officials that al-Qaeda was responsible for a string of suicide bombings in Damascus and Aleppo, which killed hundreds of civilians and wounded many more:

"The Iraqi branch of al Qaida, seeking to exploit the bloody turmoil in Syria to reassert its potency, carried out two recent bombings in the Syrian capital, Damascus, and likely was behind suicide bombings Friday that killed at least 28 people in the largest city, Aleppo, U.S. officials told McClatchy. The officials cited U.S. intelligence reports on the incidents, which appear to verify Syrian President Bashar Assad's charges of al Qaida involvement in the 11 month uprising against his rule."

—Jonathan Landay

Despite both the Arab League Report and Mr. Landay's intelligence estimate, President Obama repeated his denunciation of President Assad, calling for his removal from power and accusing him of "outrageous bloodshed." Just two days later, Ayman al-Zawahiri, the cofounder and nominal head of al-Qaeda, issued an eight-minute video, calling for a Jihad against the Assad government, joining Obama, and further confirming the U.S. intelligence estimates of the group's on-the-ground operations in Syria.

In effect, al-Qaeda has been once again integrated into U.K., U.S., and NATO covert operations. It was during the first Afghanistan War (1979-90) that al-Qaeda was created, as part of the U.S., British, and Saudi Arabian "mujahideen" operations to drive the Soviet Army out of the country.

"We also have a history of kind of moving in and out of Pakistan. I mean let's remember here, the people we are fighting today, we funded 20 years ago, and we did it because we were locked in this struggle with the Soviet Union. They invaded Afghanistan and we did not want to see them control Central Asia, and we went to work. And it was President Reagan in partnership with the Congress, led by Democrats, who said, "You know what? Sounds like a pretty good idea. Let's deal with the ISI and the Pakistani military, and let's go recruit these mujahideen. That's great. Let's get some to come from Saudi Arabia and other places, importing their Wahhabi brand of Islam. so that we can go beat the Soviet Union. . . ."

—Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, April 23, 2009

During that period, an immense asymmetric warfare capability would be built up in Southwest Asia. The United States, Great Britain, Saudi Arabia, Israel, and others would each contribute billions to the effort over the course of that ten years.

The funds would go toward building a financial nexus to support clandestine operations. Banks like the BCCI were established, to serve all irregular warfare functions from covert funding of the mujahideen, the Taliban, and al-Qaeda, to facilitating the massive British and American arms flows into the region, even to aiding the Pakistani nuclear weapons program.

The funds would also enable the buildup of the now trillion-dollar dope trade out of a region where, prior to 1979, there were virtually no opium plantations or heroin refining.

"On behalf of British intelligence, Bernard Lewis sold to Brzezinski and the Carter Administration the idea that they should promote Islamic fundamentalism, running across what they called the 'Arc of Crisis,' or the 'Crescent of Crisis' policy. And what Bernard Lewis argued, was that you could create an entire zone of instability, along this southern region of the Soviet Union, by promoting Islamic fundamentalism. Brzezinski bragged about the fact that he had gotten President Carter to sign off on an intelligence finding in the early Spring of 1979, activating what would become the Islamic fundamentalist, Afghan mujahideen apparatus."

—Jeffrey Steinberg, "9/11: Ten Years Later"

It was from this Anglo-American and Saudi-sponsored irregular-warfare apparatus, that Osama bin Laden, for example, was recruited as the trusted intermediary between the Afghan warlords and Saudi intelligence, serving the same function for the British and American interests in the region. Following the war, Osama re-



State Department/Michael Gross

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, in testimony to Congress on April 23, 2009: "Let's remember here, the people we are fighting today, we funded 20 years ago.…" Clinton is shown here in May 2009.

mained a protected asset. In exchange, he would be given safe haven in London, where he maintained a fabulous private residence in the wealthy suburb of Wembly until the year 2000, just one year before the British/Saudi attacks on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001.

The fact that Britain harbors terrorists of all colors and creeds, but particularly of the Islamic jihadi varieties, since the British Empire basically drew the map of the Islamic countries since the 19th Century, and remained their "protector," is well established.

In 2001, a French parliamentary report exposed the connection between the drug money laundered through the City of London and the terrorists.

It notes that up to 40 companies, banks, and individuals based in Britain can legitimately be suspected of maintaining direct or indirect relations with the terrorists. The report is based on interviews with senior Metropolitan Police officers, leading City financial regulators, and European judges investigating cross-border financial crimes in Spain, Belgium, and France.

"This document clearly shows the great permeability of the British banking and financial system and the fragility of the controls operated at its points of entry.…

"The convergence of financial and terrorist interests, apparent particularly in Great Britain and in Sudan, does not appear to have been an obstacle with regard to the objectives pursued [by bin Laden].…

"The conjunction of a terrorist network attached to a vast financing structure is the dominant trait of operations conducted by bin Laden.…"

—French parliamentary report, 2001

In 2000, the Lyndon LaRouche organization prepared a memorandum for delivery to then-Secretary of State Madeline Albright, whose contents included a request to launch an investigation pursuant to placing Great Britain on the list of states sponsoring terrorism. Had that action been taken, we might have been able to shut down Britain's use of terrorism and would have avoided the 9/11 attacks.

Despite the overwhelming evidence of Britain's role in launching those attacks and controlling terrorism on a mass scale, the United States had ground itself up in two unnecessary wars under the leadership of British stooges George W. Bush and Barack Obama. The latter is not only continuing the 9/11 legacy, but escalating it to unimaginable proportions.

The killing of Muammar Qaddafi coincided with the accelerating collapse of the trans-Atlantic economy. With that reality threatening to wipe out the British financial oligarchy, war became the only option to salvage that collapsing financial empire, by the threat of nuclear war and population reduction. The Qaddafi killing was no liberating act of democracy.

Al-Qaeda allies from the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group were an integral part of the U.S. and NATO-led coalition that ousted Qaddafi from power and then executed him, while in custody. These are the same forces that have now found their way into Syria, arming and deploying with the Syrian opposition.

On Feb. 10, the Italian daily *Corriere della Sera* reported that the British-controlled Libyan Legion deployed in Syria against Assad. The leader of the legion is al-Qaeda member Mahdi al-Harati, who had led the Tripoli Brigade together with Abdelhakim Beljay. Al-Harati has bases in Dublin and in Qatar. His people, ranging from about 200 to 600, have been in Syria

since December. They do not carry the protest signs of innocent civilians, but rather, have night-vision binoculars, satellite connections, and kalashnikovs, and are supported by Qatari, Saudi, and British special forces, supplied through cargoes from Lebanon, Turkey, and other border crossings.

Syrian television has been showing almost daily shipments of arms being smuggled into Syria, and since the rebels are being supported by the Gulf Cooperation Council and by NATO, it is safe to assume that they are getting their financing and weaponry from the same sources that are offering them political cover and financial backing: the British.

Furthermore, British and Qatari troops are now inside Syria, and four centers of operation have been established in the country, with the troops on the ground paving the way for an undercover military incursion that is on its way to sparking the overthrow of Assad, chaos in the Middle East, and potential thermonuclear confrontation with the only visible opposition to this entire scheme, Russia and China.

Conclusion

Al-Qaeda, and terrorism generally, have been just one of the methods used by the British financial empire to destroy nations, but what the American citizen must confront is not why Obama and al-Qaeda are collaborating in the overthrow of Assad, but rather, identifying and confronting the real enemy acting from the outside, uniting the two. What do Obama and al-Qaeda have in common? They are both owned and deployed by the British Empire. The history of terrorism and the history of this Administration demonstrate that, for all who have the courage to face it and all its implications.

The only question that remains is are you, the American citizen, going to allow yourself to be manipulated, one way or the other, against this "enemy" or that, in the age-old British game of divide and conquer? Or are you going to finally recognize that the real enemy is the British Empire itself, and that the number one terrorist that empire is using now, is not some rogue organization waiting to invade our territory, but a rogue, nonetheless, that currently exists inside our country, occupying the chief office of the United States of America.

Therefore the new war on terror should rightly be called from here on out "the war to remove Obama from office now."

Documentation

Explosive Evidence Of Saudi-9/11 Link

by Edward Spannaus and Jeffrey Steinberg

Here are excerpts from a Sept. 16 EIR article entitled, "More Explosive Evidence of Saudi Support for 9/11 Hijackers."

Sept. 19—Calling it "the most important thing about 9/11 to surface in the last seven or eight years," former Sen. Bob Graham of Florida, who chaired the Congressional Joint Inquiry into the 9/11 terrorist attacks, is calling on President Obama to investigate new disclosures linking Saudi nationals living in Sarasota, Fla., to the 9/11 hijackers.

"It's very important for the White House to take control of this situation," Graham told the *St. Petersburg Times* on Sept. 10. "The key umbrella question is: What was the full extent of Saudi involvement prior to 9/11 and why did the U.S. administration cover this up?"…

Sarasota House Linked to Hijackers

The disclosures to which Graham is referring, were published in the *Miami Herald* on Sept. 7, revealing that two weeks before the 9/11 hijackings, a wealthy Saudi family which had been in contact with 9/11 hijackers Mohamed Atta and others, abruptly fled from their luxury home near Sarasota.

The house was owned by Saudi financier Esam Ghazzawi, and occupied by his daughter Anoud, her husband Abdulazzi al-Hiijjii, and their young children. According to the story written by author Anthony Summers and local reporter Dan Christensen, law enforcement agents found records of telephone calls with a number of the hijackers, including Atta; security records of the gated community also showed visits by vehicles owned by Atta and by another hijacker, Zaid Jarrah.

Atta, Jarrah, and Marwan al-Shehhi were all living within 10 miles of Ghazzawi's house, and were taking flying lessons in nearby Venice. Analysis of phone records from Ghazzawi's house showed contact with 11 other terrorism suspects, including Walid al-Shehhi, who was with Atta on the first plane to hit the World

Trade Center on Sept. 11.

Neighbors said that Ghazzawi's family bragged of his ties to the Saudi royal family. This appears to be no idle boast: During the 1990s, British court documents pertaining to the investigations of BCCI (Bank of Credit and Commerce International) revealed that Ghazzawi held funds for Saudi Prince Fahd bin Salman, a nephew of the late King Fahd. Fahd's father, Prince Salman bin Abdel Azziz, governor of Riyadh Province, was also the co-director of the Saudi intelligence service, along with Prince Turki bin Faisal. Turki abruptly resigned (or was sacked) 10 days before the 9/11 attacks—around the same time that the Ghazzawi family abruptly fled Florida—and Turki left Washington on Sept. 4, 2001.

Saudi Support Network

In a Sept. 15 interview on "Democracy Now," Graham described the Saudi "support network" for the 9/11 terrorists that the Congressional Inquiry uncovered in San Diego, Calif., adding that, "We've just learned about another pod of this network in Sarasota."

"What we know to date is that there was a wealthy Saudi family living in a gated community near Sarasota, which had numerous contacts with Atta, the leader of the hijackers, and two others who were doing their pilot training near Sarasota. We also know that this family left the United States under what appear to be very urgent circumstances on Aug. 30, 2001, just before 9/11."

Graham stressed that the FBI did not tell the Congressional Inquiry about the Saudi contacts in either San Diego or Sarasota. Graham also cited the suppression of the final 28-page section of the Joint Inquiry's report, which was entirely blanked out and kept secret from the public, on the orders of former President George W. Bush, and which is still being withheld by the Obama Administration.

The Sarasota revelations parallel earlier information about a Saudi government employee who had lived in

9/11-Linked Saudi National Now Oil Exec in London

Feb. 19—In an update on the explosive story that former U.S. Sen. Bob Graham (D-Fla.) last year called "the most important thing about 9/11 to surface in the last seven or eight years," it was reported by the London *Telegraph* Feb. 18 that Saudi national Abdulaziz al-Hijji, who fled abruptly from his home in Sarasota, Fla., just weeks before the 9/11 attacks, has been residing comfortably in London since 2003, working for the British branch of the Saudi Aramco oil company.

Last September, it was reported that hijackers Mohamed Atta and Marwan al-Shehhi had visited al-Hijji's residence in a gated community several times before the 9/11 attacks, as had another al-Qaeda operative, Adnan Shukrijumah, who is on the FBI's most wanted list with a $5 million bounty offered for his capture.

Simultaneously, a story in the *Broward [Fla.] Bulldog* reports that al-Hijji considered Osama bin Laden a "hero," according to an informant interviewed by the FBI and Florida law enforcement officials in 2004. The informant, Wissam Taysir Hammoud, is now serving 21 years in Federal prison after pleading guilty in 2005 to weapons violations and attempting to kill a Federal agent and a witness in an earlier case against him. Hammoud reaffirmed his previous statements about al-Hijji to the FBI in recent interviews.

The *Bulldog* has obtained Florida Department of Law Enforcement reports, which provide new details on the story. Hammoud told officials that he and al-Hijji worked out together at Shapes Fitness in Sarasota and played soccer at the local Islamic Society. He said that al-Hijji was "very well schooled in Islam" and that "Osama bin Laden was a hero of al-Hijji." He added that al-Hijji showed him a "website containing information about bin Laden," and spoke of "going to Afghanistan and becoming a freedom fighter."

According to Hammoud, al-Hijji also talked of "taking flight training in nearby Venice [Fla.]," where a number of hijackers trained. He said he believed "al-Hijji had known some of the terrorists from the September 11, 2001 attacks," who were students at an airport there. Hammoud's wife and sister-in-law confirmed during recent interviews that they too knew the al-Hijjis, and are familiar with elements of Hammoud's account.



Miami Herald

Recent revelations in the Miami Herald linking a wealthy Saudi family with the 9/11 hijackers were characterized by former Sen. Bob Graham as "the most important thing about 9/11 to surface in the last seven or eight years." Here is the paper's online edition, showing 9/11 terrorist leader Mohammed Atta.

California for years, Graham said. As *EIR* has reported since 2007, that man, Omar al-Bayoumi, had paid for a San Diego apartment for two of the hijackers, funneled money to them, and then left the United States in July 2011. Graham thinks Bayoumi and the Sarasota husband and wife, as well as her wealthy father, could have helped form a shadow support system for the hijackers.

"These 19 people did not play out this plot as lone wolves," Graham said. "The chances that 19 people, most of whom had never been in the U.S., who did not speak English, and most of whom did not know each other, could have completed training, practiced and executed such a complicated plot, defies common sense.

"My assumption had been that they had some support system that was already in place in the United States, which facilitated their activities. We learned a lot about such a facilitation in San Diego. Now we're beginning to learn about Sarasota. The question in my mind is, what happened in places like Arlington, Va.; Paterson, New Jersey; Phoenix, Arizona; Delray Beach, Fla., where we know hijackers lived for a considerable period of time? Were there similar facilitators in those communities?"

Graham believes that the intelligence networks that were used to support the 9/11 hijackers, were created by the Saudis after the first Gulf War, to monitor the activities of Saudi students who were studying in the U.S., to ensure that Saudi leaders did not suffer the same fate as the Shah of Iran. This is consistent with what *EIR* reported as far back as 2007: that Bayoumi was suspected by the Arab community in San Diego of being an agent for Saudi intelligence, who was keeping tabs on Saudis in the area, especially Saudi students attending college in southern California. . . .

Sectarian War Threat In Southwest Asia

by Hussein Askary

Here are excerpts from an article under the same title, that first appeared in the Jan. 20, 2012 EIR.

Jan. 11—It is no exaggeration to say that the U.S. government under President Barack Obama has entered an alliance, planned and mediated by Great Britain and its intelligence agencies, with the remnants of al-Qaeda and sundry other Islamist terrorist groups, to overthrow the governments of North Africa and Southwest Asia. The British aim is to use local conflicts and wars to implement their long-advocated plan of reducing the world's population, through letting its rivals the United States, Russia, and China bleed each other to death and ruin civilization all around them.

The policy, which was initiated in 2006 by the Cheney-Bush Administration, to spark sectarian war in Southwest Asia to divide and conquer the region and use it as a launching pad for global wars, is intensifying under President Obama. While Russia and China have spoiled the British Empire's timetable for war against Syria and Iran immediately after Libya, regional assets such as Saudi Arabia and its allies in Lebanon, Turkey, and now Qatar are activating "Plan B," by creating a bloody pretext on the streets of Syria for international military intervention.

The plan, initiated during a visit by then-Vice President Dick Cheney to Saudi Arabia, was to create a Sunni alliance of the Gulf States, Jordan, Egypt, and Sunni forces in Lebanon to counter an alleged Shia Crescent consisting of Iran, Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and Shia groupings in Iraq. The tool of choice was the minority Salafi/Wahhabi militant Sunni movement (of which al-

Qaeda is just one asset). It might sound strange that the same jihadi forces which the U.S. is allegedly at war with are at this moment allies in the British-American war drive against Syria and Iran. The main clue is the Anglo-Saudi alliance,[1] which goes back to British support at the beginning of the 20th Century for creation of the al-Saud/Wahhabi kingdom over most of the Arabian Peninsula. The Anglo-Saudis used the jihadist movement to fight Russia in Afghanistan and the Caucasus, and attacked the United States on Sept. 11, 2001 to start the global war on terrorism, which is continuing to destroy nations in South Asia and Southwest Asia.



The London-based terrorist leader Omar Bakri Muhammad is being given space in a Saudi state-run newspaper to call for violent overthrow of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Target: Syria

The recent suicide attacks against the Syrian capital and in Iraq carry the hallmarks of Salafi terrorism. The Saudi-Qatar-Turkey-backed so-called Syrian Free Army is simultaneously targeting Alawite[2] security and political forces, to give the conflict a sectarian character. Although dominated by the ruling Assad family's Alawite connections, the Syrian government and the ruling Ba'ath Party are secular and socialist. Their relationship to Iran is based on strategic interests, not religious ones. Syria has long been the supporter of the nominally Sunni Palestinian group Hamas.



Sheikh Adnan al-Arour is the Salafi militia's spiritual and political leader, who resides in the Saudi capital.

The Saudi state-run media, such as the London-based *Asharq al-Awsat*, has made no secret of Riyadh's intention, and is opening the gates for Salafi propagandists to prepare the ideological ground for such an escalation. One such example is the interview posted on Jan. 2 with Omar Bakri, leader of the former London-based terrorist group al-Muhajiroon, who was allowed to leave London in 2007 to avoid arrest according to U.S. anti-terror demands, and to settle in Lebanon. Al-Muhajiroon was a propaganda, recruitment, and fundraising organization for war against the Russians in the Caucasus. Bakri is now given space in *Asharq al-Awsat* to brand the Assad regime and its allies in Iran and from Hezbollah as *kafirs* (unbelievers) according to Salafi theology, and to say that violence is the only way to overthrow that regime.

On Jan. 5 the same daily published an interview with a "Salafi fighter," codenamed Kiheilan, who admitted that he moves back and forth from the Sunni-dominated area in northern Lebanon where Bakri is active, and that he was participating in attacks on Alawite security personnel. He states that the Salafi movement is the spearhead of the armed targeting of the Syrian government, and admits that the Salafi militia's spiritual and political leader is Sheikh Adnan al-Arour, a Syrian cleric who sends his orders to his fighters in Syria by video, from his residence in the Saudi capital, and through the Kuwaiti-financed satellite TV channel al-Safa. Al-Safa is totally dedicated to the war on Shi'ism in the region, and is contributing to the war drive against the "Alawite Assad regime."

Al-Arour is the theoretician of the militant groups inside Syria, and uses TV to give marching orders to his followers. In one, he raves that once Syrian President Bashar Assad is overthrown, what he will do personally to the Alawites who supported Assad is to "make dog food of them."

While al-Arour is the political leader of the Salafi militants, there is a "field operations coordinator" based in northern Lebanon. According to Kiheilan's interview in *Asharq al-Awsat*, this person is Luay al-Zoubi, a U.S./British-backed jihadist in Afghanistan in the 1980s, who moved to the Balkans during the war there in the 1990s and later joined bin Laden in Sudan. Al-Zoubi was interviewed in *Asharq al-Awsat* on Sept. 26,

1. See "Britain's Assault on the Muslim Nation-States and the World," *EIR*, Dec. 26, 2008; and "New British-Saudi Prescription for Permanent War in Southwest Asia," *EIR*, March 5, 2010.
2. A Shia sect to which Syria's Assad family belongs.

2011, and by Saudi-owned, Dubai-based al-Arabiya TV in October 2011.

The reason the Saudis are making so much space available for these fanatics is to tell their followers and others who are not decided yet, that the Saudi establishment is considering them as the leaders of the revolution. That would signal to rich Saudi and other Gulf financiers of terrorism where to send their contributions.

Al-Zoubi states clearly that he supports intervention by the Anglo-American NATO machine in Syria (working with the infidel enemies and crusaders is suddenly theologically justified!), that he is leading the fundraising and arming the Salafi militants in Syria, and that his war is sectarian, since the Shia regime of Ayatollah Khamenei and Hezbollah in Lebanon are his main enemies. He said that he has channeled millions of dollars to the Salafi militants in Syria.

Although the so-called "defectors" from the Syrian Army are said to be the core of the armed resistance to the Assad regime, it is the Afghansi jihadists, with their urban irregular warfare experience from Afghanistan, the Balkans, and Chechnya who are the real force. The Afghansis from Libya's Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG), which has always been an asset of British MI6, worked with NATO to overthrow Muammar Qaddafi's regime, and are now moving into Syria through Turkey and Lebanon....

U.S. Military Leaders Urge Restraint on Iran, Syria

Gen. Martin Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in a Feb. 19 interview with CNN: "I think it's premature to take a decision to arm the opposition movement in Syria because I would challenge anyone to clearly identify for me the opposition movement in Syria at this point. And let me broaden the conversation a bit. Syria is an arena right now for all of the various interests to play out. And what I mean by that is, you've got great power involvement. Turkey clearly has an interest, a very important interest. Russia has a very important interest. Iran has an interest...."

On Syria, Dempsey added that the U.S. should *not* arm the opposition, adding that "there are indications that al-Qaeda is involved, and that they're interested in supporting the opposition."

Asked about a pre-emptive strike on Iran, he replied: "I think it would be premature to exclusively decide that the time for a military option was upon us. I think that the economic sanctions and the international cooperation that we've been able to gather around sanctions is beginning to have an effect...."

On Tehran's leadership: "We are of the opinion that the Iranian regime is a rational actor. And it's for that reason, I think, that we think the current path we're on is the most prudent path at this point.... We also know—or believe we know—that the Iranian regime has not decided that they will embark on the effort to weaponize their nuclear capability."

Gen. James Clapper, Director of National Intelligence (DNI), in testimony Feb. 15, to the U.S. Senate, in response to a question from Sen. Jim Webb (D-Va.), noted that the recent suicide bombings in Syria "had all the earmarks of an al-Qaeda-like attack. And so we believe that al-Qaeda in Iraq is extending its reach into Syria."

On whether Iran intends to build a nuclear weapon: "It would probably take them about a year to be able to produce a bomb, and then possibly another one or two years in order to put it on a deliverable vehicle of some sort in order to deliver that weapon."

Lt. Gen. Ronald Burgess, Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), also testified to the Feb. 15 Senate hearing, where he said, "the Agency assesses Iran is unlikely to initiate or intentionally provoke a conflict."

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, on Feb. 16, expressed "concern" about reports that al-Qaeda may be making inroads in Syria. "It means that I think we have to continue to work with the Arab League and determine what steps should be taken to try to deal with the situation in Syria. It does raise concerns for us that al-Qaeda is trying to assert a presence there, and that means that, you know, frankly, our concerns, which were—which were large to begin with because of the situation, the deteriorating situation in Syria—that the situation there has become that much more serious as a result of that."

Libya Case Study

Here's What 'Regime Change' Wrought

by Douglas DeGroot

Feb. 26—Libyan al-Qaeda operatives, who were trained in the wars of Afghanistan and Iraq, and were brought back to Libya by President Obama and the British last year to organize the on-the-ground portion of the regime change in Libya, have plunged the country into unprecedented violence. These seasoned al-Qaeda fighters have set off a process of chaos that is being compared by some to post-Saddam Hussein Iraq. Some observers do not rule out that certain former Qaddafi strongholds may become areas of insurgency comparable to the Sunni Triangle in Iraq.

Most importantly, as we shall show, this murderous chaos was the *intent* of the British hand behind the regime-change operation—in addition to representing a step toward confrontation, potentially thermonuclear war, with Russia and China.

The score-settling and fighting for advantage in the post-Qaddafi era, by geographically based militias all over the country, are leading to a breakdown of society. These fighters number some 75,000 men in arms, by the count of the nominal government, the Transitional National Council (TNC).

Because the TNC does not control them, the militias are the law and authority in their own areas, in many cases, providing services to the population. And these local authorities want to prevent the extension of the TNC's mandate into their fiefdoms.

The militias are well armed, having looted Qaddafi's armories in different areas of the country, as the long-term leader lost control. Many of these weapons are being smuggled into Algeria, to countries in the Sahel zone and West Africa. This weapons flow is raising great concern in the Sahel and sub-Saharan African countries. Chad, Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Mauritania, and Algeria are among the countries threatened.

The Tuareg Desert nomads had traditionally been allied with Qaddafi. Since his murder, they have been persuaded to form a grouping in the northern Mali desert, and to militate for an independent homeland there, a direct threat to the sovereignty of Mali.

Pervasive Violence

Shortly after the destabilization began, reports of atrocities surfaced. The initial reports were of Qaddafi loyalists who were executed, and the murder of many black Africans or dark-skinned Libyans who were mistakenly thought to be African. A Turkish crew chief working there for a Turkish company on a project with a black African crew, reported that his entire crew had been murdered.

This activity was reported very early during the 2011 destabilization that led to the regime change and the ordered murder of Qaddafi and his son. Human Rights Watch reported murders of Africans and of regime loyalists who were found with their hands tied.

An Amnesty International report released this month detailed widespread torture in prisons and makeshift detention facilities, under the auspices of the regime established by Obama and NATO. In some cases, prisoners were tortured to death. Amnesty investigators documented beatings with chains, metal, and cable; electric shocks; and fingernail extraction. According to the report, the TNC has conducted no investigations of the torture of prisoners and other revenge attacks. The militias can do as they please.

Amnesty's report, titled "Militias Threaten Hopes for Libya," is being used to entice foreign support to the TNC for a list of ineffective proposals to help the Council get the militias under control.

Precalculated Conflict

Oligarchical planners of the regime change were familiar with the antipathy to central government in Libya, which has been well known since the time that the Ottoman Empire occupied coastal Libya (1551-1911). The Ottomans never had the inland regions under their control, a situation that led to ongoing chaos in western Libya. The same was true during Italian rule (1911-43).

Policy proposals are now being floated to the effect that the largely self-appointed TNC, which cannot control the militias, should be helped to get control in the country. Any U.S. program aimed at helping the TNC with anti-militia propaganda, and engaging with the more moderate Islamists, not only would *not* make the TNC immune to jihadism, but would backfire, giving the jihadists a pretext to mobilize against this process, turning Libya into a remake of Somalia or Afghanistan.



The burning of Colonel Qaddafi's tent in Tripoli, Aug. 24, 2011. Since Qaddafi's murder, the violence has increased.

Up to now, the militias, although not heeding the directives of the TNC, are not trying to overthrow it either. The Council is handling the marketing of oil, which is back up to 1.4 million barrels per day, around the level it was for much of Qaddafi's tenure. (Qaddafi had never gotten above that until the last few years, when it reached 1.7 million bpd. The international oil mafia kept Libya's oil production artificially suppressed during the Qaddafi period.)

During the rule of the feudal King Idris (1951-69), production was as high as 3 million bpd. Qaddafi's group conducted the coup against the British-backed King on Sept. 1, 1969, one day before the King's son was to succeed his father on the throne. The British, who had taken control of Libya from Italy in 1943, put Idris on the throne in 1951, when they granted Libya independence, making Libya a federal monarchy over the East, West, and South.

During the 2011 destabilization of Qaddafi, the Libyan rebels ditched the flag adopted by Qaddafi, and took up Idris's flag, which had been inspired by the flag designed by Mark Sykes for the first Arab revolt, supposedly against the British, led by British agent T.E. Lawrence ("Lawrence of Arabia"). This is now the official flag of Libya.

The militias are competing for the best position to extort benefits from the TNC, which will be managing the oil wealth, as well as fighting in towns and cities to seize prime commercial real estate. They hope to parlay their military muscle into power and influence in post-Qaddafi Libya.

On Jan. 4, 2012, the day after a battle between militias on one of Libya's busiest streets killed four fighters, Mustafa Abdel Jalil, chairman of the TNC, warned that Libya risks sliding into civil war unless the militias can be controlled. A similar incident took place in Tripoli on Feb. 1, between militias from Misrata and Zintan. In western Libya, where Qaddafi had stronger support, the brunt of the fighting was borne by regional, not Islamic, militias. Armed clashes are reported frequently in Tripoli, sometimes because of ethnic antipathies.

The Role of al-Qaeda

According to WikiLeaks, on Feb. 15, 2008, long before the operation against Qaddafi started, the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli reported, in a secret cable to Washington entitled "Extremism in Eastern Libya," that the area was a hotbed of anti-American, pro-jihadist sentiment. The report was corroborated by captured al-Qaeda personnel documents that came into American hands in 2007, and were analyzed by the Combating Terrorism Center at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

On July 15, 2011, the Obama Administration recognized the Libyan rebels as the legitimate representatives of the Libyan people. Media reports continued to surface of high-technology missiles getting into the hands of al-Qaeda affiliates, after the Libyan rebels took control of areas of Libya with the help of NATO air strikes. Former U.S. intelligence figures pointed out that the British/Saudi-run al-Qaeda network supported the uprising and would try to take advantage of the vacuum after Qaddafi's elimination, especially among the base of the rebels, the Islamist pro-jihad population of eastern Libya, which had the highest per-capita percentage of foreign fighters who went to Iraq to fight against the NATO forces there.

Several Libyan exiles rose to senior levels in al-Qaeda. One was Atiyah Abd al-Rahman, who was killed in Pakistan.

Abdul-Hakim al-Hasadi, a Libyan and former

Guantanamo detainee, had fought American troops in Afghanistan and recruited Libyans to fight Americans in Iraq. Reports surfaced shortly after the Libyan regime-change operation started, that he had formed an "Islamic Emirate" in an eastern Libyan town.

Abdel Hakim Belhaj, a Libyan, was captured by U.S. forces in Afghanistan, and turned over to Qaddafi, who imprisoned him and later released him. Belhaj heads the Tripoli Military Council, and is opposed by the some of the powerful local militias in the western part of the country. He was a former leader in the London-based Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG), a terrorist outfit. He is considered to be one of the most significant figures in the fight to oust Qaddafi.

The Tripoli Military Council, headed by Belhaj, and the February 17 Brigade in eastern Libya are two of the more prominent Islamist units operating in Libya are .

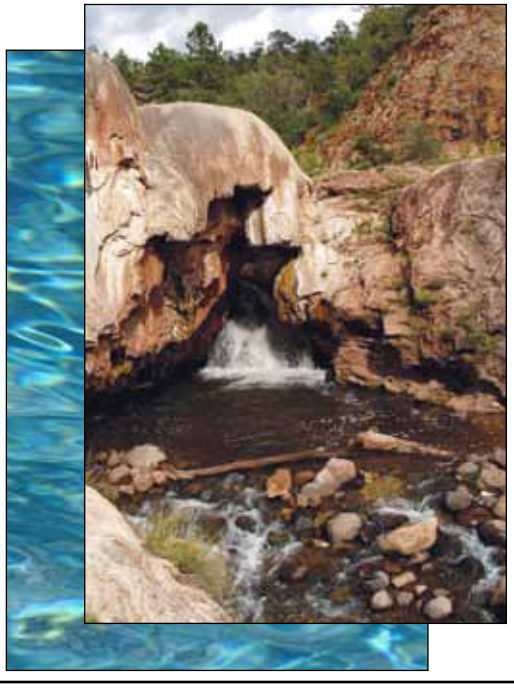
A fellow LIFG member, Abd al-Rahman al-Faqih, was on a UN list of al-Qaeda-linked terrorists in 2006. He was later convicted *in absentia* by a Moroccan court for complicity in the May 2003 suicide bombings in Casablanca. An LIFG plan to overthrow Qaddafi closely paralleled what actually happened, including a suicide bomber blowing open the gates to a military barracks.

Belhaj is accused by some of being an agent of the Persian Gulf statelets, as they try to steer post-Qaddafi Libya. Qaddafi never made any secret of his contempt for the monarchs and potentates of these Gulf entities.

Belhaj went to Istanbul in late November, for discussions of the situation in Syria. There are reports of a very large number of Libyans in Syria helping to overthrow President Bashir al-Assad, although some who are described as Libyans may be Arabic-speaking special forces from other countries.

Qatar sent special forces to arm and train the best rebel militias, and Qatari intelligence assets called in NATO missiles during the war. Now Qatar is not backing the TNC, but is funding Islamic militias who are resisting TNC efforts to co-opt their fighters into the national Army. The Islamist militias are stronger in the East, where the fighting to dislodge Qaddafi's forces was easier because he had much less support, in what had been the base of King Idris. Because of their aid to the anti-Qaddafi rebels, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates have carved out zones of influence in Libya.

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- **IN MEMORIAM: Zbigniew Jaworowski (1927-2011),** including an obituary, Dr. Jaworowski's extensive outline for his autobiography, and his curriculum vitae.
- **IN MEMORIAM: Michael R. Fox (1937-2011),** including an obituary, the transcript of an interview ("What We Can Learn from Fukushima"), and a remembrance by one of his young students.
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Libya: The First Skirmish in The Empire's Drive for WWIII

by Nancy Spannaus

Feb. 28—Last Summer's decision by the triumvirate of Great Britain, France, and Obama's United States to launch a war for regime change in Libya, contrary to the restrictions voted by the United Nations Security Council, could end up being a turning point in world history. It was that decision, punctuated by the agreement among the three to effectively order the bestial murder of the defeated defenseless captive Muammar Qaddafi in October, that signalled to the world, especially to Russia and China, that the British Imperial faction that runs NATO was determined to force capitulation to its world empire—or else.

As identified by Lyndon LaRouche in the wake of Qaddafi's murder, such a determination by the Empire—with its global depopulation, anti-national-sovereignty agenda—put the world on course for a global thermonuclear confrontation between the NATO nations, on the one side, and the two powerful Eurasian nuclear superpowers, on the other. Moving on from Libya to Syria and Iran, the Empire coalition—which depends upon its control of the U.S. nuclear arsenal through its control of Obama—has driven steadily toward war preparations. Only the most extraordinary efforts by leading U.S. military-intelligence patriots, as well as Russia, China, and the LaRouche forces, have succeeded in postponing the kinds of incidents which could indeed trigger World War III.

As of today, the world remains on a hair trigger toward war.

The key to avoiding it, and moving on to durable economic measures for world peace and cooperation, lies in exposing the source of the problem—the British international financial empire—and the methods which it uses to get nations to destroy each other, and themselves. This traditional imperial method is today spearheaded by its leading spokesman Tony Blair, who, on behalf of his Queen, declared back in 1999, the intent of the Empire to *wipe out* national sovereignty, and thus, the only means by which nations could advance the welfare of their populations, and protect themselves from the agenda of depopulation, deindustrialization, and permanent warfare which the current incarnation of the Roman Empire explicitly desires.[1]

The Obama White House's embrace of this Blair agenda is what puts the world on the course for a possible war of extermination of the human race. Fortunately, the leadership of major nations has not only recognized this, but begun to speak out. The question is, when will sufficient leaders in the United States get the guts to do the same, and remove the British puppet from the White House?

'Human Rights' Pretext

On Aug. 4, 2011, to circumvent his impeachable crime of going to war against Libya without Congres-

1. The 1648 Treaty of Westphalia, which established in concept the system of sovereign nation-states which Tony Blair seeks to overthrow, was initiated at the end of one of those periods of depopulation, destruction of production, and permanent warfare—the Thirty Years War.

sional approval, Barack Obama issued National Study Directive #10, ordering the creation of an Interagency Atrocities Prevention Board, to institutionalize mechanisms and procedures for unending, anti-Constitutional U.S. overseas wars in the name of "preventing genocide." With NSD #10, Obama set into motion the formal restructuring of U.S. foreign policy and intelligence institutions along lines required by the nation's would-be new status as an abject satrap of the British monarchy.

NSD #10 lies that "preventing mass atrocities and genocide is a core national security interest and a core moral responsibility of the United States." This is an assertion of the sophistically named doctrine of "Responsibility to Protect (R2P)," which is simply the imperial "humanitarian intervention" doctrine enunciated by then-Prime Minister Tony Blair, in his infamous 1999 Chicago speech declaring an end to the principle of sovereignty which guided world affairs since the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia. It was upon precisely this lie which Obama carried out his illegal war in Libya, a war now being replicated against Syria, and being planned against many other nations.

(Putting aside the question of the truthfulness of reporting on atrocities, if the Administration really wanted to fight genocide, it would overthrow the imperial monetarist system which dictates sacrifice of human lives to saving the markets, and drop the green ideology that kills science and the life-saving technologies mankind needs to build a future. For example, look at its record in Haiti.)

NSD #10 directs the National Security Advisor "to lead a focused interagency study to develop and recommend the membership, mandate, structure, operational protocols, authorities, and support necessary for the Atrocities Prevention Board to coordinate and develop atrocity prevention and response policy." Said Board was to be operational 120 days from the date of the Presidential Study Directive, with a mandate "to coordinate a whole of government approach to preventing mass atrocities and genocide"; to provide "a comprehensive policy framework and a corresponding interagency mechanism for preventing and responding to mass atrocities and genocide," so as to permit us "to engage early, proactively and decisively to prevent threats from evolving." All options are on the table: "from economic to diplomatic interventions, and from non-combat military actions to outright intervention."

The British not only have their hand directly on our nuclear trigger, but also here, too, in restructuring our military. As *EIR* documented in its May 6, 2011 issue, an entire international apparatus has been built up since Tony Blair's 1999 speech, dedicated to imposing his R2P end-of-sovereignty doctrine, largely financed and heavily staffed by Britain's dope-pusher moneybags, vulture speculator George Soros. This is the project that Obama advisor Samantha Power and UN Ambassador Susan Rice have been working on for a decade; Obama's National Security Staff Director for War Crimes and Atrocities, David Pressman, charged with overseeing the creation of the board, was an activist in the British-Power-Rice anti-Sudan campaign implemented under this doctrine.

Key in the R2P international apparatus is Oxford University's Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict (ELAC), which sponsored a U.K.-U.S. working group last November, on "military ethics" for such circumstances, shortly after ELAC members participated in an Oct. 13-15, 2011 meeting of some 30 U.S. government officials and "mass atrocity specialists" [sic!] held near Washington, D.C., by the Stanley Foundation, to discuss "structuring the U.S. government to Prevent Atrocities: Considerations for an Atrocities Prevention Board."

Evil in Action

The Libya War, undertaken by Obama, in violation of U.S. Constitutional law, was, of course, justified by him on the basis of the "responsibility to protect" civilians. The same method, relying on "testimony" by anti-Assad partisans hosted in London, such as the Syrian National Council, was simultaneously set into motion against Syria, and that aspect of the program has currently gone into high gear.

There was, of course, an effort by some in the international community, specifically the Arab League, to try to verify what was actually happening on the ground in Syria. An Arab League Monitors' mission spent approximately one month in Syria, between December and mid-January, and produced a report which included extensive evidence backing up the Assad government's charges of sophisticated sabotage and military operations against the government—which report was subsequently all but buried in UN Security Council deliberations! Other anecdotal reports, including from a Melkite archbishop from Aleppo, have raised the alarm of hideous sectarian violence by the "rebels."

But the British, their Saudi-Sunni allies, and other leading Western powers, would hear nothing of it. Im-



NATO

The Libya War, and the barbaric murder of Qaddafi, sent the signal, especially to Russia and China, that the British Empire was determined to force capitulation to its imperial demands. Shown: NATO troops arrive in Libya, May 2011.

mediately after the return of the Monitors, they moved ahead, demanding that Assad accept a proposal to step down, and this proposal was forwarded to the UN Security Council—only to be vetoed by the two permanent UNSC members opposed to regime change—Russia and China. That veto launched a new wave of invective against the two real targets of the British scheme, as insensitive to "human rights."

But the British-led crowd were not going to take no for an answer. Within weeks, they had determined to convene a "Friends of Syria" conference as a pathway to the same end—this time, the attempt to revive the previous proposal of a "humanitarian corridor" as a stepping stone for further armed struggle against the Assad government. Once again, seeing through the strategy, Russia and China, who had put forward numerous proposals for negotiations between the parties in Syria and had them rejected, declined to give legitimacy to this meeting by attending.

Another round of bashing ensued, this time led not only by the British and their trainee, Obama's UN Ambassador Susan Rice, but bringing in Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who outdid herself in venomous rhetoric. Responding to a question at a press conference Feb. 25, she said:

"The entire world, other than Russia and China, were willing to recognize that we must take international action against the Syrian regime.

"I would be willing to go back to the Security Council again and again and again, but we need to change the attitude of the Russian and Chinese governments. They must understand they are setting themselves against the aspirations not only of the Syrian people but of the entire Arab Spring, the Arab Awakening.... And it is not a position that is sustainable. So the sooner the Russians and the Chinese move toward supporting action in the Security Council, the sooner we can get a resolution that would permit us to take the kind of steps that we all know need to be taken.

"So thank you for asking that, because it's quite distressing to see two permanent members of the Security Council using their veto when people are being murdered—women, children, brave young men—houses are being destroyed. It is just despicable. And I ask, whose side are they on? They are clearly not on the side of the Syrian people, and they need to ask themselves some very hard questions about what that means for them as well as the rest of us."

Clinton, of course, is basically lying for the sake of her boss, British puppet Obama. Numerous sources make it clear that President Assad has the support of more than 50% of his people, and the opposition is refusing to negotiate. Even the 57% of the Syrian population which participated in the Feb. 26 constitutional referendum testifies to that.

The Russians and the Chinese did not sit back and take the attack silently. Both Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov attacked the group for trying to hide its real agenda—regime change. "Demands for regime change [will lead to] even more deaths ... [and] civil war," said Lavrov. Putin was even more expansive (see Documentation, below).

The Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman declared the accusations "unacceptable," and in a *China Daily* column, let go with some unusually sharp sarcasm:

"The United States' motive in parading as a 'protector' of the Arab peoples is not difficult to imagine. The problem is, what moral basis does it have for this patronizing and egotistical super-arrogance and self-confidence?," the paper said, according to a Reuters report.

"Even now, violence continues unabated in Iraq, and ordinary people enjoy no security. This alone is enough for us to draw a huge question mark over the sincerity and efficacy of U.S. policy," it said.

India and South Africa Speak Up

But it is not just Russia and China who can see through the British-Obama game. While they may not yet realize that the Empire is going for an end-game where it will threaten thermonuclear confrontation, leading developing sector nations recognize the smell of Empire when they get a whiff of it. And over the recent weeks, they too have begun to speak out.

One major spokesman against the "humanitarian" game was former South African President Thabo Mbeki, who addressed a conference on Feb. 16 on the question of sovereignty, in which he thoroughly exposed the fraud perpetrated by the NATO "coalition" which overthrew and killed Qaddafi in the name of "human rights." Mbeki warned that Western powers now have an enhanced appetite to intervene in Africa: "These powers will act as they did in Libya especially if, in situations of internal conflict, which they would also foment, they can argue that they are implementing the UN-approved 'right to protect,' the so-called R2P" (see summary under Documentation).

Then, during an informal meeting at the UN on Feb. 22, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Hardeep Singh Puri, spoke up. Citing the use of the R2P in the case of Libya and Syria, by "over-enthusiastic members" of the international community, Puri said the UN principle of responsibility to protect, or R2P, has been invoked selectively. He said, as developments in Libya and Syria have shown, the principle of R2P is being used for regime change.

In Libya's case, UN Resolution 1973 was aimed at a ceasefire with the mediation of the African Union (AU); use of all necessary means to protect civilians; a no-fly zone; arms embargo, and targeted sanctions, Puri noted. However, he said, as soon as the resolution was adopted, the "over-enthusiastic members" of the international community stopped talking of the AU's efforts to bring about a ceasefire, and completely ignored them.

"The only aspect of the resolution of interest to them [the international community] was the use of all necessary means to bomb the hell out of Libya," he said.

Then, in Syria's case, Puri said, instead of a simple step to hold the Syrian government to a timetable for political reforms, a resolution was proposed to impose sanctions. "President Bashar Assad was declared to have lost legitimacy. The opposition was discouraged from engaging with the government, and the armed groups started receiving support, ostensibly to defend themselves," he said.

India's long-standing position, however, was expressed in debate by the same ambassador back in 2009, when R2P was pushed through. "These measures [R2P], Mr. President, not only have to be used as a last resort, but have to be in conformity with the provisions of the UN Charter. Responsibility to protect should in no way provide a pretext for humanitarian intervention or unilateral action. . . ."

The Next Step

There is no indication, of course, that the Empire's spokesmen, including Obama, intend to back off in face of criticism. Not only are they looking for a way to push ahead in Syria, but they are preparing, with the British puppet Netanyahu government in Israel, to move ahead for an even bigger provocation and assertion of imperial will—bombing Iran. A barrage of lying reports, and a concerted push by the American Zionist lobby around AIPAC (the American-Israeli Political Action Committee) for a Senate resolution which demands that an Iranian "capability" to achieve nuclear weapons be treated as a *casus belli*, characterizes the offensive.

What should not be overlooked in these developments is the overarching, crucial role of the British monarchy and its agents (including British Middle East hand Bernard Lewis, recently revealed to be a consultant to Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu), which is moving aggressively for confrontation with Iran; while the Prime Minister David Cameron is planning a high-profile visit to Washington on March 13, immediately after the AIPAC war rally.

It's time to remove the British hand from U.S. policy by removing its primary tool—President Barack Obama.

Gretchen Small, Ramtanu Maitra, and Douglas DeGroot contributed research for this article.

Documentation

Putin Warns Against Military Force

The following are excerpts from Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's Feb. 27 article for "Moscow News," taken from the Prime Minister's website. The article was entitled "Russia in the Changing World."

Foreign interference in support of one side of a domestic conflict and the use of power in this interference gave developments a negative aura. A number of countries did away with the Libyan regime by using air power in the name of humanitarian support. The revolting slaughter of Muammar Gaddafi—not just medieval but primeval—was the incarnation of these actions.

No one should be allowed to use the Libyan scenario in Syria. The international community must work to achieve an intra-Syrian reconciliation. It is important to achieve an early end to the violence, no matter what the source, and to initiate a national dialogue without preconditions or foreign interference, and with due respect for the country's sovereignty. This would create the conditions necessary for the Syrian leadership-announced measures on democratization. The main objective is to prevent an all-out civil war. Russian diplomacy has worked and will continue to work towards this end.

Sadder but wiser, we are against the adoption of UN Security Council resolutions that may be interpreted as a signal to armed interference in the domestic developments of Syria. Guided by this consistent approach in early February, Russia and China prevented the adoption of an ambiguous resolution that would have encouraged one side of this domestic conflict to resort to violence.

In this context and considering the extremely negative, almost hysterical reaction to the Russian-Chinese veto, I would like to warn our Western colleagues against the temptation to resort to this simple, previously used tactic: If the UN Security Council approves of a given action, fine; if not, we will establish a coalition of the states concerned, and strike anyway.

The logic of such conduct is counterproductive and very dangerous. No good can come of it. In any case, it will not help reach a settlement in a country that is going through a domestic conflict. Even worse, it further undermines the entire system of international security, as well as the authority and key role of the UN. Let me recall that the right to veto is not some whim, but an inalienable part of the world's agreement that is registered in the UN Charter—incidentally, on U.S. insistence. The implication of this right is that decisions that raise the objection of even one permanent member of the UN Security Council cannot be well-grounded or effective.

I hope very much that the United States and other countries will consider this sad experience and will not pursue the use of power in Syria without UN Security Council sanctions. In general, I cannot understand what causes this itch for military intervention. Why isn't there the patience to develop a well-considered, balanced, and cooperative approach, all the more so, since this approach was already taking shape in the form of the aforementioned Syrian resolution? It only lacked the demand that the armed opposition do the same as the government; in particular, withdraw military units and detachments from cities. The refusal to do so is cynical. If we want to protect civilians—and this is the main goal for Russia—we must bring to reason all participants in an armed confrontation.

And one more point. It appears that with the Arab Spring countries, as with Iraq, Russian companies are losing their decades-long positions in local commercial markets and are being deprived of large commercial contracts. The niches thus vacated are being filled by the economic operatives of the states that had a hand in the change of the ruling regime.

One could reasonably conclude that tragic events have been encouraged to a certain extent by someone's interest in a re-division of the commercial market rather than a concern for human rights. Be that as it may, we cannot sit back and watch all this with Olympian serenity. We intend to work with the new governments of the Arab countries in order to promptly restore our economic positions. . . .

Today, Iran is the focus of international attention. Needless to say, Russia is worried about the growing threat of a military strike against Iran. If this happens, the consequences will be disastrous. It is impossible to imagine the true scope of this turn of events.

I am convinced that this issue must be settled exclusively by peaceful means. We propose recognizing Iran's right to develop a civilian nuclear program, including the right to enrich uranium. But this must be done in exchange for putting all Iranian nuclear activity under reliable and comprehensive IAEA safeguards. If

this is done, the sanctions against Iran, including the unilateral ones, must be rescinded. The West has shown too much willingness to "punish" certain countries. At any minor development it reaches for sanctions, if not armed force. Let me remind you that we are not in the 19th Century or even the 20th Century now.

Developments around the Korean nuclear issue are no less serious. Violating the non-proliferation regime, Pyongyang openly claims the right to develop "the military atom" and has already conducted two nuclear tests. We cannot accept North Korea's nuclear status. We have consistently advocated the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula exclusively through political and diplomatic means—and the early resumption of Six-Party Talks.

However, it is evident that not all of our partners share this approach. I am convinced that today it is essential to be particularly careful. It would be unadvisable to try and test the strength of the new North Korean leader and provoke a rash countermeasure.

Allow me to recall that North Korea and Russia share a common border and we cannot choose our neighbors. We will continue conducting an active dialogue with the leaders of North Korea and developing good-neighborly relations with it, while at the same time, trying to encourage Pyongyang to settle the nuclear issue. Obviously, it would be easier to do this if mutual trust is built up and the inter-Korean dialogue resumes on the peninsula.

All this fervor around the nuclear programs of Iran and North Korea makes one wonder how the risks of nuclear weapons proliferation emerge and who is aggravating them. It seems that the more frequent cases of crude, and even armed outside interference in the domestic affairs of countries may prompt authoritarian (and other) regimes to possess nuclear weapons. If I have the A-bomb in my pocket, nobody will touch me because it's more trouble than it is worth. And those who don't have the bomb might have to sit and wait for "humanitarian intervention."

Whether we like it or not, foreign interference suggests this train of thought. This is why the number of threshold countries that are one step away from "military atom" technology, is growing rather than decreasing. Under these conditions, zones free of weapons of mass destruction are being established in different parts of the world and are becoming increasingly important. Russia has initiated the discussion of the parameters for a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East.

It is essential to do everything we can to prevent any country from being tempted to get nuclear weapons. Non-proliferation campaigners must also change their conduct, especially those that are used to penalizing other countries by force, without letting the diplomats do their job. This was the case in Iraq—its problems have only become worse after an almost decade-long occupation.

If the incentives for becoming a nuclear power are finally eradicated, it will be possible to make the international non-proliferation regime universal and firm based on the existing treaties. This regime would allow all interested countries to fully enjoy the benefits of the "peaceful atom" under IAEA safeguards.

Mbeki Blasts Libya Regime Change

Former South African President Thabo Mbeki, in a lengthy address Feb. 16 in South Africa, entitled "Reflections on Peacemaking, State Sovereignty and Democratic Governance in Africa," systematically exposed the manner in which the U.S.A., U.K., and France, with the full collaboration of the UN, intended to implement regime change in Libya from the beginning, and willfully ignored African efforts to resolve the crisis. We paraphrase his argument here:

Mbeki stated that the cases of the French-UN-run regime change in the Ivory Coast early last year, and the regime-change operation in Libya, have established a precedent that can be repeated in Africa, whenever deemed necessary by the former colonial powers, and their hangers-on. Mbeki was speaking at the annual commemoration of the life of Dullah Omar, a revolutionary intellectual, attorney, stalwart of the African National Congress, and advocate of a government role in the elimination of poverty, who died in 2004.

Mbeki asserted that the crisis in Libya could have been resolved without regime change, but the NATO powers were determined to push it through. He stated that on March 10, 2011, the African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council adopted a Roadmap for the peaceful resolution of the Libyan conflict, which provided for an end to the violent conflict, and the institution of a process of negotiations to determine the future of the country.

He added that the AU had secured the agreement of Gaddafi to this Roadmap, since Libya was one of its members.

The AU forwarded its March 10 decision to the UN

and the Arab League, among other organizations. But, Mbeki charged, the UNSC willfully ignored the AU decisions, treating the AU and the peoples of Africa "with absolute contempt." (On March 20, 2011, NATO denied entry to Libya of the AU panel of Presidents which was to begin mediation for a political settlement.)

Instead, on March 17, seven days after the AU made its Roadmap decision, the UNSC adopted Resolution 1973, which provided the space for NATO political alliance, "to intervene in Libya to impose a violent resolution of this conflict, centered on regime change, which objective was completely at variance with Resolution 1973." In so doing, Mbeki stated, NATO intervened, not to protect civilians as the UNSC resolution called for, "but to lead and empower the opposition National Transitional Council in a military campaign to overthrow the Qaddafi regime."

He cited a public statement by the P3 (Obama, Cameron, and Sarkozy) a month after Res. 1973 was adopted, which stated that the overthrow of Gaddafi was the intention: "There is a pathway to peace that promises new hope for the people of Libya: a future without Gaddafi.... So long as Gaddafi is in power, NATO and its coalition partners must maintain their operations ... Colonel Gaddafi must go, and go for good...."

Mbeki charged that UN institutions gave free reign to the P3 states to determine the future of Libya with their illegal regime-change objective; he delineated several examples, including:

- The Secretary General allowed the NATO-sponsored rebels to act as the legitimate representatives of Libya, "contrary to all UN protocols";
- The UN Secretary General refused to accredit the representatives of the Libyan government;
- The UN insisted that Libya should be defined as other than an African country, insisting that the legitimacy of the regime-change policy derived from the Arab League, of which Libya had become only a nominal member.

Mbeki left responsibility for the U.S. support of the regime-change policy on Obama's shoulders. Mbeki noted that a fortnight before the vote on Res. 1973, then-U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, then head of the U.S. armed forces, both stated that they had seen no confirmation that the Qaddafi regime was massacring civilians.



Each Wednesday afternoon, Lyndon LaRouche sits down with LPAC-TV Weekly Report host John Hoefle and two guests from the "Basement" scientific team and/or the LaRouchePAC editorial staff, for an in-depth discussion of the most important issues of the week, be they political, economic, strategic, or scientific.

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Russia's Destiny: Banking Mafia Seeks Revenge against Putin

by Natalia Vitrenko

Natalia Vitrenko is a Doctor of Economic Sciences; Member of the Ukrainian Parliament in two sessions; candidate for President of Ukraine, 1999 and 2004; and chairman of the Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine. Vitrenko was a co-initiator with Helga Zepp-LaRouche of the Schiller Institute's 1997 call for a New Bretton Woods.



EIRNS/Christopher Lewis

The world banking mafia, declares Natalia Vitrenko, is attempting a "color revolution" against Russia, like the Orange Revolution run against Ukraine in 2004-05.

The West has launched a war against [Russian President Vladimir] Putin within Russia. So far, it is an information war. But insults may escalate to threats.

In full compliance with the technique of color revolutions, the stage now underway could be called "heating up the magma" of the population, when malcontents are trained to go into the streets and listen to orders from the would-be bosses. There is no doubt that the percentage of Western agents of influence, people who thrive on U.S. grants, and those who hate Russia's very statehood, was actually negligible, among the tens of thousands of people who gathered on Bolotnaya Square in Moscow Feb. 4. But they are yeast for the ferment. People are being trained to listen to them, and hundreds of thousands of gullible and deceived people are prepared to follow them.

I am an economist, as well as a politician. Besides my genetic predisposition to favor unity between us Ukrainians and the people of Russia and Belarus, and my own rich experience in fighting the "orange" psychosis,[1] I am also a scientist who understands certain fundamental patterns of development. This allows me to anticipate and forecast outcomes, and at least to warn people about certain dangers. That is what I sincerely want to do for those Russian citizens who are anguished over the challenge of making the right choice, and are looking for answers to very difficult questions.

It is impossible to provide an adequate picture of the entire range of issues in a single article. I shall focus on one issue that reveals a single, perhaps the most important, aspect of the world banking mafia's fierce hatred of Vladimir Putin. This topic is not brought up at the

1. The regime-change operation run in Ukraine, November 2004 to January 2005. See *EIR* articles "Flattened by IMF, Ukraine in Geopolitical Crosshairs," Dec. 10, 2004; and "Ukraine: A Postmodernist Revolution," Feb. 11, 2005.

street rallies. It is something the newly appeared "democracy" coaches don't talk about.

What Is an 'Independent' Bank?

The economy is the foundation of society. Money is the economy's "blood." One of the main attributes of an independent nation-state is a monopoly on monetary emission (the printing of money), which determines the mass of money in circulation. Monetary emission by the government is a basic mechanism for advancing economic growth. And if the money is issued for the needs of the economy, for the development of production, then it is not a source of inflation. Regulating such utterance of money may even contribute to lowering prices.

In the Soviet Union, money was issued to finance growth of the national wealth. The state handled its own financial problems, printing money itself. In payments between the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), a cashless so-called "transfer" ruble was used, while in the world market, the Soviet Union used the dollar and other foreign currencies. State-owned banks financed and provided loans for the entire national economy. Banks did not speculate, but served as the economy's circulatory system, supporting commodity exchange, lending, and saving.

The globalization of the world economy, i.e., the shift of national economies to control by a single center of capital in the hands of a world government, began to be implemented after World War II, primarily by economic methods through the network of the IMF and the World Bank. They worked over the political elites of countries one at a time, using bribery, blackmail, and brainwashing. All sorts of "institutions of civil society" were created for this purpose. A leading role was assigned to non-governmental organizations funded by foreign grants. Then, politicians who had been worked over in this way would push through the constitutional independence of the banking system from a country's government, and get their country hooked on IMF loans. We remember how this was done by Boris Yeltsin in Russia and Leonid Kravchuk in Ukraine, among other examples.

The IMF provided loans only with harsh conditionalities attached. In the triad of reforms prescribed by the IMF (deregulation, privatization, and macroeconomic stabilization), practically the most important place was allotted to the banking system. It was mandatory for it to be made independent of the state (!), and commercial (private) banks had to be established in addition to the existing state banks.

Think about it! Central banks were mandatorily made independent from the governments of their countries! Then, as the sole money-issuing banks, they began to lend money to the government. At interest. That bank interest became both a source of enrichment for the banking system itself, and a source of inflation (rising prices on all goods and services).

The corporate interests of the bank owners integrated them into the global banking mafia. This grouping promotes speculative financial bubbles (derivatives), while destroying the real economy (production of goods and services). The result is mass unemployment, impoverishment, and rising death rates among the population. At the same time the process of enrichment of the global oligarchy accelerates, and the gap between rich and poor increases in each country.

The world government views the independence of the banks only in terms of their independence from national governments. But the entire world banking system depends (and does it ever!) on the single issuing center of the world's major currency, the U.S. dollar.

The dollar is issued by the Federal Reserve System (the Fed), which is privately owned. A hundred years ago the Fed was created by 12 U.S. commercial banks from different states. Several dozen bankers took control, first and foremost, of the U.S. government. Then, through the "independent" central banks of victim countries, they took control of monetary emission in these countries, which means, in effect, to manage those countries' economies. It is the Fed that saturates the whole world with tons of waste paper—the dollar, which has no real backing, neither gold nor commodities. The Fed has dragged the United States into enormous national indebtedness: As of Jan. 1, 2012, the U.S. debt was already $16.39 trillion. Almost all the countries in the world are afflicted by huge debt bondage: Their total external debt is already $54 trillion, including total external state indebtedness of $33.5 trillion. This is the natural result of the global banking mafia's operations.

Defending the interests of the world government, the IMF puts the central banks of the victim country under "currency board" conditions. In this mode, issuance of the national currency is permitted only in an amount equal to an increase of the currency reserves of the country's central bank. It is not the volume of the domestic market, but only the volume of a country's exports (i.e., sales of goods and services on the world market and, as a rule, for dollars), that allows growth of



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"The West organized and financed the Orange Revolution . . . and the whole coup process of 2004, in order to make Yushchenko President," charges Vitrenko. Shown: Independence Square, Kiev, Nov. 22, 2004. Inset: Victor Yushchenko.

the gold and currency reserves and, accordingly, authorization to issue an equivalent amount of currency. That leads to dollarization of the economy of a supposedly sovereign nation.

Few people in the world understand this problem, and certainly the participants in the color revolutions do not think about it, since they are deceived by slogans about liberty, democracy, and the fight against corruption. People at the protest rallies talk about the corruption of officials, but they keep silent about bank fraud and other destructive banking activity, which have hit the country and every person living there, many times harder.

Revenge of the Banking Mafia

Every country in the world suffers from a banking system that destroys the real economy, protecting the interests of speculative finance capital. The U.S.A. is no exception: The government depends on a private organization, the Fed, and on the interests and appetites of two dozen banking kingpins. Almost half a century ago, President John F. Kennedy clashed with the Federal Reserve on monetary policy and did battle with the Wall Street owners of major U.S. steel companies. His assassination followed those confrontations.

Some other examples:

Upon his re-election in 1965, French President Charles de Gaulle asked the United States to exchange $1.5 billion for gold, proposing to revert to physical gold in international settlements. Being firmly opposed to U.S. dictates, he pulled France out of NATO in 1966. To avoid an international scandal, the United States had to exchange the proferred dollar-trash for gold, as de Gaulle had asked. Only two years later, demonstrations and strikes just happened to break out in France, resulting in de Gaulle's forced resignation in 1969. The following year he died suddenly.

I, too, experienced the vengeance of the international banking mafia. During the Presidential campaign in Ukraine in 1999, my popularity in opinion polls was higher than any other Presidential candidate (32%), and I had a real chance to defeat Leonid Kuchma in the second round. I was campaigning on a program calling for Ukraine's withdrawal from the IMF, putting the banking system under state control, de-dollarization of the economy, and integration with Russia. The other Presidential candidates had nothing like this.

A massive slander campaign was launched against me, followed by a terrorist act. On Oct. 2, 1999 in Krivoi Rog, two RGD-5 grenades were thrown at me during a meeting with voters. I was wounded. Forty-four people in all sustained injuries of various degrees of severity. None of the pro-Western governments of Ukraine (neither Kuchma, nor Yushchenko, nor Yanukovych) has uncovered who ordered that crime, and the investigation was dropped.

Or, take another example: the events in Iraq. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein stopped accepting dollars for oil and switched to the euro. Under the fabricated pretext of Iraq's having weapons of mass destruction, in 2003, the U.S. bombed and maimed this sovereign state, after which, the American butchers executed the legitimately elected President of Iraq.

Then there is the example of Libya. What did Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi do to anger the U.S. and EU imperialists? He achieved prosperity, peace, and harmony in multi-tribal Libya, on the basis of a strong economy. The economy became strong through the nationalization of oil production, government regulation of banking, and the prohibition of lending at interest. Moreover, Qaddafi began to work actively on integration of the countries of North Africa. He planned to in-

troduce a common currency—the gold dinar. That's what the world government would not forgive! That's why they built up local gangsters, armed them, and led them to attack the legitimate authority of Libya. The U.S.A. and the EU are responsible for the defeat of the sovereign nation of Libya, and for the death of Qaddafi, who was torn to pieces by the mob.

Look at how they have treated Hungary, where the government decided to take over the central bank. The EU, the IMF, and, of course, the United States, unleashed a storm of outrage against the Hungarian leadership. In December 2011, Hillary Clinton even found a time to send an angry personal letter to Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. The reason for this was not the alleged infringement of certain democratic rights and freedoms by Hungary's recently adopted laws or its new Constitution, which went into effect on Jan. 1, 2012. No indeed, the example of Ukraine shows that the Western "democrats" prefer to overlook things like that.

In Ukraine, the President, the Parliament and the Government deprive our people of their constitutional rights with the whole world looking on, neo-fascism is rearing its head, and the Constitution of Ukraine is being re-drafted and flagrantly customized for the country's next ruler. The West looks the other way because the Ukrainian government does not threaten to change things the West considers sacred, like the "independence" of the central bank.

The main reason for the threats to throw Hungary out of the European Union, cut it off from IMF loans, and bankrupt the country, is the new law on the National Bank (the MNB), passed by the Hungarian Parliament at the very end of last year. This law places the MNB fully under government control. The head of the Bank is to be nominated by the Prime Minister and approved by the President of the country. The nine members of the Monetary Council are to be chosen by Parliament. Orban also introduced an additional tax on the banking sector, and instituted government regulation of wages and pensions in the banking sector. And the Constitution includes protections for the forint as the national currency.

This was a real challenge to the world government, a challenge to the banking mafia! That's why Hungary was hit.

The Loss of Sovereign Rights

Those leaders of ostensibly sovereign nations, who, for the sake of dollar loans and political support from the U.S.A. and the European Union, obey all the demands of the world government, actually deprive their own countries of the right to determine and regulate their national monetary policy themselves.

The example of Ukraine is especially illustrative. Ukraine's National Bank head Victor Yushchenko (who enjoyed a mysteriously meteoric career, rising from the rank of farm accountant) became a favorite of the U.S.A. and the world banking mafia because of services rendered. Indeed! The Ukrainian banking system was organized in such a way, that Ukrainian businesses suffocated from lack of access to credit, industrial output fell, millions of people landed on the street with no means of sustenance, and the population was hit with soaring prices. All the while, the oligarchy got richer, thanks to speculation on the national gold and currency reserves, remittances from people working abroad, and the 1996 currency reform. The West organized and financed the Orange Revolution—the demonstrations in the Maidan (Independence Square)—and the whole coup process of 2004, in order to make Yushchenko President.

Thus, reform of the banking system, with mandatory central bank independence of the national government, is a strict requirement imposed by the world government. In order to comply with it, constitutions are changed and special laws introduced. So it was in Russia, Ukraine, and other targetted countries.

Article 2 of the Federal Law on the Central Bank of the Russian Federation (the Bank of Russia) states: "…[T]he Bank of Russia shall exercise its powers to own, use and manage its property, including the gold and currency reserves of the Bank of Russia.… The state shall not be liable for the obligations of the Bank of Russia and the Bank of Russia shall not be liable for the obligations of the state.…"

The Ukraine's Law on the National Bank of Ukraine is almost identical. Article 4 reads as follows: "The National Bank shall be an economically independent body.… The National Bank shall not be responsible for the liabilities of government agencies; government agencies shall not be responsible for the liabilities of the National Bank.…"

That's the point. They want the banks, which form the circulatory system of the economy, to be independent of governments, that is, of their own nations. They do not care about the problems of our society or the objectives that must be achieved for the sake of the population and the development of production! Such a



permier.gov/ru/eng/

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin "dared to challenge the mafia" by promoting economic growth and the welfare of the Russian population. Here, Putin visits an emergency hospital in Naberezhnye Chelny, Feb. 15, 2012.

banking system, led by such a central bank, turns into a cancerous mass, devouring and killing the entire organism, rather than providing life-support for the nation.

Without radical change, without changing the role of the central bank, any economic development and modernization of production, any transition to an innovation model, is out of the question.

Putin's Attitude to the Russian Banking System

Putin knows this! Actually, he realized it some time ago, back when he became President in 2000. He assumed office in May, and a few months later presented to the Duma his amendments to the law, essentially nationalizing the central bank.

Of course, Putin was counting on support from the parties in the Duma, which verbally advocated national prosperity. And then . . . not a single party supported the bill. Not even the Communist Party. It was a cold shower for Putin, and it posed a very fundamental question for the political parties in the Duma. Whom do they serve? Whose interests do they represent?

In this situation, Putin made the only possible correct move. He gave the Foreign Economic Bank (Vneshekonombank, or VEB) functions similar to those of a central bank. Starting in 2001, this bank, which after the destruction of the Soviet Union had dealt solely with restructuring the foreign debt of the former Soviet Union, began to carry out government instructions related to financing social projects. In 2003, it became the government management company for pension fund investment. In 2007, it was reorganized as the Development and Foreign Economic Bank (VEB). Already in 2008, the VEB financed over 70 investment projects, worth 750 billion rubles (about $25 billion). In 2009, it provided credit for the construction of Olympic facilities in Sochi. It issues long-term loans for 5-10 years. This is what the Central Bank of Russia would not do. Or, to state it more precisely, what the banking mafia would not let it do.

The performance of such functions by "clone" banks—created to bypass the world government's demands—were very clearly outlined by Nikolai Starikov in his book *Nationalization of the Ruble: Pathway to Freedom for Russia* (Moscow: Piter, 2011). He identified a second clone, a double of Sberbank (the state Savings Bank of Russia), which was a subsidiary of the Central Bank. A controlling packet of its shares, more than 60%, belongs to the Central Bank. Sberbank is the top-ranking Russian bank in terms of assets. In order to promote investment in the economy, the government did an end-run around Sberbank in 2002, creating VTB, an 85% state-controlled full-function banking group that ranks second in Russia in terms of assets. VTB began to invest in businesses and the real economy. It even loaned $2 billion to Ukraine (without any conditionalities in the form of requirements for reform, such as the IMF imposes). "Independent" central banks are prohibited from carrying out such operations.

The world banking mafia, looking after its own interests, and caring only about increasing its capital, absolutely ignores the needs of national economies. Recent events have demonstrated this once again. In the middle of the global financial crisis, which has been felt particularly hard in Europe (foreign debt is strangling the eurozone countries, production is falling, and recession is turning into stagnation), the European Central Bank suddenly began to provide an unlimited amount of three-year loans to commercial banks.

In January 2012, EU489 billion has been pumped into the banking system at quite moderate rates of interest. By doing this the ECB was protecting the banks (!)

against losses, in the event that the debts of troubled countries had to be written off. Banks in Italy, Spain, Ireland, France, Greece, and Germany have already received from the ECB amounts of money double what they need to cover these risks. Yet they are not investing in the real sector (rather, they do nothing but tighten their lending terms). They are buying up Italian, Spanish, and Irish bonds, hoping to increase their speculative capital. That's what the banking mafia is after!

And Putin dared to challenge the mafia. He strengthened the state, using government control over bank capital, putting it to work to develop production, and promote economic growth and the welfare of the Russian population.

Incidentally, Putin was able to pay off Russia's foreign debt not by means of the Central Bank's gold and currency reserves, but only by creating a Stabilization Fund. Thus, while Japan's foreign debt stands at 220% of GDP, in Greece it is 142%; in the U.S.A., 91.6%; in France, 84.3%; and in Germany, 80%—this level in Russia is only 9.9%.

Realizing that the Central Bank was not going to use the Stabilization Fund for the needs of the population, Putin split it into two parts—the Reserve Fund (managed by the Central Bank) and the National Welfare Fund (controlled by the government). This has made it possible during the global crisis to support domestic production and strengthen social programs. As a result, while in 2011 GDP in the U.S. grew by 1.6% and in the eurozone by 1.5%, in Russia, GDP growth was 4.2%, outstripping the world average of 2.8%.

In the midst of the crisis, wages and pensions in Russia were growing quite noticeably, and health care and education received increased funding. The Russian government did not yield to IMF demands to raise the retirement age (as was done in Ukraine) or increase the length of the work day (also being prepared in Ukraine).

If we also take into account that Putin has strongly advocated integration of the former Soviet republics (and not just into the Customs Union, but into a Eurasian Union!), and has come out bluntly and unequivocally against NATO as the world's policeman, and against expansion of U.S. missile defense systems, is it really not clear why the world government, the leaders of the banking mafia, and the NATO thugs have come to hate Putin?

The West's Goal Is To Destroy Russia

I shall not write about things that are generally known, such as the repeatedly stated plans of the West to undermine and destroy Russia. On top of the encirclement of Russia with NATO troops and a U.S. missile defense system, the economic model and the banking system represent internal threats to Russia. Banking tycoons are ready to spend not just millions, but billions of dollars on bribery, blackmail, intimidation, and deception, aimed at naive and gullible Russian citizens, and on organizing information and psychological warfare against those who don't suit them.

They have no use for order, prosperity, or the protection of Russia's national sovereignty, nor for the integration of our countries, and creation of a powerful union among them. No, what they want is liberalization, meaning the total removal of the state from the regulation of economic processes. But such deregulation would be suicidal for Russia. Its harsh climatic conditions (being the northernmost country in the world), vast territory, and the accumulated economic, environmental, social, demographic, and political problems, all require fine-tuned management by the government. The liberal ideology and conditionalities of the IMF and the World Trade Organization put Russia at a disadvantage from the outset. It would have been proper first to establish a competitive economy, and only then, to address the issue of joining the WTO, rather than the other way around.

Look at Ukraine: In 2008, President Yushchenko, backed by the "orange" parties and the Party of Regions, secured a decision by the Supreme Rada (Parliament) to join the WTO. In September 2011, the leaders of 50 industry associations (from the farm sector, the food industry, light industry, machine-building, furniture manufacturing, and others) appealed to the Prime Minister of Ukraine for protection against the WTO. Ukraine has lost billions of dollars, since it opened its domestic market. In 2011, Ukraine's trade deficit was over $12 billion.

Therefore the liberalism of [Russian President] Dmitri Medvedev, expressed in the removal of members of the government from the management of state corporations, and in dragging Russia into the WTO, as well as promoting large-scale privatization and many other things that happened during his Presidency, has significantly put the brakes on Russia's development. These and other mistakes need to be corrected. A man representing the interests of the state must replace this liberal.

Clearly this is not what the world government, the

international banking network, wants. They require a Russian President who will give the banks free rein, ensuring continued capital flight, inflation, inaccessibility of credit for development, debt bondage, the seizure and exploitation of Russia's richest natural resources, and the total impoverishment of millions of people, while some individuals become billionaires.

They are interested in seeing the growth of unemployment, alcoholism, mental debilitation, and death rates among the Russian population. They desperately want Russia to be weak and disintegrating. Then, kneeling before the West, each separate entity—Bashkortostan, Muscovy, Tatarstan, Chechnya, Udmurtiya, and the others—will beg for loans, sacrificing their intelligence, labor power, natural resources, native land, and human dignity for empty paper dollars. This scenario would be lethal for Russia, and is absolutely unacceptable for its citizens.

Goals for Russia Should Inspire and Unite the People

Wishing to see the revival of a strong Russia and its transformation into a highly stable center of civilization, I believe that the President of Russia is obliged to offer a program of reforms that will inspire and unite people.

Each Russian citizen wants to live in a country that strives to produce the best spaceships and coffee-makers, submarines and televisions, cars and planes. He wants his country to have the strongest army, a high standard of living for all the people, and the best science and medicine in the world. The country's traditions and culture should be carefully preserved and developed. Inter-ethnic and inter-religious peace and harmony should be maintained. To achieve these objectives, the President needs to establish a team of like-minded people.

The color revolutions have quite different aims. They seek to divide society; inflame conflict under slogans about democracy and freedom; turn people against the government; and thus divert the government from addressing the objectives which have been set. That is what implementation of the world banking bosses' plans means.

Those are the stakes in the Russian Presidential election of March 4, 2012.

EIR SPECIAL REPORT

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LaRouche Slate Fights To Reverse 'Clinton's Terrible Mistake'

by Matthew Ogden

Feb. 28—On Feb. 27, an urgent LaRouchePAC release hit the streets across the United States. Titled "Obama's Thermonuclear Holocaust: President Clinton's Terrible Mistake," the leaflet identifies the leading source of demoralization for the American people: the capitulation of former President Bill Clinton to the British agent occupying our White House, Barack Obama. With his decision not to oppose Obama, Clinton—the one leader to whom the American people would ordinarily look to lead a fight against a President they rightly view as their enemy—has just eliminated himself as a potent factor of leadership at this historical moment. Although President Clinton's "terrible mistake" can be reversed if he musters himself to change that decision, the combined effect of the Democrats' cowardice, combined with the four dangerous clowns currently running for the Republican nomination—who would better be called The Committee To Re-Elect Obama—is that the American people have been rendered demoralized and leaderless at the very moment they need to fight the most.



LPAC-TV

New Jersey Congressional candidate Diane Sare hosted a town meeting Feb. 19, attended by 60 guests. Here, she shows off her campaign's first color brochure.

As LaRouche opened the broadcast discussion which he held with the LaRouche National Candidates Slate on Feb. 27: "We are now entered into the very big leagues, essentially, in the campaign this year. Because now that Clinton has made the elegant mistake of supporting Obama, he has eliminated himself and the current leadership of the Democratic Party from any significantly positive role in the coming election campaign from this point onward. The obvious intent is to change that, and to convert him back to becoming a fighting representative of the Democratic Party."

The demoralization of the American people can be reversed, though not by the ordinary party-politics methods. The desperation and despair that the majority of the American people feel in the face of the oncoming elections can only be solved through boldly saying what others are too cowardly to say: that Barack Obama must be impeached, or else this nation will find itself destroyed in a thermonuclear Third World War. And anyone supporting Obama, including leaders in the Democratic Party, will themselves be found culpable for such a war by the tribunal of universal history.

However, the psychological issue goes much deeper. As LaRouche continued during the same Feb. 27 broadcast: "The only policy on which you can organize a sane and safe society, is the dedication: 'You, the meaning of your life, *will not be permitted to die*!'... It's this sense of a dedication to the future, participation in the future, which makes life *securely meaningful*, that is, the meaning of your life *never need cease!* Your life may cease, but the meaning of your having lived will

never cease. And that is essentially the only morality there is. Otherwise, it's wild guesswork.

"And therefore, that's where we have to be: *the future*. And the future is expressed today, typified by science.... *This is the real secret of statecraft, today!*"

The Slate Mobilizes

This is the quality of leadership which the current six members of the LaRouche Federal Slate are bringing to the American population at a time of great desperation and pessimism. Not empty political empowerment, or pragmatic populism and sloganeering. But finding those one-in-ten American patriots who still have in their bones the sense that they are personally responsible for the unbroken continuity of American culture and American history. A sense that the identity of this nation—stretching all the way back to the original settlers who came from a war-torn Europe to escape the repressions of oligarchism and tyranny—was one of science and technological power; an unbroken continuity of production and progress, as a single unit of history.



LPAC-TV

Summer Shields, running in California's San Francisco Congressional District, made a guest appearance at Kesha Rogers' Houston event, and spoke about the potential for U.S. cooperation with Russia and China.

Each of the candidates, running for Congress, but with a view of representing "what a Presidency must be," is working aggressively from their locales to convey this idea of American identity, and to raise the current population to it. They are, in order of announcement: Kesha Rogers (Texas-22nd CD); Summer Shields (Calif.-12th CD); Diane Sare (N.J.-5th CD); Rachel Brown (Mass.-4th CD); David Christie (Wash.-9th CD); and Bill Roberts (Mich.-11th CD).

The emerging cadre of organic leadership, catalyzed by the activities of the candidates slate, was apparent at a joint town hall meeting held on Presidents' Day weekend, in New Jersey and in Texas simultaneously, hosted by Diane Sare and Kesha Rogers respectively. In New Jersey, Sare hosted a meeting with 60 guests, which included leaders of the New York Teachers Union, who proudly announced that the UFT, with 641 delegates present, passed a Glass-Steagall resolution. The Houston event was a day-long conference, which began with a keynote by Rogers in the morning, followed by a presentation by Basement research team member Jason Ross, and candidate Summer Shields, who made a guest appearance, and gave a presentation on potentials for cooperation with China and Russia. Lyndon LaRouche joined both meetings via live video feed, answering a parade of questions after a very moving opening presentation. (The video of this dialogue is available in archive form on www.larouchepac.com.)

After both events, the response from participants and guests was indicative of precisely the principle which LaRouche described, as a campaign based on the science of creating the future being the only source of durable optimism in the American citizenry, and therefore, the real secret of statecraft. Indicative of the moralizing effect of a full day of scientific pedagogy, music, and historical discussion, which Rogers hosted as the substance of her conference, can be seen in a post-conference video report (available on www.kesharogers.com), comprised of interviews with conference guests and participants. Here is a selection of some of the reactions to the effect of the event, coming from young and old, alike:

"You guys talk about so much that I think about all the time, but when I talk to my peers, they don't understand. So, it's good to find a group that finally thinks the way that I do."

"I thought it was fantastic. I enjoyed it so much! There was so much to learn, and so many things that I didn't know about science, that made things so much simpler! We need Kesha! We need Summer. We need the entire team, so that we can create a different world for us all to live in!"

"I'd recommend this to anyone who wants to know and learn what's going on. Extremely good! I won't forget this. I took a lot of notes, and I'm going to truly stay involved!"

"It's always exciting when you hear new ideas that can help progress humanity, that you can actually understand and you know how to apply. I support Kesha because she's part of a panel of people who are bringing this kind of movement of enlightenment into the U.S. government."

"I think she's going to be great, and she cares about us. And that's what's important. Someone who cares, and wants to work for people. And I loved the music. See, I love singing. I think music is the root of everything."

"Kesha represents the spirit of a whole generation that has the potential to reestablish the mission of John F. Kennedy, and she has that as her whole being."

A Question of Statecraft

Now, come back to the discussion held this past Monday between LaRouche and the candidates slate. Only by taking the following principle of statecraft seriously—lovingly assisting our fellow citizens to discover and fulfill the durable meaning of their lives—will we be able to penetrate and revive the souls of a demoralized and dejected citizenry, and muster ourselves and others to the task of deciding our own destiny. Only in this way will we be qualified to succeed in taking the creation of a new Presidency into our hands.

"So it's this cultural development across successive generations, always based on scientific and cultural progress," LaRouche said, "but a *unity* of scientific and cultural progress. And that's the only weapon we have which can address the problem that faces us now. And only to the degree that you can make science understandable as a sensuous thing, to people once they understand that science is progress, and without science there *is* no progress, then the experience of progress is the basis for optimism, it's the basis for culture. Without that factor of culture, you can not defeat the kind of monster we face now!"



Economics in Brief

Austerity

Greece: Deep Wage Cuts Now and Retroactively

Feb. 23—The Greek government is immediately slashing wages, affecting hundreds of thousands of workers. The cuts, euphemistically called "unified payroll," for contract workers in the public sector, are retroactive to November 2011. As a result, up to 64,000 workers—21,000 teachers, 13,000 municipal employees, and 30,000 civil servants—will work without salary this month, or even be asked to give back wages.

As of March 1, the monthly minimum wage will be slashed by 22%, with workers under the age of 25 suffering a 32% reduction. Since minimum-wage earners pay taxes and contribute to the unemployment funds, the cut will lead directly to a loss of no less than a EU6.5 billion drop in revenues every year.

A new report forecasts another 180,000 company bankruptcies with the loss of 240,000 jobs, to take place by the end of 2012.

The Greek people are not giving up without a fight. Yet another demonstration was called by the country's two major trade union federations, which brough 6,000 to 10,000 demonstrators out in front of the parliament in Athens, as well as in Thessaloniki, despite bad weather. Doctors and medical workers held a 24-hour strike Feb. 23.

Glass-Steagall

Seattle Times Calls For FDR's Policy

Feb. 23—The Eurozone crisis is going "to bite us," and the remedy is go back to Glass-Steagall, the *Seattle Times*, editorialized today. This is not the first time this paper has pushed for President Franklin Roosevelt's anti-Depression policy.

"European bondholders are eating tons of public debt," writes the paper, "as the Greek government promises to slash its payrolls and benefits. More than half of its debt obligation to private creditors will be axed. In the meantime, the ability to grow the economy through exports or afford imported goods diminishes by the second.

"All of the gut-level fears about Greece are compounded by those who know the grim details about Spain and Portugal. Even Italy. . . .

"How will all this bite the U.S. economy in the backside? No one seems to be sure, especially since the universe of investment devices and financial links is studiously opaque. Our economy was whacked by mortgage-backed investments with tendrils around the globe. The U.S. housing market caught pneumonia and Iceland went under.

"The future for Greece et al. is the scary part. Bad things would happen in the wake of a big default, now avoided. Bad things might happen as a result of the cure.

"As the U.S. gropes in the dark with the eurozone, how can Congress refuse to add transparency to our own economy? For starters, bring back all three-dozen pages of the Glass-Steagall Act."

Mexico

$13 Billion Spent on Food Imports in 2011

Feb. 23—In 2011, Mexico spent over $13 billion on food imports, bringing the total spent during 11 years of PAN party governments to over $87 billion, according to information released this week by the official statistical agency, Inegi. With only $12 billion, less than the cost of one year of food imports, Mexico could have financed the building of the Northwest Hydraulic Plan, or PLHINO, the sister project of NAWAPA.

But that's just the monetary shadow of the British imperial policy of the intentional *physical economic* destruction of Mexico's agricultural sector, under the supervision of the nazi World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and IMF. In 1982, at the end of President José López Portillo's term in office, Mexico was on its way to food self-sufficiency. Over subsequent decades, London's free-trade policies ripped apart Mexico's existing agricultural sector; and urgently needed water projects such as the PLHINO were prohibited by the combination of the WWF's greenie insanity, and the IMF's budgetary tourniquet.

As a result, Mexico's food production has plummeted; millions have been driven off the land to flee to the cities or across the border to the U.S.; and the current drought is now beginning to produce African-style starvation.

Infrastructure

So. Africa Goes Nuclear To Counter World Crisis

Feb. 23—The South African government's National Treasury Budget Review released Feb. 22, proposes to spend 300 billion rand (nearly $40 billion) on new nuclear power plants between now and 2029, in order to put 9,600 MW of new capacity on line (equivalent to 10 full-sized plants). South Africa currently has the only nuclear power plant in Africa.

The nuclear build is part of a 3.2 trillion rand set of 43 major infrastructure projects that are listed in the budget, including water, transportation, housing, telecom, education, and hospital projects. The projects were identified by the Infrastructure Coordinating Commission, set up by President Jacob Zuma last year. The Treasury has allocated more than $110 billion for the projects through 2015. "No good project will be short of funding," Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan told the Parliament.

The day before the budget release, Energy Minister Dipuo Peters reported that the task force established to reassess the country's nuclear program after Fukushima will have its report out "soon." The government decision on the specifics of the nuclear plan is in its "final stages" of determination, she said. The first new reactor should come on line in 2024.

Schiller Institute Meets: 'Securing Mankind's Future'

by Our Wiesbaden Bureau

BERLIN, Feb. 27—"Securing Mankind's Future" was the theme of an international Schiller Institute conference here on Feb. 25-26, attended by some 180 guests from 28 countries.

The Institute was founded by Helga Zepp-LaRouche in 1984. In dedicating the association to Germany's Poet of Freedom, Friedrich Schiller, she stressed that "Schiller's special method of approaching world-historical problems is the only one which can still bring about a solution today. The kernel of this method can be defined in Schiller's own words: 'Man is greater than his fate.' Even if the objective situation looks almost hopeless and desperate, we, like Schiller, are sure that a courageous spirit and human reason will always be able to find the higher level where the problems are solvable."

In that spirit, the Berlin conference had a twofold purpose. First was to mobilize internationally to stop the rising dangers of thermonuclear war and systemic economic breakdown. Second was to build support for a completely different paradigm than the one that brought us to this moment of crisis: bringing civilization into cohesion with the physical laws of the universe by discovering new scientific and artistic universal principles.

Zepp-LaRouche opened the conference with a keynote speech titled "Overcoming the Existential Danger of a Thermonuclear War." A thermonuclear war, she stressed, means the end of human civilization. The situations in Syria and Iran are just the pretext; the real crisis is that of the trans-Atlantic monetarist system, and the response to that of the British Empire (understood as the financier oligarchy, central banks, hedge funds, and other operatives, not only in Britain). They are driving ahead with war policies that have resulted in the giant military buildup in the eastern Mediterranean and the western Indian Ocean, with nuclear weapons capacities many times what would be required to attack Syria or Iran. The real targets, she said, are Russia and China.

She described the current crisis of the European Union as another aspect of the situation that points toward new conflicts and war. This supranational Europe is meant by its promoters to be a post-modern empire, and its citizens are being manipulated like the subjects of the Roman Empire, who were distracted by bread and circuses.

And what is going on on this planet, she said, is not even the full reality: There are serious galactic influences and challenges to be faced. With the malthusian and anti-technology ideology of the Greenies, mankind is doomed to share the fate of the dinosaurs, which became extinct. But mankind is the only potentially immortal species, and we can use our creativity to overcome the threats to our existence.

The Current Crisis

After Zepp-LaRouche's speech, panelists presented a number of unique reports from some of the front lines of the war to save humanity. A presentation on "The In-





EIRNS/Christopher Lewis

Helga Zepp-LaRouche (left) addresses the Berlin conference: As both Friedrich Schiller and Nicholas of Cusa showed, mankind is a potentially immortal species, because we can act to overcome the threats to our existence. On the right, Claudio Giudici of Italy is speaking on his fight against EU austerity conditionalities.

formation War Against Russia: Operation Anti-Putin," was read on behalf of **Prof. Igor Panarin** of the Academy of Military Sciences in Russia. Describing London as "Russia's unique historical enemy," he outlined the British-steered propaganda campaign against Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, and the prominent role in it of the new U.S. ambassador to Russia, Michael McFaul, whom he described as "a theoretician and practitioner of coups d'état." McFaul is coordinating the opposition's anti-Putin operations in Moscow with Mikhail Gorbachov, the "Judas of Stavropol," Panarin charged.

Next, **Claudio Giudici** spoke on "Resistance in Italy to the EU Dictatorship." Giudici, a regional leader of the Italian taxi union, delivered a rousing report on his battle with techno-fascist Prime Minister Mario Monti. A member of Movisol, the LaRouche movement in Italy, he gained widespread publicity and support for his challenge to the EU's demands for crushing austerity against Italy.

Gene Douglas, representing the LaRouche Irish Brigade, reported on his group's fight for republican principles against British liberalism and imperialism. Ireland was the first victim of the EU's demands for brutal austerity in the current crisis. Douglas also conveyed greetings from Gerry Adams, president of the Sinn Féin party and a Member of Parliament in Ireland, who has played a key role in fighting the EU policies, and regretted that he was unable to attend the conference.

Mohammad Mahfoud, an independent Syrian activist, chairman of the Syrian-Danish Friendship Society, reported on "Truth Versus Propaganda: The Situation in Syria." He sketched the history of the recent events, which began in March 2011, with large and peaceful demonstrations calling for reform, which launched the process of dialogue with the Syrian government. This was followed by a demonstration where an obvious "third element," with support from outside the country, began a campaign of violence. This soon expanded, as foreign fighters with weapons and financing from abroad perpetrated terrible crimes and atrocities against Syrians, with the view toward creating sectarian conflict. Syria has been targeted, he said, because of its relationship with Iran.

Jacques Cheminade, the leader of the LaRouche movement in France, gave a videotaped presentation on his campaign for the Presidency, the aim of which is to defeat the system of the financier oligarchy and also to being about a new Renaissance. **Christine Bierre**, an activist in Cheminade's campaign, gave a report on the successful organizing drive to collect the required 500 signatures from mayors that would allow him to get on the ballot.

The 'New Economics'

Lyndon LaRouche opened the afternoon panel on Feb. 25 with a videotaped address which we run in full in this section. He addressed three principal topics: the

danger of thermonuclear war, which could come on very quickly; the need to terminate the present bankrupt monetarist system of the trans-Atlantic region with a reform that would begin with the re-enactment of the Glass-Steagall law in the United States; and a science-driver policy to promote a general recovery, "based largely on the role of the development of exploration of nearby space."

The rest of the panel took up some of the epistemological underpinnings required for such solutions to occur.

Bruce Director of the U.S. Board of the Schiller Institute, spoke on "Toppling the Tyranny of the Second Law of Thermodynamics." He tore into the continuation of oligarchism since Aristotle: The survival of the financier oligarchy depends on declaring the universe as fixed, which the "Second Law" imposes in a modern form.

Cardinal Nicolaus of Cusa, in the 15th Century, started to liberate mankind, Director said, by showing that the potential for life has a higher reality than merely living things. The potential to increase anti-entropic development, he said, requires a language beyond the limits of sense-perception, in the realm of true metaphor. Society's upshift increases the complexity of new principles in science and culture.

The next speaker was **Dr. Sergey Pulinets** of the Space Research Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, whose theme was "Turbulence and the Modern Trend in the State of Nature and Society." He created a metaphor connecting the phenomenon of turbulence in the natural world, with the emergence of turbulence, which can lead to catastrophe in human society.

Pulinets, who investigates space plasma, described turbulence in the natural world, starting with the fluid dynamics studies of Leonardo da Vinci, and proceeding to the microphysical world of chemical reactions, and then to galactic processes. In parallel, he showed that turbulence in society can lead to catastrophe when there is no leadership, economic and financial instability, climatic anomalies, and possible intentional destructive impact. Yet, using the example of current Russian politics, he maintained that a system passing through such a critical state, can reach a new stability at a new qualitative state.

Pulinets showed that there has been an increase of natural catastrophes in recent years. How do we reduce that threat? We need to increase the "viscosity" of the system by finding a common purpose for humanity in preventing global catastrophes. He highlighted the work of the Russian International Global Aerospace Monitoring System (IGMASS), which is trying to increase man's ability to predict earthquakes and similar phenomena, and the Russian Strategic Defense of Earth (SDE) initiative, of which Pulinets is the scientific advisor.

Sky Shields of the LaRouchePAC "Basement Team" of scientific researchers, then took the audience through an intense study of the latest breakthroughs of the team. Where was human creativity before man appeared in the universe? Where was life before living organisms appeared? These provocative questions focused on the principle underlying anti-entropic development. The example of the newborn organism developing from a single cell to the full-grown individual exemplifies the ruling principle of the whole process, which allows an understanding of V.I. Vernadsky's conception of biological time. Morphogenesis under the rule of intention eliminates the common notion the survival of the fittest. On this solid grounding, he then showed that the anti-entropic increase of energy-flux density is the expression of the creative universe.

The day concluded with a delightful *Musikabend*, an evening of music. Among the highlights were an aria from Verdi's *La Forza del Destino*, performed by renowned soprano **Antonella Banaudi**, and the Schiller Institute Chorus and Orchestra's performance of the choral movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

The Coming Renaissance

The first session on Feb. 26 began with **Rudolph Biérent** of the French aerospace lab ONERA, speaking on "Space Exploration—the Optimism of an Infinite Universe." Next came **Ulf Sandmark** of the LaRouche movement in Sweden, on the subject of "Man in the Arctic—But How?"

The final panel was devoted to the subject of what it takes to be a great human being and artist. The speakers and musical performers were **Antonella Banaudi** and **Raymund Björling** (grandson of the great Swedish singer Jussi Björling).

The conference concluded with a lively discussion of "The Coming Humanist Renaissance," which showed that participants were duly provoked by the paradox of the immediate danger of human extinction by thermonuclear war or a pending "Great Kill" as a result of galactic forces, and on the other hand, the alternative, based on the realization of man's unique capacities as a willfully creative species.

Future issues of *EIR* will publish selected additional speeches from this exciting conference.

A Science-Driver Recovery or Economic Extinction and War

Lyndon LaRouche gave this pre-recorded video keynote speech to the conference of the Schiller Institute in Berlin, on Feb. 25.

I shall speak on three subjects today—speaking from Virginia, in the United States.

The first is the danger of war, of global war. It's been steaming up since about the time that Qaddafi was murdered, after being taken captive; and in the plans for general warfare, involving the targetting, in the least part, of Syria and Iran.

But the major danger lies not there. What the world is facing, as I know from here, and leading circles know from here, and some know from other parts of the world: This will be, if it occurs, if the war starts, and it could start soon—it's been postponed successfully for some time now, that is for some months, but it could come on quickly—it will be a thermonuclear war, not a local war, not merely a nuclear war. It involves the thermonuclear capabilities of the major powers of the planet, in which the targets are chiefly Russia, China, and other countries, from one side, and the response that Russia and China would make, if a launch were actually unleashed against them.

So far, the saner bodies of mind in the United States have acted, in my view, correctly and courageously, to oppose any such kind of warfare from occurring.

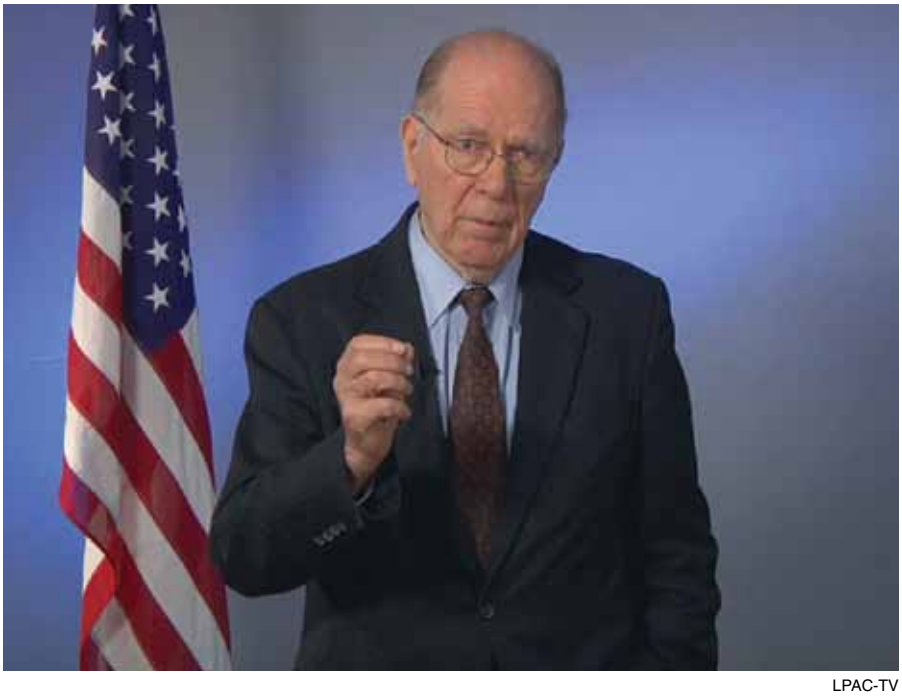
The other side of the thing, in particular, is the fact that we're on the verge of a breakdown-crisis of the trans-Atlantic economic system. That does not mean that Russia, China, India, and so forth are not affected by this. It means that the principal immediate threat—economic extinction, virtually—lies in the trans-Atlantic region. And it's concentrated obviously on continental Europe in particular, and it's concentrated also on the United States. We're are on the verge of a breakdown-crisis—the present world monetary system of the trans-Atlantic region in particular, is doomed. But it's obvious that, under these circumstances, no part of the planet would come through alive, in much condition, around the world anyway, if such a war were to break out.

Now at the same time, as I said, the economic situation in the trans-Atlantic region is presently hopeless. That's the case, as I think many of you who are well-informed in Europe know, that we're on the verge of a breakdown-crisis there. We've passed the point that there are any solutions under *the present monetary arrangements*. There could be reforms which would avert this crisis in Europe; there are reforms that could avert this crisis in the United States.

What Is the Remedy?

The United States' situation, of course, is particularly important, not only for me, but it's important for you. What is required, is this: We presently have monetarist systems in the trans-Atlantic region, which are in *a hopeless breakdown mode*, that is, these systems can not survive the present period; they're doomed. What is possible, is a change, a rather radical change from the view of some people, which must be made, and can be made on short notice, which would get both the United States, in particular, and Europe, out of the danger of a general breakdown collapse. It would mean that the present monetarist systems of the trans-Atlantic region would have to be terminated by a reform.

Now, take the case of the United States in particular. What's the possibility of the United States avoiding a general breakdown-crisis, a physical-economic breakdown-crisis, during the coming months ahead? That's on the way now. A similar kind of process, of course, has hit Europe too. What's the remedy for the United States? In the United States there are two actions, in particular, that have to be taken as economic reforms. One, is that we have to re-install what was called the Glass-Steagall system. The banking system of the United States as such, without essentially dropping the



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There are three things we must do now to rescue the planet, LaRouche stated: prevent thermonuclear war; go to back into space, and save the world economy with great projects like NAWAPA.

present system, the United States' economy can not survive. Glass-Steagall is essential.

However Glass-Steagall is not sufficient. Because if we apply Glass-Steagall to the present banking situation, we will simply dump all the non-commercial parts of the banking system, dump them off, back to themselves; the government no longer takes any responsibility, the nation takes no responsibility whatsoever for the continuation and support of the present financial system, in its present form. That would save the United States. It would save it from a collapse. And without that, the United States probably would disintegrate, as an economy. A similar threat is hanging over western and central Europe at the same time.

So, in both cases, the use of a Glass-Steagall reform, as prescribed by Franklin Roosevelt in 1933, would stop the collapse. It would not, by itself, produce a recovery; it would stop the collapse. In order to stop the collapse, we would have to go back to something the United States did, in the forming of its Constitution, under the influence of Benjamin Franklin and other people in that period. We would have to go to a credit system, which is what the United States Constitution was.

In other words, we use *Federal credit*—not monetary credit—Federal credit, to fund what are considered by reasonable people to be projects which would lead to a physical growth, both in the quantity and quality of the conditions of life, in the economy in the United States. The same thing could be done in Europe. It would be a more difficult problem in Europe, because the precedents do not exist in Europe, which exist in the constitutional system in the United States.

So our reforms, here, if adopted, would be more readily applied, than they would be, say, in a typical European situation. But, if the United States were to take these actions, these economic reform actions, these reforms would be immediately relevant to Europe. In other words, Europe—particularly, one speaks of continental Europe—if Europe made the same reforms that the United States would make in that case, Europe would find itself capable of going to a credit system, as opposed to a monetarist system; this would be a ready solution. And collaboration with the United States, in such a reform, or combined reform, would lead to a solution, an economic solution.

NAWAPA vs. the Greens

It would also lead toward a political solution. For example, in the United States we are producing almost nothing, and that is one of the reasons we have a problem. We shipped all our production outside the United States to areas where labor was cheaper, we said, and so forth. And so therefore, we are not a productive nation anymore. We should go back to that.

For example, there's one case, which is a rather famous case, known to people of science around the world: the case of NAWAPA, the NAWAPA policy, the North American Water and Power Alliance. If this were put into action, it would mean essentially that we were going into a period of about 30 years, as we find it was estimated originally, but it would be a development of the U.S. economy, which would be a leader in a very rigorous, accelerating rate of growth. That's what we're looking forward to.

FIGURE 1



NAWAPA is the key to a science-driver recovery for the U.S. and the world; it will lead the way to a revival of manned space exploration, beginning with the Moon-Mars program.

This would mean a change in a lot of things. First of all, the great economic danger today, the greatest source of economic danger, physically, is the Green movement. Under the Green movement, there is no chance that civilization can survive. In the history of mankind, in the history of even species in general, the only way that life-forms have been able to succeed, is through scientific progress, essentially, or what is in the form of scientific progress and its application to the real situation. Without these reforms, *mankind were doomed.*

Now, for a long time, mankind has been subject to the domination of a kind of imperialist system, of which the Roman Empire is typical. But the Roman Empire, when it collapsed, was supplanted by the alternative Roman system, of Byzantium. Then, when Byzantium went down, we had a so-called Venetian system, which was established. This collapsed, again, in turn, into an absolute disaster. Then there was a recovery, under the leadership of people like Nicholas of Cusa, for example, in Europe. And this was a very important recovery: The foundation of the elements of modern European civilization was set into motion, then. We can apply the same approach, today, in terms of designing a new economy, new economic relationships for human survival.

The Threat of War

Now, what we're facing on the military side: We're facing, with the immediate threat of an organization of principally the thermonuclear powers of the planet, on the one side, that is the European trans-Atlantic side, and the thermonuclear power represented by Russia and China and other nations in Asia. The danger is, that unless this is prevented—and I'm proud to say that some people in the United States are doing their utmost to make sure this does not happen—it would mean a thermonuclear war, which would break out simultaneously, using things like thermonuclear weapons systems based in units such as the submarine fleet of the United States. *That would be hell, beyond anything any ordinary person on the planet could imagine!*

There are people in the United States and elsewhere, who are determined that this shall not happen. Because what would happen, if, for example, the U.S. and British fleets were to launch a simultaneous bombardment, with thermonuclear weapons, against Asian nations? Certain Asian nations would be forced to respond, immediately, on the announcement of such a launch, with their replies. The result would be very little left of this planet, which could be called civilized. Even if the extinction of humanity were not the result of starting such a thing.

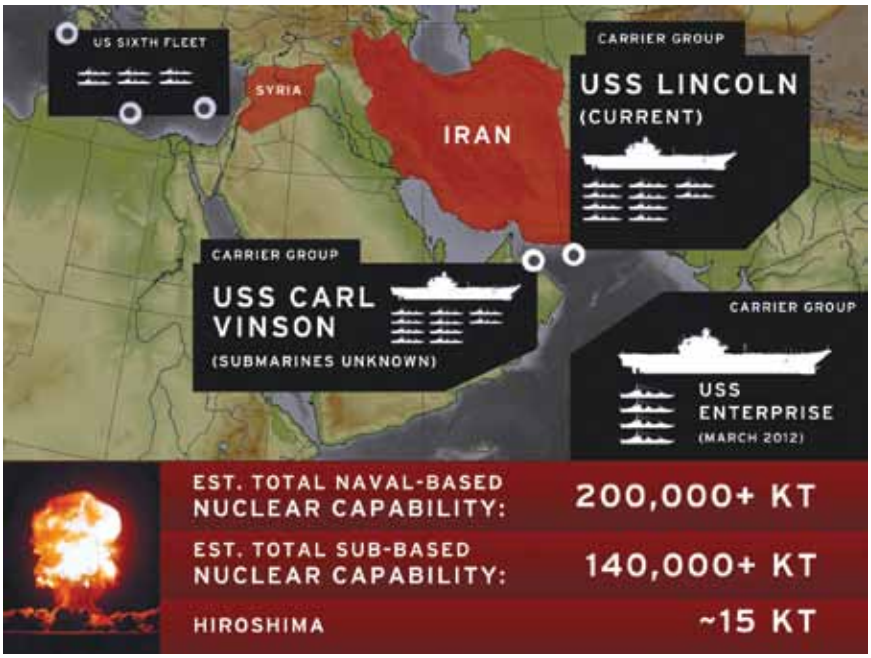
So that's where we stand.

Again, the key thing here is, to develop an understanding, especially in the trans-Atlantic region itself, an understanding, in cooperation with the Asian section of society, especially the Eurasian section, I would say, of Russia, China, India, and other key countries; Japan, Korea, so forth; who in a system of cooperation, can solve the problems of this planet, through appropriate economic effort.

That's where we stand.

And there are people in my country, leading people, who are determined to avoid such a catastrophe as this threatened war, now. We're talking about something that could happen in the Spring of this year—it even could have been now—but, say, now the fair estimate is sometime in late March. It gets more sticky as you go

FIGURE 2
Military Buildup in the Gulf, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean



"We must prevent the danger of thermonuclear war, which is sitting on our porch right now, which some forces in the world are working hard to prevent from occurring."

down the line. But the great danger lies toward the mid-term of this year.

If we can understand that this is the danger, and we can stop the financial collapse which is now in process—because the financial collapse and the danger of a global thermonuclear conflict are matched together. There are people in my own country, who are working to prevent that from happening. And, I think you in Europe have to take this into account, too—that the direction in which Europe has been going, is toward catastrophe. The direction in which United States is going, under the influence of President Obama and under his Bush predecessor, is also the same direction.

A Science-Driver Recovery

If we do not resist and overcome these problems: the threat of thermonuclear war, and the threat of a continuation of the general breakdown crisis in process, and the measures for launching a new type of general recovery, based on going to high-technology methods, which will be based largely on the role of the development of exploration of nearby space.

It means the development of the Moon, as a cooperative project; it means the extension from the Moon, to Mars. How long will this take? It could take up to 30 years—as long as that—to get the ability to move a passage from Earth and Moon to Mars, within a week. And our objective is partly that.

But in the meantime—as we're on the road, to what may be the date of starting of the Moon colonization, in the meantime, we face danger from nearby space. There's an increasing danger from particles, objects floating around there. Some of these objects, if they were to hit planet Earth, would probably cause a general extinction of the human population.

We have the technology we could develop, now, to protect Earth, in particular, from such a crisis. It means a science-driver program. It means an *end* to all these things called "environmentalism." Because the environmentalist program—and the population-reduction program which is advocated by the British monarchy, which is to reduce the human population from the present 7 billion people down to the order of 1 billion—such policies as those, if continued, would mean the extinction of humanity.

And these are the problems we have to face. And, that is my view. That's the way it looks from here.

Number one, we need an economic program, which includes a science-driver program, in the direction of space development, for the *defense of mankind on Earth*—otherwise we're at risk. We must prevent the danger of thermonuclear war, which is sitting on our porch right now, which some forces in the world are working hard to prevent from occurring. At the same time, we must correct and *redirect* the course of trans-Atlantic economic development, in particular, away from the trend since the killing of President Kennedy, since which time—the starting of that [Vietnam] War and the killing of Kennedy—has marked the United States in particular, on a downward pathway, *all the way through*, in terms of economic development, in terms of cultural development. We must deal with that. We must recover our economy.

So, three things: Prevent this war, go to space, and save the world economy.

Dialogue with LaRouche

Q: Lyn, this is Liliana [Gorini, president of Movisol] from Milan. I have a brief question which is both from me and from a number of parliamentarians I met a few days ago in Milan. One of them is a friend of yours, and I'm sure you know who that is, and he greets you. They are planning to introduce the Glass-Steagall legislation also in the Chamber of Deputies at a very high level, besides the bill already introduced by Senator Peterlini in the Senate, and they were wondering during the discussion we had—as you already mentioned in your speech right now—if, in the United States, this has been stopped by the sabotage of Obama in Congress, and has not been introduced in the Senate, would such legislation in Europe help? And would it ignite a discussion which relaunches the Glass-Steagall legislation also in the United States? Thank you.

LaRouche: It would have a very positive effect on the United States, because you have a virtual dictatorship, a reign of terror over the members of the Congress, the political parties, and so forth, in the United States. The courage being shown currently, as you may know, is coming from the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and it's only the action of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, the military Joint Chiefs of Staff, which has blocked the launching of a general cascade of war, which would lead to a thermonuclear world war, at this time.

So that anything done from Europe which goes in the direction of necessary alternatives to the insanity being run through the Senate and other parties under the Obama Administration may be crucial.

For example, take the case of what Russia and China are doing. Both Russia and China, and some other countries, are actually the last ditch of defense, for the world, against a thermonuclear launch. And let's be clear on what this is: The first act of war—of crucial, real war—will occur as a launch of submarine-based and other thermonuclear weapons, in a full blast against Russia, China, and other nations, especially in the Asian regions. There would then, of course, be an automatic response to such a launch from Russia and China, which are both thermonuclear powers. That would mean there would be very little left of civilization on the planet for a long time to come, if ever!

So what we're in, is a situation of madness. Madness is controlling the United States, but through the British Empire. And your big problem here is the British.

In Europe, as you know, the situation is temporized in some respects by the overall economic situation. Europe, as you know, is in the process of economic disintegration. It's past the point that this thing was planned to be resolved. And therefore, there isn't much left of civilization, unless some of us, in various parts of the world, can unify to support those typified by General Dempsey of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff, who are now the blocking point—and have been the only serious blocking point—against the actual launching of a war, a thermonuclear war, which would start, probably with an Israeli attack on Iran, a further attack on Syria: These things would merely be pretexts to set off a general thermonuclear war, which would probably obliterate much of the population of the territory of this planet.



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Liliana Gorini, president of Movisol, the LaRouche organization in Italy, reported that a Glass-Steagall bill, similar to one already introduced in the Italian Senate, will soon be introduced in the Chamber of Deputies. LaRouche responded that it would have a very positive effect in the United States.

The reason that this condition can exist, is, as you know, in Europe, the power of the European nations has been broken to a large degree. The United States is now capitulating more and more, in its government circles, capitulating to the terror, run from Britain into the United States through the Obama Administration. We are on the verge of actual threat *of a general thermonuclear, not nuclear, but thermonuclear war.* The capabilities exist, and the intention exists to deploy them. So that anything that comes from Italy, for example, at a significant level, or anything in Europe, breaks the pattern of the capitulation in the trans-Atlantic region to the British-Obama coalition.

Taking Up the Galactic Challenge

Q: What is the purpose of life? If we do achieve everything that we're fighting for, and humanity does get out to space, do we just keep on developing for all eternity?

LaRouche: We're going through a new phase. If you look at some of the reports we've produced here in the United States, from the Basement, from the science-driver Basement, we could probably, now—to reach Mars, for example, would require probably two decades of work. The principles on which this would be based already exist. The planning stage for a launch of travel from Earth to Mars, within a lapsed time *of one week*, is now a physical principle, it is not yet an adequately developed principle. But it would be a thermonuclear—again, a thermonuclear propulsion system, which would take us from Earth orbit to Mars orbit in about a single week.

At the same time, this is not just an exploration of space. The fact is that we're getting into a more dangerous part of the galaxy for the Solar System, which means that we're already receiving galactic problems, which are unprecedented at any time since human beings existed about 7 million years ago, here. In other words, in the whole history of the galaxy, the Solar System has never been in this kind of condition, during the 7 million years that mankind has existed on this planet.

So therefore, we have also—and Russia has emphasized for its part—the danger from large rocks, such as asteroid remnants around us, hitting Earth now, which is an increasing probability, as well as other galactic and related conditions. Therefore, as the Russian government has proposed, there should be a cooperative agreement between East and West, essentially United States, Eurasia, so forth, on the defense of Earth, means for the defense of Earth for various kinds of catastrophes, which are to be expected as a kind of new kind of weather system for mankind to experience now.

There also are other, deeper implications of this, but those are the most essential ones up front.

So, we're now at a point, where we need to have this kind of development, which will be the greatest stimulant, actually, at the same time, for the economic development of mankind. We're on the verge of the crisis of this type. We're also on the verge of a corresponding opportunity, if we mobilize ourselves to take other actions which are necessary at this time, for the defense of human life on this planet, and for the advancement of human life in the Solar System generally.

What Is an 'Unconscious' British Agent?

Q: We have a question here from a former Iranian diplomat. He asks you the following: "Mr. LaRouche, you once said in an address that [Iranian] President Ahmadinejad acts, without knowing it, like a British agent. My question is, how does that function? How can one be a British agent unconsciously?"

LaRouche: By being foolish enough to believe you are doing something, when you're actually walking into a prepared trap. You're an unwitting agent. You decide to do something, and you think that your ego entitles you to try to do it. You fail to recognize that what you're walking into is a great trap. But sometimes people's egos—and often in history, foolish people with big egos, think they intend to do one thing, and their actions result, and they're accomplishing exactly the opposite. And that's the case.

I don't think the problem of Ahmadinejad today is a crucial problem. The point is, *everybody intends to bomb Iran*! Whatever the politics in Iran, the fate of Iran today, depends largely, positively, on Russia and China, and also India, which wish to prevent this kind of nonsense. The intention to cause such a problem no longer requires anything from Iran. It's already there from Britain and from the present Presidency of the United States.

U.S. Generals Are Blocking the War

Q: I had two questions: The first one is that you had recently mentioned again, the lack of political commitment, especially in the youth generation, and we have a lot of young people here, so I wanted to ask if you could go into this again, because I think this has to be discussed again and again. That's the first question.

And the second one is coming from someone else, who right now is not able to ask the question, and I'll just read it: "You said repeatedly that to stop World War III, we need to rid the U.S. of President Obama. My question is, are the generals opposing the war, clear on the Obama danger, and are they ready to call for his impeachment?"

LaRouche: Well, I don't know about the impeachment, but I think the implication is, it would lead in the direction of an impeachment. The main thing they are trying to do, is a defensive action to prevent the world from going into this world war. These American

generals, and others around them, are committed to this goal. In that sense, they're committed to an alliance of nations, which includes China, which includes now India; India's opposed to this nonsense, it is an ally of Russia and China and so forth on this point. But since the absolute *insanity* of any attack, now, on Syria, Iran, and so forth—because those attacks now, are a continuation of what was done to Libya, earlier, under this President and his British controllers. So

The traditional majority in Israel wants no part of any attack of this type on Iran at this time! Only British agents, like the present leader of Israel—British agents as such, not Israeli patriots, are doing this under British direction. And if they could get this started, it might set off a thermonuclear world war!

under these conditions, we are headed, right now, into that kind of war.

On the one side, we have the majority—really, the traditional majority in Israel wants no part of any attack of this type on Iran at this time! Only British agents, like the present leader of Israel—British agents as such, not Israeli patriots, but British agents, are doing this under British direction. And if they could get this started, it might set off a thermonuclear world war!

So the problem here is, yes, you have people around the world who are not talking about taking countermeasures, they're simply saying, "This confrontation must not be allowed to happen." That's what's being said. You see, Dempsey, who's the chief spokesman for the U.S. military, is standing up. But because he stood up, you have all the clowns in the United States who are *for* the war, or are foolish enough to support it, actually asking for his elimination! Dempsey typifies the last official block against the occurrence of thermonuclear World War III! And that's what the situation is.

So, their people therefore, are not proposing to go to war against the United States and Britain over this issue; they are simply taking the position, number one, that it should not be allowed to happen. We will not cooperate in such a war.

On the second thing, the question is what are you going to do to stop it? And the essential intent for this war is coming out of the United Kingdom, out of the British monarchy. It is not coming out of the United States or other places. Nobody on this planet with any brains wants such a war, except the British and Obama and people like that in the United States.

Russia has been very clear on this, repeatedly; China's been clear; India has most recently made itself clear vocally on this question. And I don't think anybody in western and central, Continental Europe wants it.

This might be the end of the human species! But when you get fanatics on the loose—I mean, just ask yourself: Do you know what a thermonuclear mass assault is? Do you know the amount of thermonuclear power that would be instituted even from the U.S. submarine fleet, as an initial launch? Do you realize what that would unleash, automatically, from China and Russia, in response to the signs of such a launch? Do you imagine how much of Europe would exist under those conditions? How much of the United States would exist under those conditions?

What the concern is now, is not to go to war, and see who could win the war. The concern now, is *who is going to save the human species from an extinction threat, being launched at British initiative, with complete, fanatical support from the current President of the United States. That's the issue! There's nothing else as important as that. There's nothing else as significant as that. And all the sane people around the world are agreeing on one thing: This must not happen.*

But you have a few people who are determined that it shall. And the United States, with British alliance, has probably the greatest thermonuclear kill potential on the planet. And what would be intended was a full launch of that capability.

This is not nuclear warfare. This is *thermo*nuclear warfare. It is not thermonuclear war incidents. It's a consistent *world war*, and with thermonuclear weapons, if you're going to launch them, *you launch them all!* Because you're not going to get a second chance.

And that's the way we have to look at this thing. This British-U.S. policy, behind the whole scheme in Libya—the whole Libya scheme was nothing but that. There's no rational problem in that part of the world, nothing! Nothing important. It's a fake! There's no threat from Iran! There's no threat from Syria! There are no atrocities in Syria, compared to those that are being created by the people are trying to stir it up!

It's all a part of this pattern. And you see the mass

insanity on this planet from governments and others. It's astonishing, to see how *serious* the thing is! *How insane it is!*

And I could say a lot more on it, but that's the essential way I look at this. It's what I know. And it's what leading circles in the world know. Right now, *Dempsey has been the leading block against the launching of thermonuclear war on this planet.*



LPAC-TV

Dr. Sergey Pulinets asked about the "madness" of those who want to start thermonulcear World War III. Pulinets is shown here discussing earthquake precursors in an interview with LPAC-TV, in April 2011.

Cure the Planet of the Green Movement

Q: Hello Mr. LaRouche, this is Sergey [Pulinets]. I have a very simple question about this madness. What do you think of these people who want to start this war? Are they really mad? Do they have some hope to survive after this conflict? What do you think?

LaRouche: What their major intention is, is the following. This is typical of warfare, of general warfare, in history. But most people have not been studying this thing for a long time, and the last generation which really understood this kind of warfare, was my own generation, and there are very few of us left. So the younger generations in the world, are not really prepared, to understand this problem; only, generally, older people, people of one generation younger than I am, are the last people who would tend to understand this kind of threat, and how this kind of mass insanity came into being.

Let me give you an example: It's comparable and it's relevant. Let's take the case of the Green movement. Next to thermonuclear war, the Green movement is the greatest immediate threat to human life on this planet today. And yet, this is being spread. The scientific proof of that is clear. There is no competent scientific disproof of that: The intention to reduce the human population by Green methods would result in putting the human species in a situation like those of the dinosaurs, and like the other species, living species, which went *extinct*, because their behavior involved this kind of behavior that's proposed as the Green movement.

It's the Green movement mentality which prevents people from understanding what the nature and solution for the major threat is. Our major problem on this planet, of a positive type, is to restore *high-technology investment,* to go back to, beyond what we've known heretofore. To *end* the Green movement, and to cure the planet *of* the Green movement. Because if the thermonuclear war doesn't kill us and cause an extinction of the human species, the Green movement today *is doing that.* A bit more slowly, but just as certainly.

So the question is, you've got to look at the mentality of people in government, people in leading circles. And you examine their minds, and say, "How could they come up with a Green movement?" "How could they come up with thermonuclear war?" It's the same kind of mentality of saying, "We are going to have our way, or we're going to kill you." And that's what the Green movement is: We're going to have our way, or we're going to kill you. Thermonuclear war: Let us have our way, or we'll kill you.

And that's where the problem lies.

We have very few people on this planet, who have a capability to understand the lessons of history, in these matters. Two generations or three generations since World War II, people have gradually, step by step, lost their understanding of what the meaning of general warfare is, and general destruction is. We have a younger generation which is now in charge. They don't *think* in these terms; they don't *believe* in the lessons of history! And therefore, out of their kind of stupidity, their cultural stupidity, they refuse to understand that the kind of toys they want to play with can cause the extinction of the human species, or something approaching that.

Iran's Readiness To Negotiate Is Not a Sign of Weakness

An Interview with Ambassador Ali Reza Sheikh Attar

Iran's Ambassador to Germany, Ali Reza Sheikh Attar, gave this interview to Andreas Persson in Germany on Feb. 22, 2012. Sheikh Attar had been ambassador to Berlin in 2008. He was previously National Security Advisor and Deputy Foreign Minister in Tehran. From 1992-1998 he was ambassador to India.

EIR: Thank you, Mr. Ambassador, for taking the time to give us this interview.

My first question is: Contrary to the assertions of many politicians in the U.S., Great Britain, and other countries, reliable sources in the U.S. report that in October 2011, the U.S. National Intelligence Board circulated a classified update to the November 2007 National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on Iran's nuclear program. That 2011 NIE update extended the finding from 2007, that Iran had ceased working on weaponization in late 2003, and there was no evidence that Iran has resumed that work.

And appearing alongside CIA Director David Petraeus, before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, only last week, James Clapper, the Director of National Intelligence in the U.S., said of Iran, "We do not believe that they actually made the decision to go ahead with nuclear weapons."

Before the hearing, according to James Fallows of *The Atlantic*, Clapper had released his Worldwide Threat Assessment, which said, "We do not know . . . if Iran will eventually decide to build nuclear weapons." With this, Clapper thus reaffirmed the assessment of 16 U.S. intelligence agencies from 2007, that reportedly was also repeated in 2011, that the United States does not believe that Iran has decided to become a nuclear weapons state.

What is your explanation for this contradiction?



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Iranian Ambassador Ali Reza Sheikh Attar

Iran's Policy on Nuclear Weapons

Sheikh Attar: In the name of God, apart from those agencies' quotations, there are several forms of evidence which affirm that Iran doesn't intend to have nuclear weapons. One of them I can refer you to, is [former head of the International Atomic Energy Agency Mohammad] ElBaradei's memoirs, which were published recently, with the title *The Age of Deception*. Out of twelve chapters, if I'm not mistaken, four are about Iran. And in various paragraphs of this book, he affirms that they [the IAEA] did not find any evidence that Iran is diverting from peaceful nuclear activity toward weapons. And even he blames the Americans and Europeans, because, although they could not find any evidence for that [nuclear weapons development—ed.], they wanted to make this nuclear issue into a pretext for putting pressure on Iran—for totally other reasons. This is what he says.



www.leader.ir

Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, issued a fatwa, or religious decree, forbidding the use by Iran of nuclear or chemical weapons. This is a religious obligation.

Another reason that I can refer you to, is the *fatwa*, or religious decree, of Iranian religious leaders, including Ayatollah Khamenei, as Spiritual Leader.

You should know that Iranian society is religious and the Iranian ruling system is a religious system. We are not a secular country. And in a religious system, religious decrees have a very high value, and I can say that a decree for the Iranian people is much more important than any resolution, including UN Security Council resolutions. Because the obligation set by a decree is a religious obligation, a moral obligation, not only a legal obligation.

Our Spiritual Leader has mentioned several times that producing and use of nuclear or chemical weapons is forbidden, even during the Iran-Iraq War [1980-88], when Saddam Hussein used an extensive dimension of chemical weapons against Iran. Maybe you know that now we have about 100,000 Iranians who were injured by these chemical weapons, and all of them are confronted with cancer! And they are dying, every day.

At that time, Ayatollah Khomeini, then Iran's Spiritual Leader, said that you cannot use chemical weapons against Saddam Hussein's army, as a retaliation. This is a religious obligation that we have. We have the same obligation regarding nuclear weapons, which *very, very openly*, and several times and repeatedly, have been mentioned by our [current] Spiritual Leader Ayatollah Khamenei and other leaders.

However, sometimes people say that this is just a tactical gesture. I should tell you that this is the difference between a secular ruling system and a religious one: In a secular ruling system, you can use tactics every day, as they do. But in a religious one, the credibility of a religious leader is not because of his political character, but because of his moral stature. And if a religious leader wants to change his decree, definitely his moral stature will be damaged tremendously among the people, and he will not have any more credibility. Therefore, a Spiritual Leader, when he issues a decree, will not withdraw it.

The truth is, and all the evidence supports it, that Iran does not want to have a nuclear weapon. But, you ask, why are there so many disputes? My analysis is that particularly the United States and the British want to use any opportunity for revenge against Iran. There is no doubt that the Iranian Revolution caused big damage to the reputation of the Americans and their, the British. Why? Because the Iranian Revolution disclosed that they are bullying, they are oppressive, they want to be aggressive, and, if people want to confront this aggressiveness or bullying, it is possible, regardless of the fact that the oppressors are superpowers. This damaged them a lot, and they want revenge.

There have been a lot of cases in which they behaved this way. Like in the Iran-Iraq War. It was quite clear to everybody that Saddam Hussein was the invader who started the war, but they *openly*, without any shame, supported him. Saddam Hussein was a dictator. Saddam Hussein was a murderer—*not* in recent years, but since his beginning in the Ba'ath Party—everybody knows that, what kind of policies they had. But you remember, there was a law where Iraq and Washington

did not have political relations. Yet in '82, Donald Rumsfeld went there, met Saddam Hussein, and the feelings are professed now again, after 25 years, 30 years.

Or take some cases of the behavior of the British or even Europeans: Who supplied chemical weapons and technology, and raw material, and machinery for Saddam Hussein? It is quite clear: German companies! Who supplied the Super-Étendards and Mirage aircraft which bombarded Iranian cities and killed innocent Iranian people? It was France!

So, even Saddam Hussein's invasion, which clearly was a very brutal invasion against Iran, was used by them as a pressure tactic! And there are a million other instances. Nowdays, they are using this nuclear issue as a pretext, as a pressure tactic against Iran. It doesn't matter whether Iran has or intends to have nuclear weapons, or not! The Israelis have! The Indians have, and Pakistanis have, but they are not applying such pressure against them.



An Iranian soldier during the Iran-Iraq War (1980-88). Saddam Hussein, who was supported by the West at that time, used chemical weapons during the war.

My point is that, even if we say, "Okay, we will suspend all of our nuclear activities, peaceful nuclear activities," they will not relinquish the pressure. We had this experience, between 2003-2005. So, the Americans and the British want to have various opportunities for pressure against Iran.

The Danger of War

EIR: As you mentioned, there is strong influence in the U.S. from the British side. And there are also people, as you see in this U.S. Intelligence Estimate, who are against the British policy, who offer some resistance inside the United States, and there are several high-ranking politicians in the U.S. and in Russia who have warned, that if there's a military intervention against Syria or Iran, it would "destroy the region for the next 100 years," or even lead to a thermonuclear war on a global scale, with the U.S., Great Britain, and some NATO countries on the one side, and then Russia, China, and some other countries on the other. The attack on Syria or Iran would be the trigger. And given the destructive power of these nuclear weapons, this could lead to the extinction of human civilization. What is your view on this?

Sheikh Attar: My view is somewhat different, because I don't want to make any analogy with the Cold War era. The situation is quite different. Yes, if there is any attack from the United States, or its allies, or Israel, definitely there will be reaction from Iran. Experience shows that Iran never has been neutral against invasions. When Saddam Hussein started his invasion against Iran, our situation was very weak. They could come into Iran, they could conquer thousands of square kilometers and many cities. But we did not withdraw. We didn't say, okay, since you have occupied our land, and because we have a weak army, we relinquish our claims to our national sovereignty. We resisted for eight years, we pushed them back, and ultimately, Saddam Hussein was toppled. Definitely, it was our influence.

There are many more instances. No matter who wanted to provoke Iran, or to do something against Iran, Iran was not silent. Definitely this time, we will not be silent. But does it mean that [the Russians] will come to the field? I don't see any reasons for that; we don't need that! Because we feel that Iran has a great deal of influence—moral influence in the region. Actually we have an inspirational power. We have a lot of friends in the region. They are not our mercenaries; they are not groups that we organized. But they believe that we are right, and they believe that if we are invaded, their values will be invaded! This is one thing that should be understood well. They respect the values that we respect: Invasion against us is invasion against the values that they believe in. And definitely, they will show resistance. This will not be only Iran.

And, yes, this is correct, that if such an invasion happens against Iran, the whole region will be influenced. But it doesn't mean, at least in our opinion, that the Rus-

sians will start a nuclear war, and there's no need for that. Rather, it will be a reaction in the whole region, from the whole Muslim world against the invaders.

EIR: Do you think that there is a connection between the accelerating systemic collapse of the [trans-Atlantic] financial system and the war danger, this war drive from the British side? Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said recently, that he does not rule out that "fundamental economic processes are shifting the axis of development to another region, namely the Asia-Pacific region, where there are new powerful centers of economic growth, with the inclusion of China, India, and Brazil. Probably some people in the West consider this a negative tendency. . . .

And maybe the present events in the Middle East are an attempt to compensate for the loss of influence in the global economy by reckless and provocative actions." With the collapse of the trans-Atlantic economies, the imperialists here have no other means of exercising control over, for example, the Middle East. Economic sanctions, for example, don't have any effect if you don't have economic power yourself. And then, the only thing left would be raw military power. And the fact that the Russians see it like this, that could be dangerous even if, from your standpoint, the Russian reaction is not primary—this is the view expressed by the Russians.

And the other thing with the collapse of the trans-Atlantic region: The focal point of power is moving away from the trans-Atlantic to a Pacific orientation, and this may cause some people, of the British view in the U.S., and some people in London, to want a very big, global confrontation, as you saw with the buildup to World War I, for example, that when they don't have any means economically to control things, they simply went for war, and hoped that after the war they would land on top and have a determined influence. This was the policy of the British at that time.

Do you think there is a connection between the war drive from the NATO countries and the collapse of our economies in Europe and the United States?

Sheikh Attar: . . .Maybe this could be true in the last decades, but nowadays, the United States and European economies are in a very serious crisis, so starting a new war would be a kind of disaster for them. This is the reason that they are thinking about changing their military strategy, as it has been published very recently: They want to decrease the manpower; they want to shift some of their centers for various countries, and they may do something like that. But the economic crisis creates problems for them.

There is another social phenomenon, that in the United States, patriotism now is quite different from what it was three, four decades back, even during the Vietnam War. Who is in the Army of the United States [today]? Many of them are immigrants, Latin American immigrants and others, because of the incentives, like university support, or whatever it is. This type of army is not a warrior army. As they claim, U.S. casualties in Iraq were about 4,000. For just 4,000 casualties, they withdrew totally from Iraq! So, it shows that that the U.S. Army is not a warrior army! Why do they want to be dependent more and more on high tech? High tech cannot substitute for an army.

So the social, economic, and even cultural situation in the United States is not such that they can manage a war. This is the reason that they are talking about small-scale special operations, like what they did with this al-Qaeda leader in Pakistan. But even that cannot be a war. They cannot do such a thing with Iran, because Iran's quite different.

Therefore, I believe that neither the Americans, nor the British, nor even the Israelis, believe in the deep parts of their mind, that they can have a war with Iran. They know what the consequences will be. In my opinion, this is like a scenario. They say, "Okay, we have to impose sanctions, because if we do not, the Israelis will attack Iran." How can the Israelis attack Iran?

EIR: Good question!

Sheikh Attar: The maximum range of attack of the Israelis against Iran, are surgical attacks. You know what a surgical attack is: bombarding of some nuclear facilities, like the Bushehr power plant, those centers which have peaceful nuclear research activities. What will be deemed the impact of that? First of all, the Iranian reaction, or Iran's friends' reactions. But more important than that, the Israelis have so far lost a lot of their positive reputation in the world, and everybody is blaming them. After an attack on the Iranian peaceful nuclear centers, what will be the reaction all over the world, even in Europe? Europe is not only the parties who are ruling the countries. Britain is not only Gordon Brown and those ruling figures; there are ordinary people on the street, who every day organize anti-war demonstrations, even in London!

Or in the United States: What will be the reaction,

the reaction of public opinion? Yes, they have a lot of control over the media; even the Zionists do. But this generation is not fooled like previous generations were by the mass media. The dimension of various media, particularly the Internet and the visual media, is causing the monopoly of the formal official media to go down and down and down! You can go to web-blogs, you can read what is happening at various sites and the web-blogs, and what are their opinions, which are quite different from the official and formal opinions which are published in *Spiegel* or the *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, or the *New York Times* or the *Guardian*

Therefore, I think the professional military people, even professional politicians, know that war is impossible, or if it does happen, they cannot control the consequences. So they want to use leverage of phobia of war! Either in Iran or outside of Iran.

EIR: I think it's very true that this type of warfare, this new doctrine [of Obama], cannot work. Because of that, I think there is a danger that the only option is uncontrollable, this unleashing of chaos. And these attacks—in order to win—they would have to be nuclear attacks, and that's very dangerous. There are, of course, other things they're doing as well. There are also people who see the danger of that type of warfare, as you said, spinning out control.

I wanted to ask about other methods than direct warfare that they are using in Southwest Asia. The Russian ambassador to the UN recently pointed to the role of al-Qaeda in the armed opposition against President Assad's government in Syria. Is it not strange, that the same people who talk about how "all options are on the table" against Iran—namely people in the U.S. and Britain—don't think it's a problem to be on the same side as al-Qaeda, now?

Sheikh Attar: This is not the only strange thing. There are some other strange phenomena, and one of them is this: Nowadays, countries which do not have parliaments, do not have Constitutions, do not have elections, are defending democracy! It's silly! Can you imagine, that a country like Saudi Arabia, is concerned about "democracy"?

EIR: No!

Who Supported al-Qaeda?

Sheikh Attar: Secondly, go to the background of al-Qaeda. Who is al-Qaeda, who was bin Laden? Go back to the '80s, the late '80s; who supported them, who organized them? This was the United States and the CIA. Now it is disclosed! Who organized the Taliban in Afghanistan? Go to the mid-'90s, or early '90s, when the communist regime collapsed in Afghanistan, the mujahideen came to power; they had an internal war with each other. At that time, the United States came to the conclusion, that in this case, in Afghanistan, Iran may have some influence, and may use the situation in Afghanistan, because of the cultural-historical relations and the support of Iranians for the mujahideen who were fighting against Russia, also internally at that time. So they decided, for the containment of Iran, to create a government or a ruling system in Afghanistan, which has fundamental differences with Iran, and fundamental problems with Iran, ideological problems.

If you go to the historical documents of that time, the Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs was a lady whose name was Robin Raphel. Her husband was U.S. ambassador during the rule of Zia ul-Haq in Pakistan, and he was killed in that air crash, when Zia ul-Haq was killed. She was appointed as Assistant Secretary of State; at that time, I was ambassador in India, and I was monitoring what was happening. Almost every month or two months, she came to Islamabad, and she conferred with then-Minister of Home Affairs in Pakistan, retired Gen. [Naseerullah Khan] Babar. General Babar was an extreme Sunni, and he and Robin Raphel cooked up this recipe for organizing those extremist religious students who were studying in Pakistani religious schools. They thought: We can organize them, we can supply them, and they can contain Iran. You can find these documents easily.

There was an oil company, which was supposed to establish a gas pipeline from Turkmenistan, via Afghanistan, to Pakistan, in order to sideline an Iranian project. They took about 200 Taliban to Texas and they trained them as guards for this pipeline. This is the story of the Taliban, which usually and deliberately is ignored.

So, it is not strange that they are not worried about al-Qaeda in Syria, because al-Qaeda is their baby. However, sometimes this was a nasty baby, and had to be punished. They killed Osama bin Laden, because Osama bin Laden had a lot of information on intelligence from the past and their relationship with the CIA. They even threw his body into the sea! They didn't want to have a tomb.

Go to this operation: bin Laden was living in a very safe area in Islamabad, an areas of diplomats, army generals, politicians, in a very good house. Then, he

was attacked by a special task force! It is good story for the films! But what was behind that? In our opinion, if you go to the standard positions of al-Qaeda leaders, like Zarqawi, who was in Iraq, and was killed—he was killing a lot of Shi'as and ordinary people; or like Ayman Zawahiri, who is now leading al-Qaeda; their main problem is not the United States. Their major problem is the type of thinking of Iranians, who want to propagate a democratic and free Islam. This is their main concern, not the United States. So, it is not strange, now, that al-Qaeda is involved in Syria, because they [the U.S. and Britain] feel that Syria is vulnerable, and they are not concerned about al-Qaeda; they are not concerned about terrorists in Syria; they are not concerned about civil war in Syria. However, the civil war, of course, will damage all neighboring countries: Turkey, Iraq, Jordan, even Israel! But they don't care.

FIGURE 1
The Sykes-Picot Division of the Mideast (1916)



EIRNS

The Sykes-Picot Policy

EIR: Exactly. This remark by the Russian UN ambassador was said in the context of discussing a UN resolution against Syria that could be used as a pretext for war. And in the same context, the Syrian ambassador to the UN made another interesting remark. He said, "The wild tendency of some Western countries to interfere into our internal and external affairs is not accidental or new, but has been a systematic and continued approach since the Sykes-Picot agreement in 1916." So, I would like to ask you if you see a continuation of these old colonial policies, and the old colonial powers—in that case, it was France and Great Britain—in the present situation?

Sheikh Attar: Yes. This question is a long historical discussion. I will answer briefly. I would like to point out that although the Ottoman Empire, at the beginning of the 20th Century, was called the "sick man of Europe," the colonial powers were still concerned about a Muslim empire.

Secondly, these Europeans were very eager to take revenge on Muslims, for two reasons: the Crusades and the Ottoman invasions toward Europe, and the conquest of part of the European continent near Vienna. Historically, they wanted revenge. Even nowadays, you can find a trace of this desire for revenge in the minds of many politicians, journalists, scholars. You can find how angry they are against the Muslim-born, or Muslim minority, or Turk minority who are living here.

Therefore, at the beginning of 20th Century, and in the middle of First World War, when it was quite clear that the Ottoman Empire would be defeated, the Sykes-Picot agreement was started. However, it was implemented in the early '20s. They had two plans at that time: the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire, as an umbrella—although it was very weak system, it functioned as an umbrella for the Muslim world; secondly, the creation of Israel as a good base for the West in the Middle East. Because at that time, it was quite clear that the Middle East possessed large reserves of oil, and oil was very much wanted for industrial life and the survival of West, and even for war; with the First World War at that time, access to gasoline and benzene was a very vital factor.

So, they decided simultaneously to dismember the Ottoman Empire and to create Israel as a base for the West's presence in the Middle East. This was the reason that the Sykes-Picot agreement was prepared, then signed, and implemented, drawing the borders in the

Middle East. Even nowadays there are a lot of problems that came about as a consequence of the Sykes-Picot Treaty.

For instance, dividing the Kurds between Turkey and Iraq; or the creation of Turkey, as what it is now. They were all consequences of that. Or, the creation of some countries, like Jordan, and others. Historically, this is strange.

So, this was the main reason for the Sykes-Picot agreement, which still is valid. Creating Israel, as an important base for a Western presence in Middle East, and avoiding the formation of any power, even a middle-sized power, in the Middle East....

What is happening in Syria—of course, Syria is not a power, or middle-sized power, but what is happening in Syria is to cause problems for the potential powers in the Middle East, including Iran and Turkey, and to some extent Iraq. Of course, Iran and Turkey have different policies in this area; but if this chaos in Syria intensified, if there is a civil war, if there is any ethnic war, who will lose out? Even Turkey. Of course, Iran will not be a loser, because we do not have common borders with Syria.

So, they want to cause all these headaches for regional countries, in order to prevent the formation of potential powers and development. This was the philosophy behind the Sykes-Picot agreement, which still is valid.



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"You should make a bold distinction between Judaism and Zionism," said Ambassador Attar. There is a small, but thriving Jewish community in Iran. Shown is a Jewish wedding in Tehran, 2008.

Jews in Iran

EIR: You mentioned that after the time of Sykes-Picot, Israel was founded; it was previously a British territory under the League of Nations mandate. And you also mentioned the role of Zionism. I would like to ask you, what is the role of the Jewish minority in Iran? Because I think the perception may be that Iran, in its criticism of some of the policies of Israel, has something against Jewish people per se; but I understand there is quite a minority of Jewish people in Iran. What is the relationship between the Islamic Republic and this Jewish minority?

Sheikh Attar: First of all, you should make a bold distinction between Judaism and Zionism.... Judaism, and the Jewish community in Iran, have always coexisted in secure life, not only today. Even before Islam, Cyrus the Great was a king who rescued the Jews who were living as slaves under the Babylonian emperor. This is the reason that they respect the Iranians, and that there are some Jewish saints who are buried in Iran, and Jews go for pilgrimages there.

If you go through two thousand years of the history of Iran, even Islamic history, about 14 centuries, you can't find even one incident of Muslim-Jewish war confrontation, unlike here in Europe. You cannot find any ghetto in Islamic countries, particularly Iran, unlike here in Europe. You cannot find any isolated places or regions, where Jews or Christians were excluded. On the contrary, if you go through Iranian history, there have been Jewish scientists, 1,000 years back, in the Dark Age of Europe: Jewish scientists, Jewish doctors, were very much respected by Iranians.

Nowadays, although the community is not a big one—there are about 20,000—they have one member of parliament in Iran. For your information, in Iran, almost every 200-250,000 Iranians have one member of parliament, but 20,000 Jews have one member of parliament. You can compare.

I can tell you a very, very new story: Maybe you have heard the name of Oliver Stone. His son recently converted to Islam—why? He went to Iran. This is

what he has said in his interview: I saw the Jewish synagogue, Christian church, and Muslim mosque near to each other in Isfahan, and how people respect each other, and even how government is supporting all that, too. This was the reason he converted.

The Jewish member of the Iranian parliament is a doctor. He manages a Jewish charity which has a hospital in the southern part of Tehran, and the absolute majority of the patients who go to that hospital are Muslims. He's a very respected man. Many German parliamentarians who have gone to Tehran have met him. He is one of the objectors and protesters against Zionism; he's an intellectual.

Members of the Jewish community in Iran are in the universities, they are in business, their synagogues are active, and their charities are active. So, they have a normal life, they are friends with other Iranians. And as I told you, if you go through our history, we have *never, never, never* had any confrontation between Muslims and Jews, or Muslims and Christians—compare that with Europe.

British Colonialism

EIR: I read in an interview with the *Financial Times Deutschland*, that you pointed out the specific role of the British in Iran, going back to their involvement in the coup in 1953, against the elected government of [Mohammad] Mossadegh at that time. Can you comment on that?

Sheikh Attar: Well, of course it was a manifestation of the old intentions of British in Iran since the 19th Century, because when the British were present in India, they wanted to control Iran, because their rival was Russia. But even after that, the British felt that because they had a big network of their agents inside Iran, they could utilize the United States as a new superpower after World War II. Well, in Iran, the elected government of Mossadegh said: Now the age is changing; why should you British monopolize our oil, and give us five or six cents per barrel? And he nationalized the oil.

The British were very angry about that, not only because of the profit that they lost, but because they felt that the action would inspire other countries, which it did inspire—after all, [Egyptian President Gamal Abdel] Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal after that; and it inspired all. The nationalization of oil was a phenomenon generalized in all countries after that! The British were very angry; they wanted to take revenge. Of course, they needed the Americans at that time.



Wikimedia Commons

U.S. President Truman and Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh, Oct. 23, 1951. The ambassador reports that the British convinced Truman's successor, President Eisenhower, to topple Mossadegh two years later.

When Truman was in power, he did not believe that they should topple Mossadegh. He wanted to deal with Mossadegh, somehow. And of course, this was the mistake of Mossadegh. But after Truman, when Eisenhower came to power, as a Republican, the British easily convinced him that, "we should topple Mossadegh, and we should have a military coup, and bring back the Shah," who was hated by the people! So, what was the consequence of that? What else? Immediately, the Shah came back to power, and Iran became a good agent of the British and Americans.

But people did not forget. Exactly 25 years later, the Revolution happened in Iran. Why did this Revolution happen? Why did people, millions and millions, come into the streets and support the late Imam Khomeini's ideas? It was in memory of that coup, and of that betrayal.

I am from the generation which was born in 1952, and I remember always, in the house, my parents—they were not political people, they were ordinary people—but they were always talking about how the Shah came

to power by the support of foreigners, and how the foreigners betrayed us, of our votes which we gave to Mossadegh. Millions of Iranians thought like this. And this was the impact of that military coup.

The British always felt that they have a lot of agents in Iran, and they could control Iran, and this was how they misled Americans! They told the Americans, "Don't worry, we will collect enough intelligence from Iran." But they couldn't collect enough intelligence; otherwise the Revolution could not have happened.

EIR: I think it's interesting, what you said about what happened when Eisenhower came in, because I think Truman was probably a worse President than Eisenhower, but it shows also that there is a difference between who is officially in charge, the President, and who is really running the show. Because as Eisenhower was leaving, he warned against the military-industrial complex in the United States. And he supported the nationalization of the Suez Canal. When Kennedy came in, he was very much against these policies of aggression. He opposed an escalation in Vietnam, that was probably why he was killed. And in this time, when there's a transition from one President to the next, both in the case of Iran in '53, and in the case of the Bay of Pigs [1961], they took the opportunity when the new President came in, and said: By the way, we're going to invade Cuba tomorrow.

I think that shows that there are people in the United States—contrary to these 16 intelligence agencies that say, "Iran is not making a nuclear weapon"—there are other people in the U.S. institutions who actually don't look to the fundamental security interests of the United States, or Israel for that matter; they have a different agenda. You really see that, in these shifts. I think these people are traitors to the United States, and you can even see a similarity between how the British have dealt with Iran and how they treat the U.S. The United States is also a former colony of the British.

Sheikh Attar: Yes, the reason these people have this idea, is to get revenge against Iran. As I said, Iran showed that it is possible to resist the oppressive system of the whole West. Imam Khomeini showed this. They wanted, and still want to take revenge, in order to teach a lesson to others, that whoever, like Iran, wants to stand up, and wants to diverge from our line, will be punished. And they think that this is in the national interest of the United States, having control over the world is in their national interest. They say there should not be some bad guys who change their lines. Iran was one of them, they say, so Iran should be punished.

But we believe that they cannot be successful, because nowadays, in the young generation, people are thinking in other ways.

Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy

EIR: Despite the large oil reserves that Iran possesses, Iran has insisted that it is absolutely necessary to develop peaceful nuclear energy for the country. That could be because the continued development of human civilization depends on achieving higher energy-flux density in the production process, more and more energy-dense sources. And it could also be said that fossil fuels are too precious to be simply burned up and used as fuel. Can you say something about that?

Sheikh Attar: First of all, regarding the new technology, you know the converting of oil and gas into petrochemical products is very important, and the additional value of these products is extremely high, sometimes 1,000 times more than the value of oil. So, it is very prudent and wise, to convert gas and oil to petrochemicals. Even today, there are some new technologies which are being developed by using viruses and bacteria, so that you can convert oil into petrochemicals. It's very high-tech, and it is actually a kind of biotechnology. This is one of the convincing reasons that we should keep our oil, instead of selling it for burning.

Secondly, compare the price of energy that stems from the nuclear power process, with the energy that is a product of diesel power stations. When the price of one barrel of oil is more than $65-70, it is feasible, very feasible, to use nuclear energy instead. And when, like nowadays, the price for a barrel of oil is more than $110, that shows how much of that cost is fiscally beneficial. When we had very low-priced oil, maybe it was not fiscally beneficial to go to nuclear. But there was a big question from our side to the Westerners, even a short time ago, 30 years ago, when the oil price was about $10. At that time, the Americans insisted that Iran should establish 20,000 MW of electricity from nuclear stations. How was it that at that time, it was safe and good, and recommended to the Iranians, while the price of oil was about $10 per barrel, but nowadays, when it's $110, they ask us, "Why are you using nuclear energy?"

There are also environmental reasons. We Iranians, in some big cities, have a great problem with pollution, and we want to shift as much as possible from fossil energy to clean energy, and nuclear energy is one of

them. Nuclear energy is not the only phenomenon that we are concentrating on. We are even looking eagerly toward wind energy and solar energy—which, unfortunately, according to the orders of German government, is forbidden to us! Why? I'm telling you that, because here in the West, the Americans and Europeans believe that shifting to new types of energies, either nuclear or other energies, or even biotechnology, means that Iran will have tremendous development in science and technology! And this is intolerable for them. They think that science and technology should be a monopoly of the West! And they're angry about that. They're even angry about genetic engineering developments which are happening in Iran; we are now among ten countries that are developing genetic engineering. Or, nanotechnology: We are among the top ten countries that are developing nanotechnologies. They're really angry about it!



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Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant. The ambassador outlines the numerous reasons that Iran, even though it has oil rerserves, thinks it is essential to develop the peaceful use of nuclear power.

The other reason that they raise this issue—that we have fossil energy, "so why you are going to nuclear energy?"—is the consequence of shifting from traditional ways of supplying energy to modern ways, which will cause technological capacity.

A Turning Point

EIR: I wanted to ask, in closing, if you would share the view that mankind as a whole is now at a branching point, in an existential crisis, if you will; and that the only alternative which is in accord with the dignity of man, is to finally establish a political and economic order for the whole world that focusses on the common aims of mankind: such as the elimination of hunger and poverty; energy and raw material security that you talked about, that you get through scientific and technological progress; and also a better understanding of the laws of the universe? Is this a view that you share?

Sheikh Attar: I very much share that. I should add to this that the global mismanagement is a product of the Second World War, the winners of the Second World War. They felt that they should manage the whole world, with their own ideas, put their thumbs on the scale in economics, with the IMF, or with the UN Security Council in politics, NATO in security. So, after more than 60 years, now it is quite clear that this basis of global management was false, was a mistake: Poverty, famine, pollution, crimes, social crimes, and a lot of problems that human beings are confronted with daily, are exactly a consequence of mismanagement of the global system, which is monopolized under the hand of very few countries, under the leadership of United States. This doesn't work—this cannot work.

You see, that even inside United States, there are problems regarding this—the ordinary people you see in demonstrations. Or in Europe.

You are right: We are at the threshold of a turning point in the history of human beings. High-tech, IT, genetics, biotechnology, these are all the means and ways that we can change the destiny of human being in the proper way, provided that these sciences and technologies are not monopolized in the hands of a few countries, or a few communities, or a few companies.

The human being is talented. Almighty God has bestowed these talents upon human beings. These talents should not be abused! We should give the opportunity to all human beings for the blossoming of their talents!

You see now, the young generation in Third World countries, in what miserable situations they live! What is the difference between that Black or Muslim, or a

Chinese youth, and that American youth who is studying in the best university, at Harvard or MIT? Why are we not creating opportunities for them, as we are creating opportunities for the others? This new technology, fortunately, is quite different from previous technologies. Mechanical technology could be monopolized in the hands of a few companies, while these high-tech and new technologies are widespread: IT cannot be monopolized in the advanced countries. Even in Africa, you can have the Internet, and if you are talented, you can create a program; you can even be a hacker! Hackers are not restricted to the United States; even in Africa, you can become a hacker!

No, this is a turning point for human civilization. This mismanagement should be banished, this monopoly should be banished, and this is what we say: that nowadays colonialism or the neo-colonialist age is over. Otherwise, there will be uprisings. You see what is happening in the Arab countries. They are complaining against Mubarak or Ben Ali, but who was the creator of Mubarak and Ben Ali? The major protests were a revolt against monopoly and mismanagement.

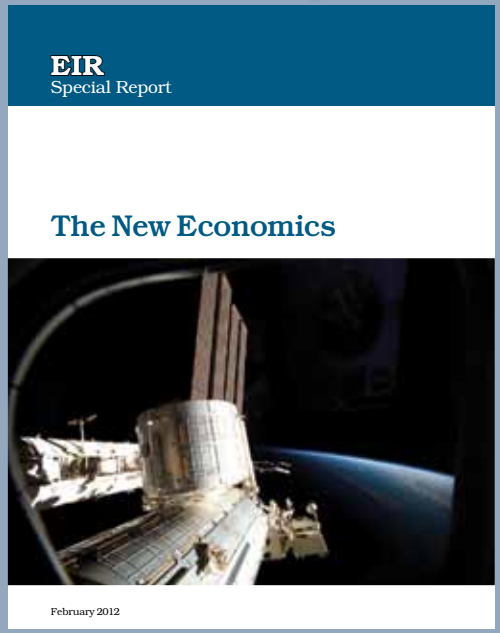
EIR: Do you have a message that you want to convey, in respect to these P5+1 [the five permanent UN Security Council members plus Germany] talks? The reason I'm asking, is that you were one of the first people who talked about resuming the talks after the new escalation of the danger of an attack from Israel [after the leaked Cabinet discussion in November last year].

Sheikh Attar: My suggestion to the 5+1 members is that, as we have shown before, we prefer diplomatic ways to any other way. And the recent letter of the chief negotiator to [EU foreign policy chief Catherine] Ashton has the same message. But keep in mind, if you want to misinterpret this as a sign of weakness of Iran, due to the so-called double-talk policy, it would be a big mistake. They want to say, "The sanctions caused this. It will cause backlashes and policy actions in Iran." The sanctions did not cause anything. [Secretary, Supreme National Security Council, Saaed] Jalili's letter to Ashton has the same literature and the same soul as former letters and former negotiations. So, the 5+1 should strictly avoid propagating the idea that Iran is withdrawing because of sanctions.

EIR: Thank you.

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Editorial

Principle vs. Populism

Looking at the current state of the sideshow known as the U.S. Presidential election campaign, Lyndon LaRouche has produced a crucial analysis entitled "The U.S.A's Last Chance," with the above "kicker." There is no section of the U.S. electorate which does not immediately need to study and absorb the lessons of this document, which will soon be posted on www.larouchepac.com, and then published in our next issue.

Let us give you a foretaste of his argument:

First, President Obama is the worst of the scoundrels that have been put into the Presidency since the British corruption of our system, even in our early years.

Second, "of the presently four leading Republican candidates in sight, three are outright scoundrels, and the fourth, a deviant populist infected with an Austrian-school variety of the British imperialist school" of economics. LaRouche goes on:

"An A.D. 2012 Presidential candidate who would be the appropriate antithesis of both Barack Obama and the "Bush League," and therefore actually a patriot, would be the only decent choice at this moment; but he, or she must also possess certain crucial, other qualifications in addition to those standard virtues. Obama's British-made warfare policies could be reasonably foreseen as meaning that a very large number of American voters were dead, even a great majority, even before the actual 2012 election could have occurred.

"We could probably endure all such evils as those, on three preconditions. First, that Obama is summarily dumped, under Section Four of the Twenty-fifth Amendment; second, that the Glass-Steagall Law is re-enacted; and third, that the commitment to a Third National Bank's establishment be clearly foreseen. Those who would not force through all three of those actions, is not a leading and loyal citizen of our United States as a matter of fact, and should be judged accordingly.

"Therefore, there would be, presently, no hope for the United States, not only economically, nor, probably, even biologically, unless the President waiting to be elected, is neither one of the four Republicans now on stage, nor, the worst choice of all, the mass-murderous, and treasonous mimic of the ancient Roman Emperor Nero, British imperial puppet . . . Barack Obama himself. Former President Bill Clinton will now soon reverse the fatal error of support for an Obama Presidency, or neither of us, he, nor I, are likely to outlive the months ahead."

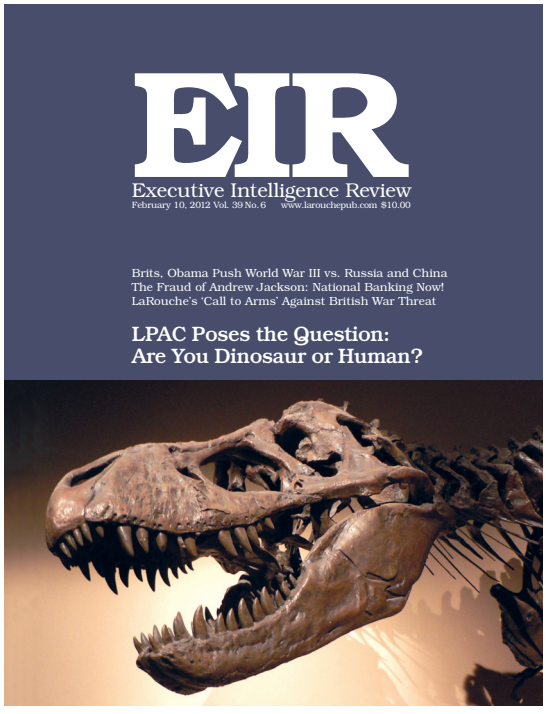
The problem, LaRouche goes on to describe, with historical backup, does not lie with the candidates alone, of course. It can be traced to the process of moral degeneration which has affected the American population as a whole, especially since the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The typical modern voter, LaRouche argues, either does not support the founding principles of the U.S. Constitution, or he or she does not know what they are. They choose to vote as if making selections in a delicatessen—with the known catastrophic results.

Thus the necessary revolutionary shift in the political policies and practice of a leadership layer of the U.S. population, toward what *must* be done in readopting a policy of scientific and technological progress, epitomized by the necessary breakthroughs in space science and travel. The apprehension of and passion for such a future, even more than the desire to avoid today's dire threat of thermonuclear war, is what will inspire the necessary change.

And that is precisely what the LaRouche movement is fighting for.

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