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From the Managing Editor

Surveying the manifold crises that are battering the planet, one might conclude that it would take a battalion of geniuses to overcome them. What is the quality of genius, and how can we cultivate it? That is the topic of Lyndon LaRouche's *Feature*, which he deems one of his most important pieces of writing ever.

The three historic geniuses upon whom he focuses our attention—Nicholas of Cusa, Johannes Kepler, and William Shakespeare—are united by their understanding that what we perceive with our senses is not “reality.” As the Chorus in Shakespeare's *Henry V* instructs us, the truthfulness of the play is not determined by the skills of the costume and properties staff, but by the imagination of the audience. Everything else is “merely shadows cast by sense-perception, not the ‘real thing,’” LaRouche writes. This creative quality of the human mind, which distinguishes us from animals, is what can potentially enable any human being, “through adequate personal development and related, and enriching experience, to break through the so-to-speak ‘walls of evolutionary time.’” This, in turn, allows a person to forecast the future effectively and act upon that forecast.

Our news coverage analyses those crises that we face, starting with the financial breakdown and the drive to war over Syria, which has ratcheted upward with Obama's announcement that the U.S. will now *officially* supply weapons to the rebels. In *International*, we document that the gun-running has in fact been going on for quite some time. And in *National*, we tell the story—which was uncovered a decade ago, but buried by the “mainstream” media—that Washington knew a great deal more than it was willing to admit about the Saudi royal family's role in 9/11, from the interrogation of prisoner Abu Zubaydeh. Both the Bush and Obama administrations saw fit to suppress the evidence, and much of it remains under wraps.

On the related story of NSA spying on Americans “to protect them from terrorism,” we have exclusive coverage of the June 12 press conference by a diverse group of government officials and civil liberties activists, in support of Sen. Rand Paul's “Fourth Amendment Restoration Act of 2013.” Despite the importance of this event in Washington, it received little or no media coverage.

