
International Intelligence

APEC Meeting: EIR Raises LaRouche Four-Power Plan

EIR's correspondent Sara Madueno de Vásquez on Nov. 21 placed on the table what most of those attending the ministerial pre-meetings before the 2008 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Lima, Peru are too scared to say publicly: that the international financial system is dead and has to be replaced.

She asked Chinese Finance Minister Xie Xuren at his press conference: "Do you, Mr. Minister, believe that China would be prepared to propose to the United States, Russia, and India, as American economist Lyndon LaRouche is proposing, that jointly you convoke the rest of the world to discuss the urgency of imposing a new world financial architecture, a New Bretton Woods, inspired by that established with Franklin D. Roosevelt? By now, there is not the least doubt that the conclusions reached by the G-20 meeting, as LaRouche says, avoided the seriousness of the problem, and instead, worsened it. One of these nations definitively must take the first step toward turning the direction of history. Would China be willing to do so?"

The minister said that the question is a very interesting one, but did not answer it. The exchange was broadcast live, and again later, by Peru's 24-hour news channel, Canal N.

Lord Malloch-Brown Seeks To Prolong Congo Crisis

Lord Mark Malloch-Brown, the British Minister for Africa, Asia, and the United Nations, spent three days in the Democratic Republic of Congo the week of Nov. 17, and then went to neighboring Rwanda, intent on ensuring that the destabilization of the region continue. In Congo, he opened an officers' training school, saying that building up the Congo army was bet-

ter than sending in British troops. (This is something that should have been done ten years ago, after the end of the Mobutu regime, and before the subsequent, foreign-sponsored civil wars.)

On Nov. 20, he was in Rwanda, whose government has been sponsoring the rebel, Laurent Nkunda, who kicked off the latest unrest when he broke a ceasefire in August. Malloch-Brown called on Rwandan President Paul Kagame to use what he euphemistically referred to as his "influence" over Nkunda, to end violence in eastern Congo. Malloch-Brown said that Nkunda's group is "just a puppet group whose strings are pulled from Kigali," the capital of Rwanda. He said he would ask the Rwandan leader "to use his influence on the rebel movement."

As London's *Daily Telegraph* reported, "Rwanda is one of Britain's closest African allies, receiving 46 million British pounds of aid last year." So Malloch-Brown has a lot of leverage, if he wants to use it. He could stop the destabilization overnight, since, according to rebels cited in the *Telegraph*, Rwandan officers crossed the border and joined Nkunda's offensive in August.

Malloch-Brown also said that the mediation of former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, the official UN mediator, has helped to ease tensions. Obasanjo is closely linked to George Soros, a close associate of Malloch-Brown.

Fallout from U.S. Rocket Attack in Pakistan

One day after Pakistani Gen. Ashfaq Kayani, Chief of the General Staff, visited NATO headquarters in Brussels on Nov. 19, trying to keep the transport route through the Khyber Pass open for U.S. supplies to the Afghan War, the United States launched another rocket attack into Pakistan, killing five militants—two Arabs and three Uzbeks, according to a Pakistani intelligence source cited by the *New York Times*. This was the first of the 20 U.S. attacks across the Afghan border

which went beyond Pakistan's tribal areas in the border region.

The head of one major Islamic party, Jamaat-e-Islami, threatened to mobilize demonstrators to block the Khyber Pass if the U.S. air strikes are not halted, while Pakistani Taliban spokesman Ahmadullah Ahmadi said in a statement: "We will start revenge attacks across other districts if the U.S. drone attacks do not stop after Nov. 20."

Pakistani Premier Yousuf Raza Gilani, who is believed by many to have privately agreed to these U.S. attacks, was publicly critical. "These attacks are adding to our problems, he said. "They are intolerable and we do not support them." The Foreign Ministry lodged a protest over the air raids with the U.S. ambassador in Islamabad.

UN Official: Gaza Faces 'Humanitarian Crisis'

John Ging, the director of United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which feeds about half the population of Gaza, told McClatchy News Nov. 20, that the situation inside Gaza, as a result of an Israeli blockade now entering its third week, is "very precarious." Fuel has been cut off, power is being rationed and some neighborhoods are blacked out for 16 hours a day. Restaurants and bakeries have shut down for lack of food and fuel, and families are paying black-market prices for cooking fuel.

Israeli leaders say that the blockade will end as soon as Palestinian militants stop shooting rockets into Israel, but some Israeli leaders (not named by McClatchy) may be having second thoughts about the strategy of strangling Gaza.

Ging has no doubt that the strategy is backfiring. "Everybody involved in this is advocating very strongly for a change in approach of punitive sanctions through closure of the crossings," he said. "It's devastating from a human perspective, but also for the prospects for security, prosperity and peace."