

President Reagan drifts toward the falls

by Webster G. Tarpley

Nec Babylonios temptaris numeros.—Horat.

Regular readers of this magazine will recall an article contributed by Lyndon H. LaRouche to our March 18, 1988 issue, which was published under the title, "Is the President to be declared insane?" LaRouche called attention to a growing pattern of hints in the news media suggesting that "President Reagan's strange compulsion to appease the Soviet dictators may be the result of his wife's increasing reign over his waning mental powers. Former White House aide Michael Deaver and other sources insist that President Ronald Reagan never existed, except as a deck of behavioral-modification cue cards from an Alice-in-Wonderland sort of political fantasy featuring Mrs. Nancy Davis Reagan as the Red Queen. The whole business has the ominous smell of a legal coup d'état in the making."

With little time remaining before Reagan's scheduled May 25 departure for his Moscow summit, the issue of whether the President may be *non compos mentis* according to the provisions of the XXV Amendment is again on the front burner. This has been done in a way that strongly suggests that factions in the U.S. intelligence community are alarmed by the danger posed by a mentally debilitated and exhausted Reagan disappearing into the sinister KGB-controlled environment of the Kremlin fortress for talks with the Soviet leadership in which everything, including the survival of the United States, will be on the table.

The efforts of those who want no summit are supplemented by the more adventurous of the Bushmen, who, frustrated in their attempt at a cold coup against Meese and Reagan, have opted for a creeping coup to gain control of the White House—with the Vice President remaining the leading creep. One element of the ongoing exposé of the monstrous irrationality dominating the Reagan White House comes from the appearance in *Newsweek* magazine of extracts from former White House chief of staff Don Regan's memoir about

his years with the President. Regan tries to avenge himself against the Red Queen by depicting her superstitious obsession with astrology. The substance of the charges was confirmed by White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, who told the press corps, "Well, it's true that Mrs. Reagan has an interest in astrology. She has for some time, particularly following the assassination attempt in March of 1981. She was very concerned for her husband's welfare and astrology has been a part of her concern in terms of his activities. . . . My impression was more just that there was a friend that she knew who was involved in this and was helpful to her during that period." As for the President, Fitzwater commented, "Oh, I think his interest—I don't know that he has any at all, in fact, other than reading it in the horoscope, or something like that."

On the day after Don Regan's revelations appeared, the President asserted that "no policies or decision in my mind has ever been influenced by astrology." Yet Nancy Reagan's practice of consulting astrologers has been confirmed by Elaine Crispen, her press secretary. According to ABC News, an astrologer close to Nancy predicted, before the fact, that there would be an assassination attempt against the President on March 30, 1981, and thereafter this astrologer enjoyed special favor with the First Lady.

Regan himself is described by long-time aide Deaver as "incurably superstitious" in the latter's recent kiss-and-tell book. Most elements of the current scandal have long been known. That they now make a scandal betrays the present intent on the part of the masters of the media to put Reagan out of business. Several printed sources confirm that Regan was a friend of the late Carroll Righter, and read the latter's daily astrology column until his recent death. Regan, who was born on Feb. 6, 1911, prides himself on being an Aquarian. The President has repeatedly referred to 33 as his "lucky number," throws salt over his shoulder if he spills some on

the table during a state dinner, and carries good luck charms. According to Fitzwater, Reagan "is often telling about Lincoln's ghost in the family quarters" of the White House. Astrological considerations are widely thought to have influenced Reagan's desire to be inaugurated governor of California after midnight. Other reports have it that Reagan's press conferences are scheduled according to the phases of the moon. Still other reports suggest that Reagan has never revealed the exact time of his birth on his birthday because of his fear that those possessing that knowledge could use it to harm him.

The name of Carroll Righter, recently deceased at the age of 88, links the Reagan family circle with the 20th-century political figure who has up to now been most notorious for his obsession with astrology—Adolf Hitler. Righter studied with Louis de Wohl of British SIS, who was part of the group of astrologers maintained by Winston S. Churchill to keep a horoscope watch on the Reich Chancery. De Wohl had previously been associated with Karl Ernst Krafft, a Swiss, who was one of Hitler's astrologers.

Another question raised in the White House briefing of May 3 was whether the timing of the signing of the INF treaty had been dictated by astrological criteria. Fitzwater's answer, "Well, I don't know in any detailed sense." The following day, President Reagan journeyed to Chicago for a speech to members of the National Strategy Forum. The fifth and last question posed to the President there was, "What do you consider to be the most important need in international relations?" According to the official White House transcript, the President answered, "Oh, my goodness. (laughter) I would—that is quite a question, and how to get at it? I think the need is—well, just actual frankness and a desire for a peaceful solution. I think maybe I'd answer it this way: I keep—in my frustration sometimes—you know, actually, if you count some of the things going on in smaller countries and all, there have been about 114 wars since World War II. But I've often wondered what if all of us in the world discovered that we were threatened by an outer—a power from outer space—from another planet. Wouldn't we all of a sudden find that we didn't have any differences between us at all, we were all human beings, citizens of the world, and wouldn't we come together to fight that particular threat? Well, in a way we have something of that kind today—mentioning nuclear power again. We now have a weapon that can destroy the world and why don't we recognize that threat more clearly and then come together with one aim in mind—how safely, sanely, and quickly can we rid the world of this threat to our civilization and our existence (Applause)." Reagan had earlier referred to the Earth uniting against alien invaders during the November 1985 summit with Gorbachov in Geneva.

Reagan's Russian environment

If there is a summit, it is clear that the Russians intend to shape a controlled environment around Reagan in order to seize hegemony over his thought processes. After Reagan's

May 25 departure from Washington, he is to go to Helsinki, where he is to speak at the Finlandia Hall, the place where the 1975 Helsinki CSCE Treaty was signed. He will be officially welcomed by Gorbachov in the vast St. George's Hall in the Kremlin Palace on Sunday, May 29. Negotiating sessions with Gorbachov will be set in Catherine's Hall. On Monday, May 30, Reagan is committed to visiting the Danilov Monastery on the outskirts of Moscow to watch Russian Orthodox monks in the process of restoring icons inside a 700-year old monastery building. After visiting several of the chapels in the monastery, Reagan is scheduled to converse with several selected young monks. Otherwise, Reagan will be treated to proceedings in Vladimir's Hall and the Winter Garden of the Kremlin, a state dinner in the Hall of Facets, and a ballet evening at the Bolshoi Theater.

Reagan was urged to cancel his visit to the Danilov Monastery by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, who warned that the site is "a Potyomkin village." Ukrainian spokesmen said the President was in danger of becoming "a Soviet propaganda tool." When Cardinal Myroslav Lubachivsky, the primate of the persecuted Ukrainian Catholics, met privately with Reagan, the President reportedly told him that it was too late to call off the Danilov visit.

For two weeks before his departure, the President will be subjected to an intensive series of "briefings" by an as-yet-undisclosed list of Sovietologists and Kremlinologists. Although the White House refuses so far to name names, it is assumed that some of these briefings will be in the hands of Suzanne Massie, who is known to peddle the line that the Soviet military buildup is purely defensive.

Perhaps the superstitious President has already noticed that the monthly trade figures, the latest in a data series that has proven the nemesis of Wall Street, are due out on Friday, May 13, at the end of a week marked by three auctions of Treasury securities for a total of \$26 billion, upon which the short-term fate of the dollar and much else will depend.

The second crash cannot be far off. In the meantime, the Howard Baker White House is close to the point of absolute policy breakdown, in a frozen tableau of evil intentions. The INF treaty, upon which Reagan's travel plans largely depend, is bogged down. The trade bill is a mess, whether Reagan's veto is overridden or sustained. Even the Brady commission is complaining that none of its recommendations to avoid a second crash have been adopted.

Is there anything else that could go wrong for Reagan? Perhaps one more thing. White House astrologer Joyce Jillson claims that it was she who cast a horoscope to show the zodiacal compatibility of George Bush with Reagan, thus clinching the latter's bid for the vice presidential nomination. Bush is now under investigation, not just for Iran-Contra crimes, but also for his role in CIA network going back to his stint as director at Langley. Not surprisingly, Reagan is now about to give Bush his official endorsement for the presidency.