

Thatcher confesses: 'I tried to save the Iron Curtain'

On Oct. 10, the German weekly *Der Spiegel* published sections of the forthcoming memoirs of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Under the title "Stop the German Moloch!" Thatcher admits that she made every effort—including close consultations with Soviet communist leader Mikhail Gorbachov—to halt the reunification of Germany, in order to maintain the geopolitical "balance of power" which would enable Anglo-American financial circles to halt the emergence of a powerful Eurasian alliance for economic development.

Since Thatcher's admissions, some of which appear below (see Documentation), are a resounding confirmation of the repeated warnings issued by Lyndon LaRouche, a committee which is exploring his 1996 candidacy for President reacted instantly by issuing 1 million copies of a leaflet entitled "LaRouche Was Right All Along! Maggie Thatcher Confesses: 'I Did All I Could to Save the Iron Curtain.'" "

The LaRouche Exploratory Committee has kindly given EIR permission to reprint the leaflet's text, which appears below.

LaRouche was right all along!

In 1989, as millions of eastern Europeans were throwing off the yoke of decades of communist tyranny, the British prime minister, the Conservative Party's Margaret Thatcher, was scurrying around Europe and Moscow, doing everything in her power to keep communism alive! That's the story Thatcher tells herself in her just-released memoirs, previewed in the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* on Oct. 10.

Maggie's shameless boastings corroborate precisely the charges of American statesman Lyndon LaRouche in 1989 that Thatcher's bankrupt Britain, with George Bush in tow, were determined to derail the peaceful reunification of Germany—and the freedom of millions. Together, Thatcher and

Bush, with helpmates like Jeffrey Sachs of Harvard, have criminally bungled the greatest opportunity of this century to finally bring peace and development to Europe, and to reverse the world depression. Instead, thanks to their services on behalf of communism, Europe is in depression, the deliberate unleashing of the Balkan war has brought the horror of mass murder to our TV screens, and Russia is about to plunge into a possibly nuclear civil war, which could take humanity to World War III.

History would have been different if you had listened to Lyndon LaRouche in 1989.

Here is the record:

Oct. 12, 1988: LaRouche, in a press conference in Berlin, forecasts the near-term collapse of the Soviet empire and the reunification of Germany.

Oct. 20, 1988: LaRouche calls on Western nations to embark on policies to rebuild Eastern Europe's basic infrastructure for reunification with Europe. On nationwide TV, LaRouche also warns that continued International Monetary Fund (IMF) pressure on Yugoslavia will cause civil war and dismemberment of the country.

September 1989: Thatcher hits the panic button as East Germans flee, according to a preview of her memoirs in *Corriere della Sera*. Thatcher's fear was "that behind this chain of events lurked the perspective, or rather, the specter of a unified Germany." For Maggie, "jealous of the British role on the European continent," this was a threat to the "post-World War II order," in which policy in Europe was controlled by Britain, the U.S., France, and the Soviet Union.

Oct. 31, 1989: *Times* of London article, "Beware of Reich Resurgent," by Conor Cruise O'Brien, screeches that a reunified Germany will lead to a Fourth Reich modeled on Nazi Germany. "German reunification is now inevitable. We

are on the road to the Fourth Reich: a pan-German entity, commanding the full allegiance of German nationalists and constituting a focus for national pride.”

Nov. 9, 1989: The Berlin Wall falls, as millions jubilantly celebrate the downfall of communist totalitarianism, with Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy.”

Nov. 10, 1989: LaRouche, now in federal prison at the behest of the Soviets, welcomes the fall of the Berlin Wall, and issues a proposal for “rescuing Poland,” and also East Germany, starting with construction of high-speed rail and magnetic levitation railroad lines, “with emphasis on the artery of rail transport from the vicinity of Paris, France, through Germany and the eastern zone of Germany, presently the GDR, into Warsaw, Poland.”

Nov. 12, 1989: *Sunday Times* of London wails that the Berlin Wall collapse is “the first step towards the creation of a 70-million-strong Fourth German Reich. . . . The Fourth German Reich is set to boom, becoming Europe’s economic superpower in the process.”

Nov. 12, 1989: *Thatcher* is “deeply worried about the consequences of a reunited Germany,” reports the *Times* of London.

Nov. 13, 1989: LaRouche condemns the attacks on German reunification coming from such sources as O’Brien, as reflecting either “specific Soviet assets or . . . Anglo-American Trust-oriented forces.” LaRouche renews his call for Germany to “proceed with assistance to Poland by way of assistance to strengthening the development of the economy of East Germany, [to] create a rate of growth of about 10% a year in the short term in real physical economic terms.”

Nov. 14, 1989: Thatcher demands a go-slow approach to German reunification. “Strong emotions have been aroused on all sides by recent events,” she complains. “The need now is to take a measured view of the way ahead.” She says that Germany should not be reunified until East Germany is a democracy. This stall tactic is not supported by Germany, France, or the United States.

Nov. 16, 1989: Thatcher assures Soviet President Gorbachov that the “West will not try to poach East Germany,” reports *Times* of London.

Nov. 18, 1989: Thatcher writes to Gorbachov that she is on guard against “excessive euphoria” in Europe. The British paper the *Guardian* reports “close diplomatic contacts” between London and Moscow on Europe.

Nov. 30, 1989: Deutsche Bank chairman Alfred Herrhausen is assassinated, allegedly by terrorists from the non-existent Red Army Faction. Just before his murder, Herrhausen had prepared a speech to be delivered Dec. 4 in the United States, echoing LaRouche’s proposals for the development of eastern Europe. Herrhausen said: “It is advisable that the export guarantees which the German federal government wants to expand, be tied primarily to specific projects. . . . I proposed setting up a development bank on the spot—that is,

in Warsaw. Its task would be to channel the aid according to strict efficiency criteria. My vision is that such an institution could function somewhat like the German Reconstruction Bank, which traces its origins back to the Marshall Plan.” In December 1992, the book *Das RAF-Phantom* demolishes the myth that Herrhausen was killed by the RAF, quoting unnamed German security experts that the “RAF assassinations clearly show the handwriting of secret services.”

Jan. 7, 1990: LaRouche designs rebuilding of Europe’s transport and power infrastructure, focusing on Paris, Berlin, and Vienna as the “Productive Triangle” locomotive to pull the world out of depression.

Feb. 25, 1990: Thatcher pronounces her go-slow approach to German reunification correct, “because you cannot ignore the reality of what happened in this century.”

July 12, 1990: British Minister of Trade and Industry Nicholas Ridley tells the *Spectator*: “It has always been Britain’s role to keep these various powers balanced, and never has it been more necessary than now, with Germany so uppity.”

July 20, 1990: LaRouche releases a statement: “Britain ought to shut up, since before World War I and in the 1920s and early 1930s, Britain did more than any other nation, to ensure that we had two world wars, including the support of many powerful people in Britain for the foisting of Adolf Hitler upon Germany. And, also, the British refusal to support the patriots of Germany who tried to overthrow Hitler, such as those of July 20, 1944. We need an area of continental Europe, which includes an area of Paris to Vienna, through Prague, Czechoslovakia [as it then was—ed.], through Dresden in East Germany, through Berlin and back to Paris. We need that area’s rapid development, in order to deal with the economic problems of Eastern Europe, and the breaking Soviet situation. We also need development of that area, together with development of Japan, to rebuild the shattered, now actually depressed, economy of the United States.”

July 31, 1990: Thatcher says, “Apart from the way in which Mr. Ridley said it, what he said was in tune with people’s feelings.”

March 1, 1991: LaRouche warns in a speech to a development conference in Bonn with eastern and western European leaders: “Up to now, from at least 1986 on, it seems that the British liberals—the same fellows who caused the Thirty Years’ War of 1912 to 1945, are predominant: They’re winning. They’re winning . . . because the world is generally acquiescent to this power, to this liberalism, to IMF conditionalities. Unless that trend is reversed, it is certain that the new Thirty Years’ War period now in progress, will be the rule of this planet deep into the early decades of the next century.”

April 1, 1991: Detlev Karsten Rohwedder, head of the German Treuhand, the agency in charge of economic integration of eastern Germany, is assassinated. Kohl government

in Germany abandons LaRouche-Herrhausen perspective.

Now today—take a look at the bloodshed in the Balkans and Russia; take a look at the broken-down U.S. economy, and face it: *LaRouche was right all along!*

Isn't it time you turned off your boob-tube and started listening to LaRouche?

Documentation

The following passages from Margaret Thatcher's forthcoming memoirs have been retranslated into English from the German pre-release.

There has always been a tendency to consider the "German Question" as a matter too ticklish for well-groomed politicians to discuss. In my view, however, this is a mistake.

The problem has had many facets which could only be addressed when non-Germans discussed it openly and constructively. I do not believe in collective guilt. In my opinion, individuals are to be held morally responsible for their actions. Nevertheless, I do believe in a national character, which is conditioned by a series of complex factors. And the validity of this fact is not undermined by often absurd and exaggerated caricatures of the nature of a particular people.

Germany, ever since it was unified under Bismarck—and perhaps partly because of this, because national unity came so late—has always wavered unpredictably between aggression and self-doubt. Its immediate neighbors, such as the French and the Poles, have been more conscious of this than the British—not to speak of the Americans.

And yet, precisely this concern has held back Germany's immediate neighbors from taking a clear stand, since doing so might have damaging effects on them. The Russians, too, are acutely aware of this problem, but their need for German credit and investment causes them to keep silent.

Perhaps the first ones to recognize the "German" problem have been the open-minded Germans themselves, the great majority of whom are convinced that Germany must never again become a great power which asserts itself at the expense of others.

The true source of German *Angst* is the agony of this self-knowledge.

That is one of the reasons why so many Germans honestly—and I believe mistakenly—want to see Germany embedded within a federated Europe.

It is probable, however, that Germany would assume the leading role within such a configuration, since a reunified Germany is simply much too big and powerful to remain only one of many players on the European field.

Moreover, Germany has always been oriented not only toward the West, but also toward the East, although until now this has more been a question of economic expansion

than territorial conquest by warlike means.

By its very nature, therefore, Germany is a destabilizing force rather than a stabilizing one within the European configuration. Only the military and political involvement of the United States in Europe, and close relations between Europe's other two strong sovereign states—namely, Great Britain and France—can counterbalance the Germans' strength. And that would never be possible within a European super-state.

A unified Europe would in any case enhance, rather than limit, the influence of a united Germany.

These were the convictions which guided my political actions in the process of Germany's reunification. . . .

One obstacle in the way of achieving the balance of forces I had aimed to establish during my term in office, was the refusal of French President François Mitterrand to follow his French instincts and to declare battle against German interests. To Mitterrand, this would have meant giving up the French-German axis upon which he relied. As it turned out later, the pain of parting would have simply been too great for him.

In the beginning it seemed as if the Soviets would vehemently oppose the reestablishment of a powerful Germany—especially a Germany reunified under western conditions, thereby discrediting communism.

The Soviets were in any case counting on the Germans, in partial repayment for allowing reunification, to form a left-of-center government which would realize the Soviets' long-term goal of a neutral, nuclear weapons-free Germany. But only later did it turn out that the Soviets—who perhaps had a better idea of the G.D.R. citizens' real feelings than we did—were prepared to sell reunification to the Germans at the modest price of a financial injection for its moribund economy.

The German Question and the consequences of reunification were my chief preoccupation when in September 1989 I decided during my return trip from a conference in Tokyo, to pay a brief visit to Moscow in order to talk with Mikhail Gorbachov. I told him quite frankly that while we in Europe traditionally acknowledged the goal of German reunification, in reality this caused us great concern. This, I added, was not only my own opinion; I had also discussed this question with another top political figure—by which I meant President Mitterrand, although I didn't name him explicitly.

Gorbachov confirmed that the Soviet Union, too, did not want to see Germany reunified. This strengthened my own resolve to slow the already hectic tempo of developments. Of course I didn't want the East Germans to keep living under a communist system, any more than I wished that on any other people. But I was certain that the G.D.R. would soon develop a truly democratic system, and that the reunification question would have to be dealt with separately, according to the wishes and interests of Germany's neighbors and other powers. . . .