

the British labelled this a move toward potential race war! British Ambassador Lyons stated in a letter to Russell, " 'The question is rapidly tending towards the issue either of peace and a recognition of the separation, or a Proclamation of Emancipation and the raising of a servile insurrection.' Russell expressed alarm that the President should want a 'war of emancipation.' "

How ironic: the British racial imperialists accusing the U.S. republic of conducting a racialist imperialist war. Perhaps they were worried about the consequences of Lincoln's emancipation moves on their own Empire?

Free trade and blockade running

On a different front, the Union blockade of the South was beginning to show some success, and Foreign Minister Russell moved to invoke free trade as a way to break the blockade. The British were particularly upset at its success in halting cotton shipments, and they were increasingly worried about the strategic threat posed by the growing U.S. Navy. This issue burst on the scene in late March 1862, with the clash of ironclads *Monitor* and *Merrimack* at Hampton Roads, Virginia. While the military result was a standoff, the significance of a powerful new Yankee navy was not lost on the British.

Despite all the obvious setbacks to the Confederates, the British never flagged in their support, even if it brought them into clearly contradictory arguments. As author Anton Chaitkin has amply documented in his book *Treason in America*, the Confederacy was a British creation, the Rebellion was their doing. They were dumbfounded at the resiliency of Lincoln, and his ability to render impotent their every move.

The U.S.-Russian alliance

A substantial portion of Jones's book is occupied with chronicling the titanic struggle of Lincoln to defend the American republic against the desperate attempt of Palmerston, Russell, et al. to fracture the Union. Jones unfortunately fails to locate the ultimate cause for the rebuff of the English efforts: the 1863 alliance of Czar Alexander II of Russia with Abraham Lincoln. This alliance broke the back of the British interventionists and changed the course of history, as documented by Konstantin George in *EIR's Feature* of June 26, 1992 ("The U.S. Russian Entente That Saved the Union.")

That this lesson of 1863 should not be lost on Americans today is quite important. The United States republic is locked again in a life or death struggle to free the world from the ideological and political grip of the decaying British imperium. President Clinton's recent declarations in that direction underscore this concern. To sever the "special relationship with England" once and for all would pay appropriate homage to Abraham Lincoln.

Notes

1. Giuseppe Mazzini, 1805-1872, was an agent of Prime Minister Palm-

erston who steered British revolts under cover of so-called liberation struggles against monarchies or empires, which happened to obstruct the British road to world empire.

2. As the Civil War closed, Queen Victoria's diaries contained more references to her fear of a U.S. attack against Britain because of the latter's support for the South during the war (particularly in the area of shipbuilding), and because of Irish-American activity.

Books Received

Lincoln in American Memory, by Merrill D. Peterson, Oxford University Press, New York, 1994, 482 pages, \$30

Tainted Breeze: The Great Hanging at Gainesville, Texas, 1862, by Richard B. McCaslin, Louisiana State University Press, 234 pages, hardbound, \$22.95

The South Was Right! by James Ronald Kennedy and Walter Donald Kennedy, Pelican Publishing, Gretna, La., 1994, 432 pages, hardbound, \$22.50

I Am Roe: My Life, Roe v. Wade, and Freedom of Choice, by Norma McCorvey with Andy Meisler, HarperCollins, New York, 1994, 216 pages, hardbound, \$23

When China Ruled the Seas: The Treasure Fleets of the Dragon Throne, 1405-1433, by Louise Levathes, Simon and Schuster, New York, 1994, 252 pages, hardbound, \$23

Perspectives on Modern China: Four Anniversaries, edited by Kenneth Lieberthal, Joyce Kallgren, Roderick MacFarquhar, and Frederick Wakeman, Jr., M.E. Sharpe, Armonk, New York, 1991, 433 pages; hardbound, \$59.95; paperbound, \$18.95

The Making of a Soviet Scientist: My Adventures in Nuclear Fusion and Space from Stalin to Star Wars, by Roald Sagdeev, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1994, 352 pages, hardbound, \$24.95

Questions of Identity: Czech and Slovak Ideas of Nationality and Personality, by Robert Pynsent, Oxford University Press, New York, 1994, 244 pages, hardbound, \$45

Multilateral Debt: An Emerging Crisis, by Percy Mistry, Forum on Debt and Development (Fondad), The Hague, Netherlands, 1994, 76 pages, paperbound, \$15

The Normandy Diary of Marie-Louise Osmont, 1940-1944, by Marie-Louise Osmont, Random House, New York, 1994, 118 pages, hardbound, \$17