

The Russia-China-India triangle moves forward

by Jonathan Tennenbaum

Soon after Russian Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov arrived in New Delhi on Dec. 21 for a two-day official visit, a sensational piece of news sounded across the globe: Primakov had publicly called for the formation of a “strategic triangle” among the three giant nations of Russia, India, and China. Encouraging India to see itself more as a world power, and calling for closer relations not only between India and Russia, but also between India and China, Primakov reportedly stated, “A lot in the region depends on the policies pursued by India, Russia, and China. . . . If we succeed in establishing a triangle, it will be very good.” As the Indian newspaper *The Hindu* commented, “The concept of a ‘strategic triangle’ covering India, China, and Russia, spelt out by the visiting Russian Prime Minister, Mr. Yevgeny Primakov, is of immense significance since this is perhaps the first time that a senior leader from Moscow has made such a statement.”

Wasting no time to research the real background of Primakov’s remarks, Western and other media were quick to impose their own distorted, mechanistic interpretation. The new “strategic triangle”—they intimated—was Russia’s reply to the U.S.-British bombardment of Iraq, the attempt of the weakened and frustrated former superpower to put together a new, anti-Western bloc. When a spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, reacting to such press reports, emphasized China’s strictly independent foreign policy and China’s policy not to participate in any sort of blocs or alliances, the headlines of the British press proclaimed triumphally: “You see! China rebuffed Primakov”!

In reality, the Russia-China-India triangle is no new invention made under the pressure of the Iraq crisis, but a crucially necessary feature of the entire Eurasian Land-Bridge development strategy, as repeatedly emphasized by Lyndon

LaRouche and others in the pages of *EIR*. For competently informed persons, the actual emergence of the “strategic triangle” Russia-China-India, became virtually inevitable no later than Chinese President Jiang Zemin’s historic speech at the Russian Science City Akademgorodok in Novosibirsk on Nov. 24, 1998. There, Jiang Zemin put forward the basic principles of a policy to harness Russia’s enormous scientific and technological potential, as typified by the “closed cities” of the military-scientific-industrial complex, for the economic development of the entire region. This policy, as Jiang emphasized, is integral to creating a “new, just, and rational world economic order,” guaranteeing the sovereign economic rights of the world’s developing countries. That same concept was affirmed in the official declarations of both the Chinese-Russian and Russian-Indian summit meetings.

The most appropriate comment to these developments, interestingly enough, came in the pages of China’s official foreign press review, *Reference News (Can kao xiaoxi)* on Dec. 24. *Reference News* published on its front page a detailed summary of a speech given by Helga Zepp-LaRouche in early December at a conference in Mexico City (see box). Her speech laid out the background and implications of Jiang Zemin’s Novosibirsk speech, and predicted that Primakov would push for the inclusion of India in the new China-Russia development partnership during his (then forthcoming) visit to New Delhi. What was most significant in the *Reference News* coverage of Mrs. LaRouche’s remarks, however, was her emphasis on the difference in attitude between the Chinese government—which paid attention to LaRouche’s analysis and warnings on the financial crisis—and the attitude of most other governments. That fact, indeed, uniquely coheres with China’s role as a center-point of a growing circle of nations

devoted to real development around the Land-Bridge policy, at a time when the United States and western Europe are plunging toward a self-imposed “dark age” of financial and socio-economic collapse.

Collision ahead?

It is only in this context, and not from some mechanistic geopolitical standpoint, that can one speak of the Russian-Chinese-Indian triangle as an “answer” to what is increasingly perceived in Asia and elsewhere as *a dangerous pattern of*

insanity coming from the West. The turning-point in that perception was doubtless the outrageous, disgusting performance of Vice President Al Gore at the Kuala Lumpur meeting of the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum on Nov. 17. Gore’s “globalist” ravings and his brazen attack on Malaysia for asserting its sovereignty against international speculators, are increasingly viewed in Asia as a signal for the same insane, destructive policy and mind-frame, which characterize the Anglo-American attack on Iraq and the closely related escalation of the fraudulent “legal coup”

Is the West too arrogant to learn?

On Dec. 24, the authoritative Chinese newspaper Reference News published a summary of a speech given by Helga Zepp-LaRouche at a conference in Mexico on Dec. 2. The article ran under the headline, “Blueprint for the Whole Human Race in the Next Century—A Foreign Scholar Appraises Jiang Zemin’s Speech in Novosibirsk Science City.” Here are excerpts from the Reference News summary of Mrs. LaRouche’s remarks:

... When Chinese President Jiang Zemin visited Moscow, he declared a new plan for cooperation between China and Russia. I want you to pay attention to the speech he gave at the famous Russian Science City of Novosibirsk. This speech is one of the most brilliant addresses to be given by any statesman of any country in recent years. This outstanding speech presents a blueprint plan for all of humanity in the coming century. I hope some patriotic newspapers in Mexico will print the whole text of the speech. In it, Jiang Zemin says cooperation between Russia’s scientists and China will make science and technology into the main locomotive of the world economy. . . .

In September 1997, Lyndon LaRouche (the American economist and politician) forecast that a global financial crisis would explode in October 1997. . . . What happened after that was exactly what he had predicted.

Can you imagine it? In this situation the Chinese government came out with a completely different reaction from any of the other governments of the world. Imagine for a moment: China’s leadership—ministers, the Prime Minister, the General Secretary—in a humble way used their weekends to study economics, to more deeply investigate the causes of this crisis. I don’t know if there are any other governments of the world that would acknowledge that they did not understand enough about economics, and then conscientiously go on to study the causes of the crisis.



Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Under these extraordinary circumstances, I happened, fortunately, to come to China to attend a conference, and discussed there whether or not it is necessary to extend the Eurasian Land-Bridge as a counteroffensive to the present financial crisis. This conference took place in four Chinese cities, and had a huge influence on the discussion between the Chinese and Russian participants.

In late November, Jiang Zemin visited Moscow. He and Primakov were unanimous in their view, that from this point on, Russia and China will build a new strategic partnership, whose focal point should mainly be scientific and technological cooperation on the Eurasian Land-Bridge, on agricultural development, and many other projects.

They explicitly emphasized, that this alliance is not directed against any other country. . . . Primakov is going to visit India, and recruit India into this new alliance. . .

against U.S. President Clinton. All add up to an unprecedented assault against the very institution of the sovereign nation-state—including, emphatically, against the constitutional system of the United States itself. Going hand-in-hand with a major escalation of British geopolitical destabilizations in the Near East and elsewhere, and a coming, new global financial earthquake of unprecedented dimensions, that assault has already brought the world closer to nuclear war, than anyone could have imagined a mere 12 months ago.

One should not forget, that it was China and India's stubborn insistence on maintaining their sovereignty in the face of "financial globalization," that has so far permitted those two countries to weather the so-called Asian financial crisis, while less prudent nations went under. The striving to restore to Russia a modicum of national sovereignty, is key to the constellation of forces behind the Primakov government. It is above all this issue of national sovereignty and economic development that is placing China, Russia, India, and other Asian nations—despite the repeated, and doubtless sincere affirmations that their growing partnership is not directed against any third party—on a collision course with the "globalist" policy championed by Gore.

The sharp reaction to the Iraq bombing, by Russia and China particularly, is a mild foretaste of what may come. Unequivocal condemnation of the Iraqi bombing was a major

point of the Russian-Indian joint declaration signed during Primakov's visit. In an unprecedented action, Russia recalled its ambassadors from the United States and Great Britain, while at the same time calling a limited military alert. Soon afterward, Russia gave the world a pointed reminder of its continued existence as a nuclear superpower, by deploying the first of its new generation of mobile, high-precision ICBMs. China's representative at the United Nations did not mince words in ripping apart the fraudulent basis for the whole operation, naming UNSCOM director Richard Butler in public. And after the Dec. 28 incident in which U.S. planes enforcing the so-called "no-fly zone" fired on an Iraqi anti-aircraft position, the speaker of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Zhu Bangzao, declared: "The Chinese side has many times declared that the sovereignty, territory, and independence of Iraq must be fully respected. China regards the action of creation of a 'no-fly zone' in Iraq as contrary to the United Nations Charter and to standards of international relations." Another, increasingly angry message is implicit in the sharp statements and actions of the Chinese government, in dealing with the Western-supported political opposition movement in China itself.

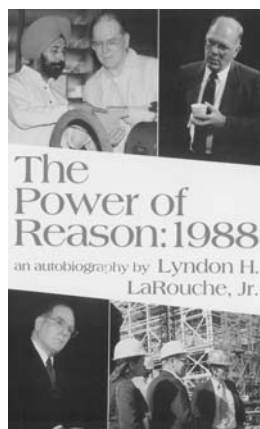
A growing community of interest

Russia, India, and China make up 22% of the world's land

Books by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

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—**Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark**



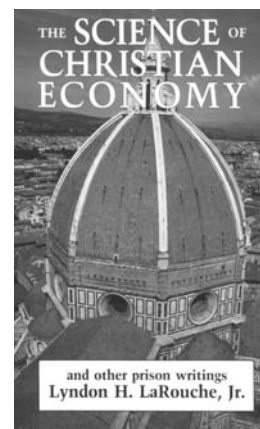
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area and over 40% of its population. As the world's largest and most populous developing nations, whose very maintenance requires enormous inputs of science and technology, India and China have a strong common interest in stabilizing and developing Russia. Russia, for its part, can only survive by bringing its scientific and technological potentials into full economic play, which in turn requires large and stable markets for the kinds of industrial goods it can best produce. All three nations have a vital joint interest in Central Asia, and so forth.

They also share, in different ways, the experience of significant joint development in the 1950s. At that time, both India and China profitted greatly from close scientific and technological cooperation with the former Soviet Union—a partnership which was also key, in its direct and indirect effects, to the relatively rapid rates of industrial growth in the Soviet Union in that period. In a limited, but significant way, the transfer of industrial technology and know-how from the Soviet Union to China and India, in that period, helped shape the Non-Aligned Movement's later striving for a "new, just world economic order."

For all these and other reasons, a profound *community of interest* now exists among the three giant nations. That community of interest is by no means limited to the three alone, but explicitly includes the concept of joint cooperation in other developing countries. It should be noted, for example, that the Russian-Indian agreements signed during Prime Minister Primakov's visit, provide for joint exploration and exploitation of oil and gas resources not only on each other's territories, but also in Kazakstan, Central Asia, and Iraq. Iraq has already been an important oil supplier to India, and India and Russia both have considerable interest in developing petroleum resources there.

But the pathway to consolidation of the Russia-China-India triangle is by no means an easy one. It will be necessary to overcome a long heritage of British geopolitical manipulation in Eurasia. That heritage is lodged above all in false axioms and habits of thinking among the elites, which have permitted the nations of the region again and again to be manipulated against each other in the name of falsely defined, so-called "competitive national interests." The earlier triangle was effectively smashed in the late 1950s and early 1960s, by geopolitical manipulations whose fruits included the Sino-Soviet split, the Sino-Indian war, the apparently "insoluble" Indo-Pakistan conflict, and so on. One of the notable tools in those British-directed manipulations, incidentally, was none other than the late Armand Hammer, sponsor of the Gore family and supposed "great friend" of the Soviet Union. Some painful rethinking of old mistakes will be needed on all sides, if Russia and its partners want the "Great Triangle" to succeed today. That means above all gaining a more competent understanding of the historical conflict between the United States and Britain—or in other words, why Lyndon LaRouche has the friends and foes he has.

LaRouche's ideas circulate in Russia

by Rachel Douglas

One new publication and one reprint, issued in Moscow at the end of 1998, have put key strategic writings of Lyndon LaRouche into circulation among Russian-speakers.

Bulletin No. 8 of the Schiller Institute for Science and Culture (Moscow) is headlined "Russia's Relation to Universal History," and features LaRouche's "Letter to a Russian Friend," which was published under that title in *EIR* of Nov. 29, 1996. The subject-matter resonates with Chinese President Jiang Zemin's recent address to Russian scientists at the Novosibirsk center of the Russian Academy of Sciences (see *EIR*, Dec. 4, 1998), as LaRouche develops why the greatest strength of Russia, defining its potential to make a decisive contribution to saving mankind, is the quality of bold, "dissident" thinking by the Russian scientific intelligentsia. The preservation of Russian science and collaboration with Russia on "such great projects of reconstruction and progress as are urgently wanted for the benefit of both Russia itself and Eurasia more generally," LaRouche writes, is in the vital interests of every nation, especially the United States.

Pictured here is the other just-issued publication, a reprint of the proceedings of the April 24, 1996 round table held at the Free Economic Society in Moscow, at which LaRouche was hosted by Academicians Leonid Abalkin and Gennadi Osipov, to speak on "Russia, the U.S.A., and the Global Financial Crisis." The 92-page booklet is published by the Institute of Social and Political Research (ISPI) of the Russian Academy of Sciences, with an introduction by ISPI's director, Academician Osipov. In his keynote at the round table, LaRouche developed the need to revive Franklin Delano Roosevelt's design of collaboration among the United States, Russia, and China for genuinely post-colonial development of nations after World War II. (An English translation of the round table proceedings appeared in *EIR*, May 31, 1996.)

