

Department's Armitage, former National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, and other proponents of the "clash of civilizations," began beating the war drums against North Korea at the beginning of January—just as peace "began breaking out" in Korea. Their timing indicates that they are more worried about the growing economic cooperation in Korea and its implications for the economic development of Eurasia, and Korea as a new economic superpower, than about any military threat from Pyongyang.

"We don't want a reunified Korea; we don't need a second Japan over there!" a top U.S. official of the Armitage stripe, stationed in Seoul during the first Bush Administration, told *EIR* on March 13, 1995. "Nobody wants that!" Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher "was right to try to keep Germany divided," he said, fearing the economic competition a unified Germany might pose for Britain. "Not as a military potential do we want unification, and not even Korea as a strong economy," he said. "We need to keep North Korea just as it is. We need a new enemy to replace the U.S.S.R." (see *EIR*, April 7, 1995, p. 35).

These geopolitical kooks must now be strategically flanked, by bold moves from the Korean side to draw President Bush personally into the peace process. They are able to pressure the President because of the extreme economic crisis inside the United States. It is well known that Armitage insisted in March 2001 that the Bush Administration rip up the Clinton North Korean accords, and demanded a new "comprehensive approach" in which the United States won't talk to Pyongyang until they agree to unilaterally disarm. The geopoliticians knew this was a slap in the face, and did it precisely to keep the "enemy image." Seoul's Kim Dae-jung government made numerous statements to the press in early January that President Kim had planned to appeal personally to President Bush at their Feb. 17 summit, to give up the Armitage approach, let Pyongyang "save face," and move forward.

The Armitage entourage has been building their "case" against North Korea all month:

- On Jan. 11, the CIA, under pressure from Armitage's office, issued a report to the Senate Intelligence Committee, stating that North Korea has finished preparations for tests of the Taepodong-2 missile, which, it said, could put all of North America within its range.

- On Jan. 14, Armitage himself loudly praised Japan's sinking of a foreign ship in its waters, as a victory over a "North Korean drug-running ship."

- On Jan. 20, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), in a Seoul press conference, warned that "North Korea is a threat to South Korea and other countries in Asia at the same time. . . . There is high potential for a nuclear threat from North Korea. North Korea is able to launch germ war and nuclear warheads in many corners of the earth. Even after the Sept. 11 attacks on America, intelligence agencies have been investigating about North Korea and I've

had a report on the North every week."

- On Jan. 24, U.S. Undersecretary of State for Arms Control John Bolton, a member of the Armitage coterie, accused North Korea of violating the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. "The fact that governments which sponsor terrorist groups are also pursuing chemical, biological, nuclear, and missile programs is alarming and cannot be ignored," Bolton told the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. "Countries such as North Korea and Iraq must cease their violations of NPT and allow the International Atomic Energy Agency to do its work."

"Is the U.S. Distancing Itself From Kim Dae-jung's Administration?" asked a *Korea Times* Jan. 28 editorial, pointing out that Seoul opposition Grand National Party leader Lee Hoi-chang met Armitage, U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney, Secretary of State Powell, House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) and other senior officials—which is quite unusual—during a long tour of Washington on Jan. 22-25. He also met former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Brzezinski, a key architect of the "clash of civilizations."

Lee, in a Jan. 25 Washington press conference, explicitly opposed any visit by North Korean leader Kim Jong-il to Seoul, and sharply attacked President Kim's "Sunshine Policy." "They met Lee because he is the favorite for the December election," one Seoul official said. The official noted that the U.S. Embassy in Seoul has mounted a campaign to oust President Kim Dae-Jung's party from power in the Presidential election this Fall. None of this is in America's national interest, and it can be defused, but this will require leadership with vision.

Support South Korea's Peace Through Development Policy

The following statement by Jacques Cheminade, candidate for President of the French Republic, was issued from Paris, on Jan. 12, 2002. It followed South Korean President Kim Dae-jung's visit to Europe in December, in which he proposed the "Iron Silk Road," from the Koreas to Paris and Rotterdam, as a Eurasian-wide economic boon.

On Dec. 11, 2001, South Korean President Kim Dae-jung, speaking at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, called upon Europe to support his peace initiative toward North Korea, and his inter-Asian and Eurasian development policy.

This call deserves concrete support, especially from France and Germany, not only because peace through mutual

economic development is an absolute right for all of East Asia, but also because it is in our own interest to build a new "Iron Silk Road" linking Europe to Asia, in order to restore just economic growth for our populations.

On July 6, 2001, Foreign Minister Hubert Védrine received South Korean Foreign Minister Han Seung-soo in Paris, and expressed "his conviction and his support" for South Korea's "Sunshine Policy" of opening relations with North Korea. Earlier, Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, in a toast during a luncheon for President Kim, said on March 7, 2000: "France, as well as its European partners, supports and approves the clear-headed policy of engagement which you have toward North Korea. . . . You have embarked upon a rapprochement with your neighbors, China and Japan. You have thus opted for cooperation and the future, in spite of the wounds and the misunderstandings of the past."

Frenchmen and Europeans, the time has now come to put deeds behind these nice-sounding words. Last Fall, North Korea suspended the fourth session of the Inter-Korean Meetings because of the world military crisis, and in particular due to the war-time state of alert on which the 37,000 American troops in South Korea have been put. American Ambassador to Seoul Thomas Hubbard furthermore stated on Oct. 26, 2001, that South Korea must "reform its structures" by stopping public aid for South Korean companies in financial difficulty, as has been demanded by the International Monetary Fund, which will severely damage the domestic economy. Mr. Hubbard indicated that Washington might limit imports of South Korean steel if Seoul did not comply.

Europe, together with Russia, should therefore make clear that we fully support South Korea's infrastructure and industrial efforts, by organizing long-term, low-interest credits for those projects which will draw North Korea into the overall drive for Eurasian development. As President Kim has repeatedly made clear, only 14 kilometers of rail line need to be built to establish a rail link between the two Koreas and Europe, which would enable the Trans-Korean Railway (between North and South Korea) to reach the Russian Trans-Siberian, the Trans-Chinese, and the Trans-Mongolian Railways.

On a more ambitious level, by building the new Iron Silk Road and the new fiber-optic and other high-technology links outlined in Strasbourg by President Kim, Asia and Europe would progressively become a unified continental development zone.

President Kim has also taken leadership to create a true East Asian development organization from the countries of Southeast Asia [the Association of Southeast Asian Nations], and South Korea, Japan, and China in Northeast Asia, the ASEAN+3. The East Asian Vision Group of Advisers to these 13 nations' heads of state, submitted a report for the nations to form an East Asian Community, laying the basis for understanding and cooperation among Asian countries, on Nov. 5-6 at the Brunei summit of the 13 heads of state. North Korea

has also been invited to participate. President Kim Dae-jung is also aware that this is not enough, and that Russia and Western Europe are indispensable in order to give this perspective sufficient breadth and extension.

European countries, which should be calling for a New Bretton Woods monetary system, for a new international order reorienting credit to infrastructure development, production, and labor, should also include this East Asian cooperation with Russia and Western Europe in the proposal.

At the time when the two Koreas are willing to accept a Peace of Westphalia or an Edict of Nantes, we must provide them with an extension into Europe and Asia. Our *EIR Special Report* on the Eurasian Land-Bridge and New Silk Road ["The Eurasian Land-Bridge: The 'New Silk Road'—Locomotive for Worldwide Economic Development"; see also, "Eurasian Land-Bridge: Build Our Way Out of the World Depression," *EIR*, Nov. 2, 2001] has been circulating in Asia since 1997. Now is the time to act.

What are our political leaders waiting for? What are our major corporations waiting for? We, as Frenchmen, have no excuse: Isn't Korea the Asian country where French is spoken most? We, as Europeans, have no excuse. Wasn't Korea a pioneer in the development of the printing press in the 8th Century? Didn't Korea invent the first armored ships during the European Renaissance? General de Gaulle used to speak of a Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals; the hour has now struck, for a Eurasia from the Atlantic to the China Sea.

Euro Is a Disaster, As EIR Predicted

by Rainer Apel

The introduction on Jan. 1, of the European Union's (EU) new single currency, the euro, for daily use by citizens, has already borne out *EIR's* forecast of ten years ago, that the EU's Maastricht Treaty, with its stringent budget-cutting criteria for membership in the European Monetary System, or "euro-zone," would be a catastrophic failure for the national economies involved. By the end of January, the euro had already lost 6% in value, hovering at around 85-86¢. The economic situation is worsening in all of the EU member-countries, notably in the 12 states that belong to the euro-zone (EU members Britain, Sweden, and Denmark have stayed out, so far).

The most worrisome developments are reported from Germany, the biggest economy in Europe, and the importer of last resort for the rest of the EU, absorbing 20%, 30%, or even more, of entire categories of goods produced in the other