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SARS Sounds Alarm: Restore Public Health Systems
LaRouche Exposé of Straussian War-Hawks Draws Blood
Military, Congress vs. Rumsfeld's 'Emergency Orders'

LaRouche Foreign Policy: World of Sovereign Nation-States



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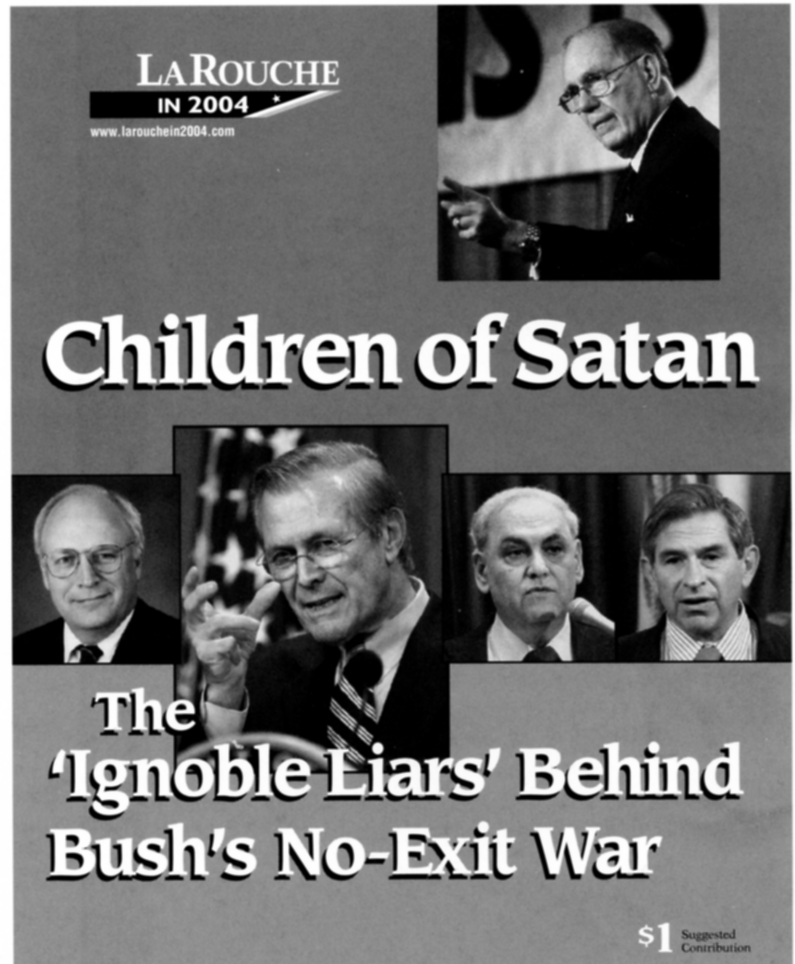
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From the Associate Editor

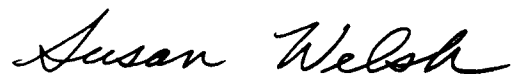
Once again, “you read it first in *EIR*.” The explosion of press coverage of the ideological roots of the Bush Administration’s neo-conservative cabal in the “kindergarten” of the late Prof. Leo Strauss, tells readers around the world what *EIR*’s readers and supporters of Lyndon LaRouche’s Presidential campaign have known for a long time. At one Washington think-tank, there has been an intense discussion lately over LaRouche’s impact, and one staffer told the others, “This happens all the time; LaRouche puts something out, and then everyone else picks it up.”

The decreasing lag time, between when LaRouche takes an initiative, and when it gets picked up by others and “mainstreamed,” reflects the increasing determination of institutional circles in the United States to block a consolidation of the Straussian takeover of the Presidency. It is dawning on them that the “perpetual war” party poses a threat to the very survival of the United States as a Constitutional republic.

LaRouche’s statement on Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld’s proposed Pentagon reorganization (see *National*) goes right to the heart of this vital Constitutional issue. So does our *Feature*, in which the author addresses the issues of U.S. foreign policy, as well as the relationship of church and state, from the principled standpoint of the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

As we report in this issue, the resistance to Rumsfeld’s Hitlerian “Emergency Decree” is growing within the ranks of the uniformed military. For one thing, the men and women “on the ground” in Iraq can see, better than anyone else, that LaRouche’s forecast is being borne out: that there would be no “post-war period” in Iraq, but rather a perpetual war—since that was the *intention* of those who started the war in the first place.

What is needed, is for the opposition to the Straussian coup to come together, under LaRouche’s leadership, and launch a “counter-coup.” That means, simply: Let LaRouche into the Democratic Presidential debates! End the farce, whereby the candidate who has raised more money than any other in Ohio and Wisconsin, is so far being excluded from the candidate forums in those states! LaRouche is the national frontrunner, in terms of the number of individual contributions.



EIR Contents

Cover This Week

LaRouche Youth Movement organizers in Germany on May 2. The banner reads, "The Lautenbach Plan, Not Regime Change in Germany"—a policy in Germany's interest as a sovereign nation, and also in the interest of the community of nations.



28 A World of Sovereign Nation-States

Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. presents his foreign policy for the United States. "It is unfortunate, for all of us," he writes, "that I am not yet the incumbent President of the U.S.A. However, in my role as the Democratic candidate currently leading in popular financial support, I represent a significant force for those ideas around which concerned leading forces around the world could, and should now rally, to present to the people and leading institutions of the U.S.A. and other nations, an image of the changed, better future role of the United States which would be consistent with the true interest of the world's respectively sovereign nations."

42 John Paul II Before the UNO: The Roles of Church and State

By Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.
A complement to LaRouche's foreign policy document.

Economics

4 SARS Rings the Alarm Bell: Restore Public Health System

The war against infectious disease epidemics cannot be won as long as the economic austerity policies fuelling many nations' overall fiscal disintegration are allowed to continue, thereby cannibalizing critical infrastructure. In Congressional hearings and government reports, the truth is emerging: The U.S. public health system is "in tatters."

6 Science of SARS

7 Stopping Disease: The Yellow Fever Case

8 U.S. Economy: Depression Collapses Purchasing Power by 50%

EIR's documentation of a 50% fall in purchasing power of an average American's paycheck since 1963 may surprise incompetent economists. But it is a reality that most of the lower 80% of U.S. households, by income class, know all too well.

17 Wall Street "Reform."

Science & Technology

18 Problems of U.S. Policy on Radiation Protection

Two eminent experts, Zbigniew Jaworowski and Michael Waligórski, discuss the deliberate misrepresentations, omissions, and bias in a report by the U.S. National Council on Radiation Protection, at the expense of the general welfare.

26 Japan: What Shut Down 17 Nuclear Plants?

Departments

17 Banking

Wall Street "Reform."

72 Editorial

What Is the Dollar's Value?

Photo and graphics credits:

Cover, page 56, EIRNS/Megan Beets. Page 27, Courtesy of TEPCO. Page 29, Bundesbildstelle Bonn/Reineke. Page 30 (Rumsfeld), DOD photo/R.D. Ward. Page 30 (Cheney), FEMA/Jocelyn Augustino. Page 32 (Solon, Franklin), www.arttoday.com. Pages 32 (Leibniz), 34 (Hobbes, Galileo), Library of Congress. Page 35, (Roosevelt), Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Page 35 (Lautenbach), private collection. Page 37, Courtesy of Dr. Chin Hyung-in. Page 39, EIRNS/Paolo Raimondi. Pages 40, 54, EIRNS. Page 41, DOD photo/Staff Sgt. Matthew Hannen, USAF. Page 63, LaRouche in 2004.

International

46 Eurasian Nations Working Hard To Create a Multipolar World

The nations that opposed Washington's and London's war against Iraq—especially China, India, France, and Russia—have not abandoned efforts to move the international situation towards real multipolar cooperation. Diplomats are preparing for several big international summits to be held between May 29 and June 3.

49 Middle East: Saboteurs Mobilize To Wreck 'Road Map'

51 Elon's 'Transfer' Policy

52 No Room for Detours on Mideast 'Road Map'

It's time to draw the lessons of the breakdown of the Oslo Accords; there may not be another chance for Mideast peace.

53 LaRouche's 25-Year 'Oasis Plan' Campaign

The indispensable feature in a Mideast peace settlement is economic—especially water resource—development.

55 Germany's Unions, SPD Need To Fight For a Lautenbach Plan, Not Budget Cuts

An open letter from Helga Zepp-LaRouche.

57 Pentagon Vandals and the Collectors' Council

60 Pope in Spain, Calls For a New Europe of Peace and Justice

61 Opposition Challenges Nigerian Elections

National

62 LaRouche Exposé of Strauss's 'Children of Satan' Draws Blood

The sudden outburst of enthusiasm for Lyndon LaRouche's epistemological war against the ideological offspring of the late Prof. Leo Strauss, from some powerful elements in the American political institutions, is a significant indication that more and more people are awakening to the extraordinary danger that the Straussian "perpetual war party" poses to the very survival of the United States as a constitutional republic.

64 Earth to DNC: LaRouche Is Number 1 in Support

65 Rumsfeld's Reorganization: Will Congress Defend the Constitution?

Documentation: Testimony on Rumsfeld's 'Emergency Legislation'

66 Rumsfeld's 'Notverordnung'

By Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

68 U.S. Military: Rumsfeld & Co. Force Behind-the-Scenes Revolt

69 'Doomsday' Budget For New York City

71 Congressional Closeup

SARS Sounds the Alarm Bell: Restore Public Health Systems

by Linda Everett

In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, every sane policymaker, in a plethora of Congressional hearings, rallied for rebuilding the nation's public health infrastructure to deal with possible bioterrorist threats. Now, 18 months later, after the anthrax attacks, the coast-to-coast spread of West Nile virus, the re-emergence of both malaria and tuberculosis, the faltering smallpox vaccination drive, and the eruption of the global epidemic of SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), there is new scrutiny of our "tattered" public health system. Despite some Federal bioterrorism preparedness funding to states, it is facing a withering decline.

Since its probable start in a southern province of China in November, SARS has sickened over 7,000 people in 27 countries, killing 500. U.S. health officials report 320 cases of probable and confirmed SARS in this country.

The war against this, or any infectious disease epidemic, cannot be won as long as the economic austerity policies fuelling many nations' overall fiscal disintegration are allowed to continue, thereby cannibalizing critical infrastructure. As Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche said just weeks after Sept. 11, 2001, we require a military-style command authority to build up medical and infrastructural defenses, including what modern society has come to know as public sanitation, including adequate ratios of clean water, power, and transportation per household. Undertaking this mandate cannot be put off.

System 'In Tatters'

On April 29, Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) warned the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee that the U.S. public health infrastructure has been cut to the bone, leaving no excess capacity to deal with SARS. Citing a survey of health departments undertaken by his office, Senator Kennedy reported a devastating picture:

- New Orleans Public Health Department Director Kevin Stevens said, "We have very few resources, and should we

have a SARS outbreak, we are very poorly prepared."

- The Los Angeles Department of Health and Services (California) said that they have about 2,000 people die every month from unexplained pneumonia. They reported: "We have dealt with SARS to the detriment of other diseases."

- Philadelphia has no city-owned hospital; the health department has no funds to set up a quarantine facility of its own. It would have to rely on hard-pressed independent hospitals to house SARS patients in isolation.

- Seattle has only limited facilities to isolate contagious patients. That city is already facing the highest number of tuberculosis cases it has seen in 30 years. They have only two full-time infectious disease physicians.

Dr. Julie Gerberding, Director of the Atlanta-based U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), reported to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on May 7, "Sadly, our public health system was allowed to deteriorate for decades—it is in tatters." The dispersal of \$1 billion in Federal bioterrorism preparedness funds has helped in some areas, but enormous public health infrastructure needs still exist. Dr. Gerberding specifically cited the need for more preparedness planning, and better epidemiological capacity to investigate and to respond quickly to disease or other incidents. "We have a tragedy in our public health workforce," Dr. Gerberding said. "We need trained professionals everywhere."

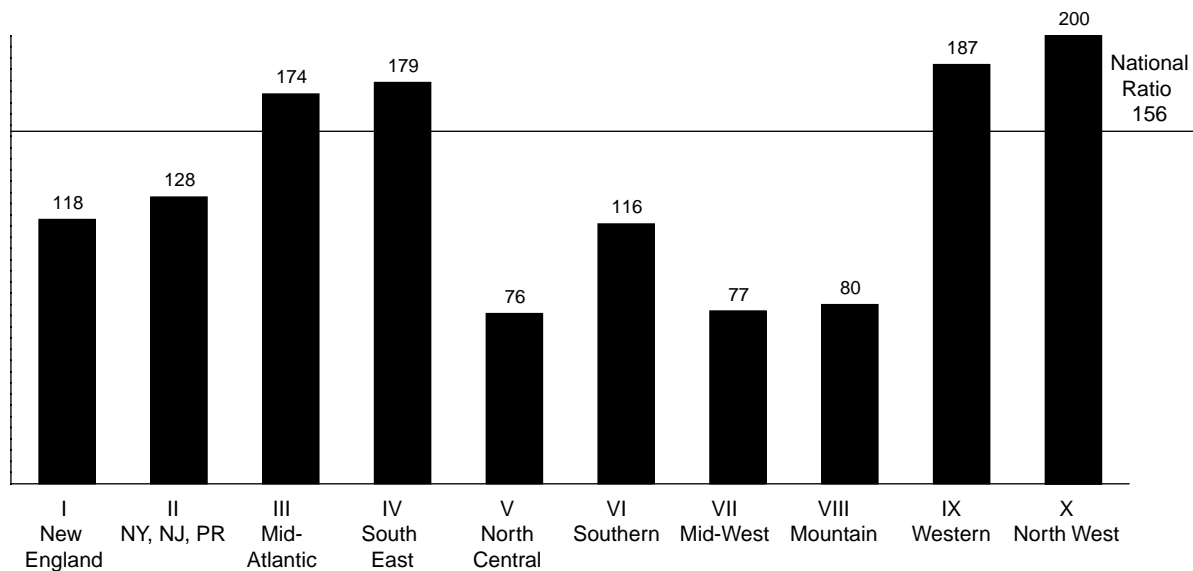
She also called for more laboratory capacity, since a lot of public health labs are in "dire straits." A January study by the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) found three-quarters of the nation's state labs are unable safely to accept samples suspected of containing multiple hazards, such as toxic chemicals and infectious organisms. Only eight states have a chemical terrorism response plan in place. Most labs are fighting just to sustain current capacity.

Another recent APHL survey on bioterrorism preparedness found that 30 states' public health laboratories faced

FIGURE 1

U.S. Ratios Of Public Health Workers Vary, By Region, 1999

(Number per 100,000 Population)



Source: The Public Health Workforce Enumeration 2000.

Over the 25 years—and especially the last two years, there has been a major scale-back in the United States, in the ratios of public health workers, hospital beds, staff and facilities (equipment, quarantine facilities, etc.) per population. The graph shows one aspect of this—the wide disparity in the number of public health workers (all kinds—epidemiologists, county nurses, technicians, etc.) per 100,000 people, in the ten health districts, which are set by the Department of Health and Human Services.

cuts in 2003; nineteen of these had multiple programs cut. Some 33 laboratories expected cuts in 2004. One state public health department lost one-third of its staff due to budget cuts over the last decade. Amid the cuts, such states as Massachusetts need hundreds of thousands more dollars to test tissue samples for SARS. About 53% of local public health agencies say smallpox and bioterrorism planning are taking staff away from other public health services, causing reductions in influenza surveillance and cuts in other virology activities. Today, we are in the same crisis that we faced when the country was hit with the onset of West Nile and the anthrax attacks: unable to perform routine public health functions, let alone the intensified surveillance and significant extra testing needed in emergencies. The APHL reports that if states did get extra funds, needed workforces now do not exist.

Dr. Gerberding told the Senate Committee on April 29 that SARS has taught us that emerging infectious diseases are a fact of life; that the whole public health system has to be intact; and there must be continuity of public health with health-care delivery systems. “We’ve got to have both capacities: a viable and vibrant and robust medical care system with informed clinicians; but also, beds and surge capacity and training. That has to be immediately linked to public health research to identify what is the best way to do all this.” When

it comes to the public health system, Dr. Gerberding said, “We’re only as good as our weakest link.”

Our public health system relies on disease surveillance systems and epidemiologists to detect clusters of suspicious symptoms or disease. The latest Federal study (Health Resources and Services Administration, 2000) found just 922 epidemiologists in state and territorial agencies. Public health physicians made up only 1.3% of the public health workforce; while epidemiologists, working specifically in the core science of public health, comprise far less than 1% of it. Taken together, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, and infections control/disease investigators are just over one-half of one percent of this workforce. Some public health entities have suggested that, ideally, there would be one medical epidemiologist per 25,000 population—far below what is needed in a time of emerging infections, chronic disease, and bioterrorism threats.

In the early 1970s, there was one public health worker for every 457 persons; in 1999, this had fallen to one public health worker for 635 persons (see **Figure 1**). Nationally, there were 158 public health workers per 100,000 population in 1999. Many states fell as low as 76 workers per 100,000 (the Northwest region of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin). For the four-state Midwest (Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri), it’s 77 per 100,000.

Hospitals: 'Worst Is Yet To Come'

Most community hospitals are far from developing the surge capacity and medical redundancy which, as LaRouche noted over 20 years ago, are necessary for a civilian medical system to deal with public health crisis. Instead, hospitals are just fighting to stay open. The community hospital is the backbone of the public health system. This was recognized in the 1946 Hill-Burton Law, "The Hospital Survey and Construction Action." Prior to World War II, only 1,800 counties had community hospitals. Hill-Burton mandated funding for community hospitals in all 3,064 counties in the country, with a ratio of 4.5-5.5 beds per thousand population. In the early 1970s, there were some 7,000 public hospitals serving 3,064 counties.

By the year 2001 (the latest figures), there were only 4,908 U.S. hospitals (American Hospital Association). The more accurate Federal government figures report 204 fewer than that—just 4,704 U.S. hospitals in 2001. Hospital beds dropped from 4.5 beds per 1,000 population in the early 1970s—the Hill-Burton minimum—to fewer than 2.9 beds per 1,000 in 2001 (AHA). Thus, in 2001, just as the Sept. 11 and anthrax attacks hit the United States, the country was at its lowest capacity in three decades, to deal with the medical needs of victims. Yet, even these numbers may be overestimated, given that beds in specialty hospitals which serve only cardiac or orthopedic patients—but not the general commu-

nity—are counted here. Since 2001, thousands more beds have been eliminated in continuing hospital closures. Over 2,083 beds were lost in 2002 alone. Nearly every state is now in bankruptcy, causing some, like California, to enforce draconian services cuts, including the closing of hospital emergency rooms and trauma centers. Los Angeles County alone is cutting up to 2,475 health-care workers, including doctors and lab technicians.

At the April 29 Senate hearing, Senator Kennedy warned that, "Although hospitals have received \$500 million for bioterrorism preparedness this year, these funds are dwarfed by cuts in other areas." Graduate medical education lost \$750 million. Medicaid, the Federal-state program which provides health-care coverage for the indigent and disabled, was slashed by \$1.3 billion. Recommended increases in payment rates which were not funded, Kennedy said, took \$420 million from hospitals. "The result—even with additional funds from bioterrorism grants—is that hospitals lost \$1.9 billion last year. And the worst is yet to come this year."

In testimony given before the House Committee on Government Reform on April 9, Janet Heinrich, Director of Health Care and Public Health Issues of the General Accounting Office, said that while SARS has not infected many individuals in the United States, it has raised concerns about the nation's preparedness should it, or other infections, reach pandemic proportions. In a survey of states, the GAO found gaps

Science of SARS

The isolation and full genetic sequence of the new coronavirus that is responsible for the current outbreak of SARS has been accomplished by Canadian and American researchers. The genetic sequence shows that this coronavirus is unlike any previously known to infect humans. It is also not like any known coronavirus that infects animals. The sequence indicates that this is not a simple case of an animal coronavirus making a "species jump" by gaining the ability to infect humans. Research experiments in Europe have shown that the coronavirus can infect primates, and produces the same pneumonia-like symptoms seen in human beings.

There has been a flurry of recent hysteria in the press about the SARS virus mutating rapidly into a more deadly form. This is not supported by any of the evidence, which in fact shows that the coronavirus isolated by the Canadian team differs in only 10 base pairs out of 30,000 from the one isolated by the American team at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). In the behavior of a coronavirus, it makes mistakes by design when it replicates, leading to minor random changes in its genetic sequence. These

changes may disable the virus, or may help it replicate, or may do nothing functionally to it. There has been no research published that shows that the small natural mutation rate of this virus has changed, and to do so would require viral isolates taken and compared over a long period of time.

New research has shown that other modes of transmission of the SARS coronavirus may be possible. Hong Kong researchers have reported that the virus is present in stool and urine from SARS patients, and the virus may survive up to 24 hours in excrement. This raises the question of whether sewage contamination can spread SARS, which is being investigated in the case of the Amoy Gardens apartment complex in Hong Kong, where about 300 people became infected.

In a study published on May 7, Hong Kong and British researchers have shown that the death rate for SARS patients in Hong Kong who are hospitalized is higher than previously reported. The study shows that patients under 60 years of age have a mortality rate of 13%, while for patients over 60, the mortality rate is 43%. However, in other parts of the world, the mortality rates for SARS patients who require hospitalization has been much lower, and in the United States, there have been no deaths.

—Colin Lowry

in disease surveillance systems and laboratory facilities, and serious workforce shortages.

In the GAO survey, many hospitals were found to lack the capacity to respond to large-scale infectious disease outbreaks. Few have adequate medical equipment, such as ventilators, adequate stores of equipment and supplies, including medications, personal protective equipment, quarantine and isolation facilities, and air handling and filtration systems. There is an ongoing shortage of intensive care beds and isolation rooms, where infectious disease patients are treated. In five states, hospitals told the GAO they had shortages in hospital medical staff, including nurses and physicians, necessary to increase response capacity in an emergency.

There Is a Solution

In effect, not only is the country's ability to meet its current public health and medical needs considerably undermined by reigning post-industrial economic policies, but this same deregulatory mind-set blocks the steps necessary to adequately prepare for emerging new microbial threats. It is use-

ful that the Federal government recently purchased 3,000 new ventilators for the national stockpile, for use in the event of a pandemic outbreak. But, what is needed is a new Hill-Burton survey to determine what the hospital and public infrastructure needs in order to build into the system the redundancy needed to deal with daily and emerging crises. Federal low-interest loans—at 1-2%—must be made available to counties throughout the country to undertake the capital improvements necessary to get the job done. The country achieved this once before, through Hill-Burton—why not again now?

As the College of American Pathologists warns: Consider where the country will be next Fall. As the flu season hits, hospitals and laboratories will face the challenge of weeding out suspected SARS cases from other illnesses, including influenza. Will there be the necessary isolation rooms in place by then? Can our public health agencies handle the Summer's avalanche of West Nile illness, and the expected increase in associated deaths and paralysis? Congress and state leaders must be put on the line to defend the public welfare. Ignoring it could be devastating to the nation.

Stopping Disease: The Yellow Fever Case

The first line of defense against disease is to try to stop its spread. This is no less so, when the enemy-disease is a "mystery variety," i.e., one whose features (transmission, incubation, etc.) are still unknown, as in the case of SARS. The way that health care officials in Vietnam have succeeded in stopping SARS so far, has been by taking decisive action to isolate victims at its first presence, and by having the staff and infrastructure present, with which to act.

The 1888 photo here shows Camp E.A. Perry, a yellow fever detention camp on the south bank of St. Mary's River in Florida, near the Georgia border. This scene was common during the many U.S. public health mobilizations against yellow fever outbreaks over the period 1878-1905—considered the date of the last major yellow fever epidemic in the United States. The Florida border camp was established by the Marine Hospital Service (the name then for the Federal public health program which later was named the Public Health Service). Persons travelling from yellow fever areas were required to remain in the camp for the incubation period (6-10 days) before proceeding elsewhere. The Federal Public Health Service was called on by states and localities to make common war on the disease, by treating people and acting to halt its spread.

It wasn't until after World War I that many of the features of yellow fever were definitively known, though

the role of the mosquito had been observed early on. The sickness is caused by a virus, and there are two epidemiological patterns of the disease. One is known as urban yellow fever (man-mosquito-man cycle); the other is jungle, or forest yellow fever (monkey-mosquito-monkey cycle).

New Orleans was the center of the last major yellow fever outbreak in the United States, in July 1905. The Federal Public Health and Marine Hospital Service acted promptly, with state and city officials, to set in motion epidemic operations. A campaign was organized for controlling mosquitoes, through screening, fumigating, oiling, and salting, and for isolation of the sick. "Tent hospitals" were set up, as they had been in previous outbreaks. On Oct. 26, 1905, the epidemic was considered under control—five weeks before the first killing frost, which usually marked the end of an outbreak. Out of a population of 325,000 in New Orleans, 3,404 were stricken with yellow fever during the siege, and 452 died.

What was learned from this battle, and similar experiences—especially that led by Commander Walter Reed in Panama—combined with subsequent research and the discovery, during World War II, of DDT, enabled the control of the yellow fever infection.

Yet today, this kind of fight-the-disease thinking no longer governs. For example, when the West Nile fever—a mosquito-borne virus—entered New York City in 1999, there was no effective Federal mobilization to contain and defeat it. The infection is now rapidly spreading throughout North America, and is heading southward through Mexico.—*Marcia Merry Baker*

Depression Collapses Purchasing Power by 50%

by Richard Freeman

Since 1963, the purchasing power of an American worker's average weekly paycheck—measured in physical terms, by a household market basket of goods essential for human existence—has plunged by a staggering 50%. This collapse in purchasing power was caused by, and confirms the force of the physical-economic depression that has overwhelmed the United States for the past several decades. *EIR* was able to discover the sharp drop in purchasing power by returning to the method of physical economy, as developed by Gottfried Leibniz and Lyndon LaRouche, rejecting the lies of U.S. government agencies, which, through a blizzard of counterfeit data and concepts, try to portray living standards and the economy as doing well.

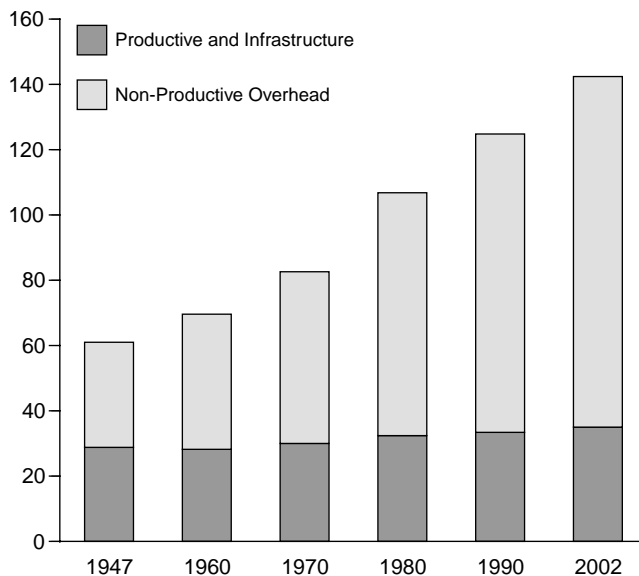
A 50% fall in purchasing power may surprise some incompetent professional economists. But this is a reality that most of the lower 80% of the U.S. household population, by income class, know all too well, as an unrelenting process which is destroying them. In an attempt to offset the loss in purchasing power, many households in the lower 80%, have taken on extra jobs, and now most have two, three, up to seven jobs, spread among the two adults and some children. Further to offset falling purchasing power, many of them have borrowed heavily. The debt which initially tided them over is now a problem. The mounting monthly payment of interest and principal is causing their income level to go even lower. Many still cannot afford basic necessities of life. In many cases, they cease getting anything but the most emergency forms of medical treatment. Some 41 million of these households have no medical insurance at all.

Despite the attempt by government agencies to deny this, millions of families move in and out of homelessness during the course of a year. During the last dozen years, if we eliminate double counting, more than 11 million households have filed for bankruptcy protection. The 50% fall in purchasing power is a barometer for this immiseration. Millions of households have been pushed so far below real subsistence, that they can barely survive.

The collapse in purchasing power derives from a momentous transformation. The Wall Street-City of London financiers imposed a post-industrial society policy upon the United States, following the murder of President John F. Kennedy in November 1963. It is for this reason that 1963 is chosen as

FIGURE 1
U.S. Labor Force, 1947-2002; Non-Productive Overhead Grows

(Millions of Workers)



Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; *EIR*.

the starting point in many of the graphs which here show the fall in a worker's purchasing power. The post-industrial society policy tore down manufacturing, agriculture, and infrastructure, and built up a gigantic speculative bubble, which sucked dry the underlying physical economy and crushed living standards.

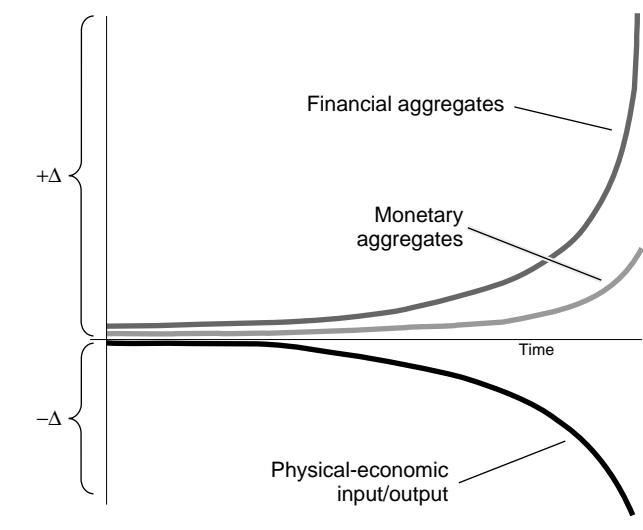
This policy has been implemented by phases over the years, each more ruinous than the preceding one. It included Richard Nixon's 1971 move to sever the dollar from the gold reserve system, and then Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul Volcker's acting on behalf of a policy of "controlled disintegration of the economy," by raising interest rates to over 20% in 1979, which devastated the U.S. physical economy.

The post-industrial society policy completely degraded the labor force. **Figure 1** shows that in 1947, of America's total labor force, 46% was engaged in productive activity or essential economic infrastructure. By 2002, only 24.6% of America's labor force was so engaged, while more than three-quarters were employed in overhead, largely wasteful activity.

The cumulative effect of this post-industrial policy, inclusive of the labor force breakdown, is best analyzed from a higher conceptual standpoint through the Triple Curve collapse function **Figure 2**, developed by economist and 2004 Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche. The upper curve,

FIGURE 2

LaRouche's Typical Collapse Function



which has been accelerating upward, is the financial aggregates—the mass of speculative financial paper, including derivatives, speculative stocks, etc. The middle curve is the monetary aggregates, essentially the money supply. The lower curve represents the real physical economy, upon which human existence depends. The mass of financial aggregates have rates of return—such as the yields on bonds, the dividends on stocks, etc.—which have taken in more and more wealth, claims against the physical economy, as the mass of speculative instruments has swelled. The resulting looting of the physical economy has triggered, during the past 35 years, its *contraction* by 1-2% per annum, and the contraction of living standards by the same ratio.

Since 1997, the Triple Curve has changed in two important ways. First, the middle curve of monetary aggregates has been increasing at an ever-faster rate, in order to hold up the financial aggregates. *The rate of increase of the middle curve is now greater than that of the upper curve.* This correlates with Fed chairman Alan Greenspan's "wall of money" policy to hold up the financial aggregates of a bankrupt banking system. It has put the U.S. and global financial system onto the path of a Weimar-style hyperinflation which threatens to explode the world financial system.¹

Second, the rate of looting demanded has become so intense, that fascist economic austerity is being applied.

- As the U.S. airline industry succumbs to the final phase of bankruptcy, caused by 30 years of deregulation, airline pilots, mechanics, flight attendants have had wages cut by more than \$3 billion during the past three years, in an attempt

to keep the airlines open. This included \$1.62 billion in concessions that the pilots, flight attendants, mechanics, et al. made to American Airlines, the world's largest airline, on April 25.

- Steelworkers, both current and retired, have had more than \$2 billion cut from their health benefits during the past three years.

- In Portland, Oregon, teachers worked ten days without pay, to prevent the school system from having 24 days cut from the school calendar.

- Since November 2000, more than 4 million U.S. workers have lost their jobs. Most are full-time unemployed; some are now working part-time jobs, at less than half their previous pay and health benefits.

- Info, USA, of Omaha, Nebraska, which sells databases to marketers, announced that all its workers who earn \$30,000 or more per year, would be forced to take a 10% pay cut or leave the company. It is also outdoing the genocidal health maintenance organizations (HMOs), telling its workers they should visit doctors less often, and charging them more (toward their health insurance) when they do.

Millions of workers are being put on the path of Nazi economics. As they have their wages and health benefits cut, they draw down the stored-up wealth within their household, cutting back their food portions and other types of consumption, until they have exhausted everything, and don't have the wherewithal to survive.

The Productive Power of Labor

The concept of a household's consumption of a market basket of goods, as a simultaneous measure of its development potential and purchasing power, is crucial. LaRouche's concept of a market basket begins from the conception that for each generation, a labor force has to be produced. Contrary to the lunatic ideas of Adam Smith, this is not a random or spontaneous occurrence; the labor force must be deliberately produced, so that it has a rising material standard of existence, and a cognitive and skill quality superior to the preceding generation.

The reason for this is as follows. The source of all economic wealth is mankind's unique capacity, above that of the beasts, through creative reason, to make new revolutionary discoveries of validatable fundamental scientific principle. By adding and acting on such new principles, mankind changes the ordering of the universe. This ability to make discoveries and to integrate them into the economy, is the only real source of physical profit in a society.

The improvement of the productive powers of labor has two parts. On the one hand, the economy is made more powerful by incorporating new scientific design of machine tools, which transmit these discoveries to all the machinery in the economy. The scientific matrix of the array of machinery is upgraded. This scientific discovery is also embedded in, and transmitted through economic infrastructure, which reshapes

1. See *EIR*, Feb. 7, 2003, "State of the Union: On the Subjects of Economy and Security," by Lyndon LaRouche.

the entire biosphere.

On the other hand, this process requires an improvement in the cognitive quality of the labor force that will be brought into connection with the advanced machinery sector. Joining the improved powers of labor with the machine-tool design principle produces anti-entropic growth, and increases man's mastery over nature. But if the labor force lacks the cognitive and skill abilities, the new scientific advances in the machine-tool sector cannot be realized. Thus, the cognitive ability and skill level must be constantly raised, so that the true labor-saving capacity of the productive powers of labor (not through austerity or speed-up) is realized, as Alexander Hamilton described it in his 1791 *Report on the Subject of Manufactures*.

This is where our market-basket comes in. To produce a generation of productive workers, infrastructure operatives, etc., who are more advanced than the current generation, requires two things. First, that the education system be based upon Classical methods of education, in which the student's ability to replicate and master the most important scientific discoveries of the past millennia is developed. Second, that families have incomes that translate into purchasing power sufficient to nurture a young person, so that a youth goes through high school, college, and two to four years of graduate work, to become a doctor, engineer, or physicist. The household must have the ability to assist in the support of the student up to the age of 22-25. This cannot be done if the major wage-

earner is paid \$8 per hour—as the lunatic Adam Smith says—as “what the market will bear.” There must be a scientific, definite minimum level, expressed by a market basket of commodities.

Let us look at the market basket. It must include certain essentials of an improving quality: housing, food, clothing, medical care, education, transportation. Precisely this productive power of labor is being extinguished in America, and this may obliterate both the present and future of the United States economy.

Paycheck's Purchasing Power Falls

The 50% drop of purchasing power is a measure of the collapse of the market basket. The method that *EIR* selected deliberately does not use monetary values. Instead, *EIR* compared the weekly paycheck paid to an average worker in the U.S. economy, to the amount that this paycheck could purchase, of a representative household market basket of commodities. This was done for each year in the period from 1963 through 2002.

How can the method avoid monetary values, when both the paycheck and the purchase cost of the household market basket array of commodities, are stated in dollars? By comparing the two, one has cancelled out the dollars, and is looking at a ratio. If the purchasing power of the paycheck has increased, it should buy a greater percentage of the household market-basket array of commodities. But, if its purchasing power has decreased, the paycheck should buy a smaller percentage of that market-basket array. We are looking at a *functional relationship expressing purchasing power*, not a dollar amount.

EIR developed this method, to escape the prevailing “authoritative” method of reporting on purchasing power, used by both the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Commerce Department—Keynesians and monetarists alike—which lie about what purchasing power is. This false method takes the weekly paycheck, or annual household income, and standardizes it, by using the BLS's Consumer Price Index (CPI) as a measure of inflation, and expresses the paycheck or annual income in “inflation-adjusted dollars.” After thus allegedly removing the inflation, this BLS method then compares for a period of time, whether the “inflation-adjusted” income has risen or fallen. But the inflation index, the CPI, is a lie, using such scams as the Quality Adjustment Index (which reduces the rate of inflation due to alleged “quality improvements”), to greatly understate the real rate of inflation. By applying the CPI to “adjust inflation” for the weekly paycheck or annual income, the BLS manufactures the impression that the paycheck is rising—just the opposite of reality.

To arrive at its conclusions, *EIR* had to start with two categories: a) what is called the worker's average weekly paycheck; and b) a representative household market basket of commodities. For the worker's average weekly paycheck, *EIR* used a series already compiled by the BLS, the “average

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weekly earnings of a worker on a private non-agricultural payroll.” According to the BLS, the worker’s average weekly paycheck has been rising, from \$88.46 in 1963, to \$503.66 in 2002.

Second, to construct a representative household market basket of commodities, *EIR* began with the most important commodities: housing, food, apparel, transportation, health and hospital care, and education. Accordingly, *EIR* selected five indispensable, and completely representative commodities: 1) the purchase/ownership of an existing home; 2) the purchase of all food and beverages; 3) the purchase/ownership of a new car; 4) the share of medical expenditures paid by the household (excluding those paid by an employer and/or the government); and 5) the cost for a student’s college tuition and fees.

In consulting household expenditure surveys, *EIR* found that the five commodities it chose for inclusion in its market basket, are significant enough to account for over half of all household weekly expenditures. Our market basket is representative. And methodologically, one is always measuring the same thing: There is consistency in the procedure of measurement of the two categories—the worker’s average weekly paycheck, and the representative household market basket of commodities—each year. That way, the ratio relating one category to the other is consistent from year to year, and one is able to consistently measure whether the purchasing power of the paycheck is rising or falling.

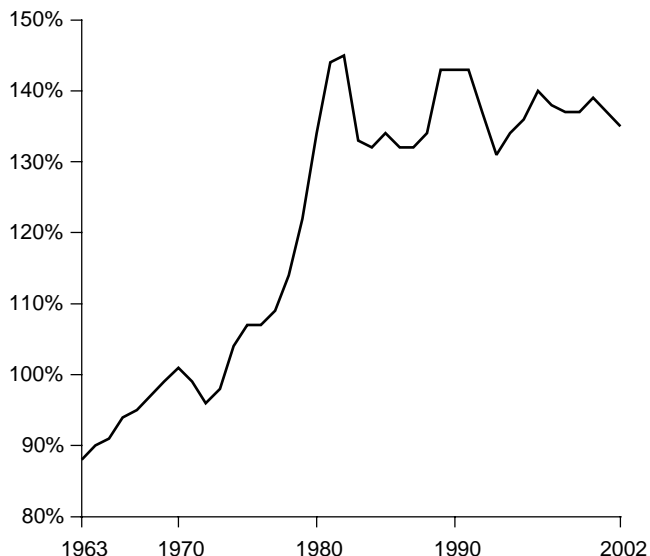
Figure 3 shows that in physical terms, the weekly paycheck’s ability to purchase a household market basket of goods essential for human existence, has plunged since 1963. Moreover, this is the first approximation; when the breakdown of infrastructure is taken into account, as we shall consider, the actual fall is much deeper.

In 1963, the weekly cost of acquiring the five commodities of *EIR*’s representative household market basket, was \$78.12. In that year, the worker’s weekly average wage stood at \$88.46. Therefore, the weekly purchase cost of the five commodities represented or consumed 88% of the weekly average paycheck. But, the underlying depression process changed this. Since 1963, prices leapt, and wages did not increase at a rate sufficient to keep up with prices. By 2002, the weekly purchase cost of the five commodities of *EIR*’s household market basket consumed 135% of a worker’s average weekly paycheck. A single weekly paycheck was no longer sufficient to purchase the five fundamental components essential for human existence: housing, food, medical care, transportation, and college education (a family will not always be paying for college education, but most families will pay some or all of college education for their child at some point).

In 2002, the five major parts of the market basket consumed a staggering 53% more of the paycheck than in 1963. Thus, during this period, even though the paycheck rose in nominal dollars, the cost of the household market basket rose 53% faster. The loss of purchasing power is the inverse of

FIGURE 3

Combined Home, Car, Medical, College, and Food Payments as Percent of Average Paycheck



Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce; National Association of Home Builders; The College Board; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; *EIR*.

this relative rise of the costs of the market basket; that is, since 1963, the average weekly paycheck has lost 35% of its purchasing power, its ability to purchase a market basket of necessary goods. Again, when the breakdown of infrastructure (transportation, energy, water management, etc.) is taken into account, the fall is considerably deeper.

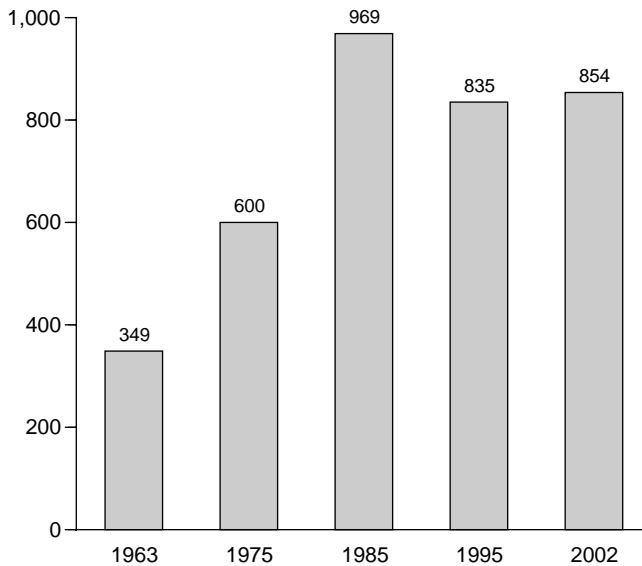
Decline of Purchasing for Critical Commodities

We can more precisely understand the process of destruction of households’ existence, by looking at the paycheck’s decline relative to individual commodities that make up the *EIR* household market basket.

1. Housing: Housing is crucial for a household’s survival, not only as a place of shelter, but as a place to nurture and raise a family. There is a housing bubble. For example, in Arlington County, Virginia, during the last three years, the median price of an existing home has risen from \$240,000, to \$440,000.

Figure 4 depicts that in 1963, to purchase an existing home required 349 average weekly paychecks. In its calculations, *EIR* assumed that household could not buy a home entirely in cash, and would need financing: that a household would buy an existing home, on a 30-year mortgage, and that the home mortgage loan would carry a home mortgage interest rate prevailing at the time. By 2002, it required 854

FIGURE 4
Number of Weekly Paychecks Needed To Buy Existing Home



Sources: National Association of Home Builders; Federal Housing Finance Board; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; *EIR*.

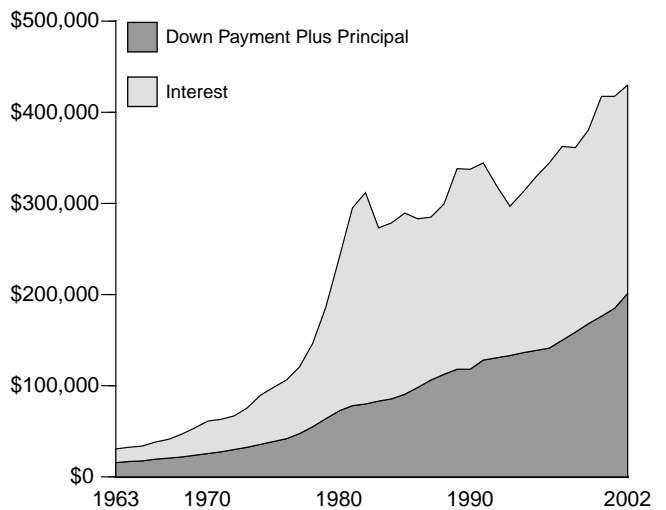
paychecks to purchase an existing home. That is, it cost 503 more paychecks, or two and a half times as many weekly paychecks, to pay off the full cost of a home in 2002, than it did in 1963.

Inversely, between 1963 and 2002, the purchasing power of a paycheck, relative to its ability to purchase a home, had fallen an astounding 59%.

Furthermore, in most respects, homes today are of an inferior quality to those of the 1960s. Today's "McMansions," which cost between \$400,000 and \$800,000, are essentially glorified tar-paper shacks, with gold-plated faucets in the bathrooms.

Figure 4 presents an anomaly, which it will be fruitful to explore. In 1985, it cost 969 paychecks to purchase an existing home, even more paychecks than in 2002. Why? Because in 1985, the interest rate on a home mortgage was 11.55%, which is nearly double the home mortgage interest rate of 6.43% in 2002. That is, even though home prices are far higher today than in 1985, the fact that 1985's home mortgage interest rates were nearly double today's, kept the number of paychecks higher in 1985. But this points to a tremendous instability, which could further destroy living standards. Fed chairman Alan Greenspan has worked desperately to keep interest rates, especially housing mortgage rates, low. But were the world financial bubble to rupture further, accompanied by a disinvestment from the U.S. dollar, this would cause interest rates

FIGURE 5
Total Cost of Existing Home Has Soared, Driven by Bankers' Interest Charges on Financing



Sources: National Association of Home Builders; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; *EIR*.

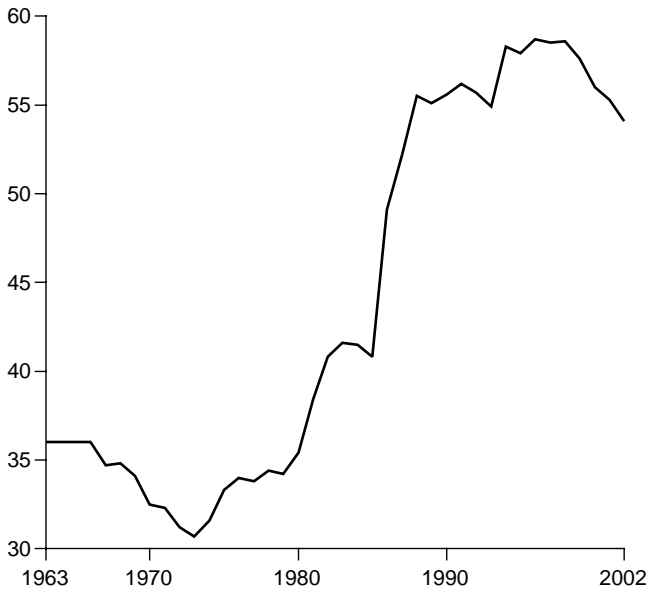
to spike—maybe not immediately to 1985's level of 11.55%, but perhaps to 9%. Even at an interest rate of 9%, the total cost of purchasing a home now, would skyrocket to 1,170 paychecks. Under that condition, with respect to 1963, the purchasing power of an average paycheck for housing, would have fallen 70%.

Figure 5 gives insight into how this distorted process is exacerbated by bankers' interest charges. The lower, dark portion of the curve represents the combined down payment plus the principal of the mortgage loan, which two together are equivalent to the purchase price of the home. As a result of the housing bubble, from 1963-2002, the purchase price of an existing home leapt 12-fold. The light colored upper portion of the graph displays the interest that has to be paid on a mortgage loan. To illustrate the point, in 2002, the purchase price of an existing home was \$201,700. The interest costs that would accrue over the course of a 30-year loan, are \$228,500, bringing the total cost to \$430,200. This depresses the purchasing power of a paycheck with respect to home purchase; as indicated, with a spike in interest rates, this situation would immediately become much worse.

2. Motor Vehicle: *EIR* selected a new car as the representative for transportation in the market basket. **Figure 6** shows that in 1963, the purchase of a new car required 36 average weekly paychecks. It was assumed that a household would finance the purchase of a new car at the standard loan terms and prevailing interest rates. By 2002, it required 54

FIGURE 6

National of Weekly Paychecks Needed To Buy New Car



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; *EIR*.

weekly paychecks to purchase a new car. It thus required 50% more paychecks to purchase a new car in 2002, than it did in 1963. Inversely, between 1963 and 2002, the purchasing power of a weekly paycheck to purchase a new car, tumbled by 33%.

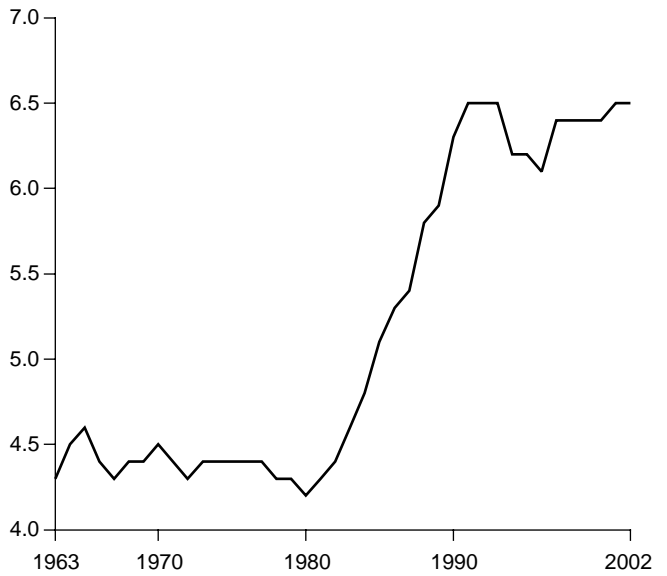
In many fundamental areas, the quality of a new car has not improved—as the BLS claims in its Quality Adjustment Index—but has deteriorated (see *EIR*, Feb. 14, 2003, “How Inflation in the U.S. Is Hidden”). But there is an additional problem in America’s over-reliance on the automobile for transport, especially inter-city passenger transport. Rail is a far more efficient mode for inter-city passenger transport, but it has shrunk to less than 1% of all inter-city passenger volume.

3. Medical: Medical costs have risen sharply, while health maintenance organizations and the shutdown of hospitals have reduced the availability of medical care in many ways.

EIR chose for its market basket the amount of annual health and hospital expenditures that a household pays for by itself (including its out-of-pocket expenditures for health insurance); there are medical expenditures paid for by employers (which may pay part or all of medical insurance) and/or the government, which *EIR* did not count. **Figure 7** shows that in 1963, it took 4.3 average paychecks to pay off the

FIGURE 7

Number of Weekly Paychecks Needed To Pay for Medical Care



Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services; U.S. Department of Commerce; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; *EIR*.

household’s annual medical expenditures; by 2002, it took 6.6 paychecks to pay off the household’s annual medical expenditures. Thus, between 1963 and 2002, the purchasing power of a weekly paycheck, relative to its ability to purchase medical services, had decreased 35%.

While 6.6 paychecks to pay off annual health expenditures is considerable, that is an average. For some families, it takes 10-15 or more paychecks. There are 37 million Americans who have no health insurance of any kind, neither paid for by themselves nor by the government.

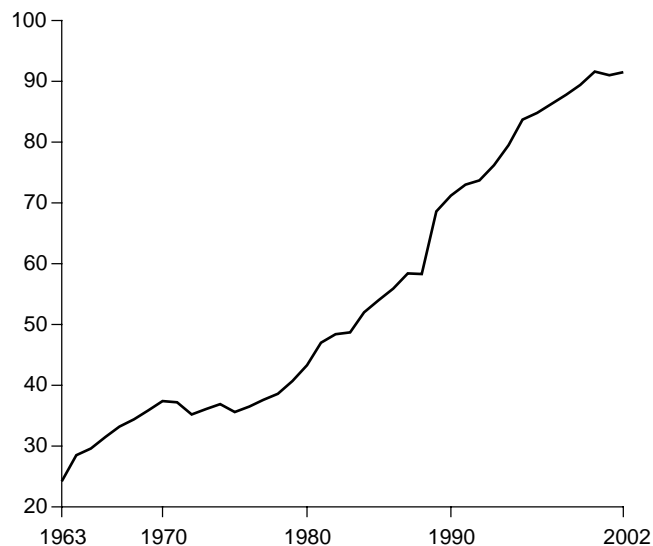
4. College Education: In determining the cost of college education, *EIR* concentrated on college tuition and fees; it did not include the substantial costs of room, board, books, etc. In calculating tuition and fees, it took the average cost of tuition and fees at a four-year private college and at a four-year public college (the latter is less expensive).

There has been an explosion in college tuition and fees: during the last few years, such costs at four-year private colleges have grown at double-digit rates; meanwhile, the deepening budget crises at state and local governments, has led them to sharply jack up tuition: in Iowa, public college tuition was hiked 18.5% this year, with discussion of hikes of 20% next year; in California, it is anticipated that next year, public college tuition will be hiked 10-15%; and so forth.

Figure 8 shows that in 1963, it required 24 paychecks to

FIGURE 8

Number of Weekly Paychecks Needed To Pay for Four-Year College Education

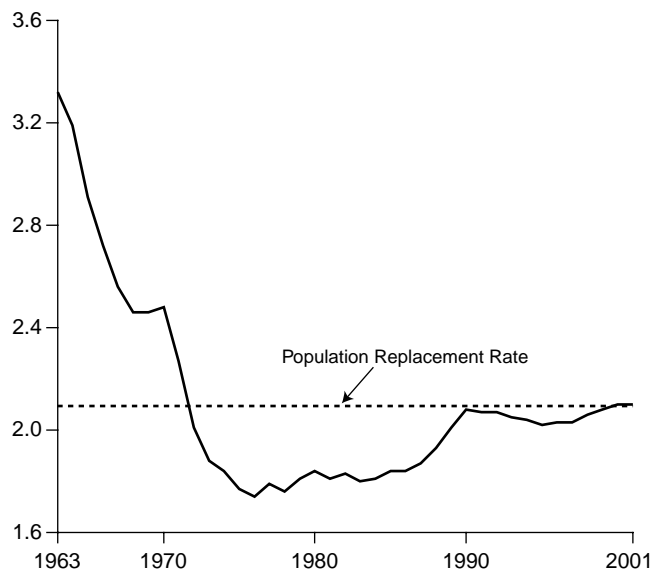


Sources: The College Board; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; *EIR*.

FIGURE 9

Total Fertility Rate of U.S. Women

(Live Children, per Woman of Child-Bearing Age)



Sources: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "National Vital Statistics"; *EIR*.

pay for four years of college tuition and fees (assuming that the college education was financed by a loan, at prevailing rates). By 2002, this had jumped to 95 paychecks. Thus, since 1963, the cost of college tuition and fees had increased a whopping 400%, and the purchasing power of a weekly paycheck relative to a four-year college education, had decreased 75%.

Yet, while higher tuitions and fees are being loaded onto the backs of families and students during the last four decades, a college education's quality has sharply declined, to the point of destroying the sovereign cognitive ability of the individual student's mind.

5. Food: The number of paychecks required to buy the full range of food that a household needs did not appreciably change between 1963 and 2002. In 1963, it required 18.1 paychecks to pay for the annual food bill; in 2002, it required 18.7 paychecks. Though the number of paychecks required to purchase food did not change, families still spend a significant amount of their budget on food. But while the cost of food, relative to the average weekly paycheck, is relatively stable, this condition is caused by a destructive "cheap food" policy, pushed by the banks and the food cartels. Under it, America imports an increasing share of fruit and vegetables from low-wage countries: for example, it brings in tomatoes, broccoli, and lettuce from Mexico, where, under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) accord, farmers are paid

only a few dollars per day. This keeps farmers abroad in poverty. However, with the threat of low-cost imports hanging over their heads, American farmers are paid very little for their basic crops—less than their cost of production. The low prices (and accompanying heavy debts) have driven tens of thousands of American farmers off their farms over the past few decades. Though it looks "attractive" in the short run, the cheap food policy endangers the agricultural capacity of farmers in the United States and other lands.

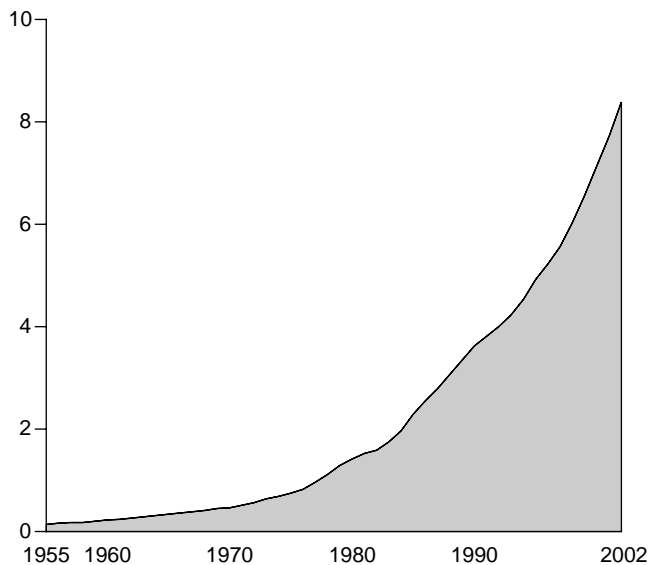
The collapse in living standards of the past three and one-half decades also produced a demographic collapse. This, in turn, has further undermined living standards, and raises the question whether the United States can continue to exist as a nation. Demographers speak of the total fertility rate, and the population replacement rate. The total fertility rate represents, for women of child-bearing age (ages 14-49), how many live children they will bear in their lifetime. The population replacement rate for developed-sector countries, is a total fertility rate of 2.1 children, or above, per woman of child-bearing age. This is the rate needed for a population to reproduce itself biologically over time (the rate is 2.1 and not 2.0, to account for those youth who will die before reaching adulthood).

During the early part of the 20th Century, the U.S. had a total fertility rate of more than 4.5 children per woman of

FIGURE 10

U.S. Household Debt Surges to \$8.4 Trillion

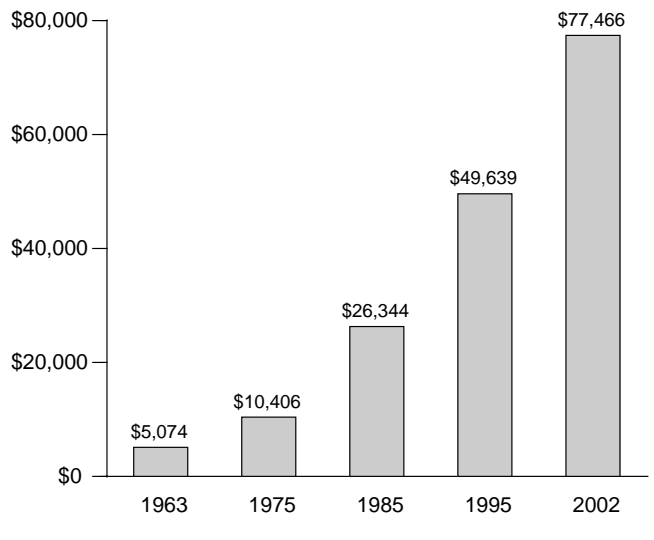
(\$ Trillions)



Sources: U.S. Federal Reserve Board of Governors, "Flow of Funds Accounts."

FIGURE 11

Household Debt Burden per Household



Sources: U.S. Federal Reserve Board of Governors, "Flow of Funds Accounts"; U.S. Department of Commerce; EIR.

child-bearing age. Even in 1963, the total fertility rate was 3.3 children per woman. **Figure 9** shows that starting in 1972, the U.S. total fertility rate fell below 2.1 children per woman of child-bearing age. It scarcely returned to the population replacement rate of 2.1 in 2000 and 2001, but has not exceeded it. *So, based on natural births, the U.S. has been a zero-growth nation, barely able to biologically and physically reproduce itself.* Two major reasons are economic: Families have less purchasing power, and thus less economic ability to raise more than one or two children; and second, millions of women are forced, whether they will or no, to work to make up for the drop in income. The increased work time gives them less time to raise children.

Shrunken fertility has gravely shrunken households. In 1963, each American household had 3.33 people; in 2002, each household had 2.62 people, 21% smaller than in 1963. This means that even if the purchasing power of the paycheck had not fallen between 1963 and 2002, but had remained the same, the living standard would have fallen by 20%, because the household can only afford to support one-fifth fewer people.

Decline of Economic Infrastructure

The collapse of the household market basket since 1963, when the decimation of infrastructure is accounted for, exceeds 50%. Infrastructure consists of five major types: power generation, water management, transportation, health and hospital service, and education. Infrastructure is critical to an

economy: it positively transforms the biosphere, and increases the productivity of the entire agro-industrial economy.

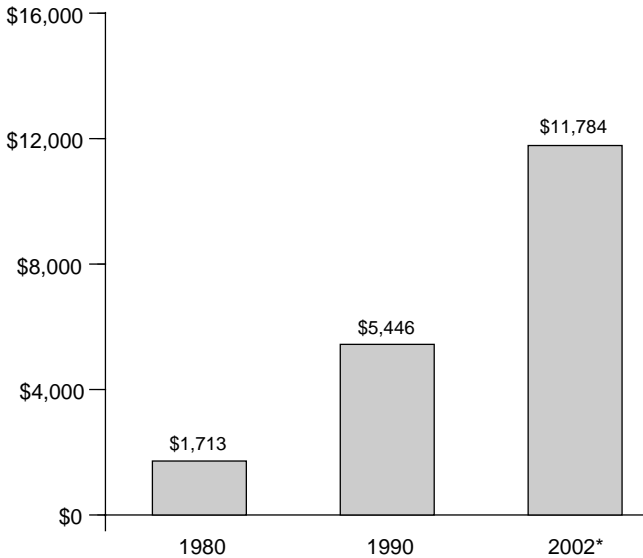
U.S. infrastructure is breaking down. Start with medical care. So far, we have looked at how the paycheck's ability to purchase of medical care has fallen, by 35%; but the deeper problem is that the medical infrastructure may not be there. What happens when an individual has an acute illness or a bad accident, and needs emergency treatment, and the hospital he or she needs to go to has been shut down? Since 1975, over 1,000 out of America's 5,900 community hospitals have been closed down and boarded up. What happens if one needs an emergency procedure, and one's genocidal health maintenance organization will not cover it? This is occurring across the United States, and increases the death rate. What happens if the proper inoculation for childhood diseases are not occurring in urban centers?

The same problem applies to the transportation sector, and amplifies the problem of the paycheck being less able to buy a car. Consider that the airline industry is bankrupt and slashing flights. Over the years, Amtrak, the major national inter-city passenger rail system, has eliminated routes. The rail grid is being decimated. In many cities across America, mass transit is either grossly insufficient or does not exist. Citizens are forced to travel by car; and often, to travel 20 miles, one sits in traffic for an hour and a half or more. This is a deduction from one's life's functioning, and the functioning of the economy.

The same problem exists, in an intensified form, with regard to education. The cognitive powers of the student

FIGURE 12

Credit Card Balances Outstanding, Per Household With a Credit Card Balance



*Projection, based on first three quarters

Sources: Federal Reserve Board of Governors, *Flow of Funds Accounts*; U.S. Department of Commerce; Consumer Federation of America; *EIR*.

should be developed, through re-enacting and rediscovering fundamental discoveries of universal principle. The opposite of that is happening.

The breakdown of functional infrastructure is an additional deduction from the standard of living and purchasing power. When the breakdown of infrastructure is included, the collapse in the household purchasing power and living standards, since 1963, is greater than 50%.

Debt Burden and Bankruptcy

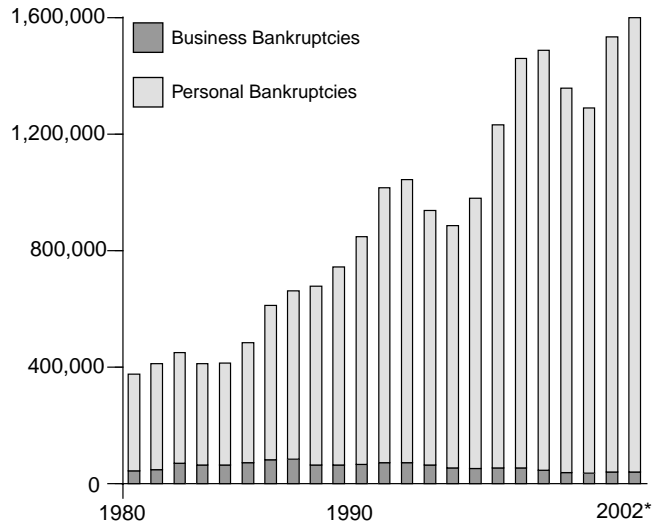
In response to the downward spiral in purchasing power, households resorted to borrowing more. But the debt carried increased interest charges. The increased borrowing and concomitant debt-load, ultimately acts like a siphon drawing living standards down.

Figure 10 shows that household debt increased from \$280 billion in 1963, to \$8.4 trillion in 2002. The household debt includes home mortgages, car loans, credit card debt, etc. Home mortgage loans represent the lion’s share of household debt. It should be stressed that home mortgage borrowings occur for two purposes: to buy a house; and for consumer-spending, using one’s home essentially as collateral (such loans include “cash-out refinancing” and a portion of home equity loans). In 2002, such borrowing for strictly consumer-spending purposes zoomed to a record \$290 billion.

Figure 11 shows that debt per household jumped from

FIGURE 13

Bankruptcies Swell Five-Fold Since 1980



*Projection, based on first three quarters

Source: American Bankruptcy Institute.

\$5,074 in 1963, to \$77,466 in 2002, an astonishing 15-fold increase. **Figure 12** shows that credit card debt balances outstanding, per household that has a credit card balance, leapt from \$1,713 in 1980, to \$11,784 in 2002. But ultimately, as households borrowed to get some cash to offset the sharp loss of purchasing power, the debt plus interest payments becomes a growing burden. In 2002, households had to pay an unprecedented \$1.1 trillion in debt service (interest and a portion of the principal). Against collapsing purchasing power, households cannot bear this payment.

As a final act, the households that can no longer cover their debt and their bills, file for bankruptcy protection. **Figure 13** depicts that in 2002, an unprecedented 1.5 million households filed for bankruptcy, five times the 1980 level. According to a study, 40% of all personal bankruptcy filings are triggered by unpayable debt related to medical expenses. During the past decade, eliminating double-counting, one of every ten American households were forced to file for bankruptcy. While the bankruptcy eliminates some or all of the household’s debt, it does not change the underlying reality that households are still under the pressure of collapsing living standards. Thus, the process of debt build-up will begin again soon, or the family will be extinguished.

This pressure is now being intensified by outright Nazi economics, in which wages and benefits are slashed. This is the destruction of labor power. Either the economic depression process that has given rise to this, is stopped, or America won’t have a labor force—and an economy—that survives.

Wall Street ‘Reform’

Meet the new crooks in the world of finance—they’re the same as the old crooks.

Reform is in the air on Wall Street, as both the financiers and their nominal regulators promise to end the era of corporate scandals and predatory practices, and usher in a strict new era of ethical behavior, honest dealing, and service to the public. Reform is in the air—and the stench is overpowering.

Let us be blunt: The current reform is no reform at all. Rather, it slaps a few prominent wrists, accompanied by the sacrifice of a few minor players. Behind the scenes, the central bankers—and the financial interests which control the central banks—are increasing their control. The foxes are moving in to defend the henhouse, and reassure all us chickens that we are safe.

While public attention is focussed on the soap opera of crime, punishment, and reform, the bankers’ men are moving in to make sure that the international financial oligarchy, not sovereign governments, controls the levers of power as the system collapses. It is not exactly a coup, because the bankers largely run the show already, but it certainly isn’t reform.

Take, for example, the vaunted \$1.4 billion settlement announced on April 28 between Federal, state, and market self-regulators, and ten of Wall Street’s biggest firms—Citigroup’s Salomon Smith Barney, Merrill Lynch, Credit Suisse First Boston, Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs, J.P. Morgan Chase, Lehman, UBS, Bear Stearns, and US Bancorp’s Piper Jaffray. The agreement settles a number of investigations into blatant and egregious conflicts of interest among the firms involved, over the use of stock

research and ratings as a marketing tool, and the allocation of shares of initial public offerings (IPOs) to win clients and influence.

The issue is not so much that the firms were engaging in such activity—it was obvious to anyone who looked, that their Internet and telecom reports were hype, designed to feed the bubble—but that regulators waited until the stock market bubble popped before taking any action. They did nothing while the money was flowing in; rather than protecting the public, the actions seem designed more to allay fears, in the hope of luring the suckers back in for another round of looting.

The fines involved are relatively trivial—about 7% of last year’s revenue for the firms involved, and far less than the money they made from such shady practices. The biggest losers in the deal were Merrill analyst Henry Blodget and Salomon analyst Jack Grubman, both of whom face millions of dollars in fines and lifetime bans from the securities business.

In the long run, the settlement may even prove beneficial to the firms, allowing them to downsize their expensive and increasingly superfluous research arms as they ride the markets down.

“Reform” is also under way in the accounting world, where current and former Federal Reserve officials are taking command to make sure that the world remains safe for the rich.

On the international level, former Fed Chairman Paul “Controlled Disintegration” Volcker is chairman of the board of trustees of the International Accounting Standards Committee,

which is attempting to write new, global accounting standards. It was the IASC’s Volcker who took command at Arthur Andersen during the height of the Enron scandal, to make sure that the truth about Andersen’s role remained buried, and to shape the nature of the reform.

Another Fed official, longtime Federal Reserve Bank of New York President William McDonough, has been tapped to chair the new Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, created by Congress in the aftermath of the Enron et al. scandals. As the head of the New York Fed, McDonough has been a key player in international finance, including his role in orchestrating the 1998 bailout of Long-Term Capital Management. He is also a director of the Bank for International Settlements and chairman of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision.

The man who appointed McDonough is William Donaldson, who became chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission in February. Donaldson was a co-founder of the Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette (DLJ) investment bank, now owned by Credit Suisse. DLJ appears to be closely linked to the Rothschild/Lazard circles which helped steer the activities of Enron, WorldCom, and others.

Behind the web of public companies that most people view as Wall Street, lies an interlocking complex of private merchant banks and giant insurance and reinsurance companies, which are controlled by the *fondi*—the family funds of the financial oligarchy, the top level of organized crime in the world. They create and discard frontmen as necessary to hide their hand, replacing one group of assets with another when, as now, it is convenient. Meet the new crooks, the same as the old crooks.

Problems of U.S. Policy On Radiation Protection

Two eminent experts, Zbigniew Jaworowski and Michael Waligórski, discuss the deliberate misrepresentations, omissions, and bias in a report by the U.S. National Council on Radiation Protection, at the expense of the general welfare.

Zbigniew Jaworowski, MD, PhD, DSc, is at the Central Laboratory for Radiological Protection, Warsaw. His studies include the internal contamination of man and animals with radionuclides, the development of analytical methods for detection of pollutants in the human body and environment, the metabolism of radionuclides, and the biological effects of ionizing radiation. He was the principal investigator of three research projects of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency involving pollutants in the global atmosphere, and he has organized ten expeditions to polar and high-altitude temperate glaciers to measure, for the first time, the mass of stable heavy metals and the activity of natural radionuclides entering the global atmosphere from natural and man-made sources. He has written 270 scientific papers, 4 books, and 100 articles for popular audiences.

Michael P.R. Waligórski, PhD, is head of the Medical Physics Department, Center of Oncology, in Krakow, Poland. He has been a professor and researcher at many universities internationally, including the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and Brookhaven National Laboratory in the United States. His research areas include nuclear radiation and medical physics, radiobiology, radiotherapy, and radiation protection. He has authored more than 150 publications and several textbook chapters.

The National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) has a long history of concern over the effects of ionizing radiation. Chartered by the U.S. Congress as a nonprofit corporation in 1964, it contributed a great deal to

establishing radiation protection criteria and systems in the United States and worldwide. However, in its recent report (No. 136), “Evaluation of the Linear No-Threshold Response Model for Ionizing Radiation” (NCRP 2001), the high scientific standards and impartiality of the NCRP have melted into thin air, sacrificed to defend an obsolete and untenable linearity paradigm. This unfortunate NCRP policy is discussed and criticized here.

The report is 287 pages long, and our criticism could be as bulky. However, we shall limit ourselves to comments that demonstrate the unscientific nature of this report. The subject of NCRP-136—namely, that there is a linear relationship between radiation dose and biological effects—is a central issue in the global radiological protection system. Adherence to this assumption is why current radiation regulations are excessively complicated, and its scientific and pragmatic principles in disarray. The consequences of this assumption lead to what the former president and honorary member of the NCRP, Lauriston S. Taylor, defined as “deeply immoral uses of our scientific heritage” (Taylor 1980).

Since its inception, the NCRP has been wedded to the philosophy that even the lowest, near-zero, radiation exposure may carry some risk. (See, for example, the NCRP 1949 report, which was published in 1954—NCRP 1954.) Today, this concept is called LNT, the linear no-threshold assumption.

This oversimplified LNT approach was based on early results of radiogenetic experiments with insects and mice, which did not take into account the human body’s repair

processes. Also, in the early years, there was a practical necessity of protecting a relatively small group of workers in a rapidly developing nuclear industry. Over the years, however, we learned that no radiogenetic disturbances were ever found in man, not even among the progeny of Hiroshima and Nagasaki victims, and that radiogenic cancer does not result from direct radiation damage to a single DNA strand (UNSCEAR 2000).

When applied to the protection of the public, both locally and internationally, LNT has had far-reaching negative consequences, including the rejection of nuclear energy based on fear, the enormous costs involved in implementing unnecessarily restrictive rules of protection, and paranoiac mass radiophobia, such as we have seen after the Chernobyl incident. All of these consequences involve ethical issues (Jaworowski 1999). Each human life hypothetically saved in the United States by implementation of the present radiation protection regulations is estimated to cost about \$2.5 billion. Such costs are absurd and immoral. Billions of dollars are spent year after year for the imaginary protection of human beings from radiation, while there is a scandalous lack of much smaller resources for real life saving in poor countries.

Impartiality Forgotten

In the past, the NCRP has endeavored in its reports to present various aspects of the LNT assumption, as well as the evidence refuting it and questioning its scientific legitimacy

(see, for example, NCRP 1975). This impartial approach, although laudable, was only cosmetic. In fact, the NCRP always proposed the LNT as the basis of radiation protection, including its logical consequences, the principle of collective dose, and the radiation “as low as reasonably achievable” slogan (later renamed ALARA).

The ALARA slogan had a terrifying impact on public opinion. People became convinced that ionizing radiation was extremely dangerous and should be avoided by all means, at any cost, and at any level, even if it were near zero. But in the most recent NCRP Report, No. 136, even this makeshift impartiality was forgotten.

The authors of the report do not try to objectively present the scientific evidence for and against the validity of the LNT, but instead merely propagate the LNT by errors of omission and commission. Two methods were used throughout the report. First, the material was selected so that the many important papers contradicting LNT were not presented at all. Second, pro-LNT publications were presented in great detail, while the report merely provided references to a few papers that disagree with these publications, without presenting the data or arguments of the critical papers.

The report concentrates almost exclusively on the detrimental effects of radiation, downplays radiation’s beneficial effects, and does not mention the important studies that suggest that ionizing radiation may be essential for life (for example, Planel et al. 1987).

The Real Chernobyl Disaster

The LNT assumption, as implemented by national regulations and official policy, was the prime cause of the disastrous consequences of the 1986 Chernobyl accident. Enormous loss of resources, the invention of the status of a “Chernobyl victim,” awarding costly social privileges to large groups of such “victims,” unnecessary relocation and pauperization of hundreds of thousands of persons, and epidemics of psychosomatic diseases throughout vast territories of the former Soviet Union, were *not* caused by radiation, but followed from the adherence to the LNT-based recommendations of the international radiation protection organizations. Notable among these are the International Commission on Radiation Protection and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

This is one of the most important lessons learned from the Chernobyl catastrophe, which should be taken into account in the current plans to counter nuclear and radiation terrorist attacks. Decades of promoting the LNT-based radiophobia have made the societies of devel-



The Chernobyl nuclear reactor in Ukraine. The proliferation of radiophobic hysteria all around the world was the real “disaster.”

oped countries extremely vulnerable to the psychological consequences of such activities. One of the consequences of NCRP Report 136 will surely be the perpetuation of mass radiophobia.

Skewing the Issue of DNA Damage

The main object of radiological protection of the public is to avoid the risk of cancers and genetic disorders caused by DNA damage. Information on the rate of spontaneous and radiation-induced DNA damage in mammalian cells is essential for any evaluation of this risk. However, the NCRP report does not inform the reader that 70 million *spontaneous* DNA damages occur per each cell of his body per year, compared to 2 damages per cell per year induced by the current, excessively low, radiation dose limit of 1 mSv [millisievert] (Billen 1990). We can survive this gigantic stream of spontaneous DNA damage only because human organisms are armed with a powerful and efficient defense system. Ionizing radiation contributes an infinitesimally small fraction of this stream of DNA damage.

Double-strand breaks of DNA are more difficult to repair than are single-strand breaks. About 40 spontaneous double-strand breaks occur in each mammalian cell in a year. This is about 1,000 times more breaks than those that occur after a natural background dose of 1 mSv (Stewart 1999). Among all the complex damages induced by ionizing radiation, double-strand breaks constitute only about 20%, with other clustered damage constituting some 80%.

The clustered damages are regarded as critical lesions, which produce the lethal and mutagenic effects of ionizing radiation (Sutherland et al. 2000). Normal cells are able to repair these damages with fidelity, as recently confirmed by E. Moustacchi (2000). Moustacchi stated that for many genotoxins and agents, very low doses may have no effect at all in normal cells. The papers on this subject by Moustacchi, Stewart, and Sutherland et al., along with many others that are in disagreement with the pro-LNT line, are not cited in the NCRP report. No doubt, these papers were ignored because they show how nonsensical the dose limit of 1 mSv is.

The report features (p. 74) a study on unstable chromosome aberrations in the peripheral blood lymphocytes of 31 Chernobyl cleanup workers, which shows linear dose-response curves (Semov et al. 1994). (In other words, the greater the dose, the greater the aberration.) However, a new, much larger study on 4,833 cleanup workers, with more than a quarter of a million metaphases examined (Littlefield et al. 1996), is not mentioned. The data from Littlefield et al. demonstrate that the frequency of chromosomal aberrations is *lower* among the exposed workers than among the control group, and that there is no increase in the mean, median, or range in chromosome aberrations in lymphocyte cultures. These results are consistent with the negative results of several studies of cancer incidence in Chernobyl cleanup workers. Ignoring this information attests to the biased style of the NCRP-136 report.

The report states (p. 136) that so-called “ecological” studies in epidemiology “cannot be regarded as trustworthy and should not be relied upon to assess either the presence or absence of excess radiation-induced cancer at low doses.” But this view is applied only if such studies present evidence

against LNT; otherwise, the NCRP report accepts such “ecological” studies. For example, the report covers one such study to show that the increase of thyroid cancer registration in Belarus is allegedly the result of Chernobyl fallout, and that it is directly proportional to radiation dose (p. 161).

Most of the post-Chernobyl epidemiological studies reviewed in the NCRP-136 report, in fact, are of the “ecological” type. But, in the case of B.L. Cohen’s studies (1995), showing that high levels of residential radon are associated with lower lung cancer incidence, the report condemns the data as “not trustworthy” (see discussion below). However, when arguing that thyroid cancers are caused by low doses of Chernobyl radiation, this condemnation is forgotten, and the results of these ecological studies are defined as “convincing,” and “conform[ing] reasonably well to the magnitude of dose by region.” (In fact, in these Chernobyl studies there was a lack of reliable personal thyroid dosimetry and the estimates of thyroid doses were highly uncertain, as opposed to the high quality dosimetry in Cohen’s studies.)

Thyroid Cancers and Chernobyl

No in-depth discussion of screening effect, the most probable cause of the increase in Chernobyl thyroid cancer registration, is provided in the report. This topic is extensively documented in the 115-page-thick *Scientific Annex J* of the UNSCEAR 2000 report, which is well known as the primary scientific assessment of the effects of the Chernobyl accident. As the UNSCEAR 2000 report documents, after this accident, the highest thyroid cancer incidence of 0.027% appeared in the Bryansk region of Russia, where the average thyroid dose was 37 mGy [milligray]. The highest incidence in Belarus, 0.018%, was found in the Gomel region, where the thyroid dose was 177 mGy; and in the Ukraine, the highest thyroid cancer incidence, 0.05% in the Kiev region, occurred where the average thyroid dose was 37 mGy. Thus, incidence of thyroid cancer is by no means directly proportional to dose.

Furthermore, the normal incidence of “occult” thyroid cancers is very high in most countries. Although such cancers do not cause any visible clinical disturbance, they are histologically malignant, aggressive, and the same as the “Chernobyl” cancers. They are usually discovered in the course of a postmortem pathological examination, or by imaging studies. The autopsy prevalence of occult thyroid cancers in various countries ranges from 4.5% to 36% (Moosa and Mazzaferri, 1997; Tan and Gharib, 1997). The normal incidence of the occult thyroid cancers is about 1,000 times higher than the highest incidence of reported thyroid cancers in post-Soviet countries; thus the potential of the screening effect is enormous, but this is not discussed at all in the report.

The data on increased reporting of thyroid cancers in the NCRP-136 report are limited exclusively to children. However, since the studies of Ivanov et al. in 1996 and 1997, which were reviewed in the UNSCEAR 2000 report, it is well known that the increase in those adults who were screened (such as recovery operation workers) is similar to

the increase in children.

The NCRP-136 report states that “the excess of histologically confirmed thyroid cancer has been so large that it cannot be attributed only to increased surveillance.” This statement does not appear to be correct. According to the report, “. . . during 1990 and 1994 a total of 315 thyroid cancers in children were observed in Belarus, which was a 30-fold excess over the numbers observed there in the previous 10 y[ears].” A similar 21-fold excess of thyroid nodules, caused by the screening effect, was observed in the United States between 1974 and 1979 (Ron et al. 1992). One should also note that a similar screening effect was found for chronic lymphocytic leukemia (deemed not to be increased by radiation exposure) among the Russian recovery operation workers (documented in UNSCEAR 2001—unpublished). The screening effect, and the influence of occult thyroid cancers on it, are virtually ignored by the NCRP.

Other Omissions

The NCRP-136 report omits important information from the UNSCEAR 2000 Report: for the 15 years after the Chernobyl accident, there was no increase in the incidence of leukemia or any solid cancers (except thyroid cancer, which, arguably, is a screening effect). The report also neglects to inform the reader that there was a total lack of radiation-induced hereditary disturbances both in the Chernobyl population, and among the progeny of survivors of the World War II atomic attack in Japan. These omissions should serve as a warning of how deeply biased this report is.

The information on an exceptionally high risk of radiation-induced leukemia is presented for the nuclear test code-named SMOKY. In this test, the average dose was only 4.66 mSv and the ratio of observed to expected numbers of leukemia cases was 10.0 to 4.0; that is, the incidence of leukemia increased by a factor of 2.5. However, there are contradictory data from another nuclear test (code-named Operation Greenhouse), where there was an average dose of 13 mSv, and the observed to expected numbers of leukemia cases was 1.0 to 4.4 (which corresponds to a *deficit* of leukemia cases of 73%).

The substantial published evidence and consensus (for example, Robinette 1985 and Doll et al. 1998, and the references therein) that there are no adverse effects to the populations of nuclear weapons observers but rather hormetic (beneficial) ones, was not reflected in the NCRP-136 report.

In a discussion of lung cancers, the report notes an epidemiological study of Canadian tuberculosis patients. This study showed that after irradiation with doses of up to 0.99 Sv [sievert], the patients had a clear deficit of lung cancers. Yet, the NCRP-136 report characterizes this very positive result by stating only that it showed that the risk “was not elevated.”

An even worse treatment was handed out to the excellent study of Tokarskaya et al. (1997) on a unique group of Eastern Urals Mayak nuclear reprocessing plant workers exposed to plutonium, in which smoking was fully accounted for as a

confounding factor. The authors of the NCRP-136 state incorrectly (p. 171) that this study “showed an excess of lung cancer down to levels of about 1 Sv.” In fact, an excess of lung cancer incidence was observed by Tokarskaya et al. starting at radiation levels *higher by a factor of 20*—that is, between 20.1 and 344 Sv. But between 0.81 and 6.0 Sv, a 21% decrease in lung cancer incidence was found; and between 6.1 and 20.0 Sv, there was a 28% decrease. This important finding suggests the existence of a threshold for radiation effects, below which there are beneficial or hormetic effects. Tokarskaya et al. concluded 1) that the “dose-effect for smoking had a linear character,” and 2) that the “dose-response relationship for plutonium incorporation corresponded to the nonlinear threshold relationship,” with a threshold of about 3.7 kBq [kilobecquerel] of plutonium-239 body burden, or 0.8 Gy [gray].

On the same page, the report cites the papers of Hohryakov and Romanov (1994) and of Koshurnikova et al. (1997), as showing “an excess of lung cancer” in workers of the Russian plutonium facility, without informing the reader that a *deficit* of lung cancers was found at lower doses.

We observe here not simply an incompetent and careless presentation of published data, but also a pattern of concealing important information that strongly refutes the LNT. Unfortunately, this pattern is typical throughout the NCRP-136 report.

Arbitrary Definitions

In its definition of “stochastic [probabilistic] effects,” the NCRP-136 authors have an arbitrary premise of a “no threshold” response and linearity. The report differentiates between “stochastic” effects—the severity of which allegedly does not vary with dose, and “deterministic” effects—the severity of which increases with dose. Yet, this is an empty and obsolete definition in view of current information on the mechanisms of carcinogenesis and genetics. Medicine does not recognize such a distinction, which was introduced in the early 1970s by the pro-LNT lobby in radiation protection.

The lack of dose-related severity in stochastic effects, trumped up as the main difference between them and deterministic effects, is not true. As demonstrated by radiation scientist Walinder (1995), many radiogenic cancers in man and in experimental animals show greater histologic and clinical malignancy after high radiation doses, than after smaller ones. Also, the latency time is shortened when the dose increases, so that malignant tumors can be more “severe” because they have had time to develop during a lifetime. This was acknowledged by the NCRP in its 1975 publication.

The notion of “stochastic” and “deterministic” effects is a tacit introduction of the LNT thinking template into radiation protection, which occurred in the late 1970s. These two words replace the clear, simple, and informative terms used for decades, such as “somatic” and “genetic,” early and late effects, neoplastic and hereditary diseases, and so on. Except for selling the non-threshold ideology, these two newer terms—

stochastic and deterministic effects—carry no useful information.

Low radiation doses are well known and documented to cause life-span increases. Yet, in the chapter on “Life Shortening,” the NCRP reports from a study by Walburg (1975), that in experimental animals the “shortening of life span by low-to-intermediate doses of whole-body radiation has been observed to result primarily from increased or accelerated rates of neoplasia.” However, it fails to cite the same author when he reports that “when only non-neoplastic causes of death were considered, there was no significant effect on life shortening, and the mean age at death increased in irradiated animals relative to controls.”

The NCRP does not report that improved immunity after low-dose irradiation increases the life-span, and no mention is made of the fact that “aging” is not an effect of low doses. In a detailed presentation based on a few papers showing that life-shortening results from neoplastic causes, the NCRP report cites 16 papers that failed to show life shortening at low doses in experimental animals, but does not present their results. Instead, the report characterizes them only as “ostensibly at variance” with the linear increase of life shortening with dose. The report did not present the important study on the effect of chronic irradiation on human embryo cells, at a dose rate corresponding to about 3.65 Gy per year, in which the life-span of cells was longer than of non-irradiated cells (Suzuki et al. 1992).

It is interesting that the radiation effects to the immune system are not discussed at all in the report. The term “immune” is not even indexed, and the classic literature on this issue is not mentioned—for example, Liu et al. 1987 and Makinodan and James 1990—probably because it strongly suggests the existence of hormetic effects, which are in direct opposition to LNT assumption.

In line with this selective approach, the NCRP report does not present the beneficial effects of whole- or half-body fractionated irradiation of patients with tumors to a total dose of about 1.5 Gy, 90% of whom showed complete or partial remission (UNSCEAR 1994).

The Fraud of the ‘Healthy Worker’ Effect

The NCRP report states that the so-called “healthy worker effect” is ubiquitous in occupational studies. (This is the alleged self-selection of healthy workers in nuclear-related professions.) But this effect was specifically excluded in the Smith and Doll (1981) study on British radiologists, for which the control subjects were other medical practitioners. One cannot suppose that radiologists were self-selected for initial or later good health in a different way from other medical practitioners.

In a large study of U.S. nuclear shipyard workers (Matanoski 1991), the “healthy worker effect” was explicitly excluded. This study of 30,000 shipyard workers showed a strong hormetic effect of the low radiation doses for lymphatic

and haemopoietic cancers and for other effects. The NCRP report chose to disqualify this study on the false ground that it was caused by the “healthy worker effect.” However, as stated in the UNSCEAR 1994 report, this statistically significant decrease in mortality ratio in shipyard workers cannot be caused by the healthy worker effect.

Nevertheless, the NCRP report makes the wholly unfounded statement that “a difference for total mortality, and not just for radiosensitive cancers, supports the interpretation that [worker] selection factors were operative.” However, this effect indicates only that enhanced immunity induced by low radiation doses had a general character, and was active not only for cancers but also reduced infections, inflammations, and many other ailments, as is well documented in the medical literature and in *in vivo* animal studies.

To take another example: In a study of British radiologists from 1936-54, there was a 39% deficit of cancer deaths. If, however, the induction of radiogenic cancers were really a “stochastic” phenomenon (as postulated in the NCRP report), depending simply on the statistical probability of radiation damage in DNA, then the stochastic chance of cancer should be the same for a “healthy” and a “less healthy” worker. The ambiguous concepts of “stochasticity” and “healthy worker effect” are thus in conflict.

No mention is made in the NCRP report that from both these cited occupational studies it is apparent that low doses of radiation are beneficial for the workers. In nuclear shipyard workers, the nuclear workers had 19-24% (depending on the radiation dose category) less mortality as the result of all causes, and 9-58% less leukemia mortality than did the shipyard’s non-nuclear workers. Why, then, after presenting the leukemia data for workers from U.S. nuclear shipyards, does the NCRP report state: “No excess of leukemia was observed”?

The NCRP-136 report cites also the Smith and Doll study (1981) as having “reported excess of total cancers” among the British radiologists. In fact, this paper shows a 39% deficit of deaths resulting from all neoplasms for the period 1936-54, and 21% deficit for the period 1921-54. New data, not cited in NCRP-136, on British radiologists for the period 1955-79, show a 27% deficit of all cancer deaths, and a 37% deficit for mortality resulting from all non-cancer diseases (Berrington et al. 2001).

Chronic vs. Fractionated Exposure

The NCRP report fails to express even so much as a reservation about whether health effects in atomic bomb survivors in Japan are relevant to estimating the risk of chronic or highly fractionated exposures in other cases. It uses the high-dose Japanese epidemiological data as a yardstick good for every occasion. However, the lifetime exposures from Chernobyl fallout or fractionated occupational exposures during a few decades, differ from exposures in Hiroshima and Nagasaki by a factor of 10^{15} (a thousand trillion) in the dose rates.

The biological responses to essentially “instantaneous” high doses from mixed gamma-neutron radiation emitted after nuclear explosions, cannot be a sound foundation to assess the health effects of protracted low-level irradiation, which is typical for the realm of radiation protection and natural background.

The epidemiological data on the Techa River population in the Eastern Urals, contaminated by emissions from military reprocessing plant in Mayak, are presented to show “a statistically significant exposure-response (LNT) relationship” (Kossenko and Degteva 1994). However, the report does not cite a study on the Techa River population from the very same issue of *The Science of the Total Environment* by Kostyuchenko and Krestinina (1994) showing a statistically significant decrease of tumor-related mortality ranging from 28% to 39% for dose categories of less than 500 mSv. This is an example of the report’s distorted and biased selection of published information.

Below a dose of 100 mSv, the causal link between radiation exposure and the increase of cancer is entirely speculative (in other words, it doesn’t exist), whereas the statistically significant epidemiological data from numerous studies on occupational, natural, and accidental exposure strongly suggest the decrease of neoplasms. The discussion of the latter evidence in the report’s chapter on hormesis is limited to merely two papers, selected from the several hundred references, abstracts, and summary data provided by the organization Radiation, Science, and Health to which the report refers (Muckerheide et al. 1998).

Furthermore, the report does not present in this chapter a generalized view and theory of hormesis—for example, that of Calabrese et al. (1999). Hormesis, or the beneficial effects of low doses of any noxious agent, is a phenomenon observed for virtually all kinds of chemical and physical agents, and is well known in pharmacology, toxicology, and general medicine. It is a pity that at least part of many hundred papers reviewed recently in 26 reviews published in Calabrese and Balwin (2001) were not discussed in the report. But how could they be, as most of them demonstrate that the LNT is an obsolete concept?

The aim of the NCRP report was to evaluate the applicability of the LNT in the context of radiation protection policies and regulations, which is limited to the effects of low doses, up to about 500 mSv. Why then, in a figure on p. 146, does the NCRP report present the data on leukemia mortality as the result of high doses (up to 4,500 mSv) in Japanese atomic-bomb survivors, while it virtually conceals the data for doses below 0.5 Sv? [See **Figure 1.**]

Why, in the same figure [Figure 1b], at the *x*-axis representing radiation dose, does the report allow only 3 millimeters for the most important dose category of 1 to 200 mSv, compared to 73 millimeters for the largely irrelevant doses of 500 to 5,000 mSv? By this manipulation, the report conceals the apparent threshold, and the *deficit* of leukemia below

200 mSv, which is clearly seen in original publication of the cited sources (Shimizu et al. 1992 and UNSCEAR 1994).

The famous paper by Miller et al., on breast cancer mortality in Canadian tuberculosis patients (1989), is discussed in the NCRP report. This paper shows a 27% deficit of breast cancer in women in the 0.10-0.19 Gy dose category, as compared with the 0-0.09 Gy category. This deficit was not noticed by Miller et al. These authors interpreted their results, according to the LNT paradigm, as a straight line from high doses, even though the line falls many standard deviations outside the data points at lower doses. In the NCRP-136 report this deficit of breast cancer mortality in patients from the years 1930 through 1952, is downplayed as “a statistical anomaly.” This was done on the grounds that an update of this study by Howe and McLaughlin in 1995 “lumped” all of the low-dose data into a single data point, to eliminate the possibility of demonstrating the reduced breast cancer in these women!

More Bias

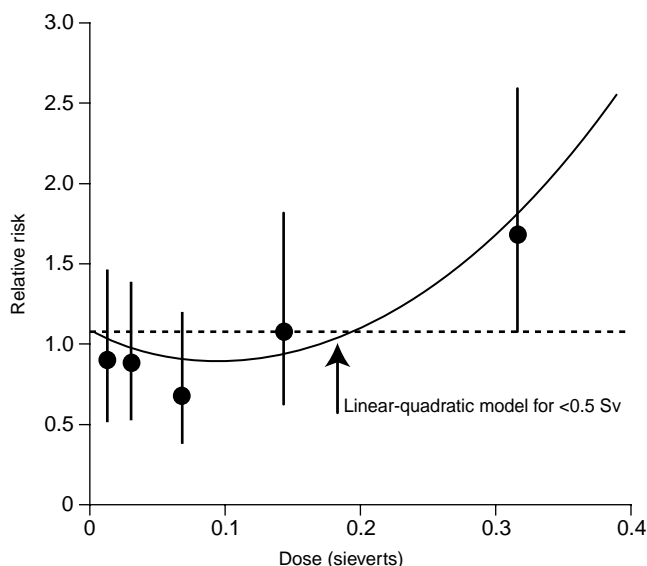
The chapter on Ecologic Studies is exceptionally biased, presenting the arguments of only one side. The discussion is centered on the 1995 study of Cohen, which demonstrated that the LNT predictions of lung cancer mortality caused by residential radon are not confirmed by the highly statistically significant results of the epidemiological study of large populations that are exposed to moderately large variations in radon. Cohen’s results, covering more than 90% of the population of the United States, demonstrate that people living in houses with high radon concentration in the air have a lower incidence of lung cancers than those who live in houses with low radon concentration. From among many papers by Professor Cohen on this subject from 1987 to 2000, the NCRP report cites only one.

On the other hand, the report cites many papers to support a statement that ecological studies, such as those performed by Cohen, are intrinsically biased. Cohen has refuted the arguments in these papers, through rigorous scientific analysis in his numerous publications. Yet, none of these publications by Cohen is even mentioned. Cited extensively is a paper by Lubin (1998)—which criticizes Cohen’s work of 1995, using general rhetoric about “the kinds of errors that could affect an ecologic study.” However, Cohen’s reply to the Lubin criticisms, published in the same issue of *Health Physics* magazine (pp. 18-23) in which the Lubin article appears, is not even mentioned in the NCRP report. In his reply, Cohen analyzed the actual data to show that the so-called “Lubin’s effect” contributes very little to the huge discrepancy between Cohen’s rigorous results and the LNT predictions, and does not offer a plausible explanation of this discrepancy.

Cohen’s work is the largest existing radon study, producing the best statistics ever compiled, and carefully accounting for 54 confounding socioeconomic factors, including smok-

FIGURE 1a

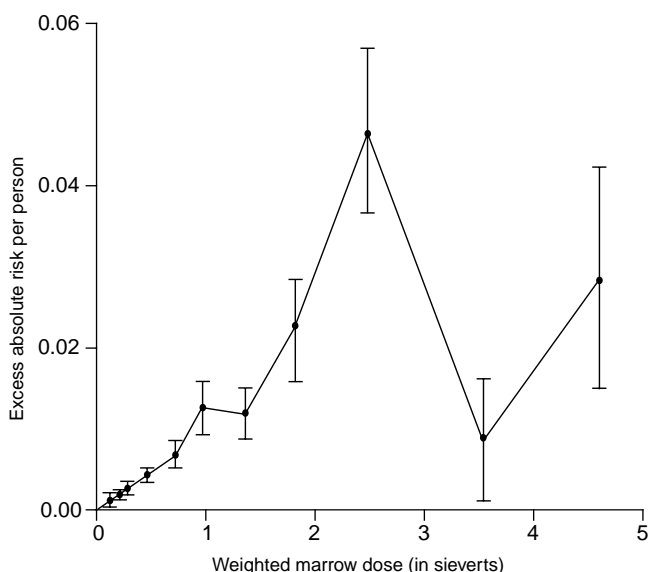
Mortality from Leukemia in Hiroshima and Nagasaki—Data as Presented by UNSCEAR



Source: UNSCEAR 1994, p. 257.

FIGURE 1b

Mortality from Leukemia in Hiroshima and Nagasaki—NCRP Version of the Same Data



Source: NCRP Report No. 136, p. 146.

In Figure 1a, taken from UNSCEAR 1994, the threshold below the dose of about 200 mSv (millisieverts) and the hormetic effect at lower doses are clearly seen. In Figure 1b, taken from NCRP Report No. 136, the x-axis for this dose range is so compressed that the threshold and hormetic effects are concealed, and the report states: “There is statistically significant upward curvature in the dose range 0 to 3 Sv.”

ing. The NCRP’s unfounded discrimination against such an excellent scientific study, because it does not happen to fit the LNT model, is not something the NCRP can be proud of. The report also ignores other studies that consistently confirm Cohen’s results, such as Bogen (1998) or Rossi and Zaider (1997). On the other hand, nine papers of Cohen’s principal opponent, Dr. J.H. Lubin, are in the report’s list of references. In none of these papers does Lubin present convincing arguments that might support the presumption that ecological studies produce erroneous results.

The results of Cohen’s 1995 study, which directly contradict the LNT “predictions,” were statistically much more robust than results of any other study on the relation between lung cancer and residential radon, and the study meets the most rigorous methodological criteria. For example, the graph plotted of this relationship, as found by Cohen, is inconsistent with the LNT predictions of BEIR IV by more than 20 standard deviations. (BEIR IV is the National Academy of Science/National Research Council’s 1988 report by the Committee on the Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation, titled “Health Risks of Radon and Other Internally Deposited Alpha-Emitters.”)

In its attempt to disqualify the work of Cohen, the report

also cites papers of Greenland and Morgenstern (1989); Smith et al. (1998); Stidley and Samet (1994); and the NAS/NRC BEIR VI (1999). Cohen thoroughly responded to all of these discussions of possible areas of discrepancy, as well as other arguments used against his work (Cohen 1988; 1994; 1997; 1998a; 1998b; 1998c; 2000a; 2000b; and Cohen and Colditz 1994). None of these papers is even mentioned in the NCRP report. In the case of Cohen and Colditz, the second author, Dr. Graham Colditz of Harvard University, is a most highly regarded epidemiologist. Dr. Colditz’s rigorous evaluation and analysis in this paper confirms that the analysis of Cohen’s data produces a highly significant negative correlation with radon levels, according to the highest standards of epidemiology practice. Yet, this paper is never addressed by those who claim that some undefined condition *might* cause an ecological study to produce erroneous results. A statement in the NCRP report that the result of Cohen’s study “cannot be relied upon,” should perhaps end with the words “because it does not support LNT.”

Failing the Reality Test

It is sad and discouraging that NCRP-136 seeks to misrepresent the results of such a large number of sound and thor-

ough studies, and fails to consider objectively the huge discrepancy between the observational data and LNT predictions, which clearly shows that LNT fails the test of reality. Treating many other studies in the same manner, it is our opinion that the NCRP committed a severe violation of the scientific method in defense of the obsolete LNT concept, which has now become a health and societal hazard.

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More About Radiation

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Japan: What Shut Down 17 Nuclear Plants?

by Marjorie Mazel Hecht

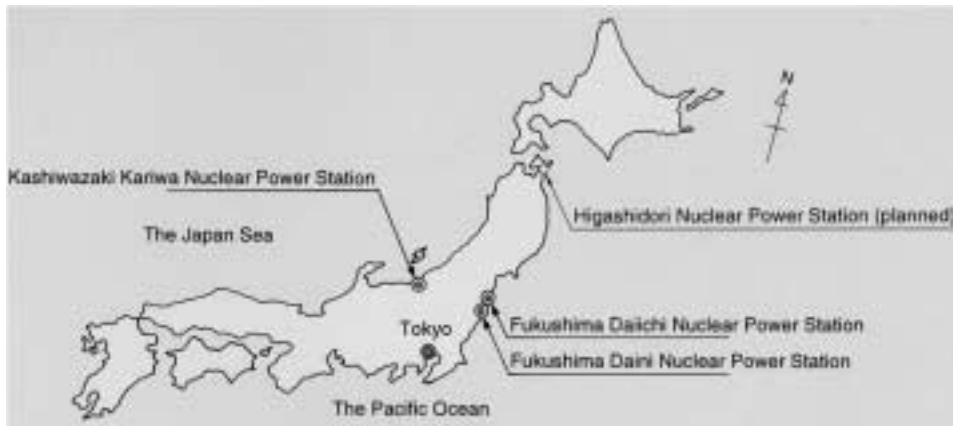
Japan's ambitious nuclear vision—to become energy self-sufficient and a world leader in advanced nuclear technology—has long been a target of the geopoliticians and the anti-nukes. Japan chose to go nuclear (52 nuclear plants now supply 34% of its electricity), because nuclear made the most sense for a country with high-technology, energy-intensive industry, and virtually no indigenous oil or gas supplies.

Recently, as news headlines have blared worldwide, 17 nuclear plants that supply about 40% of the electricity of the Tokyo region of 40 million people, were shut down for inspections of "cracks," and brownouts will be expected this Summer. What the often-biased stories don't tell you is how this came about, and why the small cracks are not, in reality, serious safety concerns.

The 17 plants are managed by TEPCO, the Tokyo Electric Power Co., one of ten nuclear utilities in Japan. The nuclear plants involved are of the boiling water reactor (BWR) design, developed and built in collaboration with General Electric from the early 1970s through the 1990s. A former General Electric engineer, reported to be an American who had worked as a consultant in Japan and was laid off, sent a letter to Japan's nuclear regulatory agency, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) in July 2000, stating that TEPCO employees had falsified records on voluntary inspections conducted at some nuclear plants.

For the next two years, TEPCO, NISA, GE, and Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI), pursued the whistleblower's complaints with investigations and safety analyses. On Aug. 29, 2002, TEPCO published an "Investigation Into False Recordings of Licensee's Self-Imposed Inspection Works at Nuclear Power Plants," concerning the cases involved. It also issued a press release, stating that there were "29 cases which might have been processed inappropriately in TEPCO's maintenance work at its nuclear power plants, that they were currently under investigation, and that no safety problems had been found concerning the suspected equipment that was currently in use."

Shortly thereafter, on Sept. 2, 2002, TEPCO announced the resignation of its chairman, president, an executive vice president in charge of nuclear power generation, and two counselors, in order to take "management responsibility on a series of inappropriate processes." In addition, many plant managers received punitive salary cuts, "stern warnings," or



TEPCO's 17 nuclear power stations are located at three sites: two on the Pacific Coast (Fukushima Daiichi with six reactors and Fukushima Daini with four reactors); and one on the Japan Sea coast (Kashiwazaki Kariwa with seven reactors). Future reactors include two more planned for Fukushima Daiichi and two for Higashidori.

“cautionary warnings.” Meanwhile, the investigations by an Internal Investigative Committee continued.

A ‘Mistaken Idea’

The TEPCO committee issued an initial report to NISA on Sept. 17, 2002, which was made public. TEPCO’s analysis of why the maintenance reports failed to mention problems such as small cracks found in the shroud (cylindrical container) surrounding the reactor core reveals the central problem: “the mistaken idea that they [the nuclear maintenance workers] did not have to make a report as long as there was no safety issue,” and that it was “preferable to avoid reporting problems to the regulator whenever possible,” in order to avoid delays in keeping the plants on line.

The report also cited “pressure relating to the serious public response to problems in nuclear power plants” (based on Japan’s history with radiation) and the nuclear maintenance workers’ “overconfidence that they understood nuclear power best,” as contributing to this “mistaken idea.”

As a result, the report stated, maintenance staff deleted “records of problems and subsequent repair work” over a period of time. The report also noted that “an organizational climate was fostered in the nuclear sections in which no one could express his/her own opinions because the sections comprised a homogeneous society with a limited number of members.” Anyone who has worked in a large organization or corporation can probably understand the dynamics behind such problems.

In a press release issued at the same time, TEPCO expressed its “sincere apologies” for damaging public confidence. TEPCO vowed to improve its company practices and ethics, and to work with the public to reestablish trust. This process has included door-to-door informational meetings in the community. TEPCO has continued to investigate each plant, shutting them down one by one over the past few months for further inspection and tests. All together, TEPCO has reviewed 8 million pages of documents, and has spent the equivalent of 15,000 man-days in the investigations.

The Power Gap

Although TEPCO has restarted seven of its retired non-nuclear power plants to fill in the gap (at a great increase in fuel and operating costs), it is likely that there will be power outages in the Tokyo area during the height of the Summer heat, unless between 8 and 10 of the nuclear plants are put back on line to meet the power demand. Three of the 17 plants are scheduled to be closed for routine maintenance checks into the Summer, and one plant was ordered by the government to remain closed until November 2003, as a reprimand for the most serious of TEPCO’s infractions—the manipulation of an air pressure test for the integrity of the reactor containment at this unit.

On May 7, at 6 p.m., the first of the 17 plants, Unit 6 at Kashiwazaki Kariwa, was restarted. TEPCO’s manager of nuclear programs at the company’s Washington, D.C. office, explained that before the restart, TEPCO had to obtain the confidence of the local community. “Although this is not required by law, it is just custom,” said Shinichi Kawamura. The governor of the prefecture (county) and area mayors got together to inspect the plant and to give their okay to the restart.

Unit 7 at the same Kashiwazaki Kariwa site is expected to be able to go back on line soon. Unit 6 and Unit 7 are each 1,356 MW plants. These are advanced boiling water reactors, built as a joint venture of GE, Toshiba, and Hitachi, and put on line in 1996 and 1997. Note that at a time when U.S. nuclear power plants were taking 20 years to build, these two plants were constructed in just 51 months each, including a 12-month start-up testing for one, and a 9-month start-up testing for the other.

As for the future, Mr. Kawamura said that TEPCO will have to work hard to regain the confidence of the public, and to show people that TEPCO has changed its ways, to prevent such things from happening.

In conclusion: For Japan, to maintain its future as an industrial nation, nuclear energy is still the best option. And honesty is the best policy.

LAROCHE'S U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

A World of Sovereign Nation-States

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

April 28, 2003

The following was released by the LaRouche in 2004 campaign committee.

It is a summary statement of the U.S. Foreign Policy of one of the currently leading candidates for the 2004 U.S. Presidential nomination by that nation's Democratic Party. Although this statement will be widely circulated inside the U.S.A., it is intended to serve as a compact summary, as suited for translations, which might be desired as information by governments and citizens of other parts of the world at this time.

The candidate is currently the leading Democratic Party contender in number of contributors who have supported his campaign to the present date.

The 1989-1991 collapse of the Soviet Union, created a state of world affairs in which the U.S.A., then under President George H.W. Bush, assumed the role of a virtually unchallenged world power.¹ Unfortunately, this occasion was used to unleash a strategically motivated, looting-down of the physically productive aspects of the economies of not only both the former Soviet Union and former Eastern European Warsaw Pact members, but also the intent, aided by Balkan wars, to bring about a cumulatively significant weakening of the so-called "rival" economies of pre-1989 European continental allies, Germany most emphatically.

1. In 1983, I had forecast, that if Soviet General Secretary Yuri Andropov continued to refuse President Reagan's offer of SDI cooperation, current Soviet policy would lead to the collapse of the Soviet economy, "in about five years." It collapsed in approximately six years. On Oct. 12, 1988, I delivered a statement in my function as a U.S. Presidential candidate, in West Berlin, forecasting the imminent economic collapse of the Soviet bloc, with anticipated reunification of Germany, with Berlin probably designated to become the future capital of a reunified Germany. This Berlin statement featured my policy for U.S. "food for peace": cooperation in economic rebuilding of the nations of the Soviet bloc. That televised Oct. 12 Berlin press conference was featured in a U.S. national television-network broadcast a few weeks later that same month.



A jubilant celebration at the Reichstag in Berlin, Oct. 3, 1990, the day on which Germany was reunified. The collapse of the Soviet bloc led to the emergence of the United States as a virtually unchallenged world power, and the weakening of the "rival" economies of U.S. European allies, including Germany.

This combination of developments encouraged the presently continuing insurgence of two varieties of imperial intentions already lurking among some of the most powerful political factions within the United States. One of these factions represents a U.S. liberal-imperialist impulse copying the British tradition known by that name. The second is an echo of the Roman imperial legions and Nazi international Waffen-SS. The latter, fascist impulse was pushed unsuccessfully, during 1991-92, by then U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard "Dick" Cheney and his so-called neo-conservative ("neoccon") associates. However, later, that same policy has been pushed, since Sept. 11, 2001, by the same Cheney, now Vice-President, and also by the same set of associates of Cheney and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld as then.² The utopian Cheney-Rumsfeld clique's nuclear-airborne parody of the international Waffen-SS has been known otherwise, during recent decades, as the U.S. "Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA)."

So, the practical difference between those two kinds of imperialist impulse within today's U.S.A., is between a slower, more cautious liberal approach, and that explicitly fascist, quick-march plunge into the Hell of a planetary new dark age. The latter is represented by Cheney and his long-standing crony Donald Rumsfeld. It is the latter, explicitly fascist policy, which must be repelled, urgently, explicitly,

2. It is notable that the wilder notions of Defense Secretary Cheney were checked by the administration of President George H.W. Bush, Sr., but largely adopted under Bush, Jr. and Vice-President Cheney.

and directly, now.

The recent partial successes of the virtual twins, Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld, in foisting certain crucial parodies of Nazi policies upon the administration of President George W. Bush, Jr., has resulted in a demoralizing state of mind among governing circles of those nations, in Europe and elsewhere, whose interest is to defend themselves against this new strategic threat. However, even those same governments which resist the threat, have also tended to waver, out of fearful regard for the hope that they might minimize the risk of becoming virtually a declared adversary of the U.S.A.

This currently ominous trend in U.S. military affairs, is accompanied, and accelerated, by a presently on-rushing economic collapse of the 1971-2003, "floating-exchange-rate" form of world monetary-financial system. The present unwillingness of the U.S. Bush Administration even to consider allowing urgently needed monetary-financial reforms of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) system, represents, as I shall show here, a matter for concern as crucial as the ongoing, pro-fascist military threat.

It is unfortunate, for all of us, that I am not yet the incumbent President of the U.S.A. However, in my role as the Democratic candidate currently leading in popular financial support, I represent a significant force for those ideas around which concerned leading forces around the world could, and should now rally, to present to the people and leading institutions of the U.S.A. and other nations, an image of the changed, better future role of the United States which would be consistent with the true interest of the



Donald Rumsfeld (left) and Dick Cheney (right) represent the explicitly fascist approach in the imperialist impulse in the United States today: the quick-march plunge into the Hell of a planetary new dark age. Center: Germany's Waffen-SS.

world's respectively sovereign nations.

Presently, the impetus for this needed change in the world's outlook, must, probably, come from within the U.S.A. itself. Currently, no different prospect is to be seen from around the world. Essential contributions have come from France, Germany, Russia, China, and elsewhere. Nonetheless, it is the fearful imperial power enjoyed by the U.S.A., today, which fosters what I see as an underlying, potentially fatal tendency for vacillation shown by many leading governments when faced with U.S. bullying. His Holiness Pope John Paul II excepted, perhaps it is only from a spokesman from inside the U.S.A., a Presidential candidate who knows, and feels the global power of the U.S.A. in this respect, and who knows, confidently, how to use that power to the marginal effect, that groups of leaders from other nations might be encouraged, as I seek to encourage them now, to join in acting in concert for those urgently needed reforms which are presently in the urgent interest of us all.

The basis for such an approach is to be found in that history of the creation of, and internal partisan battles within the United States, a history which has been scarcely remembered, and little-understood in Europe and elsewhere today. I situate my U.S. foreign policy against the following summary of relevant elements of that history; define the principled adversary to be defeated; define the root of the present economic crisis; and then state that intended U.S. foreign policy which I submit as a proposed active premise for practice among nations, even at the present moment.

The American Revolution

My foreign policies as a present and former candidate for President of the United States, have always been premised on the stated American Whig tradition of President John Quincy Adams, leading economist Henry C. Carey, and President Abraham Lincoln. That set of policies is neither a slogan, nor

an algebraic formula, but a principle. It is a principle, like any valid principle of physical science, premised upon a stipulated history of human experience. In this instance, that history is, as the great German Classical poet and historian Friedrich Schiller would agree on principle, the experience of the U.S.A., as situated within the development of European civilization since Solon of Athens.

The creation of the U.S. Federal constitutional republic, as an intended echo of the tradition of Solon, was led as a combined effort of many of the leading figures, scientists and others, from both sides of the Atlantic. These forces saw the birth of the U.S. republic as Lafayette once described it, as a temple of liberty and beacon of hope for all mankind.

Unfortunately, as the post-July 14, 1789 events in Paris, the Jacobin Terror, the rampages of Napoleon Bonaparte, and the Metternich-Castlereagh roles at the Vienna Congress attest, modern Europe then had not yet attained that degree of political maturity which it should have derived from the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia, the ability to enable it to erect true and stable republics.

Nonetheless, even under the conditions of isolation and periods of decadence which the United States suffered, from 1789 until President Lincoln's victory over Lord Palmerston's asset, the Confederacy, the U.S. Constitution has proven itself, repeatedly, to be a remarkably durable instrument. President Franklin Roosevelt, who picked the United States up from out of the cumulative acts of wrecking of our institutions under Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Calvin Coolidge, and Herbert Hoover, demonstrated the continued vitality of that Constitution when it were placed at the disposal of faithful and competent hands.

The underlying purpose of the American Revolution and its leading European supporters, was, from the beginning, to establish the U.S.A. as a republic which would contribute, in the manner of a seed-crystal, to inspiring the emergence of a



The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution: "We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

community of principle among the independent sovereign republics of the world. That was the goal expressed by one of our greatest statesmen, John Quincy Adams, the policy summarized by President Lincoln in his celebrated Gettysburg Address. This same commitment was invoked by President Franklin Roosevelt's warning to British Prime Minister Churchill, that, he, unlike the later President Harry Truman, was committed to a decolonized post-war world. On this account, one must understand the unique importance for the world, then as now, of the Preamble of the 1787-1789 drafting of that adopted Constitution.

That intention should be copied as the unifying statement of purpose among the majority of peoples now. This intention, which properly defines the founding law and self-interested foreign policy of the U.S.A., were made efficiently clear, when the principled nature of the authority of the Preamble of the U.S. Federal Constitution were understood. I explain, as follows.

Admittedly, the U.S.A. has often violated that principle of law on which it was founded. Since 1763, the leading political currents of English-speaking North America have been divided chiefly between two opposing principles. The one, the patriots who created the U.S. republic; the other, those, like the leaders of the Essex Junto, who were known, by name, as "American Tories," from the time of Benjamin Franklin through President Franklin Roosevelt, as by me today. These American Tories were originally allied in business and philosophy with the British East India Company and have continued that philosophical heritage of Lord Shelburne, Aaron Burr, and Jeremy Bentham to the present day. These American Tories represent the essential root and continuing political-philosophical base for both of my nation's pro-imperialist factions. The sometimes wild swings in U.S. policy-shaping express nothing as much as the pattern of resurgence

and ebb of that patriotic tradition of which I am a veteran representative today.

Franklin Roosevelt's Presidency was a time of a great resurgence of the American patriotic legacy. Since the combined aftermath of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the launching of the U.S. war in Indo-China, and Richard M. Nixon's 1966-68 campaign for the Presidency, the American Tory legacy has been predominant in all notable U.S. political parties, until the present crisis.

Despite the differences in policy and shifting relative strength, between the two factions, it is the current of Benjamin Franklin, which I represent today, and which President Franklin Roosevelt represented, which crafted the 1776 Declaration of Independence according to principles defined by Gottfried Leibniz, and which composed the Preamble of the Federal Constitution.

That Preamble expresses three principles which were adopted as expressions of natural law. These principles are, by name, the principle of perfect national sovereignty, the principle of the general welfare, and the principle of dedication to posterity. No interpretation of any other feature of the Constitution were allowable, nor amendment, nor any enacted law, which were read in a way which were inconsistent with the combined impact of those three principles. The notion of the extension of those same principles to a community of principle among a community of perfectly sovereign nation-states, has been the variously stated, or implied intention of every thoughtful spokesman of past generations of my nation's patriotic party. It is the thrust of U.S. history, that its military policy should be, similarly, a reflection of that goal of desiring, and defending a durable such community of principle among the nations of the world.

Then Secretary of State John Quincy Adams' letter to his President James Monroe, launching the 1823 Monroe Doc-



The three core principles enshrined in the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution, which Benjamin Franklin (right) and other founders of the United States took largely from the influence of circles associated with Gottfried Leibniz (center), have ancient roots, including in the teachings of Solon of Athens (left).



trine for the defense of the perfect sovereignties of the emerging republics of the Americas against the predatory powers of Europe, as soon as the U.S.A. were able, is a leading expression of this principle. This U.S.A. acted so, when it were first able, when the defeat of Lord Palmerston's asset, the Confederacy, provided the opportunity for the United States to expel Napoleon III's military forces supporting the murderous tyrant Maximilian, from Mexico.

The task for today, is that leading nations of the world must act now to establish an effective form of such a principled order for peaceful collaboration among all willing nations, once and for all.

It is the implicit historical conviction of my nation's continuing patriotic tradition, that the role of European civilization, from Solon of Athens to the present, must be to serve the promotion and practice of those principles, in our nation, and our common contribution to the world at large. This policy has been the essential premise of our actual national interest since the beginning of our struggle for national independence. These three principles, which the founders of the United States took largely from the influence of circles associated with Gottfried Leibniz, have deep and ancient historical-philosophical roots in the history of globally extended European and other civilizations.³ I describe them, summarily, as follows.

The common root of all of these principles, is the notion of human nature as specifically apart from, and above that of the beasts. For example, the great Russian scientist V.I. Vernadsky addressed this matter in his definition of a higher

3. For example, the U.S. 1776 Declaration of Independence, crafted under the direction of Benjamin Franklin, features Leibniz's concept of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," as Leibniz counterposed this concept to the pro-slavery "life, liberty, and property" of John Locke.

order of existence, which he named the *Noöphere*, as distinct from, and superior to the *Biosphere*. Only the human individual has the inborn capacity to do what no beast can do, to create and build a *Noösphere*: to accomplish this by the discovery and employment of universal physical principles which are invisible to the senses, and, yet, are universally efficient.⁴ The sharing of that experience of discovery of efficient universal principles, and of the benefits of those powers, within contemporary society, and in efficient transmission of such knowledge from past, to present, to future generations, shows us that the true practical, and immortal, meaning of individual human life, resides in those uniquely human qualities. It shows that the interest of mankind lies essentially in this principled distinction of man from the beast.

For such reasons, the natural yearning of civilization has been to craft forms of society which efficiently uproot those traditions under which some persons hunt or herd other persons as dumbed-down human cattle. This correction requires a mode in society in which each individual is encouraged to participate consciously in the generation and replication of those acts of discovery of universal principle which are the means of mankind's progress in self-development. This defines the principle of the general welfare, as derived from that notion of justice known as *agapē*, in the ancient Greek of Plato's *Republic*, and in the Christian's *I Corinthians* 13, and otherwise known as the *common good*. This defines the principle of dedication to posterity, the true principle of his-

4. For example, in experimental physical science, we can sense the effects of gravitation, the principle of quickest time, the principle of universal least action, and the effects of the complex domain generally; but, we can not sense those demonstrably efficient universal physical principles themselves. This is not only modern knowledge; it is the principle of *powers* emphasized by Plato in such locations as his *Theaetetus* dialogue.

tory as a lawful process.

Implicitly, it also defines the principle of perfect national sovereignties.

The partial realization of that goal of statecraft occurred in birth of modern Europe, during the Fifteenth Century. This was expressed by the birth of those first nation-states, France under Louis XI and that England of young Sir Thomas More established under Henry VII. These were states committed to the principle of the general welfare. Although expressions of contrary ancient and medieval imperial law persisted, the admittedly troubled emergence of the modern sovereign nation-state, against reactionary, pro-medieval institutions, has been a great net boon to mankind as a whole. The Preamble of the U.S. Federal Constitution adopted that as its governing constitutional principle. This works to the following intended effect.

The rightful sovereignty of a nation-state lies in the uniquely appropriate and obligatory function of government to promote the causes of general welfare and posterity efficiently, and the responsibility never to act contrary to that.

The effectiveness of that sovereignty depends upon the development, sharing, and preservation of knowledge. This must be accomplished by a continuing process of improving the existing culture of that people, including the crucial language-culture within which the social processes of deliberation chiefly proceed. Without that use of its culture for the development of the human individual, the names for the rights of the individual tend to become empty phrases, and a people is effectively disenfranchised by its own ignorance, in that way. Thus, the freedom and development of the people, and the perfect sovereignty of the nation-state are inseparable principles.

In the end, the principles of the universe are expressed as a coherent, expanding body of knowledge. Yet, to achieve that knowledge efficiently, a people must come to it by means of use and development of the culture they have, including the language-culture. The most essential feature of that language-culture is not what are regarded as those literal meanings of words and phrases which might be plucked from a dictionary, but, rather, those subtleties of metaphor and other ironies which are, as Percy Bysshe Shelley points out, the medium through which a people is capable of imparting and receiving profound and impassioned conceptions respecting man and nature.

The goal of bringing into being a true community of principle among sovereign nation-states, is therefore a reflection of a universal, and natural principle of law.

Old Hobbes, the Enemy from Within

The chief internal adversary of today's globally extended modern European civilization, has been the social empiricism of that one-time tyrant of Venice, the Paolo Sarpi whose conception of neo-Ockhamite empiricism was reflected through the activity of his lackey Galileo Galilei. This empiricism

emerged, under Galileo's tutelage, as the root of the hideously misanthropic conceptions of Thomas Hobbes. From Hobbes, through such as John Locke, Bernard Mandeville, Jeremy Bentham, Thomas Huxley, Friedrich Nietzsche, and H.G. Wells, came today's widespread, principled misconception of man, as instinctively a feral, existentialist beast. The modern international fascism of such followers of the late Professor Leo Strauss and his ally, the synarchist Alexandre Kojève, as Vice-President Cheney's circles of so-called "neo-conservatives," is a typical, Hobbesian-Nietzschean outgrowth of what is fairly described, variously, as the contemporary existentialists' bestial, dionysian, or satanic misconception of human nature.

This misconception of man, so exemplified, is the single greatest danger to global humanity today.

The present condition of our planet, its population, its technologies, does not permit the continued existence of civilization according to a regime ordered by the percussive interactions of persons and institutions, a regime to be recognized as the legacy of the social empiricist Hobbes. The maintenance of present or higher levels of population on this planet, requires the defense, and further improvement of those man-made physical-capital improvements in nature which are among the most obvious distinctions of the *Noösphere*. The combat against the lack of added improvements to that stock of physical capital, and combat against the want of a richer education and for improved living conditions of the populations generally, define indispensable measures for preventing the slide of mankind into a planetary new dark age.

That hateful destructiveness typified by Hobbes, includes today the wont for the outlawed practice of preventive nuclear war, as expressed by the fascist policies of Cheney, Rumsfeld, and their neo-conservative lackeys; the latter is a threat to civilization which this planet itself could not tolerate.

The fascism of Cheney, Rumsfeld, et al., is admittedly a wild extreme within the larger legacy of Hobbes, but we must not evade the fact, that as long as the practice of statecraft were informed by a notion of inevitably percussive relations within and among nations, there would be not only a recurring tendency toward fostering of useless conflicts, but an insensitivity to those measures which would supersede old issues by means of urgent and beneficial actions in the common interest. Much Hobbes breeds too many Cheneys.

Man is born to do good. The potential ability of a child from any part of the planet to be developed as a virtual genius, to be an individual who loves discovered truth and the common good, and devotes his or her mortal life to its meaningful outcome for those yet to be born: That typifies that inborn goodness which is specific to human nature. It is providing the circumstances and motivation for that development of the individual's potential, which is the pervasively underlying true mission, and duty of the sovereign nation-state republic.

If, instead of such a view, the policy of states were premised on the axiomatic assumption that man is a predatory beast



“Let us not be sophists who use the Hobbesian-like degradation which our nations’ follies have imposed on the culture of our people, as an excuse for treating our citizens and their children, or those of other nations, as if their nature required zoo-like cages to restrain them.”
Left to right: Thomas Hobbes, Galileo Galilei, and Jeremy Bentham.

by specific natural disposition, the practice of societies would continue to be that of man as beast to man. If every man were considered such a beast, every man were to be regarded in a Hobbesian view, as a war-like threat to every other. The consequence of that were perpetual, global “preventive warfare” in the mode of the Adolf Hitler regime and the policies of the fascist circles of that modern echo of the celebrated medieval scoundrels “Biche and Mouche,” Cheney and Rumsfeld—or, perhaps Burke and Hare.

The specific feature of Sarpi’s empiricism which leads to such malignant expressions of hatred, is the denial of the existence of that specific power of the human individual which sets the human species apart from, and above the beasts. The expression of this specific power which is called the potentiality of the individual human soul, is typified by both the discovery and sharing of those efficient universal principles of the universe which can not be, and are not the objects of mere sense-certainty. This specific kind of power, so termed by Plato, and sometimes called spiritual, is also expressed and thus typified, in a similar way, by great Classical artistic composition.

This specific power of mankind is illustrated in practice as the Classical humanists, such as Friedrich Schiller and Wilhelm von Humboldt, recognized. This includes those beneficial advances in technology by means of which mankind has progressed from the potential relative population-density of a higher ape, to one which is three decimal orders of magnitude greater than that, today. The cultivation of social relations to similar effect, through great Classical art, expresses the same specific distinction of the quality of every member of the human species. The attempt to degrade science and art to the level of statistical interpretation of mere sense-certainty, expresses a culture which seeks to degrade man into

the likeness of a mere beast. This bestiality is the assumption of Galileo’s pupil Hobbes; this degradation is the axiomatic root of Hobbes’ view of man as a beast to man. This is the axiomatic root of the bestiality of such followers of the late Professor Strauss and Kojève as the neo-conservative accomplices of Vice-President Cheney.

The commitment to specifically human progress in science, art, and their application, is a form of practice without which society tends to degenerate into the behavior of a beast-like creature. The goodness of mankind, of nations, is assured only when the circumstances of life are afforded under that state of affairs which is consistent with an environment of that quality of progress, a progress which expresses the appetites of the soul’s true, higher nature.

Therefore, let us not design societies to fit a population largely conditioned to behave as beasts. Let us not be sophists who use the Hobbesian-like degradation which our nations’ follies have imposed on the culture of our people, as an excuse for treating our citizens and their children, or those of other nations, as if their nature required zoo-like cages to restrain them.

The Present Strategic Situation

The circumstances under which Cheney, Rumsfeld, and their fascist lackeys were not prevented from taking concerted action to usurp much of the constitutional authorities of the President, the Congress, and the Court, were chiefly economic conditions. As in the case of the actions of certain financier circles, from London, New York City, and elsewhere, to award Adolf Hitler dictatorial powers on Feb. 28, 1933, the policies foisted upon the U.S. Bush Administration following Sept. 11, 2001, were not caused by, but were nonetheless a reflection of the relatively hopeless state of dilapidation of



President Franklin D. Roosevelt (left) and Germany's Dr. Wilhelm Lautenbach. Had Germany been permitted to follow Lautenbach's economic recovery plan, which was similar to Roosevelt's, Hitler would never have come to power. Knowledge of this history affords us insight into the post-Sept. 11, 2001 developments in the United States.

the existing monetary-financial system.

The 1932-1933 actions of the London/New York City circles of Montagu Norman, to rescue the Nazi Party financially, to deploy Hjalmar Schacht and other German assets of London to foist Hitler upon the German government, and to secure Hitler dictatorial powers on Feb. 28, 1933, were intended to ensure that no German Chancellor who might follow the plan of Dr. Wilhelm Lautenbach would be in that position, at the moment that U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt were inaugurated. The virtual coup d'état organized by Vice-President Cheney, immediately following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, has been steered to the effect of preventing the methods of President Franklin Roosevelt's economic recovery from being considered for application to the presently ongoing economic collapse of the bankrupt 1971-2003, floating-exchange-rate, monetary-financial system.

Then, as now, the purpose of the fascist usurpation was world-wide war as the means for avoiding the needed economic reforms on behalf of the general welfare.

Today, we must assimilate and apply two lessons from that experience.

First: Knowledge of the historical role of certain financier interests, in backing the trans-Atlantic synarchist (fascist) operations of the interval 1922-1945, such as Mussolini's and Hitler's rise to power, and, also in the U.S.A. today, affords us insight into the exemplary connections between the events of 1932-1934 in Germany, and the relevant post-Sept. 11, 2001 developments in U.S. policy-making.

Second: Notably, despite an assassination attempt and one famous coup plot, the elected President Franklin Roosevelt was inaugurated, to launch the economic recovery which

prevented a fascist takeover in the U.S.A., and which secured the ultimate defeat of Hitler and his allies. This experience of 1932-1945 is key to reversing the threat to global civilization today.

The kind of permanent world war which such followers of Carl Schmitt, Leo Strauss, and Alexandre Kojève as Cheney and Rumsfeld intend, must be recognized as a new expression of the same root as the two so-called "world wars" of the past century. In effect, that pair's war for the cause of what U.S. neo-con Michael Ledeen terms "universal fascism," should be understood as the intent to unleash "Geopolitical World War III."

The explosion of economic and related power of the U.S.A. during and following the defeat of Lord Palmerston's Confederacy asset, resulted, from about the time of the 1876 Centennial celebration, in a great surge of admiration for the achievements of the U.S.A. up to that point. This was expressed by admiration for the world's leading economist of that time, Henry C. Carey, and for the kindred views of the German-American economist Friedrich List. The economic policies of Bismarck's Germany; the industrial development launched by the impetus of D.I. Mendeleyev under Russia's Alexander II; the influence of Carey over the Meiji Restoration's economic policies, in Japan; and related developments in a post-Napoleon III France; typify a powerful convergence, centered in transcontinental Europe, for accomplishing there, what the United States had accomplished in agro-industrial growth by aid of its railway-centered, transcontinental development.

Circles of the Palmerston-trained British Prince of Wales, and especially the Fabian Coefficients, reacted with their so-

called geopolitical schemes for pitting the nations and peoples of continental Eurasia against one another's throats. Aided by the virtually criminal folly of pettiness exhibited by the relevant heads of state, World War I occurred.

Similarly, Adolf Hitler was brought to power in Germany, with the intention of the London sponsors, at that time, that London's asset Hjalmar Schacht would arrange the financing of the build-up of Germany's military forces for a strike east, for the invasion and destruction of the Soviet Union, with France to strike later at Germany's rear when German forces were bogged down in the Soviet Union. London's subsequent discovery that, under an incumbent Hitler dictatorship, Germany's military policy would be to begin with a strike westward, prompted London's impulse to seek U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt's cooperation in preparing for the rescue of London from Hitler's coming attack.

For the present-day Anglo-American utopians of their nuclear-airborne age, the prospect of a peacefully cooperating continental Eurasia, is an intolerable affront to the cause of geopolitical fantasies. For the circles associated with Cheney's and Rumsfeld's neo-Nietzschean neo-cons, peaceful cooperation within Eurasia, is a prospect to be crushed by the persistent force of a perpetual warfare in continental Eurasia, using the targetting of the Muslim populations as the inflammable human potential to be ignited for the purpose of disrupting the continent as a whole.

The conditions under which the fascist clique around Cheney and Rumsfeld acquired their present influence, have been built up over more than forty years, beginning with the cumulatively shocking impact of a succession of terrifying events, events typified by the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, the series of attempted assassinations of France's President Charles de Gaulle, the unsolved assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy, and the launching of U.S. utopian warfare in Indo-China. The eruption of the anti-progress rock-drug-sex youth-counterculture, the integration of the Ku Klux Klan tradition into the 1966-1968 Nixon campaign, the 1971 wrecking of the world's fixed-exchange-rate, regulated monetary system, and related subsequent economic developments of the 1970s, transformed the U.S.A. from the world's leading producer nation, into an increasingly predatory, post-industrial consumer society, as ancient Rome's economy and morals had degenerated similarly, from approximately the aftermath of Rome's Second Punic War.

The moral collapse of the U.S. political-party system, under the combined impact of the accelerating material decline in the incomes of the lower eighty percentile of U.S. family-income brackets, and the eradication of entire categories of independent farmers and other true entrepreneurs, has put the Democratic Party, for example, under the bureaucratic control of a right-wing formation known as the Democratic Leadership Council. The typical eligible voter from the lower eighty percentile of family income brackets, is left with the prevalent belief that there exist only two apparent choices: "Buy" selections from the shelves which that political mall

called political parties' displays; or stubbornly shun the elections, because he or she believes that they have no efficient representation in those parties.⁵

This moral collapse within the political parties, fostered the momentary lack of any significant opposition to the fascist impulses and related economic-policy follies which the Cheney-Rumsfeld clique foisted upon President George W. Bush, Jr.

If significant leaders from relevant nations combine their resources, we, together, can present a genuine alternative to the chaos which the combination of ongoing monetary-financial collapse and fascist schemes represents today. However, that means returning the agenda of governments and political parties, back to the crucial issues of economic insecurity gripping the nations and their populations. Ending the currently continued, ongoing attempts at a fascist coup in Washington, is essential, in and of itself. The constitutional functions and separation of powers must be restored, and the recent usurpation ended. That task can not be evaded by persons of good will.

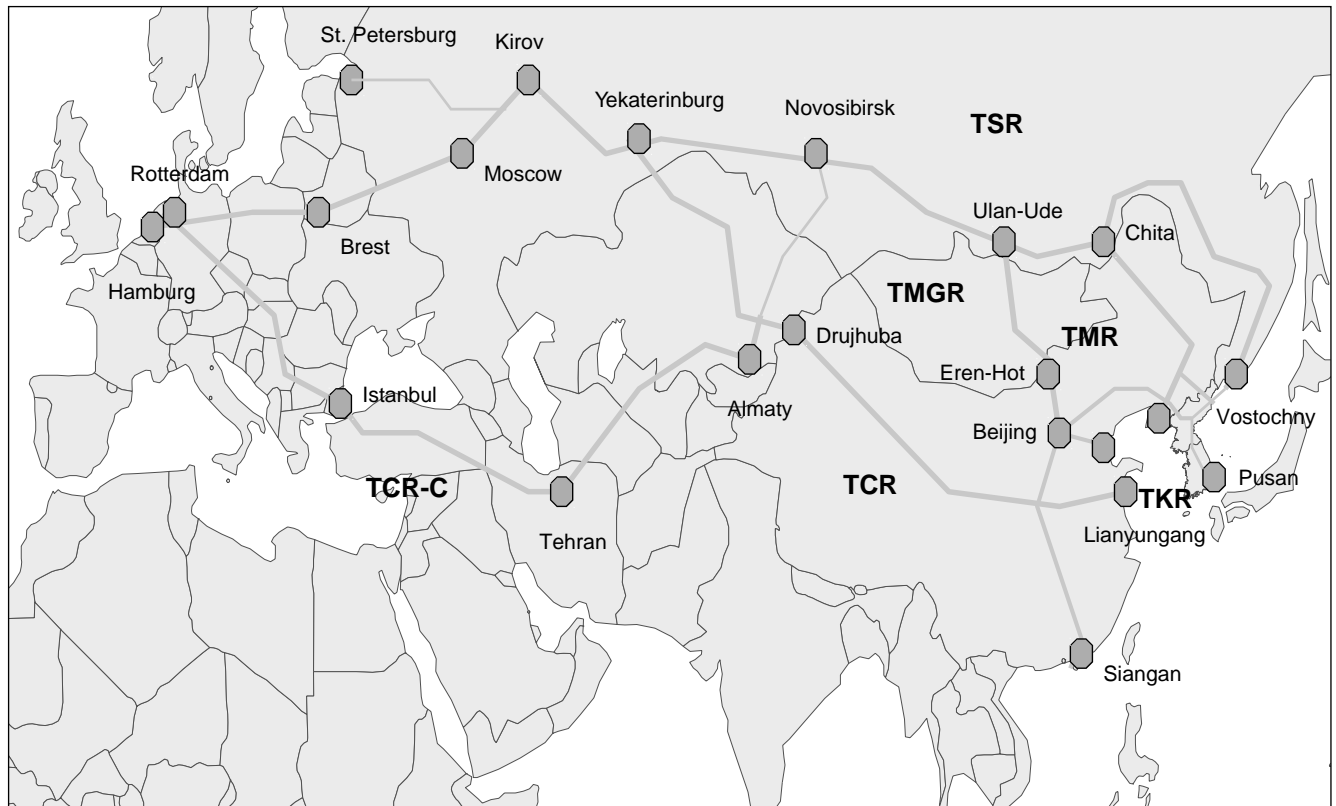
However, that necessary restoration of the United States to its Constitution, will not be successful unless such remedial action is provided a relevant, international economic basis. The potential for constructing that basis exists, provided relevant degrees of cooperation among at least most of the nations of Eurasia, provide the pivot on which needed, broader, global measures of monetary-financial stabilization are premised.

Some of the exemplary preconditions for Eurasian continental cooperation already exist. Under a reformed world monetary system, using successful features of the 1944-1958 interval of the original Bretton Woods system, long-term, protectionist agreements on credit, tariffs, and trade, would allow the realization of an accelerating growth in Eurasia, which could be the catalyst for the greatest known, and most equitable improvement in the condition of mankind to date. It must also be a remedy for the genocide and related injustice which overreaching power has imposed upon Africa, and the looting of peoples of Central and South America under the 1971-2003 floating-exchange-rate monetary-financial system.

For those of us of a civilized persuasion, China and India today are important powers, representing the weightiest components among a group of nations which must seek large-scale, long-term, technology-sharing arrangements with Europe for meeting the requirements of expansion to meet the needs of its own populations. Europe, in turn, urgently requires exactly those markets to bring Europe out of an increasingly perilous internal economic collapse. Russia's role, in strategic cooperation with western European nations grouped with keystones such as Germany, France, and Italy, is also of pivotal significance for its own part in the de facto Russia-

5. I am acting to bring the citizen's voice back into the party's deliberations, a prospect which is generously hated by the presently aging DLC bureaucracy itself.

FIGURE 1
Eurasian Railroad



This map of the Eurasian Land-Bridge proposal for five rail systems was presented by South Korean economist Dr. Chin Hyung-in, at a Schiller Institute conference in Germany in March. It shows the Trans-Siberian Railroad (TSR), Trans-Mongolian Railroad (TMGR), Trans-China Railroad (TCR), and the Trans-Korean Railroad (TKR). Closing up the remaining gaps in this integrated system will make it possible to travel by rail from Pusan to Rotterdam, and to construct “development corridors” along the way, on both the northern and southern routes.

China-India triangle of Asian cooperation in security and economic development.

This role of Eurasian development is a matter I have discussed widely under the complementary headings of what are known, respectively, as the “Eurasian Land-Bridge” development⁶ and “New Bretton Woods” proposal.⁷ These measures are part of, and are typical of a cluster of emergency economic and related reforms.

The Present Options

The success of such an alternative depends upon agreement to several measures of reform in relations among nations.

First, the U.S.A. must exchange that “rambling wreck” which is its current imperial influence, for a different, more

endurable vehicle. We must recognize the moral responsibility for promoting the welfare of other nations, which our acquired power imposes upon us. The U.S.A. must act in way consistent with the power it has accumulated among nations, but also consistent with the intent expressed, and otherwise implied, by its own 1776 Declaration of Independence and Preamble of its Constitution.

All nations of the world acknowledge today’s relative power of the U.S.A. as a fact. Most, I suspect, believe they must deal with that fact. So must we in the United States itself. The distinction to be made, is not whether or not nations must deal with that fact; the question is, whether the United States will deal with other nations as partners, or as clients of an empire. We must manage the problems of the world at large, but the authority and responsibility for what happens in the international arena must lie in the cooperation among equally sovereign powers.

Therefore, it is my intention to call the representatives of nations together, in an emergency conference sponsored by the U.S.A., for a general reform in bankruptcy of the presently

6. “The Eurasian Land-Bridge: The ‘New Silk Road’—Locomotive for Worldwide Economic Development,” *EIR Special Report*, January 1997.

7. “Now’s the Time for LaRouche’s New Bretton Woods,” LaRouche’s Committee for a New Bretton Woods, June 2000.

bankrupt monetary-financial system. Governments must face the challenge, that the present system is hopelessly doomed, and that the following types of measures are therefore urgently required.

1. Under such a reform, all relevant monetary-financial institutions, including relevant central-banking systems, would be taken in receivership by the sovereign authority of the relevant nation-state. This and related measures would require the support and cooperative assistance of all the governments party to the agreement.

2. The first concern is to prevent a chaotic degeneration of the existing essential, public and private institutions of deposit, to protect the personal, modest financial assets of individuals and households, sustain the pensions of ordinary people, maintain the traditional institutions of supply of credit, and, in general, to ensure the orderly continuation and improvement of essential production, trade, local government, and general welfare. Financial assets with the character of gambling, such as financial derivatives, would ordinarily be eliminated, and many other forms of debt taken in custody for reorganization.

3. Within the framework provided by such measures, which put the sick system into bankruptcy-reform under receivership, we must mobilize sufficiently increased employment in sound investments to bring the total current costs and expenses of the national systems above annual breakeven levels. The principal stimulant for this will be governmental operations in basic economic infrastructure, or government-sponsored investments in regulated public utilities which are either partly, or entirely government-owned. In cases deemed appropriate, a public utility may begin life as government-owned, and later shifted to private ownership.

4. Under such conditions, the future of the individual national economies will depend largely on national and international mechanisms of and among governments, for generating low-cost, long-term credit-issuance with maturities of between a quarter and half-century: one or two generations. Generally, this means borrowing costs for credit created at standard rates not in excess of 1-2% annual simple interest. This were not a feasible proposition outside the context of a well-regulated, fixed-exchange-rate monetary system whose design were modelled on the best features of our experience under the pre-1971 Bretton Woods monetary system.

5. Two kinds of sources for the creation of state credit are available. The first, is a national banking system of the type implicitly specified by the U.S. Federal Constitution. The second, is credit generated by long-term treaty agreements on trade and investment, between, or among sovereign states. A third method, the Keynesian-multiplier factor specific to central-banking systems of the Anglo-Dutch Liberal model, is not admissible under the extreme conditions which will continue during the several or more years of general monetary-financial reorganization.

It must be taken into account, that the economic revival of Europe during the two decades following 1945, depended upon the unique role of the gold-reserve-backed U.S. dollar. This exceptional position of that dollar, during that interval, enabled the IMF system to shield European and certain other currencies and their credit systems, until the sterling-dollar crises of 1967-1971. In today's crisis, we must accomplish a similar benefit at a time the U.S. dollar is inherently weak in real-value content. Keynesian supplements to a solid system are not tolerable at this time.

Take the case of the U.S. Federal Reserve System as an illustration of the present challenge.

The resort to "wall of money" tactics which continue to use electronic and other monetary printing devices, especially since October 1998, to bail out implicitly bankrupt portions of financial markets, has produced a hyperinflationary potential within large-scale areas of what are fairly described as "financial bubbles" in the tradition of John Law's escapades. This defines the U.S. Federal Reserve System, among affected other central-banking systems, as bankrupt. This condition of the U.S. Federal Reserve System is reflected, in large part, in the currently zooming U.S. Federal deficit and related deterioration in U.S. balance of payments accounts. At the moment, the prevalent thinking of the U.S. Presidency and Congressional parties, if it could actually be called thinking, has no connection with the real universe.

Thus, were I President at this moment, my Treasury Secretary and key leaders of the Congress would be scheming in preparation for placing the Federal Reserve System under the protection of receivership in bankruptcy reorganization. As in the fairly comparable instance of President Franklin Roosevelt's "bank holiday" measures of 1933, the most immediate object of this action would be threefold: a.) to prevent a disorderly chain-reaction collapse within the domestic monetary-financial system; b.) to maintain the unbroken continuity of the nation's essential public and private economic functions; c.) to clear the way for a vigorous expansion of employment, with large emphasis on credit for public works of the Federal, state, and local governments.

Before taking such action, I would be obliged to assure relevant governments as to the nature of the measures to be taken whenever that might occur. Those actions would prompt immediate confidential discussions occurring in or near Washington, D.C., with representatives of governments. These discussions would lead toward relevant treaty agreements establishing a new world monetary-financial system.

My issuing this present report of my intention at this time, takes those considerations into account. Government must sometimes act to surprise the onlookers, but those surprises should be few, and never violate previously stated principles.

Under the U.S. Federal Constitution, the creation of public debt is a function of the Executive, within the bounds of the consent of the U.S. Congress. This includes a Federal



Lyndon LaRouche at a conference in Milan, on Nov. 23, 2002. LaRouche's plan for a New Bretton Woods monetary system has received widespread support in Italy, where the Chamber of Deputies has voted up a resolution in support of a new global "financial architecture" that would emphasize physical economic production, instead of financial speculation.

monopoly on the emission of legal currency, and obligations implicitly incurred against the future issue of such currency. This power is the principal source of relevant net credit-expansion by the government. This power were prudently used to create the credit used by both the Federal and state governments, chiefly for both Federal and state infrastructure-building programs. I have already designated the principal kinds of programs I intend to launch or support, and have supplied guidelines for some of these.⁸

6. The advantage of reforming the IMF according to the model of the regulated, 1944-1958 fixed-exchange-rate system, lies in the contrast of the successes of the former to the systemic failure of the both a.) the 1964-2003 shift of the U.S.A., U.K., and notable other economies, from a successful model of producer society to the currently bankrupt form of consumer society, and b.) the presently bankrupt, 1971-2003 floating-exchange-rate system. The principled features of the emergency reform to be made now, have the advantage of experience: a change premised on the proven success of the fixed-exchange-rate producer-society model, in contrast to the calamitous cumulative failure of the subsequent, doomed, deregulated, floating-exchange-rate model.

The world's Titanic monetary-financial ship is sinking; reality will show little patience with the passengers and crew who demand that all of us stay with the recent tradition of that doomed ship.

Therefore, once it could be assumed, that the bankrupt, floating-exchange-rate form of the IMF is being replaced by an essentially global, regulated, fixed-exchange-rate version

8. "LaRouche's Emergency Infrastructure Program for the U.S.," *EIR Special Report*, November 2002.

of the Bretton Woods system, it is feasible to use the intended monetary system as the context for long-term, reciprocal, bilateral and multilateral trade and tariff agreements of 25-to-50 years span, with charges in the range of 1-2% per annum simple annual interest-rates.

These treaty life-spans of such duration are defined chiefly by the dominant role of component elements representing long-term programs of development of basic economic infrastructure, under such headings as: regulated generation and distribution of power; mass-transportation systems for freight and passengers; water resources development and management systems; forestation, and other large-scale land-management and related systems; sets of urban-industrial complexes; and health-care and educational systems. These programs, typified by the multinational Mekong development agreements, and the presently expanding array of China's infrastructure programs, define the market for stimulation and financing of expanding arrays in the entrepreneurial and related production of marketable goods.

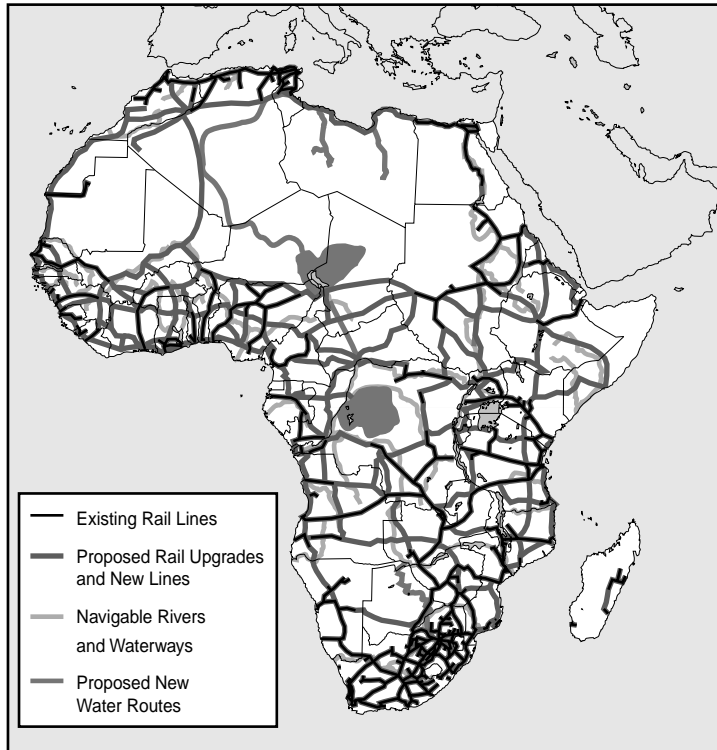
The long-term infrastructure elements define the market which is the economic water within which the happy entrepreneurial fish swim. The life-span of the relatively longest-cycle infrastructure investments, defines the span within which payments must be resolved by pre-agreements on financing, tariffs, pricing, and trade.

The global system required is broadly defined for illustration as follows.

The principal impetus for such long-term agreements comes chiefly from continental Eurasia. This means a Europe led by a set of nations gathered together with France, Germany, Italy, and Russia; with a Eurasia group gathered together around Russia, China, and India; and, hopefully, a

FIGURE 2

Africa Rail and Waterway Development



Due to the accumulated effects of foreign looting, Africa presently lacks sufficient internally generated capital resources indispensable for its healthy development. Massive outside aid is therefore necessary to provide strategically crucial, large-scale elements of main-trunk basic economic infrastructure.

Middle East group functioning as a developing cross-road of economic growth between the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean.

The second largest component is cooperation within the Americas.

The third component is Africa.

Other regions dovetail with those three.

The common feature of each of the regions, is that each is defined by the fossil and related raw materials resources concentrated within each of the components. The improvement and management of the Biosphere, and its essential, long-term raw materials component, defines the principal features of functional relationships among raw materials, habitation, and production within each of the regions.

In the special case of Africa, the accumulated effects of imposed looting, genocidal practices, and suppression of most of Africa by present and former pro-colonialist agencies has reduced the per-capita, and per-square-kilometer development of the continent to such a degree, that Africa presently

lacks sufficient internally generated capital resources to develop the primary elements of basic economic infrastructure indispensable for its healthy development. Large-scale outside aid, in the mode of graduated technology-transfer programs, are needed to provide strategically crucial, large-scale elements of main-trunk basic economic infrastructure, thus to enable Africa to develop its own means for both operating and maintaining the primary systems, and developing the secondary systems interfaced with the primary ones.

Such indispensable assistance for Africa would not be possible without a climate of vigorous development within Eurasia and the Americas generally.

The Matter of Strategic Defense

The experience of the U.S. War of Independence, the continuing development of the concept of strategic defense by France's "Author of Victory" Lazare Carnot, the related role of the Prussian reformers around Wilhelm von Humboldt and Gerhard Scharnhorst, and the Nineteenth-Century development of the U.S. West Point and Annapolis academies, pointed toward the foreseeable, if still distant end of the kind of military policies associated with ancient Rome, feudalism, and Eighteenth-Century cabinet warfare. The defeat of the fascist Napoleon Bonaparte on the initiative of Czar Alexander I and his Prussian-reformer allies, and the Soviet defense and counteroffensive against Hitler's invading forces, demonstrate a notion of a fresh view of the principle of strategic defense as the presently overdue replacement of those notions of war so pathetically parodied by Secretary Rumsfeld's revolting notions of military affairs.

Contrary to the followers of the empiricist Thomas Hobbes, war is neither a natural nor necessarily permanent institution of mankind. As long as nations must be prepared to fight justified wars of defense, relatively powerful, well-developed military capabilities remain necessary. However proceeding from such lessons as the genius of France's Louis XI, the part played by Mazarin and Colbert in the negotiation and implementation of the Treaty of Westphalia, as continued by Carnot's representation of a principle of strategic defense, and the original work of the pro-Classical Prussian reformers, points us toward what should become the natural process of phasing well-trained military-logistical capabilities into a time when the role of capable military institutions blends into a role of a broadened notion of a corps of military engineers.

The brutish incompetence of Secretary Donald Rumsfeld respecting the conduct of the U.S. war upon Iraq, contains an illustration of that point.

Admittedly, the government of President George W. Bush, Jr. violated moral and treaty law, and the U.S. Constitu-



Secretary Rumsfeld's brutish incompetence respecting the conduct of the U.S. war upon Iraq, underlines the importance of Classical conceptions of strategic defense, such as the necessity for well-trained and adequately supplied heavy divisions, under even the circumstances of such a depleted military opposition as poor Iraq's. Here, U.S. soldiers during a sandstorm in Iraq.

tion, in the recent, continuing invasion of Iraq. However, once U.S. forces had invaded and occupied Iraqi territory, those military forces were, and remain responsible for the general welfare in the territory they occupied. Well-trained and adequately supplied heavy divisions are indispensable for competent military operations under even the circumstances of such a depleted military opposition as poor Iraq's. Such divisions represent the bulk of the effective capability to assume efficient responsibility for the peaceful, and beneficial occupation of the inhabited and other territory they have occupied. Using a lightened force relying largely on post-adolescents trained largely in video-game point-and-shoot routines, does not typify the conduct of a competent U.S. Secretary of Defense.

The continuing role of engineering and related military functions in the closing period of combat operations, presages the way in which a policy of strategic defense leads toward the supersession of warfare. The policy of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's leadership, of winning a war by controlling the largest territory with avoidance of unnecessary combat, contrasted with the immorality of President Harry Truman's totally unnecessary nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, points in the same direction. The object of the justified practice of warfare lies in the early success of its peaceful outcome. Military and related strategic capabilities designed and deployed for actually accomplishing the durably peaceful outcome not presently in sight for Afghanistan, Iraq, or the Middle East generally—not in sight for as long as Cheney and Rumsfeld remain in control, are a necessary capability for reaching the higher goal of humanity's exit from war itself.

The history of the impact of the fortifications by Vauban, as these were understood by Carnot, and later appreciated by "Old" Moltke, testifies to that principle.

Today, the increasingly apparent fact of globally ominous lunacies of Cheney, Rumsfeld, and their neo-con lackeys has the perverse sort of usefulness of pointing to the urgency of those kinds of economic reforms which defeated the cause of fascism during President Franklin Roosevelt's terms in office. The solution is to be seen in the fact, that even for that typical family which may not be remarkable for its knowledge of science or theology, traditional morality finds its practical expression in the good which one generation intends to contribute to the children's and grandchildren's generations, and beyond. It is through the engagement of peoples in creating the improvement of mankind's condition, through great works of progress, especially in cooperation with other nations, that we foster an efficient sense of a moral connection of oneself to future generations of mankind.

The danger is, that if greedy and small-minded men and women continue to quarrel over the diminishing scraps of a collapsing economic system, rather than bringing the needed new system quickly into being now, such stubborn clinging to the old habits of the presently bankrupt monetary-financial system, would, almost certainly, doom all humanity to an early plunge into several generations of a new, planetary "new dark age." If, however, we make the kinds of changes which I would introduce, as a currently prospective next President of the U.S.A., we may find we have entered a safer world, in which widespread warfare would never come again.

The Roles of Church and State

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

May 2, 2003

In his addresses to the United Nations Organization (UNO) on December 2, 1978 and October 5, 1995, Pope John Paul II presented the world with a set of concerns which the present world crisis now proves to be more urgent than at any time since the 1960s Cuba missiles crisis and assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy. In my reading of His Holiness' more recent statements, his policies and concerns presented to the UNO then, remain integral elements of his intentions respecting the role of the UNO under the gravely aggravated conditions in the world today.

Meanwhile, under those increasingly aggravated conditions which came to the surface of world affairs with the U.S.A.'s constitutional crisis of November-January 2000, I have become, for the moment, the leading candidate, in recorded popular support, for the 2004 U.S. Democratic Party's nomination for becoming the next President of the world's presently leading power, the U.S.A. How much of my growing influence is due to my talent, and how much to the often conspicuous failures of others, can be left to future assessments. The fact remains, that under such circumstances of presently accelerating world crisis, the responsibilities which I have assumed thus, oblige me to make clear what will, obviously, worry some governments and other onlookers from around the world, worry concerning the relationship of my policies to those of this Pope, worry about how I view the relationship of church and state.

My view should be clear from comparison of His Holiness' addresses to the UNO with a series of encyclicals issued during this Papacy, and with my own published utterances over the same period. Now, during the period of the build-up toward what threatens to become a new world war, as during the preceding decades, there is an obvious, and deeply rooted convergence of His Holiness' ecumenical views on such matters, with my own. However, the evidence of more than two decades is also clear, that whereas he is accountable for one of the world's religious bodies, I have been consistently accountable, as now, for the welfare of the republic which my candidacy, as a patriot, represents.

The questions of war and peace so posed to both state and church are neither merely coincidences, nor simple. As I shall

show here, they are profound, and also crucial for the continuation of civilization today.

On this matter of war and peace, I have just issued a major statement of my current foreign policy for the U.S.A., "A World of Sovereign Nation-States." At that moment I crafted that statement, it was my intention to accompany that policy-statement with a separate statement, on related matters of the ecumenical role of the Vatican in the effort to avoid war. Therefore, in that statement, I limited my reference to His Holiness' role in this present crisis, to a brisk, but precise acknowledgment of his unique quality of role in world affairs, as compared to the different quality of role which I now perform amid a virtual leadership vacuum created by the combined efforts of most ostensibly leading Presidential candidates, and many relevant others, of the U.S.A. today.

The purpose and function of that foreign-policy document, as stated within it, is clear, and precisely so. Although that document touched upon areas which were specifically addressed, below, in this document, I have thought it necessary that the relevant matters of church and state be treated separately, as I do now.

The State and Ecumenicism

The presently rising danger of a new world war, a war which threatens to become more savage than those of the preceding century, has brought to the surface an old evil in a far more naked, more savage, more inhuman expression, than in earlier modern European history. In that foreign-policy statement, I did not exaggerate the threat in the slightest degree, in stating that the core of the war party in the U.S.A. today is a systemically pro-Satanic continuation of what U.S. and other intelligence specialists have recognized earlier, as the roots of a continuing fascist movement of two centuries, founded by Napoleon Bonaparte's tyranny. That movement, which is traced to the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte, has been classified by official intelligence services as "synarchism/Nazi-Communist." It is also classified under the heading of "universal fascism," and, in that expression has a peculiar, systemic relationship to what is classified as the U.S. military utopians' "Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA)."

Since the early 1980s, I have been made familiar with that synarchist international, knowledge of which has included a fairly massive combination of U.S. military and French intelligence reports dating from the 1920-1945 interval. This documentation includes a long list of many notable figures, including France's Alexandre Kojève, Jacques Soustelle, Paul Rivet, and Houston, Texas's Jean de Menil. For example, I emphasized the importance of the synarchists in a half-hour network broadcast by my 1984 Presidential campaign.

This nature of the immediate threat from that synarchist international to civilization as a whole, requires that the relevant defense of civilization, must find a unifying ecumenical approach for common moral, as much as physical defense of the imperilled planet. On that account, His Holiness' recent

Assisi initiative for the principle of ecumenicism, and his referenced declarations to the UNO, should be included as a pivotal point of reference for the presently urgent defense of mankind from that new, more ferocious expression of evil which imperils all mankind today.

Inevitably, in response to that fascist threat, the division of labor of defense between religious communities and political authorities, touches, once again, and perhaps more clearly and deeply than ever before, the relationship, and distinctly separate roles, of church and modern state.

The stated war policy of such so-called U.S. neo-conservatives as Vice-President Cheney and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, is the creation of a circle of synarchists developed by an earlier narrower circle featuring a long list of closely related, influential figures, such as Nazi legal specialist Carl Schmitt, Chicago University Professor Leo Strauss, and French official Alexandre Kojève.

The present U.S. "neo-conservative's" circles' central, Nietzschean doctrine, of an "End to History," like the rise to power of Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler, is a doctrine which is centered around the central quasi-religious, pro-dionysian worship of the beast-man, as the frankly pro-Satanic doctrine of this synarchist international, as expressed typically by the circles of the Nietzschean, neo-conservative followers of Professor Leo Strauss and Alexandre Kojève. The latter are among the leading neo-conservative circles in government of U.S. Vice-President Cheney and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld today.

The present grip of the "synarchists/neo-conservatives" seemingly hypnotic influence on the mind of the current U.S. President, represents nothing less than an imminent, existential threat to the continuation of civilized life on this planet. The question posed to each nation, each citizen, is: How much would you have done to stop Hitler? How much would you do to free that President, and mankind, from the grip of an even greater threat to all humanity from the same synarchist tradition of Cheney et al., today? And then, "the cock crowed thrice."

What must we do, therefore? What is the root of synarchism, and how might mankind be freed from this threat? Those urgent issues focus our attention on modern civilization's still contested idea of the nature of mankind. It is on this point, that the modern state, science, and religious belief presently touch a common crucial issue of ecumenicism.

Since the Fifteenth-Century birth of modern civilization, out of the nightmare of Europe's preceding "New Dark Age," that civilization has been encumbered with three often epidemic cultural disorders which have played roles comparable to biological plagues in the political and moral dimensions. The first may be recognized as the continuing legacy of the system of serfdom, under which some people were herded by other people, and bred and culled as flocks of human cattle. The second, is the curse called empiricism, introduced by the tyrant of Venice Paolo Sarpi. The third, is the emergence of

modern existentialism, a doctrine which denies the existence of knowable truth. This existentialist doctrine of lying, is typified by as the doctrine taught by the intellectual grandmother of today's U.S. neo-conservatives, the late Professor Leo Strauss, and shared by Friedrich Nietzsche, Martin Heidegger, Karl Jaspers, Theodor Adorno, and Hannah Arendt. All three of those currents of influence share one most essential thing in common: the denial of any quality of difference between man and beast. The denial is expressed in varying guises, but the result is the same.

The common root of all three, is the denial of any principled distinction between man and beast, but, the most relevant case proving the hateful falseness of empiricism and of kindred forms of philosophical reductionism, such as Immanuel Kant, can be presented summarily as follows.

The pivotal issue of physical science so posed, can be pinpointed by asking: "What is the systemic difference between man and the higher apes?" Most simply, whereas the potential population of a living species of ape were in the order of several millions, mankind has increased by three decimal orders of magnitude beyond that today. The principal means by which that increase has been brought about, is the power of the individual mind to discover and employ universal physical principles which are fully efficient, but are not themselves objects of sense-perception.

The distinction between Biosphere and Noösphere, in the work of Russia's celebrated biogeochemist V.I. Vernadsky, typifies the relevant, experimental-scientific treatment of this distinction between man and all lower forms of life. Man discovers pre-existing universal physical principles which, made the subject of the human will, change the universe, to the included effect of increasing the specific potential population-density of humanity, while also making feasible higher levels of cultural development of the member of society. This specific distinction of the human individual from lower forms of life, is rightly termed "spiritual"; it is a power expressed by the individual human mind which does not appear in other expressions of life.

In all globally extended European civilization to date, from the times of Thales, Pythagoras, Archytas, and Plato, the Classical physical-scientific understanding of this specifically spiritual quality of the human individual, is of an experimentally demonstrable form, a form known as the principle of hypothesis.

The human senses are features of our biological organism. They are expected to respond to stimulus by the real universe, but do not know the universe whose footprint is those impressions. Thus, in the imagination of ancient astronomers, such as the school of Pythagoras, man's access to knowledge of the real universe, "out there," involved a branch of mathematical-physical inquiries called "spherics," a view reflected in what are known as the Tenth through Thirteenth Books of Euclid.

In effect, looking back toward Pythagoras et al., from the

modern discoveries of Johannes Kepler, Gottfried Leibniz, Carl Gauss, and Bernhard Riemann, we have the following view of the work of the ancient Greeks.

Think of the universe of sense-perceptions as if it were bounded by what appears to the imagination as a spherical surface. See the clear night's sky so. This is the standpoint of "spherics." Let us name it, for our purposes here, "The Sensorium." By a process identified as "normalization" of stellar and planetary observations, man discovers a certain regularity in the celestial proceedings. But, then, discover the distance from the Moon and Sun, or, discover the circumference of the Earth, as this attempt was made with greater or less success from Thales, through Aristarchus, to Eratosthenes. There are anomalies which force us to doubt simple regularity. There are anomalies, such as those which prompted Kepler to discover a principle of gravitation, and Gauss to discover the orbit of Ceres. There are paradoxes respecting the nature of the line, the doubling of the square and cube, the implications of the Platonic Solids.

These views of "spherics" and the associated ontological paradoxes of the kind of observations we associate with experimental physics, prompt us to hypothesize as Plato's dialogues define hypothesis. The discovery of those anomalies leads to those experimental hypotheses, which, if proven by means such as purely constructive geometry, are termed by Plato as "powers," the powers which the modern physical science of Leibniz, Gauss, Riemann, et al., recognizes as universal physical principles.

These hypotheses, if successful, are not merely proposed explanations. By appropriate experimental methods, methods typified by Plato's examples for constructive geometry, we are able to reach into a universe which exists beyond the spherical Sensorium, to know of the existence of a physical principle which is intrinsically invisible to the senses, and deploy that principle willfully to change the ordering of events in the Sensorium. Gauss, in explicit exposure, in 1799, of the systemic errors of the empiricists Leonhard Euler and J. Lagrange, identified that real universe as reflected by the complex domain.

This power, which is unique to the human mind, shows us, that we must treat the naive Sensorium as the successive work of Gauss and Riemann defined a new meaning for the notion of curvature in physical space-time. Think of events located as in the Sensorium, as singularities, as points of tangency of some real motion, as of relatively positive or negative curvature, or perhaps both, with the hypothetically spherical Sensorium. Gauss's discovery of the orbit of Ceres, thus proving crucially the correctness of Kepler's work, against all of Kepler's opponents, from three very limited data, illustrates this point.

The point so illustrated in summary, is also a demonstration of the specifically evil intent of Paolo Sarpi et al., in the launching of the empiricism of his household lackey Galileo, Galileo's pupil Thomas Hobbes, and related expressions of

reductionism. This is the essence of what is specifically evil, in Isaac Newton's "hypothesis is not necessary." So, actual knowledge was sliced away from the mind, like testicles from a eunuch, by Sarpi's use of Ockham's razor.

What happens, if we prompt mankind to reject the notion of the discoverable existence of those efficient objects of the human will which are to be known as such universal physical principles? Either mankind were then degraded to the likeness of a mere beast, or, in the alternative, a few are able to herd the duped many as if the latter were merely human cattle. Do men not slaughter cattle?

However, what happens, if we uproot empiricism and its relatives from modern society? What happens if men and women are not transformed into human cattle by reductionism? In Fourteenth-Century England, the point was put quaintly: When Adam delved and Eve span, who then was nobleman?

The End of History?

The doctrine of "the end of history," as taught by synarchist Alexandre Kojève to Francis Fukuyama and others, appeared in modern history as Romantic adulation of the tyrannical and beastly features of the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte and his neo-Caesarian system. The case of G.W.F. Hegel, from among those Romantics who swooned, and oozed his fascist juices, over such spectacles as Napoleon's triumph at Jena-Auerstädt, is most notable. Hegel's doctrines of history and the state provided the fantastic rationalization of Napoleon and his regime from which the fascism and fascist state of such soggly Romantic figures as Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler were derived. The French and Austro-Hungarian positivists are relevant, pro-empiricist outgrowths of the Napoleonic mythos. Friedrich Nietzsche typifies the explicitly pro-Satanic expression of Hegel's end of history dogma.

As the case of the U.S. Banque Worms study of the wartime Vichy France regime reflects this, fascism has been an instrument of the repertoire employed by a certain type of rentier-financier interest. Just as the London-directed Jacobin Terror and the Caesarian role of the first modern fascist, Napoleon Bonaparte, were directed against the U.S.A. and the influence of its example, these rentier-financier types, who were outgrowths of the Fourteenth Century's Lombard bankers, were equally opposed to the existence of any form of state which threatened to impede their free flight of predatory usurious power.

However, just as the British East India Company's British Foreign Office and its Jeremy Bentham, used Philippe Egalité and Lord Shelburne's asset Jacques Necker in the July 14, 1789 Bastille affair, and in the guise of London-trained, ostensibly left-wing agents Danton and Marat, so the same genre of rentier-financier cabals adopted the Jacobin-turned-right-wing-fascist Napoleon Bonaparte, like Pierre Laval later, as the instruments of raw power, intended to

destroy whoever posed a threat to what they regarded as their system of doing business. Right fist and left fist are employed alternately to a single ultimate effect. The instrument derived from the 1789-1815 French experience was, therefore, the synarchist movement which combined a right and left fist from opposite sides of the same intended victim. Hence, "Synarchism: Nazi-Communist." Hence, Alexandre Kojève, Allan Bloom, Francis Fukuyama, and the French cronies of Richard Perle.

At first, it would appear that Napoleon was essentially a thuggish bandit, looting Europe for the enrichment of the financiers who discounted his stolen loot. We have men of similarly larcenous disposition in politically high places inside the U.S.A. today. Ah! But the Caesars were such bandits, upon whose precedent, Napoleon, like Napoleon III, and Mussolini and Hitler, relied for the design of his system. Organized thuggery as government is a system of government, with systemic characteristics. It is that system of government, once put in place, which then acts as an organization with an acquired organizational instinct.

Never allow it to come into place, or you or it will be destroyed. Destroy it while you can, before the holocaust of general warfare begins.

Such was the echo of Napoleon Bonaparte in Hitler's proclamation of a "Thousand-Year Reich." A Nietzsche-like beast, a Phrygian Dionysus, destroys massively, in such a

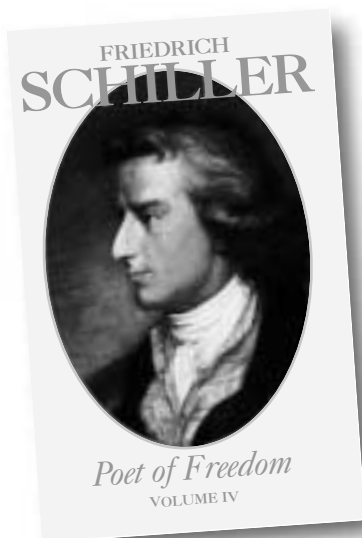
horrifying display that terrified peoples submit in slavery to his will, as Kojève's Hegel taught Fukuyama and other neo-conservatives. As Sorel taught Mussolini and Frantz Fanon. As Attorney-General John Ashcroft already prescribes. The processes of historical development are halted, it is to be hoped, by them, permanently.

Morally, intellectually, a people which lacks an efficient and institutionalized sense of the axiomatic distinction of man from beast, will accept slavery under sufficiently brutal application of synarchist-style terror. To protect the people from such folly of their own, a spiritual sense of self must be instilled and maintained. That is a matter of faith. To provide the commitment to the promotion of the general welfare for present and coming generations, is the responsibility of the states. That system of promotion of the general welfare, must be a system, contrary to the synarchists' concoctions, which must react as a system according to the missions of statecraft assigned to it.

To such sublime ends as those, the world and nations require leaders who stand firm for these principles, when weaker men and women cringe fearfully under the protection of those follies which they might hope would shield them from the monster's wrath. That principle of leadership we should have learned from Jesus Christ's Passion, and from those, like the Jeanne d'Arc, whose passion contributed greatly to the possibility of modern European civilization.

"There is a limit to the tyrant's power."

—Friedrich Schiller,
Wilhelm Tell.



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Eurasian Nations Working Hard To Create a Multipolar World

by Mary Burdman

The nations which opposed Washington and London's war against Iraq—especially China, India, France, and Russia—have not abandoned efforts to move the international situation towards real multipolar cooperation. Intersecting diplomacy among these nations in late April, has again put Eurasian cooperation on the agenda, in preparation for several big international summits to be held between May 29 and June 3.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)—of China, Russia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan—will hold a summit in Moscow May 28-29. Immediately afterwards, Russia will host heads of state and government at the 300th anniversary celebration of the founding of St. Petersburg, May 30-31. Then, June 1-3, France will host the "Group of Eight" nations at Evian-les-Bains, and has already invited China and other developing sector nations to an unprecedented "North-South dialogue" before the summit opens, to discuss economic development.

Perhaps the most interesting recent diplomacy was the week-long visit of Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes to China, which ended April 28. The trip was an event in itself, because the outspoken Fernandes had, in April 1998—just a month before India's nuclear tests—said that China was as much a threat to India as Pakistan. Four years later, Fernandes was received with notable warmth in Beijing and Shanghai.

The leading task of his trip was to arrange for the long-planned visit of Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee to China later this year, which will reciprocate the trip of then-Chinese Prime Minister Zhu Rongji to India in January 2002. It is most likely that the leaders of China and India will meet even before this visit. Vajpayee has already accepted the invitation to the St. Petersburg tricentennial, and the new President of China, Hu Jintao, who took office in March, will also be there.

Fernandes is the first Indian Defense Minister to visit China since 1992, and the first Indian leader to meet the new President and Prime Minister of China. More important, his trip marks the quiet but steady recognition of mutual strategic and economic interests, and development of mutual trust, between these two Asian giants since 1998—that pivotal year in world financial and strategic affairs.

2,200 Years of Friendship

Fernandes met China's new Prime Minister, Wen Jiabao, April 21. "Our two big countries should always be friendly with each other from generation to generation," Wen said. "I think during the past 2,200 years, about 99.9% of that time we have devoted to friendly cooperation between our two countries." China and India are the two ancient world civilizations, whose populations now combine to make more than one-third of mankind. "The two countries have had a long history of interaction," but misunderstandings "only 0.1% of the time."

Fernandes held official talks with his Chinese counterpart, Gen. Cao Gangchuan, on the increased trust between the two armed forces and the continuing stability on still-disputed sections of their joint border. "With similar national situations, the two countries share a wide range of interests in the world and have identical and similar views on many international issues," Cao stated during the talks. "China is willing to work with India for regional peace and stability" and for "a long-term stable and friendly cooperative relationship based on mutual trust." Fernandes also met with Gen. Guo Boxiong, a Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission, and Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing. His Indian delegation included Defense Secretary Subir Dutta, Secretary of Defense Production N.S. Sisodia, Vice Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. Shantanu Choudhary, Deputy Chief of Naval Staff

Vice Adm. R. Gopalachary, Indian ambassador to China Shivshankar Menon, and senior defense and foreign ministry officials.

Fernandes visited military facilities of the People's Liberation Army in Tianjin and Xi'an, capital of Shaanxi province, to review the PLA's modernization program, and Navy facilities in Shanghai. The Indian media praised the reception Fernandes was accorded. The "top Chinese leadership held talks with him in a 'candid' manner and called for strengthening of bilateral ties," Press Trust of India (PTI) reported April 25. On April 23, he became the first Indian defense minister to address military leaders at the PLA's National Defense University in Beijing. There, he discussed why India had developed its nuclear capability, and called for increased cooperation. "I hope that we can evolve a framework whereby there will be much greater contact, confidence-building, and cooperation between our two armed forces," Fernandes said. "China's national interest is better served by fostering this spirit of amity and friendship among us. . . . The scope for mutually beneficial opportunities is immense." He described dealing with terrorism "stoked by religious radicalism and deviant state support for such activities" as an important joint interest, and emphasized that there could be no "selective interpretation" of terrorism.

The United States, while invading Iraq, lectured India on the importance of "dialogue" with Pakistan. But the continued strong relationship between China and Pakistan, did not appear to be a contentious issue during Fernandes' visit. As the Indian daily, *The Hindu*, noted in an editorial May 1, whatever the effects of "the Pakistan factor," the "emerging strategic situation in the region" resulting from the unending crisis in Afghanistan and other areas, "demands greater interaction between the two countries."

Meeting With Jiang Zemin

The highlight of Fernandes' trip was his reception in Shanghai by former President Jiang Zemin, in Jiang's capacity as Chairman of the Central Military Commission—also the senior leadership position held by Deng Xiaoping earlier, after his retirement. Shanghai is not only the political base of Jiang Zemin, but also China's biggest industrial city, and plays a leading role in the country's international relations. Jiang Zemin again invited Prime Minister Vajpayee to visit this year. According to a senior Indian official, the private meeting "was held in a warm and very friendly atmosphere." Jiang called for bringing their ties, including military ones, to a new level. Fernandes later told PTI, that Jiang described his own visit to India in 1996, when the two nations had decided to develop a "21st Century-oriented constructive and cooperative relationship." Jiang said that, because China and India are the biggest developing nations in the world, and neighbors, "to develop bilateral relations is in the fundamental interest of the two countries." The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, put forward by the two countries' great states-

men, Jawaharlal Nehru and Zhou Enlai, should be the basis of their relations now.

Just before his departure from Shanghai April 27, Fernandes told PTI, that his meetings in China "[have] enabled us to appreciate each other's concerns and also each other's sensitivities and take the forward steps. I found that there is [in China] tremendous love for India. . . . I noticed a genuine desire to build greater friendship with India, and also to remove whatever obstructs such friendship, with the acknowledgment that resolving some of the issues will take a little time." Overall, Fernandes said, expanding economic and cultural relations, and interaction between their armed forces, "is going to be the route to resolving our problems. . . . So, we are going back [to India] with a deep sense of satisfaction and the conviction that this visit will be the beginning of drawing a road map for the near future."

One thing that particularly impressed Fernandes' Chinese hosts, was his willingness to come to their country, and travel around for a week, despite the epidemic of "severe acute respiratory syndrome," or SARS. Jiang told Fernandes that SARS poses a serious health threat, but that China has made "notable achievements" to contain the disease. As soon as Fernandes arrived at the airport in New Delhi, he told the press, he and his delegation had all been checked for SARS several times, indicating how seriously he takes the problem. Yet, he stated, he considered the international media's reporting on SARS sensationalist, and added, there might well be a "hidden" agenda behind the "news noise of SARS."

France to Host 'North-South Dialogue'

Another national leader willing to brave the epidemic was French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin, who arrived in Beijing for a two-day official visit on April 25 to discuss strengthening joint relations and European Union-Chinese ties. Prime Minister Wen Jiabao greeted Raffarin by saying that his visit "at this critical juncture in China's fight against SARS, will greatly advance bilateral relations," and said that China considers France a priority in its foreign relations.

With "global instability and uncertainty . . . definitely more evident," and peace and development "being challenged by war and by unbalanced development," French-Chinese exchanges are all the more important, Wen said. Raffarin responded that France thinks that "China is playing an increasingly important role in today's world affairs." The French and Chinese Presidents consulted each other regularly in the international effort to stop the U.S.-led war on Iraq.

Wen and Raffarin also discussed improving economic cooperation on nuclear energy, electricity, transportation, and finance. Wen suggested that, in addition to existing cooperation among big corporations on major projects, smaller enterprises also expand ties. After the Prime Ministers' talks, Chinese and French companies signed contracts on the purchase of 30 Airbus passenger jets, worth about 1.7 billion euros, and on the purchase and transfer of power plant equipment.

Raffarin also met President Hu Jintao, and gave him an unprecedented invitation from French President Jacques Chirac, for Hu to attend the summit of the G-8—which now also includes Russia—in France June 1-3. Raffarin announced the invitation to the international press in Beijing on April 25. “The President sincerely desires your presence at this major international rendezvous,” he told Hu Jintao. “He told me to send you his best regards for the quality of the contacts you regularly had with each other during the Iraq crisis. France and its partners have decided that the Evian meeting would be one discussing development. Therefore, we have expressed a wish that China be present given the theme of our discussions.” Hu Jintao responded that China wants to develop its relations with France from a strategic viewpoint. The two nations concur on the importance of developing a multipolar world, and of meeting the “challenge” of a globalized economy, and maintaining world peace.

A few days later, the Chinese Foreign Ministry confirmed that China supports the proposed “North-South leaders dialogue” meeting, and that Hu Jintao would give “positive consideration” to the invitation to the G-8. “The Chinese side thinks that the dialogue meeting is very important,” Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said.

African leaders have also been invited.

It should be noted, that the day the Indian Defense Minister returned to New Delhi, he met France’s Defense Minister

Michèle Alliot-Marie, who had arrived in India with a high-level military and armaments industry delegation, fresh from joint talks in Russia April 25-27. Alliot-Marie made clear that she had not come to India only to sign defense contracts, but also to demonstrate that France wants to develop its strategic partnership with India. She added that Paris wants the “deepening of the intensity of its defense relations with New Delhi.” Alliot-Marie and Fernandes discussed international security issues, Afghanistan and Iraq, and bilateral relations. The world must become multipolar, especially after the Iraq war, she emphasized; only countries which had a credible defense deterrent would be heard. France was one of the few nations which had not imposed arms sanctions on India after its May 1998 nuclear tests.

France is offering India long-term military-to-military cooperation on joint development, technology transfer, and sale of high-technology weapons, including Scorpion submarines and an unspecified number of Mirage jets. Alliot-Marie also met Vice Prime Minister L.K. Advani and the chiefs of the three Indian services, Adm. Madhavendra Singh, Air Chief Marshal S. Krishnaswamy, and Gen. N.C. Vij.

Potential of the SCO

The next forum for Eurasian leaders will be the Shanghai Cooperation Organization meeting in Moscow at the end of May. Chinese President Hu Jintao will make his first visit to Russia for the SCO summit, and will also attend the St. Petersburg celebrations. While India is not now a member of the SCO, Prime Minister Vajpayee has long been invited to attend the St. Petersburg meeting, along with heads of state and government from around the world. The SCO nations are taking steps to make this association, initiated as a forum for security discussion in 1996, and only formally founded in 2001, a permanent and influential international organization by early next year.

The SCO nations’ foreign ministers met at Almaty, Kazakhstan on April 29 to plan the Moscow summit. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said a permanent SCO “is in the interests not only of the countries concerned, but of other states interested in the security of the region and the wider sphere.” The never-ended civil war among the drug- and warlords of Afghanistan, and the skyrocketing drug traffic since the U.S. war imposed a weak regime in Kabul in 2001, is an enormous problem for all the surrounding nations in Eurasia. Now, the invasion of Iraq has made the problem worse. “Some forces have been tempted to destabilize the situation in Afghanistan . . . as a result of the changed situation arising from events in Iraq,” Tajikistan’s Foreign Minister Talbak Nazarov said at Almaty.


Eurasian leaders are recognizing that they must take fundamental responsibility for resolving these critical security issues, including necessary economic reconstruction. This is now demanded of the international cooperation which went into opposing the war against Iraq.

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Saboteurs Mobilize To Wreck 'Road Map'

by Dean Andromidas and
Scott Thompson

Israel Prime Minister Ariel Sharon told Israeli Radio on May 6, that he will not take a single step to implement the "road map" for Middle East peace, until he discusses his "reservations" with President George W. Bush personally, in a visit to Washington in late May or June. The long-awaited road map, prepared by the "Quartet" of the United Nations, United States, European Union, and Russia, was released on April 30 to both Sharon and Palestinian Prime Minister Abu Mazen (Mahmoud Abbas), signalling the intention of the Bush Administration to address the Israel-Palestinian conflict now that the Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq has been overthrown.

But the road map has now become another flashpoint in the ongoing coup by Vice President Dick Cheney and his flock of neo-conservative chicken-hawks roosting in Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's hen-house at the Pentagon. They have a much different road map, and are committed to "perpetual war" and regime change in the rest of the Middle East, including Syria, Iran, and the Palestinian National Authority. Sharon knows that his "reservations" are welcomed by the war party, and he will do everything in his power to sabotage the road map's implementation. One of his key supporters on President Bush's National Security Council, Elliott Abrams, who escaped criminal prosecution for his role in the Iran-Contra affair, made a secret trip to Israel, along with NSC Deputy Director Steve Hadley, and met Sharon on April 30. Although the results of the meeting have been kept secret, the fact that it occurred ahead of Secretary of State Colin Powell's own visit to Israel early in May, has led to speculation that it was aimed at undermining Powell.

But the most dangerous mobilization against the road map has already begun among the chicken-hawks outside the Bush Administration: the right-wing Christian fundamentalists, also known as Christian Zionists, and the American Zionist organizations which maintain strong ties with Israel's right-wing extremist camp. With the U.S. Presidential election campaign beginning, the votes of 30 million (some say 70 million) Americans who consider themselves Christian Zionists, become an important factor. In fact, 17 of the nation's 50 Republican Party state chairmen consider themselves Christian Zionists.

A series of conferences and political activities is under

way, aimed at building political opposition to the road map. On May 19, Sharon and Bush are expected to be guests of honor at an "Israel at 55" gala concert in Washington. With tickets selling at up to \$500, the organizers are expecting 15,000 people. The first of a series of commemorative events over the next year, the event was the brainchild of Sharon and Washington-based lawyer Richard Heideman, a former president of the B'nai B'rith International.

James Zogby of the Arab-American Institute warned Bush, "Given the perception that we are the military occupiers of Baghdad and that we have contributed to what's happening to the Palestinians . . . if the President is celebrating with Ariel Sharon, that will be followed closely in the Arab world, and that's a precarious position for the President to be in."

The gala concert will be preceded by a summit of Christian and Jewish Zionists on May 17-18, called the Interfaith Zionist Leadership Summit, in Washington. Sponsored in part by the National Unity Coalition for Israel (NUCI), the stated purposes are: "To oppose rewarding murderous Palestinian terrorism with statehood"; "To lay bare the inherent absurdity of our State Department promoting a Road Map to Arab-Israel 'Peace' from a Quartet whose other three members—Russia, the European Union (France and Germany) and the UN—repeatedly disparage U.S. interests and are demonstrably hostile to Israel"; and, "To document responsibility of Iran, Syria, Libya and Saudi Arabia for supporting Islamic terrorism." Esther Levins, the director of NUCI, is a friend of Israeli Tourism Minister Benny Elon (see below).

The conference is also co-sponsored by representatives of several organizations which are committed to a "Clash of Civilizations" and "perpetual war," including: Americans for a Safe Israel, Christian Broadcasting Network, Christian Coalition of America, Freeman Center for Strategic Studies, and the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs.

Speakers are to include: Gary Bauer, American Values; Roberta Combs, president, Christian Coalition; Frank Gaffney, Center for Security Policy; Morton Klein, president, Zionist Organization of America; Ed McAteer, Religious Roundtable; Daniel Pipes, Middle East Forum; Moris Amitay of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, which up until 2001 numbered Vice President Cheney among its international advisory board members; and Venetian-trained, self-described "universal fascist" Michael Ledeen, who is on the board of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA) and a Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.

Elon Comes To Washington

Dovetailing the organizing of this summit, Israeli Tourism Minister Rabbi Benny Elon, in the first week of May, travelled to Washington to mobilize against the road map. Elon is the leader of the fascist Moledet party, whose official platform calls for "transfer"—better known as the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian population from "the land of

Israel.” He has also been accused of being one of the spiritual authors of the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Elon brought his own “alternative” to the road map, a seven-point “Marshall Plan” for the Middle East, which calls for marshalling the Palestinians across the Jordan River into what Elon calls the true Palestinian State, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. This is nothing more than the “Jordan is Palestine” policy, which Sharon has been pushing for the

last two decades.

Elon’s itinerary began as guest of honor at the Second Annual Leadership Luncheon of the above-mentioned National Unity Coalition for Israel, and the American Christian Trust (ACT). The event was preceded by a “solidarity and prayer breakfast,” on the grounds of the Israeli Embassy, where 900 people gathered. The luncheon was held at ACT, which is housed immediately behind the Embassy, and has a

Elon’s ‘Transfer’ Policy

Benny Elon is the leader of the Moledet party, whose official policy is ethnic cleansing, which they choose to call “transfer”: getting the Palestinians out of “Greater Israel.” The fact that such a person is Minister of Tourism in the Israeli government should have caused a scandal—except that Ariel Sharon, the “butcher of Beirut,” is in his second term as Prime Minister.

Elon, during his recent U.S. visit, explained to U.S. Senators and Congressmen his alternative to the road map, which Moledet dubs “The Elon Peace Initiative.” After reading it, one wonders whether it should be called a “piece” plan, since he calls for taking all the pieces of land earmarked in the Oslo Accords for a Palestinian State.

The seven-point plan includes: 1) Declare the Palestinian Authority the enemy; 2) Militarily destroy the “terror infrastructure”; 3) Nullify the Oslo Accords and dismantle the Palestinian Authority; 4) Following the end of hostilities, solve the refugee problem by relocating Palestinians to Arab countries and dismantling the refugee camps; 5) Name Jordan the Palestinian State, with Amman as its capital, and Israel the Jewish State, with Jerusalem as its capital; 6) Give Arabs remaining in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Jordanian-Palestinian citizenship. Encouraged Arab Israelis to transfer their citizenship to the “new” state; and 7) “If Arabs of Judea, Samaria (the Israeli names for the West Bank) and Gaza, breach the terms of this plan, they will be expelled to their state on the other side of the Jordan River.” It is obvious that such a plan gives the Palestinians, or the Jordanians for that matter, little choice in the matter.

Just a few days before leaving Israel for the United States, Elon presided over a “transfer” in East Jerusalem, when he led a group of hooligans to expel Palestinians living in apartments that he claimed were bought by a Jewish organization 120 years ago. Elon told reporters, “The eviction of the Palestinians from the house was a joyous sight”; and, “Yes, this is transfer.”

Before Elon became a politician, he was a rabbin who

helped train a generation of fanatics, including those responsible for the murder of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. In fact, Rabin’s murderer, Yigal Amir, recently declared in open court that he had told Elon that he was going to kill Rabin. Of course, Elon denied the charge, and he has never been investigated. Nonetheless his niece, Margalit Har Shefi, was convicted in 1998 for “not preventing a crime”—specifically the assassination of Rabin. She was a friend of Amir, and was convicted of knowing that Amir was planning to kill Rabin and not informing the authorities. Yossi Elon, Benny Elon’s brother, was Har Shefi’s defense attorney. As a minister in the first Sharon government, Elon was instrumental in securing a Presidential pardon for Har Shefi in 2002.

All this should not be surprising, given the fact that Elon is one of the key spiritual leaders of Sharon’s great project of resettling the land of Israel. Elon is an expert in the writings of Rabbi A.I. Kook, who is the spiritual founder of the radical settlers movement, Gush Emunim. Prior to entering politics, Elon taught for five years at the Ateret Cohanim Yeshiva, the main training center for the fanatics who want to destroy the mosques on the al-Haram al-Sharif, Islam’s third holiest site, in order to rebuild Solomon’s Temple there. This is a project fanatically supported by the Christian Zionists, because the resulting war, they believe, will usher in Armageddon and bring the rapture of true believers to heaven.

In 1990, Elon left Ateret Cohanim to found a new yeshiva on Mount Scopus, called Beit Orot. This project was financed by Irving Moskowitz (see accompanying article), who also financed Ateret Cohanim. In 1996, he joined the Moledet party and won his first seat in the Knesset in 1996. In 2001, he took over the leadership of the party, after the assassination of its founder, Rechavam Zeevi. The latter had an equally bloody background: He started his career when he joined Sharon’s infamous 101 Battalion in the 1950s, which conducted terror raids into the then-Jordanian-controlled West Bank. Also known as Ghandi, Zeevi had been accused of enjoying close ties to the Israel mafia, and is considered one of the fathers of the “transfer” policy.—*Dean Andromidas*

“House of Prayer” which overlooks the Embassy.

On Capitol Hill, Elon met ten Senators and Congressmen, including Senators Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), House Majority Leader Tom DeLay (R-Tex.), and Representatives Shelley Berkley (D-Nev.), Max Burns (R-Ga.), Jim Greenwood (R-Pa.), Joseph Hoeffel (D-Pa.), Steve King (R-Iowa), Thaddeus McCotter (R-Mich.), and Kendrick Meek (D-Fla.). He also met former Senate Majority leader Dick Armey of Texas and former Congressman Jim Wilson of Michigan. Both Armey and DeLay gone on record supporting “transfer” of Palestinians, and supporting the claim that Israel is entitled to all of the “land of Israel” between the Mediterranean and the Jordan River—a view that is only supported by the Israeli extreme right wing.

Elon also met Frank Gaffney, Gary Bauers, Roberta Combs, and Morton Klein and Mike Evans of the Jerusalem Prayer Team.

While Sharon tried to publicly distance himself from Elon, it is well known that Sharon, as father of the Jewish settlements in the Palestinian Authority, counts Elon as one of his close collaborators. Elon’s visit was just one part of the broad campaign in support of the perpetual war policy, which includes targeting Syria as the next candidate for “regime change.”

Torossian: Public Relations, Plus . . .

The real purpose of Elon’s visit was underscored by a look at the man who coordinated the public relations of his trip, Ronn Torossian, owner of 5W Public Relations of New York City. Torossian claims that his representation of Elon stems merely from the fact that his firm represents the Israeli Tourism Ministry. But a look at his background and other clients reveals more than a commercial relationship.

When he is not writing press releases and working the press for his clients, Torossian, who is Jewish, can be seen on the streets of New York organizing hooligan attacks against Jewish peace activists. Last year Torossian, identifying himself as a spokesman for Betar—the militant youth movement of the Likud party, founded by Zionist fascist Vladimir Jabotinsky—staged a demonstration against New York-based Jewish peace activist Adam Shapiro. The latter, at the time, was sitting in Palestinian President Yasser Arafat’s headquarters, as part of an effort to prevent the Israeli military from killing the Palestinian leader. Threatening to lead a group of thugs to demonstrate in front of the Brooklyn home of Shapiro’s parents, Torossian said, “Shapiro is a traitor, a piece of garbage, and we are going to make his life and his parents’ lives a living hell.” The Shapiros had to flee their home under police protection.

Despite this sordid background, or maybe because of it, Torossian is also the spokesman of the Christian Coalition of America, founded by televangelist Pat Robertson and now led by Roberta Combs. According to Torossian, they claim at least 2 million followers. He also represents the Zionist

Organization of America, which is one of the leading organizations mobilizing against the road map.

Torossian also represents the Irving Moskowitz Foundation, founded by the notorious Florida and California real estate speculator and bingo parlor operator of that name, who finances the Ateret Cohanim Yeshiva in the old city of Jerusalem. Rabbi Benny Elon, prior to becoming a member of the Knesset (parliament), taught at this yeshiva, where he trained a whole generation of fanatics who want to destroy the mosques on the al-Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount and rebuild Solomon’s Temple. Moskowitz is also a big funder of the political campaigns of Benjamin Netanyahu, former prime minister and now finance minister, as well as those of Sharon.

Torossian also handled public relations for Ehud Olmert, when the latter was mayor of Jerusalem. Olmert is the top money connection between Sharon’s Likud party and donors from the Christian Zionist organizations. He is now a minister in Sharon’s government.

As of 2002, the PR business for Torossian was so slow, that in December he was offering his services for free for a three-month trial period. His office happens to be on the premises of one of his clients, Tzell Travel, a multimillion-dollar agency specializing in travel to Israel. Tzell’s owner, Barry Liban, got his start in the travel business as manager of the Betar Summer camps, the training camps for the militant Likud-linked organization, which Torossian also represents.

But after January 2003, business picked up. Not only did Torossian win the Israeli Tourism Ministry contract, but also that of the SOS Fund, a foundation that raises money to buy bullet-proof vests for Israeli soldiers. More importantly, he won the contract for the Lebanese-American Council for Democracy. This organization is virtually unknown within the Lebanese-American community, but a visit to its website reveals that its only activity is to mobilize support for the “Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Act of 2003,” a bill that has just been introduced into the House of Representatives by Elliot Engels (D-N.Y.). Its purpose is to mobilize support for “regime change” in Syria, just as the Iraq Liberation Act helped lay the foundations for war against Iraq. According to informed Middle East sources, the act was drafted by operatives from the American Enterprise Institute, the neo-conservatives’ “Temple of Doom.”

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No Room for Detours On Mideast ‘Road Map’

by William Jones

The release of the “road map” for Mideast peace on April 30 offers the potential for a change in the disastrous policy direction of the Bush Administration, which is currently dominated by the war faction. The road map, designed by the “Quartet” of the United States, Russia, the European Union, and the United Nations, lays out the stages of negotiations between the Palestinian Authority and Israel, leading to a final settlement, in the three-year time-frame President Bush announced in his Rose Garden speech on June 24, 2001. In the first phase, the parties must begin direct negotiations, with the Palestinian Authority reestablishing a security force to prevent the continuation of terrorist activities. As security is established, the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) should begin to withdraw from the territories it has occupied since Sept. 28, 2000. In addition, the Israelis must cease all settlement activity and dismantle settlements set up since March 2001. This phase is to be accomplished by June 2003.

The second phase begins with Palestinian elections, after which the Quartet will convene an international conference in consultation with the parties, aimed at supporting Palestinian economic recovery and leading to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with provisional borders. The conference would also restore the relations that Israel had with some Arab states prior to the most recent Intifada. Phase II is to be concluded by December 2003.

Phase III would involve another international conference, at the beginning of 2004. It would ratify the provisional borders of the Palestinian state, and begin the process of resolving the final status issues—i.e., the status and number of refugees returning, the status of Jerusalem, and the final issues of settlements. It would also proceed to a resolution of the Israel-Lebanon and Israel-Syria conflicts, and foresee establishment of full normal relations between Israel and Arab states. The final status issues, according to the proposed Bush timetable, are to be fully resolved by 2005.

The issuance of the “road map” in the immediate aftermath of the Iraq War recalls Israeli-Palestinian relations in the 1990s. It was after the first Gulf War of President George Herbert Walker Bush, that his Administration took the initiative in October 1991, to convene the Madrid Conference. It brought together the Palestinians and the Israelis—for the first time—to discuss the possibilities for peace between Israel and its neighbors, in the center of which lay the resolution of the Palestinian problem. Although Madrid created two other bilateral tracks—an Israeli-Lebanese and an Israeli-Syrian

track—progress on the other two were always contingent on progress on the Israeli-Palestinian track.

By 1993, this was going nowhere fast. Chairman Yasser Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organization leadership had been excluded from the Palestinian delegation. Secondly, what Madrid envisioned fell far short of the nation-state long desired by the Palestinians living on the West Bank and Gaza. Sensing the futility of these talks, then-Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres gave approval to a number of Labor Party intellectuals to initiate private discussions with PLO representatives, still designated by the Israeli media as a “terrorist organization.” Talks were held surreptitiously in Oslo, Norway.

By late Summer in 1993, the Oslo talks had borne fruit, and a preliminary agreement had been reached. The new Clinton government was informed, and agreed to put its full backing behind them. On Sept. 10, 1993, Israel and the PLO exchanged letters of mutual recognition; and on Sept. 13, 1993, Abu Mazen and Shimon Peres initialed, in a ceremony at the White House, a “Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements,” with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat looking on. The Declaration called for Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho, the election of a Palestinian Council, negotiations for future withdrawals, and a permanent resolution in five years.

The Economic Nexus

The months following the signing of the Declaration of Principles focussed on the need for economic development to cement any lasting accommodation between the two parties; large-scale investment in infrastructure, particularly energy and water projects. The United States and Europeans made a combined effort to establish financial mechanisms independent of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. In fact, the Madrid conference had set up fora to deal with the broader regional issues, including the all-important issue of economic development. In 1994, a major conference was held in Casablanca to discuss economic implementation, leading to the establishment of a Bank for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Middle East and North Africa, the MENA Bank, which was intended as a source for the needed infrastructural project.

In an October 1994 interview with this author in Tel Aviv, Oded Eran, the Deputy Director General for economic affairs in the Israeli Foreign Ministry, explained, “We think that such a bank is an excellent idea for at least two major reasons. One, the creation of such a bank will be a political signal of great importance to the region itself that there is a new era of cooperation. Secondly, this sort of bank could serve as a forum in which macro-economic issues of the region are discussed, whether these be development issues, trade issues, or monetary issues. Thirdly, some of the existing international or multilateral mechanisms, such as the World Bank, cannot provide all of the answers to the development needs.”

In 1995, Lyndon LaRouche’s program for development

of Mideast water resources, dating from 1976, was re-issued and published as the "Oasis Plan for the Middle East." This was widely circulated among diplomats in the United States, Europe, and in the Middle East.

The development bank, however, was a hard-sell in the U.S. Congress. Since Israel's Yitzhak Rabin government had accepted the Oslo Accord, the Likud party supporters of "Greater Israel" mobilized of their "amen corner" in Congress to sabotage the plans. Both the development bank and the water projects were quickly relegated to the sidelines. And the "free marketeers" in the Clinton White House, trying to placate the Congressional opposition, tried to transform the "development bank" into a merchant bank, operating on "market principles." The economic issues, more broadly, were downgraded into "secondary issues."

Discussions continued and an interim agreement was signed on Sept. 28, 1995, which provided for elections for the 88-seat Palestinian Assembly, the release of Israeli-held prisoners, and a phased withdrawal of Israeli troops from the West Bank cities. The IDF withdrew from the West Bank cities by the end of 1995, and the Palestinian Assembly was elected on Jan. 20, 1996, and sworn in on March 7, 1996. According to this Taba Agreement (Oslo II), the final status issues, including Jerusalem, refugees, water, and the settlements, were to be concluded by October 1999, by which time the occupation was to be over.

But then on Nov. 4, 1995, a Jewish extremist, Yigal Amir, shot and killed Yitzhak Rabin, as he was leaving an election rally sponsored by Peace Now in Tel Aviv. Amir had tried twice before to kill Rabin, and there was much suspicion that there was collusion by the Shin Beth, the internal Israeli security forces. Rabin's death effectively eliminated the Israeli "partner" to the Oslo agreements. In 1996, the Likud's Benjamin Netanyahu was elected as Prime Minister. Under Netanyahu, peace made no progress whatsoever. The Taba Accords were never carried out, and settlements continued unabated on the West Bank. Netanyahu, under pressure from the Clinton Administration, made another agreement at a summit at the Wye River Plantation in Maryland, which renegotiated the second IDF redeployment (from those areas under joint Israeli and Palestinian control) into two phases, only one of which was ever carried out.

The election of Labor Party candidate Ehud Barak in 1999 led to an added push by both Clinton and Barak to clinch a deal, with Arafat embracing all the issues, including Jerusalem, return of refugees, and the settlements; but the political time-tables of the two created serious problems. While Barak went into the agreement with significant concessions, they by no means resolved all the outstanding issues, including the most sensitive issue: the status of Jerusalem, which both parties viewed as their religious and political capital. For his own election purposes, Barak needed an agreement "locked in" by Arafat's acceptance of the entire package. Under those conditions, Arafat had to decline. In spite of a previous agreement between the parties that no one would be held to blame, if

a deal could not be made, President Clinton foolishly blamed Arafat publicly for failure of the talks, thereby beginning the "elimination" of Arafat from the process.

With the election of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in 2000, the peace process went into a tailspin, with acceleration of new settlements, increased violence, and a de facto re-occupation of most of those areas from which Israeli troops had withdrawn. On Nov. 10, 2000, President George W. Bush, in a speech to the United Nations, called for the first time for the establishment of a Palestinian state.

During the following months, the Sharon government intense lobbying helped to prevent any motion. Nevertheless, President Bush, in a Rose Garden speech on June 24, 2002, announced that he was committed to move forward on Mideast peace negotiations leading to a conclusion of final status issues within three years. With the strong criticism against the Iraq war in the Muslim world, President Bush also found it necessary to reiterate, on March 14, that he was preparing to issue the road map. At that point, he also made it clear that the "Palestinian leadership reform" he was calling for, meant the total "sidelining" of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat. Advisors to Vice President Dick Cheney had long been demanding that Arafat be taken out of the peace process. The Palestinian leadership had little choice: After turbulent negotiations, Abu Mazen was named Palestinian Prime Minister.

President Bush is going to have to lean hard on Sharon, if the peace process is to go anywhere. Further, the "Greater Israel" fanatics around U.S. Reps. Tom DeLay (R-Tex.) and Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) are already mobilizing their church groupies to stop all talk of a road map, and to blackmail Bush with the pull-out of Christian fundamentalist support for the 2004 elections. And the chicken-hawks over in Rummy's Pentagon policy shop will probably try to start a new war, to divert the whole process. Will President Bush, recently playing his tough-guy image to the hilt, be tough enough to take on this array of forces?

LaRouche's 25-Year 'Oasis Plan' Campaign

by Marcia Merry Baker

In 1975, Lyndon LaRouche issued a policy proposal in Berlin, for an International Development Bank (IDB) to back priority regional economic programs in the mutual interest of nations in key regions of the world. Foremost among these was the Middle East, which LaRouche had just visited. During the same period, he conferred in Europe with Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

The strategic elements of LaRouche's IDB involved providing, through high-technology means, ample water, power,

FIGURE 2

Features of the LaRouche ‘Oasis Plan’



and related infrastructure to meet the long-term needs of all in the region. Not simply a peace plan, LaRouche’s proposal was a response to the fast-diminishing water resource base in these arid lands, which, since then, has reached the crisis stage. Throughout the 1980s, he was in active dialogue with policymakers in the region.

In July 1990, LaRouche spoke specifically of an “Oasis Plan” approach. He stated on July 12, 1990, “To avoid a conflict which would be ruinous for all peoples and nations of the Middle East, an effective series of common interest proposals must be made in accord with the rights of all parties. Debate around such proposals is inherently healthy and confidence-building. Although to some, an Oasis Plan seems an unlikely proposition under the present circumstances, the price of failing to implement such a program will be staggering. Therefore, there is no obstacle so great,

nor so difficult, that we should not seek to overcome it in order to further economic cooperation.”

In September 1993, the signing of the historic Oslo Peace Accord, with its economic development protocols, including water provisions, seemed to provide the miracle opportunity—but the initiatives were thwarted.

In January 1997, elements of the kind of program LaRouche describes as the “Oasis Plan” were shown on a map—reproduced here, in an EIR Special Report, *The Eurasian Land-Bridge* (January 1997).

In July 2000, once again, an attempted peace summit was convened—with water included as a topic—between President Clinton, Palestinian Liberation Organization Chairman Arafat, and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, but it broke down. On Aug. 6, 2000, LaRouche wrote a policy document, “Water As a Strategic Flank: Wherein Clinton Failed,” on the necessity of a “desalination-based economic development program we first presented to relevant Arabs, Israelis, and others a quarter-century ago”—the “Oasis Plan.” He warned, “In most of the region, and especially for the largest portions of the area, there simply do not exist sources of supply of usable water sufficient to meet the elementary needs of the population. Hence, without large-scale desalination programs being put immediately into operation, there is no hope for durable peaceful relations

among the populations of this region.”

Again visiting the region, LaRouche gave a presentation on May 26, 2002, “The Middle East as A Strategic Crossroad,” at the Zayed Center in Dubai, stressing the scientific potential we have for geo-engineering to create new environments. “The characteristic of that portion of a predominantly Islamic civilization, which extends from Asia’s “roof of the world,” westward, through the Middle East, and across northern Africa, is the continuing struggle against the aridization which has continued during approximately the past 6-8,000 years. . . . The development of fresh-water production and management, which is interlinked with the role of petroleum, is the indispensable foundation for all other optimistic prospects for a peaceful and politically stable internal development of the Middle East region. . . . There will be no peace without adequate provision of water.”

Germany's Unions, SPD Need To Fight For a Lautenbach Plan, Not Budget Cuts

Helga Zepp-LaRouche issued an open letter addressed to German trade unions and the ruling Social Democratic Party (SPD), under the title, "No Regime Change in Berlin—The Lautenbach Plan Instead of Cutbacks!" It has been mass-circulated by the Civil Rights Movement Solidarity party (BüSo), of which she is the chairwoman, since late April.

Dear Members of the Social Democratic Party and the Trade Unions,

The government crisis which—because of the wishes of some on the SPD left and the potentially tragic weakness of Chancellor [Gerhard] Schröder—might take the form of a no-confidence vote at the June 1 party conference, requires some clear thinking. Because anyone who reacts emotionally at this time, without considering all the aspects of the highly complex situation in which we find ourselves, no matter how well meaning they might be, can still do the wrong thing.

First, the attempt by Sigrid Skarpelis-Sperk, Rüdiger Veit, and other SPD members, supported by a number of trade unions, to change those aspects of Schröder's so-called "Agenda 2010" [economic policy] which would bring unbearable hardship to part of the population, is, in principle, right. Cutbacks in the health-care sector, and in levels of income, which threaten to plunge their victims into poverty, and will destroy the very social system that ostensibly would be saved. They are profoundly unjust, and wrong from the standpoint of political economy. The problem, however, is that the proposals which are offered by Schröder's critics provide no solution, and furthermore, ignore the larger political context in which the Schröder government finds itself at this time.

The same war party in the Bush Administration which is waging a war in violation of human rights in Iraq, and has announced more wars against so-called "rogue states," is wildly determined to take action against the opponents of this war. Rumsfeld and Perle have blatantly demanded a regime change in Berlin. Cheney, Rumsfeld, Rice, Perle, and Powell have just announced "punitive measures" against the French government—including, among other things, considering excluding France from participation in international summits. We in Germany, therefore, have plenty of reason to act carefully when it comes to Chancellor Schröder. The show that

[opposition Christian Democratic Union chairwoman] Angela Merkel put on recently in Washington, should have underscored this dramatically.

Schröder, in his latest interview with *Der Spiegel* magazine, expressed the opinion that the political leadership on both sides of the Atlantic, was professional enough to recognize that the trans-Atlantic relationship stands on solid ground. Would that it were so. There is only one problem: There are two diametrically opposite traditions in America. The problem—not with America, but with this Administration—is that the members of the so-called war party—Cheney, Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz, et al.—adhere to a new imperial ideology, which consists of a combination of the ideas of Bertrand Russell and H.G. Wells for an Anglo-American world empire, with the philosophical fascism of Leo Strauss. Leo Strauss, who looks for guidance to Nietzsche, Carl Schmitt, and Heidegger, and is the mentor of practically all the members of the war party, espouses, among other things, the idea that it is fully legitimate, to employ a "noble lie" and a "religious deception," in order to obtain or keep absolute power. Once you familiarize yourself with the ideas of Leo Strauss, you have a much easier time understanding many of the utterances of the members of the Bush Administration.

Insofar as Schröder and [French President Jacques] Chirac, together with [Russian President Vladimir] Putin and the overwhelming majority of countries and peoples of the world, were against this war, and defended human rights, they were absolutely right, and acted in the interest of their nations. But Schröder's reaction to his left-wing critics in the party—to go for a confidence vote at the party conference in the hope that he might convince 80 or 90% of the participants that his Agenda 2010 is the right way—is wrong from the standpoint of political economy, unjust—and politically suicidal. What would happen next, if he did not get 80% approval?

What if he were to succeed and push it through? Then Germany would sink further into the depression, along with France, whose government is carrying out a similarly brutal austerity. You only have to study the process of the Müller government (1928-30), through the Brüning government (1930-32), von Papen, von Schleicher, to Hitler's seizure of power, to see how these things might turn out.



Youth organizers in Wiesbaden, Germany, on May 2, distribute Helga Zepp-LaRouche's open letter. "The Lautenbach Plan, Not Regime Change in Germany," reads the large banner, echoing Zepp-LaRouche's call for Chancellor Schröder and the Social Democrats not to tear themselves apart, but to solve the economic collapse.

The Gordian Knot in the Head

And now we are coming to the real Gordian knot of the situation. The Schröder government and the authors of Agenda 2010, are not agreed that the world economy is in a depression which shows parallels to the 1930s. They are of the opinion that it is merely a question of "conjunctural weaknesses" and "a worldwide slowdown in growth" which is related to "geopolitical insecurity," and that the conjuncture in the world and in Germany, after the "Iraq conflict" is over, will once again become positive.

Yet the fact is, that we are now in the end-phase of a collapse of the worldwide financial and economic system, which not only parallels the Great Depression of the 1930s, but is in many respects much more dramatic. Just think of the situation in Africa or in Latin America, for example.

But why is it that the governments of Schröder and Chirac, in spite of their position against the war, are politically and economically so wide of the mark? The unpleasant crux of the matter, is that Europe admittedly does not like the Straussian imperial policy of this U.S. Administration, but they themselves, in principle, represent the same neo-liberal free-market political economy of the tradition of von Hayek.

And the ideology of this free-market economy asserts that there is no systemic crisis, that there are absolutely foolproof stabilizing factors, which can prevent a repetition of the Depression, by using the close cooperation within the Group of Seven, the European Union, the IMF and the World Bank, etc. (Too bad the Bush Administration wants to cut France out of the G-7.)

The problem is, however, that the neo-liberal free-market system is itself responsible for the catastrophic situation in the real economy—in Germany as well as worldwide. Naturally

there are some domestic components to the crisis; but it is the result of some 35 years of paradigm shift, carried out step-wise, which has transformed Germany from a producer into a consumer society.

In the meantime, an asphyxiating undergrowth of laws, rulings, regulations, and requirements has changed the very idea of the origin of wealth: No longer is it investment in scientific and technological progress, and honest work, that bring social wealth; but supposedly, speculation on the stock exchanges, shareholder values, "money makes money." No more is there investment in excellence and top-of-the-line quality; but cheap production, and "just in time." No longer is the source of wealth the honest, middle-class entrepreneur, who through his long-term orientation creates income for himself and his family, and in the process also creates for the common good; now it is the profit shark, who supposedly serves the common good through the privatization of those sectors which actually *should* serve the common good, and cashes in at maximum profits. For lack of space, we can do no more here than just point out this transformation of values.

In the 1930s, the economist Dr. Wilhelm Lautenbach put forward a plan, named after him, at a conference of the Friedrich List Society, which is very relevant for solving the crisis today. The fundamental idea is the following: When there are simultaneously international monetary and financial crises and depression, the normal market economy mechanisms no longer hold, and, at the same time, purchasing power decreases and consumer confidence disappears. Cutbacks, especially in government spending, are absolutely the wrong thing to do, since they destroy further productive capacities, thus shrinking the tax base, and increasing the hole in the government budget for the next round, forcing even more cuts.

In these circumstances, only the government can jump-start the economy. The most pressing problem is mass unemployment: It is the greatest cost factor to be gotten rid of. For this, government credit lines for productive investments must be made available. They must, however, be tied exclusively to productive investments which create true capital value, in those areas in which you would normally invest if the economy were working properly—such as great infrastructure projects, advanced technology—which increase the productivity of the economy and the productive capacity of labor as a whole, etc.

Lautenbach argued that through direct and indirect stimulation of the economy, tax revenues would exceed the originally granted credits. Had the Lautenbach Plan of 1931 gone into effect, two years later the social conditions would no longer have existed which made the German catastrophe possible. For in principle, the same proposal was made at the time by the trade unions, by German Labor Federation economist Wladimir Woytinsky. In the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt, on the basis of the same methods, successfully led the American economy out of the Depression.

The Way Out of the Crisis

The starting points for solving the crisis are there in the Agenda 2010—they only have to be massively strengthened. First, Germany and France together must pull the plug on the Maastricht Treaty Stability Pact. Secondly, credit must be made available from the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) for large-scale credit of about 15 billion euros today, and something like 200 billion per year in three or four years—if you take as a basic standpoint, that at least 5 million jobs have to be created, and that to create one new job in the construction sector costs about 12,500 euros.

The most obvious framework for this investment can be the Trans-European Network [transportation] program, which is the most urgently needed, given the European Union expansion to the east. The European Commission has just admitted that when it conceived the program in 1994, it was provided with grossly inadequate financial means. If this Trans-European Network were to be connected by so-called development corridors, with China, India, and other countries in Asia, then the Eurasian Land-Bridge could be effected rapidly. For Germany and France (and all of Europe), this development of an expanding export market, is the essential precondition for nursing back to health their economies and, with that, the social system.

This concept, building a Eurasian Land-Bridge as the engine for the recovery of the world economy, was originally put forward by my husband, Lyndon LaRouche, who is running for the Democratic nomination for President in the 2004 U.S. elections. It is no longer merely an idea, but is in fact today being implemented by China, India, South Korea, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The Chinese government long ago adopted the building of the Eurasian Land-Bridge and the development of corridors along this bridge, into their strategic long-term program for 2010. What then lies closer at hand, than integrating Agenda 2010 with the goals of this Chinese long-term program? There is no better way to create full productive employment at home, along with growing export markets and customers with a steadily rising standard of living.

There absolutely is a way out of the dilemma. What is necessary, is a broad discussion in all the institutions of society and the economy, about what we have to put into motion now, so that together Germany, France, and Europe will have a positive future. Our nations are not “limited partnerships,” and our population is not a collection of “I’m For Me, Ltd.” Charles de Gaulle was right, when he said that the French people are not a bunch of grass-eating cows; rather, they have a mission in the world. That is true for Germany, and for all of Europe.

It is precisely in this dangerous world situation, that the politics of Europe must read: “Peace Through Development!”

I look forward to your answer.

Yours,

Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Pentagon Vandals and The Collectors’ Council

by Anton Chaitkin

Following the invasion of Iraq, internationally organized criminal groups were allowed freely to loot Iraq’s museums as U.S. military occupation troops stood by. Over 5,000 years of mankind’s history and cultural heritage have been threatened; thousands of artifacts have disappeared. The green light for this looting may have been arranged at a series of pre-war meetings between the Defense Department and a group of wealthy collectors, the American Council for Cultural Policy (ACCP), lobbying for the decriminalization of private-ownership-by-theft.

The news that the ACCP had met with Pentagon officials in January 2003, brought an outcry from archeologists and others. The group had been publicly campaigning for relaxation of American anti-looting laws, and calling for a change in Iraq’s antiquities-protection laws after a U.S. invasion and conquest. The ACCP responded that in conferring with government officials, it had only been seeking to help protect Iraq. In fact, at that particular Jan. 24 Pentagon meeting, individuals not affiliated with the stolen-art council urged the military to take measures to defend Iraq’s national treasures.

But an eyewitness to that meeting, who is familiar with the fight over whether to protect or plunder antiquities, has told *EIR* of other, closed-door meetings of ACCP representatives with U.S. officials. The source reported that the pro-looting group’s access to the inner sanctum of the Pentagon was arranged by William Luti, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Special Plans.

EIR for April 18, 2003 profiled William Luti as a “crazed” war fanatic running a special Pentagon intelligence unit created to feed information already discredited as false, to the President, to promote unjustified wars. Luti then figured in Seymour Hersh’s exposé (*New Yorker*, May 12, 2003) of the self-defined “Cabal” in that very Defense Department unit, the Office of Special Plans. The Luti unit’s intelligence doctrine is based on the blatantly evil teaching of the neo-conservatives’ godfather, Leo Strauss, that an inner circle *must lie* to the public and the ruler, whom they control by their deceptive whispers. Indeed, Luti, the reported sponsor of the Council’s high access in the Pentagon, was himself designated Deputy Undersecretary for Special Plans only after public mocking forced the closure of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld’s earlier Pentagon false-propaganda unit, the “Office of Strategic Influence.” The job of wholesale lying and intelligence cooking was then assigned to Luti and his associates.

Erasing 5,000 Years of Memory

London *Times* columnist Simon Jenkins wrote in the May 2 issue: “Beware of memory. For the time being, 2003 marks the fall of a hated tyrant. In years to come it may mean something else, the destruction of the greatest treasure from the oldest age of Western civilization. We know of the sacking of the Library at Alexandria . . . Who cares what caused it?”

“Until this week only soldiers and reporters had witnessed the devastation of the National Museum of Baghdad, the seventh-biggest in the world, and the burning of the National Library, containing some 5,000 of the earliest known manuscripts. . . . [W]e face the greatest heritage catastrophe since the Second World War. Though it is early days, two vast repositories of world history appear simply to have vanished. . . .

“[E]ven the Bolsheviks protected the Hermitage during the Russian Revolution. In the Second World War, armies were under specific orders to spare historic sites and museums, even at cost to themselves. Chartres was not shelled though it contained snipers. . . . [A] museum is not a warehouse. It is the custodian of the identity of a people. Robbing it is like seizing the crown jewels of a collective memory. It seeks to erase that memory.”

Sharp global reaction to the barbarity in Iraq has now forced even U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft to acknowledge, at a May 6 Interpol meeting, the likelihood “that the looting and theft of the artifacts were perpetrated by organized criminal groups—criminals who knew precisely what they were looking for”; and to say that “Although the criminals . . . may have transported the objects beyond Iraq’s borders, they have not escaped the reach of justice.”

War and Plunder, Beyond Iraq

This report begins an *EIR* probe of how the looting of Iraq is related to the global Clash of Civilizations strategy, and to the policy-makers promoting it.

The American Council for Cultural Policy has a boldly global ambition. The ACCP is operated out of the New York law office of its principal founder, Ashton Hawkins. Egypt and other nations’ treasures are immediate targets. The *Art Newspaper* on Oct. 24, 2002, quoted Hawkins proposing that foreigners be allowed the “opportunity to acquire,” for cash, ancient objects now in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. “This would be a way of dispersing art in a legitimate way and

helping Egypt. It would reduce the demand for antiquities on the illicit market, and it would satisfy the hunger for this material,” Hawkins declared.

As a leading attorney for those with “the hunger,” Hawkins wrote in defense of “good faith purchasers of stolen art” (*Fordham Law Review*, October 1995). The treasurer for Hawkins’ ACCP, William Pearlstein, is currently the attorney for Frederick Schultz, who was convicted in February 2003 of acquiring an ancient Egyptian statue head which had been painted over to disguise its immense value.

After the ACCP’s Jan. 24, 2003 Pentagon meeting, treasurer Pearlstein was quoted in *Science* criticizing Iraq’s laws as “retentionist,” and said he wanted to see “some objects certified for export.” The cited 2002 *Art Newspaper* report stressed that Hawkins founded ACCP as a global “counterweight to the ‘retentionist’ message put out by the archeologically rich ‘source’ countries.”

The collectors of stolen art are, in fact, close to the political faction promoting the wars that would open new loot. In 1998, Ashton Hawkins convened a meeting with art thief Frederick Schultz (since imprisoned) and others for the purpose of backing pro-war Democratic Party power broker Michael Steinhardt’s battle with the law. U.S. Customs police had seized from Steinhardt’s home a golden bowl, supposedly an ancient artifact, which Steinhardt had illegally acquired in 1991 for \$1 million after it was smuggled out of Italy. Steinhardt’s bowl was traded out by Sicilian Baron Vincenzo Cammarata, who was indicted for “Mafia association,” named as the “brain” of a smuggling ring, and whose house was found packed with more precious objects than are in most museums. Steinhardt’s dealer had falsified customs documents to cover up the export of the item from Italy, contrary to Italian law; Steinhardt agreed to the purchase on the condition that if the police found out he would get his money back.

Hawkins arranged for the Association of Art Museum Directors, whose attorney he was, to file a court brief on Steinhardt’s behalf. Hawkins was also the counsel to New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art, to which Steinhardt has donated large sums and objects taken from the Mediterranean. Steinhardt and his wife are members of the Metropolitan’s “Visiting Committee to the Department of Greek and Roman Art.” Steinhardt’s father fenced stolen goods for the Meyer Lansky syndicate, and some of the funds went to put Steinhardt through college and launched his career as a Wall Street hedge-fund manager and speculator. Steinhardt was for many years the principal financier and leader of the right-wing Democratic Leadership Council (associated with Sen. Joseph Lieberman), the chief agency within the party ranks for intimidating and silencing opponents of the Clash of Civilizations war policy. Steinhardt was recently in the Mideast with his investment partner, gangster Marc Rich, working to squelch the Israeli electoral opposition to Ariel Sharon.

Hawkins and Steinhardt lost in court, and Steinhardt had

to give up the bowl. But Steinhardt and his cronies are at the heart of the collectors' Council.

The massively wealthy Leon Levy, a leading activist within Hawkins' ACCP, died on April 7. Levy and his widow, Shelby White, have possessed what is possibly the world's largest private collection of antiquities. Notorious among their booty is the top half of the "Weary Herakles" statue. It was sculpted about 150 A.D., plundered by thieves near an excavation site in southern Turkey in 1980, smuggled across the border, and ultimately sold to Levy and White, who donated a half-share in the loot to Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. Levy and White contemptuously rebuffed Turkey's repeated attempts to retrieve the amputated artifact.

They had a powerful political protector: New York's late Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, whose career they heavily funded. Moynihan proposed weakening U.S. import restrictions concerning looted archeological objects, and limiting what a court could consider as evidence that an object has been stolen. He also sponsored White's nomination to the Cultural Property Advisory Committee, an 11-member body appointed by the President, which reviews international questions of looted archeology. President Clinton's agreement to Moynihan's nominee set off protests from archeologists—Moynihan brazenly sought to replace scholarly experts with collectors, who peered hungrily at the chicken coop they were to guard.

Moynihan was himself the original mole within the Democratic Party for the Straussian fascists pushing the Clash of Civilizations warfare doctrine (see *EIR*, April 18, 2003).

Leon Levy's protégé, former student and former employee, billionaire investment manager Roger Hertog, is also a central player in this faction. An executive of Hertog's investment group, Kevin Brine, is a board member of the Hawkins ACCP. Another executive of Hertog's investment group, Paul Beirne, is a trustee of Hawkins' other archeological organization, the World Monuments Fund. Hertog is a long-time political and financial partner of gangster Michael Steinhardt; they are co-owners of the neo-conservative magazine *New Republic*, and recently, together with global rightist media baron Lord Conrad Black, they started up the neo-conservative *New York Sun* newspaper.

Archeologists Demand: 'Come Clean!'

The danger to civilization posed by the vandals inside and outside the U.S. government has brought a spirited response. In an April 27 column ("Tracing Iraq's Lost Treasures") in the *Washington Post*, Jane Waldbaum, president of the Archeological Institute of America, and law professor Patty Gerstenblith, confronted the gangsterism. They named the "American Council for Cultural Policy, which includes prominent collectors of antiquities on its board of advisers, and [William Pearlstein's group] the National Association of Dealers in Ancient, Oriental and Primitive Art." They called on collectors to voluntarily go to the police and provide details

on how they came by their treasures. "Museum officials, dealers and private collectors who truly wish to contribute to the effort to locate and restore these looted items [should] make available to law enforcement agencies, images of the ancient Mesopotamian objects in their collections and inventories, as well as the documentation of the sources of these objects. This would be of enormous help to law enforcement efforts, because it would provide information on how objects move through the international market and thus would help authorities in tracing any taken out of Iraq."

ACCP co-founder and board member Arthur Houghton replied nervously in the *Post* on May 3, complaining that museums have not fully documented their own holdings, leaving "many treasures . . . at risk of looting by underpaid officials, museum staff or, as in Baghdad, the collapse of civil order." ACCP treasurer Pearlstein, interviewed May 7 by *EIR*, derided the Waldbaum/Gerstenblith proposal as "silly."

But momentum is gathering for a crackdown by civilized humanity against the arrogant vandalism that hit Iraq, and that now threatens a new planetary Dark Age.

Who Is the ACCP?

The American Council for Cultural Policy's Board of Advisors, as of January 2003, included: Laurie Beckelman; Renée Belfer; Michael Botwinick; Kevin Brine; Judith Church; Ralph T. Coe; Lewis B. Cullman; Asher B. Edelman; Vincent P. Fay; Prof. Clive Foss; Prof. Walter Gilbert; Dr. Guido Goldman; Dr. David Greenberg; Paul Gunther; Ashton Hawkins; J. Tomilson Hill; Arthur Houghton; Peter David Joralemon; Jack Josephson; Jonathan Kagan; Michael Kan; Jay Kislack (Florida banker, heavy contributor to Republican Party and to "National PAC," pro-war Israeli influence agency); David S. Korzenik; Arielle Kozloff; John R. Lane; Leon Levy (deceased, April 2003); Prof. John Henry Merryman; Jan Mitchell; Prof. David Gordon Mitten; Richard E. Oldenburg (Chairman, Harvard University Board of Overseers); Andrew Oliver; Dr. Pratapaditya Pal; Meredith Palmer; William Pearlstein; Dr. Edmund Pillsbury; Dr. Sol Rabin; Lawrence Reger; Allen Rosenbaum; Robert Rosenkranz; Donald Rubin; David Rudenstine (Dean, Cardozo Law School, Yeshiva University); William Rudman; John Sare; Jill Spalding; Gerald G. Stiebel; Gary Vikan; Peter Weiss; Dr. Ute Wartenberg; Shelby White; Prof. Thomas S. Whitecloud II; Randall J. Willette; William D. Wixon; and Mitchell Wolfson, Jr.

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Pope in Spain, Calls For a New Europe Of Peace and Justice

by Elisabeth Hellenbroich

Pope John Paul II's May 3-4 visit to Spain came at a crucial moment in that nation's history. In the weeks preceding the war in Iraq, Spanish society had been shaken by political turmoil. While Prime Minister José María Aznar was one of the staunchest European supporters of the war, Spain was the scene of the biggest anti-war demonstrations in all of Europe (indeed, the biggest demonstrations since World War II). Fully 92% of Spaniards opposed Aznar's policy.

The Pope's visit was his first to a foreign country in six months. On May 3, he addressed 1 million youth in Madrid, who engaged him in a dialogue for almost two hours. Then on May 4, more than a million people turned out to hear him speak in Madrid's Plaza Colón, where he canonized five Spaniards who had dedicated their lives to fighting against misery and poverty.

The Spanish political situation continues to be hot. There will be communal and legislative elections on May 25, and while it is not clear which way the vote will go, what is certain is that Aznar, who holds his Popular Party (PP) in an iron grip, is widely despised for his arrogant disregard of the views of his constituents. He began his political career as a member of the Falangist Youth Movement, and was later promoted by the Information Minister under Falangist dictator Francisco Franco, Manuel Fraga—the founder of the Popular Party. While Aznar speaks today about the coming “grandeur” of his nation, most citizens are suffering the consequences of his free-market economic policies, which follow the line, “less taxes means more security.” In defiance of his own countrymen, Aznar rushed to Washington the day after the Pope's visit ended, to cement what he considers his “privileged relationship” with U.S. President Bush.

With his relentless efforts for world peace, both before and after the war in Iraq, the Pontiff has played and continues to play an outstanding role in the world. It is thanks in large part to him, that Europe stood up so firmly against the war, and that, despite the continuing actions of some opportunistic governments, strenuous efforts are being made not to let Europe become divided. Although he did not directly refer to the war in Iraq, the leitmotif in all the Pope's speeches in Madrid was, that people should “become architects of peace.” But people will only “enjoy peace, when they follow the law of God; a peace that unites that make men and peoples feel

like brothers to one another.”

The Pope made clear that his particular confidence is in the youth, “protagonists of the new times,” whom he urged to lay the basis for “the consolidation of a United Europe . . . in which each nation is respected,” and where a union of sovereign nations is created, “based on criteria and principles in which the common good of its citizens prevails.”

His May 3 address to the youth must be viewed against the backdrop of the deep moral and economic crisis which Spanish society is living through. While 99% of the population is Roman Catholic, the daily life of most citizens stands in stark contrast to their nominal faith. High unemployment, combined with increasing criminality, drug addiction, as well as a creeping cultural pessimism, have thrown Spanish society into paralysis and a deep social crisis.

The Pope therefore addressed the tragedy that the “present culture lacks an inner-directedness, is characterized by an absence of contemplation.” “Without inner-directedness, a culture lacks the essential,” he said. “It is like a body that is trying to find its soul. What can humanity do without inner-directedness? Unfortunately, we know the response very well. Where there is a lack of spirit, there is no interest in defending life, and the human being degenerates. Without inner-directedness, the modern man endangers his own integrity.”

The new Europe must be one which “is loyal to its Christian roots, not closed in upon itself, but one which is open to dialogue and collaboration with the most distant peoples on this Earth,” the Pope said. A Europe which is conscious of being called “beacon of civilization and stimulus of progress for the world, determined to bring together the forces of creativity in the service of peace and solidarity among peoples.”

From here, he turned the youths' attention to the question of peace. “Young people, you know well how much I am preoccupied with peace in the world,” he said. “The spiral of violence, terrorism, and war causes, even in our days, hatred and death.” But peace can only be built through a profound “inner conversion.” “Therefore, you must commit yourself to be operators and architects of peace.”

He called upon the young to engage in evangelization. “I give you my testimony. I was ordained a priest when I was 26 years old. Fifty-six years have passed since then. Looking back, recalling these years of my life, I can assure you that it is worthwhile to dedicate oneself to the cause of Christ.” He joked that he is almost 83 years old, and yet so young!

On May 4, the Pope canonized five Spanish saints, who, he said, through their dedication to living a life in the imitation of Christ, set a model for the young people of today. He concluded his remarks at the ceremony: “We meet in the heart of Madrid, near great museums, libraries, and other centers of culture founded on the Christian faith, which Spain, which is part of Europe with its organization, was able to offer the Americas and later other parts of the world. Thus this place evokes the vocation of other Spanish Catholics, to be builders of Europe and to be in solidarity with the rest of the world.”

Opposition Challenges Nigerian Elections

by Uwe Friesecke

The Nigerian national legislative elections of April 12, and the Presidential and gubernatorial elections of April 19, were marked by massive vote fraud and intimidation, according to reports by election observers and opposition politicians of various camps. According to the Nigerian Electoral Commission, incumbent President Olusegun Obasanjo received 24.5 million votes (62%), and his leading rival, Muhammadu Buhari, 12.7 million (32%); while the former leader of the Biafra secession, Odumegwu Ojukwu, received 1.3 million (3.3%). The legislative elections had a similar result, should the Electoral Commission be believed. In the race for the House of Representatives, the President's People's Democratic Party (PDP) garnered 181 seats, Buhari's All Nigeria People's Party (ANPP) 82, the Alliance for Democracy (AD) 30, and other parties 6 seats. In the Senate, the outcome was 60 seats for the PDP, 26 for the ANPP, and 5 for the AD.

Buhari told a press conference it was the worst fraud in Nigeria's history, and demanded new elections. He announced that he would not recognize the results and would exhaust all legal means to overturn them. His party declared: "Any government that is formed on the basis of this so-called election shall be illegitimate and we shall not recognize it. A fraudulent democracy is worse than a dictatorship." Above all, Buhari made clear that he and his adherents would pursue peaceful means for rectifying the election results. The vote manipulation was especially pronounced in the southern and southeastern states. Ballot boxes were stuffed with ballots prepared in advance, under the very eyes of Electoral Commission officials, while PDP members often voted more than once. In other cases, once vote totals from individual wards were combined, their count was higher than the sum. This was possible because ward officials were not obliged to make their totals public. The police harassed ANPP activists massively, and hundreds were arrested as a means of intimidation.

Critics of the Nigerian elections can also invoke the reports from international observer delegations, including from the European Union and several from the United States. The EU report, on April 22, identifies serious irregularities and fraud in at least 11 of the 36 states. At least a quarter of the EU observers personally observed fraud being committed, an EU press release stated. Especially outrageous was the fraud in Rivers State in the South, where the victorious Obasanjo was given 96% from all registered voters, despite the fact that there was no voting at all in parts of the state.

Is Nigeria Doomed?

President Obasanjo has so far appeared unmoved by the extensive criticism. On the contrary, he cynically remarked that good politicians should be good sportsmen and accept defeat in a spirit of generosity. Given the poverty and misery of the Nigerian people, scarcely anyone could have thought of the election as a sports event.

There is reason to fear that political tensions could now build up dangerously. Buhari—of the Fulani-Hausa ethnic group from the northern city of Kaduna, and, like Obasanjo, a retired general—headed the military government during 1983-85. In this election, he was the hope of the Muslim North. Such blatant fraud, organized by the ruling PDP—whose candidate, Obasanjo, is a Christian from Yorubaland in the Southwest—will inevitably intensify religious tensions between ethnic groups.

Nigerians' distrust of the results is not limited by religious or ethnic bias. It was clear that a section of the political class had built a war chest of several hundred million dollars, and the millions it took just to assure Obasanjo's PDP nomination, went into double digits, according to reliable allegations. What many Nigerians see as the real fraud of this election was the endeavor to preserve a regime that guarantees the continued shameless enrichment of the elite and the further impoverishment of the great mass of citizens. It is not surprising, therefore, that condemnation of the official results comes not only from Buhari. It also comes from the camp of those who, for decades, have demanded democratic constitutions and economic improvement and never stood a chance in elections against Obasanjo or runner-up Buhari.

The well-known lawyer from Lagos, Chief Gani Fawehinmi, who ran for President from the National Conscience Party, declared: "Undoubtedly, our brand of democracy defies plain logic. It does not accommodate honesty and integrity. Everything about the 2003 elections is unnatural. If the results of the elections are a reflection of the votes of the electorate, then they voted, or were induced to vote, for continuation of poverty, hunger, starvation, depressed economy, looting, corruption, low quality of life, weak currency, mass unemployment, insecurity of life and property, poverty, lack of water, epileptic electricity supply, and bad roads. That trend is abnormal. If the results do not reflect the votes cast, then the elections were massively rigged and grossly manipulated. Either way . . . this country is doomed."

President Obasanjo is extolled for having freely handed power over to an elected civilian government in 1979. Of course, it is largely overlooked that the 1979-83 civilian government, led by Shehu Shagari, constitutes one of the most infamous chapters in recent Nigerian history. The civilians of that government destroyed the economy so completely, that the ensuing military coup became inevitable. The manipulated elections of April 2003 suggest that a new disastrous chapter of rule by the raw power of Nigeria's political class has begun.

LaRouche Exposé of Strauss's 'Children of Satan' Draws Blood

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Just weeks after the LaRouche in 2004 campaign began nationwide circulation of 400,000 copies of the *Children of Satan* dossier, exposing the role of University of Chicago fascist “philosopher” Leo Strauss as the godfather of the neo-conservative war party in and around the Bush Administration, two major establishment publications have joined in the exposé. On May 4, the *New York Times* published a long, lead article in the Week in Review section of its nationally read Sunday edition, titled “Leo-Cons—A Classicist’s Legacy: New Empire Builders.” Accompanying the article was a prominent color caricature of Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, a leading Strauss disciple, dressed as a Roman gladiator, holding a copy of Strauss’ book *On Tyranny*, and bearing a shield with a distorted depiction of the American eagle. The article highlighted Strauss’s role as the intellectual keystone of an extensive network of neo-con chicken-hawks inside the Bush Administration and their allies in think-tanks on the outside, who engineered the Iraq war; it also featured a half-page photo montage of the leading culprits, all of whom had been earlier identified in *Executive Intelligence Review* and in the LaRouche in 2004 exposés.

James Atlas, the author of a recent biography of University of Chicago novelist Saul Bellow (whose fictional biography of second-generation Strauss disciple Allan Bloom, *Ravelstein*, included a character modeled on Paul Wolfowitz), penned the *Times* exposé. Atlas wrote, “To intellectual-conspiracy theorists, the Bush Administration’s foreign policy is entirely a Straussian creation. Paul D. Wolfowitz, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, has been identified as a disciple of Strauss; William Kristol, founding editor of the *Weekly Standard*, a must-read in the White House, considers himself a Straussian; Gary Schmitt, execu-

tive director of the Project for the New American Century, an influential foreign policy group started by Mr. Kristol, is firmly in the Strauss camp.”

Among the Strauss cohorts named by Atlas were Martin Heidegger, Walter Benjamin, and Alexandre Kojève. Atlas did not elaborate on who these mid-20th-Century European Nietzschean existentialists were, and, he skirted around the issue of Strauss’s own, notorious Nietzschean fascist beliefs.

Nevertheless, Atlas’s article was generally read as an establishment shot across the bow at the neo-con apparatus, which has carried out a virtual coup d’état against the Bush Administration and is driving for a policy of imperial “perpetual wars” in the Middle East and North Asia. Beyond the immediate issue of Leo Strauss, the idea that elements of the establishment are openly turning to Lyndon LaRouche, for intellectual leadership in waging a counter-coup, is sending even bigger shock-waves throughout Washington and other world capitals.

Seymour Hersh Fires a Second Shot

The day after the *New York Times* published its “Leo-Cons” exposé, respected investigative reporter Seymour Hersh produced an even harder-hitting exposé of Strauss and the Strauss gang inside the Pentagon, in the pages of the *New Yorker* magazine’s May 12 issue.

Hersh, too, picked up material first published by LaRouche in 2004, Lyndon LaRouche’s campaign committee for the Democratic Presidential nomination, LaRouche in 2004. Borrowing from the *Children of Satan* dossier, Hersh included the Straussian roots of several Pentagon spooks, who were behind the carpet-bombing disinformation campaign, which led to President Bush’s decision to launch the war



The dossier Children of Satan: The 'Ignoble Liars' Behind Bush's No-Exit War, mass-produced by the 2004 campaign committee of Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche. The pamphlet has provided ammunition for the "establishment" press to attack the putschist disciples of universal fascist Leo Strauss, in and around the Bush Administration.

against Iraq. First among the Strauss disciples peddling "spun" information, through Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld into the President, is Abram Shulsky, the chief of what LaRouche has labeled the "chicken-hawk intelligence agency" at the Pentagon. Hersh labeled the unit and his article "Annals of National Security: Selective Intelligence."

He wrote, "The director of the Special Plans operation is Abram Shulsky, a scholarly expert in the works of the political philosopher Leo Strauss. . . . The Office of Special Plans is overseen by Undersecretary of Defense William Luti, a retired Navy captain." Both Shulsky and Luti were highlighted in the *Children of Satan* exposé, as being among the Straussian "ignoble liars" behind the Iraq War.

After elaborating the string of instances in which the Shulsky-Luti unit passed on fake intelligence laundered from "outside intelligence agencies," often through the Iraqi National Congress of Ahmed Chalabi, the crooked banker who is also a University of Chicago alumnus—along with Shulsky and Wolfowitz—Hersh returned to the issue of Leo Strauss. "Like Wolfowitz," Hersh wrote, Shulsky "was a student of

Leo Strauss's, at the University of Chicago. Both men received their doctorates under Strauss in 1972. Strauss, a refugee from Nazi Germany who arrived in the United States in 1937, was trained in the history of political philosophy and became one of the foremost conservative emigré scholars. He is widely known for his argument that the works of ancient philosophers contain deliberately concealed esoteric meanings whose truths can be comprehended only by a very few, and would be misunderstood by the masses."

Hersh provided his own list of Straussians, in Executive departments, as well as think tanks and foundations, adding Stephen Cambone, Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence, to the list of known disciples.

Former Central Intelligence Agency counter-terror center chief, Vincent Cannistraro, who at one point worked with Shulsky at a think tank, told Hersh that Shulsky's politics were "typical for his group—the Straussian view. The group's members reinforce each other because they're the only friends they have, and they all work together. This has been going on since the 1980s, but they've never been able to coalesce as they have now." Cannistraro concluded, "September 11th gave them the opportunity, and now they're in heaven." Referring to the alleged evidence of Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction and links to al-Qaeda, Cannistraro added, "They believe the intelligence is there. They want to believe it. It *has* to be there."

The Floodgates Burst

Once the floodgates opened against the Straussians, with the material in the *Sunday New York Times* and *New Yorker* magazine "lifted" from the LaRouche investigations, other investigative reporters quickly joined in. On May 6-7, there were two more U.S. media exposés—by Joe Conason in the *New York Observer* and by Jim Lobe in *Inter Press News Agency* (Lobe also writes frequently for *Asia Times*). In Europe, both *Corriere della Sera* in Italy and the *Times* in Britain picked up on the Hersh and Atlas stories. Earlier, the French daily *Le Monde* had published a long exposé of the Straussian cabal inside Team Bush.

Lobe's article was of particular note, because he interviewed University of Calgary Prof. Shadia Drury, the author of two books on Strauss and an investigative dossier on Alexandre Kojève. Kojève was Strauss's life-long partner in intellectual crime; a Russian emigré based in Paris, he had been part of the overtly fascist "Synarchist" circles in wartime and postwar France.

Drury made one criticism of Seymour Hersh's *New Yorker* article, disputing, correctly, the idea that Strauss had been a liberal democrat. "Strauss was neither a liberal nor a democrat. Perpetual deception of the citizens by those in power is critical (in Strauss's view) because they need to be led, and they need strong rulers to tell them what's good for them." She distinguished between Plato and Strauss, in that Plato said that rulers had to be people with the highest moral

standards, while Strauss insisted that “those who are fit to rule are those who realize there is no morality and that there is only one natural right, the right of the superior to rule over the inferior. . . . You want a crowd that you can manipulate like putty.”

Drury also told Lobe that Strauss’s system of rule depended on getting the population to believe in an enemy image. “He maintains that if no external threat exists, then one has to be manufactured. . . . In Strauss’s view, you have to fight all the time [to survive]. In that respect, it’s very Spartan. Peace leads to decadence. Perpetual war, not perpetual peace, is what Straussians believe in.” This is the doctrine of the Straussians in Washington—such as Wolfowitz, Kristol, Shulsky and Schmitt—which leads them to pursue “aggressive, belligerent foreign policy.” Drury criticized the Bush Administration, which she accused of having “no use for liberalism and democracy, but they’re conquering the world in the name of liberalism and democracy.”

In the May 7 edition of the *New York Observer*, Joe Conason made a cynical stab at the Straussian gang surrounding Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld. “The genius of Donald Rumsfeld and his deputies in the Defense Department,” Conason wrote, dripping with sarcasm, “is currently among the mainstream media’s favorite themes. According to the conventional viewpoint, their military strategy in Iraq was practically flawless, their political instincts are masterful, and their philosophical grounding is deep. (Some of them have even read Leo Strauss). They’re just undeniably brilliant.”

A Fight to the Bitter End

The sudden outburst of enthusiasm for Lyndon LaRouche’s epistemological war against the neo-con cabal, from some powerful elements in the American political institutions, is a significant indication that more and more people are awakening to the extraordinary danger that the Straussian “perpetual war party” poses to the very survival of the United States as a constitutional republic. Prior to the outbreak of the Iraq War in March, there was a tremendous degree of naiveté about the power of the neo-conservatives and their grip on such top Administration decision-makers as Defense Secretary Rumsfeld and Vice President Dick Cheney—neither of whom personally has the profile of an ideological neo-con (although Rumsfeld has long been associated with leading Strauss disciple Robert Goldwin, former Dean of St. John’s College; he was Rumsfeld’s deputy both at NATO and at the Gerald Ford White House; Goldwin is now with the neo-con “Temple of Doom,” the American Enterprise Institute).

The question remains, however: Will the present momentum continue? Will U.S. political institutions recognize that the Straussians are universal fascists, and will continue to exploit the Sept. 11, 2001 “Reichstag Fire” to impose their political will on the President, until they are thoroughly purged by the counter-coup that Lyndon LaRouche has been calling for?

Earth to DNC: LaRouche Is Number 1 in Support

by Anita Gallagher

The Democratic National Committee and the mendacious U.S. press are sounding an ugly dissonance with reality, as they struggle to hype and stage Democratic Presidential candidate forums in Ohio on May 17 and Wisconsin on June 13, while so far excluding Lyndon LaRouche—the candidate who leads Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.), Sen. John Edwards (D-N.C.), and all the other “major candidates,” in money raised, number of individual contributions, and number of contributors in those states! Nor is this a Midwestern regional anomaly, for LaRouche leads the other nine Democratic candidates in number of individual contributions nationwide, according to the Federal Election Commission (FEC) figures through March 31, 2003.

LaRouche also leads in all categories of support in Iowa, traditionally the first state in the nation to choose a Presidential candidate, and thus bestow early momentum to the winner.

Speaking to the press on April 29, LaRouche explained, “The Federal Election Commission reports, and our supplementary information on the extended support means, that, in terms of contributions, contributors, I’m the number-one candidate, presently, for the Democratic nomination for 2004.

“Now, under those circumstances, no party can claim to be serious, and keep the frontrunner, the current frontrunner in the campaign, from the controversy,” LaRouche told the South Carolina News Network on April 28, respecting his exclusion from ABC-TV’s May 3 debate there. Reality swiftly imposed its own penalty on ABC-TV, when the network effectively admitted how dull its “debate” would be, by cancelling the long-planned live coverage!

The organized-crime-linked Democratic Leadership Council, founded with seed-money from Michael Steinhardt, the son of Meyer Lansky’s jewel fence, has taken over the Democratic National Committee. The DLC exists to expunge the influence of Franklin D. Roosevelt from the party, and its attempts to make the Democrats a “second Republican Party” have resulted in defeat after defeat. For example, the Democratic Party loss of Congressional seats in the 2002 mid-term elections, was only the third time in 100 years when the opposition party failed to *win* seats in mid-term elections; the nearest precedent is the Republicans’ massive loss of seats in 1934, after two years of FDR’s leadership. The DLC-dominated DNC is exerting heavy, if bizarre, pressure on the state Democratic parties to act like fools, and

exclude LaRouche.

Associated Press asked LaRouche in an April 28 campaign interview, what his fundraising goal was. He replied, "I'm going for the big one—a giant machine." LaRouche explained that his funds are generally raised in small amounts, and are a result of mass organizing in the streets. The campaign, in that way, has a high impact in the population, he said.

LaRouche Leads in Debate States

The other candidates' strategy is the opposite. Most of them are Congressional incumbents, so they raise money from people in their home states, and deep-pocket donors in a few states like New York, California, Washington, D.C., and its Maryland and Virginia suburbs—in order to spend it in the rest of the nation.

Iowa is a good example of a state where the candidates expect to *spend* money, rather than build a grass-roots machine, which, among other manifestations of support, contributes money to the candidate. In Iowa, LaRouche has raised \$24,721 in 212 individual contributions from 43 people. Senator Kerry is a distant second, with \$11,000, followed by former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean with \$7,750, Rep. Dennis Kucinich (Ohio) with \$1,711, and Rep. Dick Gephardt (Mo.) with \$1,000 from three donors. In 2000, Gephardt won the Iowa primary.

In Ohio, a fight is being waged to include LaRouche on May 17. A letter, urging "fair and open debate on the critical issues facing our nation and our party," is being circulated to include LaRouche, and has been signed by former Democratic Presidential candidate and U.S. Sen. Eugene McCarthy (Minn.), as well as state legislators from Ohio, six city council members, and ten labor leaders.

LaRouche leads in Ohio in money raised, number of individual contributions, and number of contributors, with \$100,622, broken down into 660 individual contributions, and 159 contributors. Edwards is a close second with \$99,700, but only 100 contributions from 85 contributors. Next are Gephardt (\$57,950), Sen. Joe Lieberman (\$42,000), Kerry (\$23,900), Kucinich (\$12,650), Dean (\$8,401), and New York Rev. Al Sharpton (\$1,020). Sen. Bob Graham (Fla.) and former Illinois Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun have no Ohio contributions.

In Wisconsin, where the Democratic Party will host a candidates weekend on June 13-14, LaRouche has raised more than *twice* the amount of any other candidate, with \$52,476, in 422 contributions, from 87 individuals—showing a continuing self-activation by the same base, not one-shot contributors. Lieberman is a distant second (\$23,500), then Dean (\$8,986), Edwards (\$4,300), Kucinich (\$2,500), and Kerry (\$500). Four of the candidates have no contributions from Wisconsin: Gephardt, Graham, Moseley-Braun, and Sharpton. The LaRouche in 2004 campaign noted that all contributions figures are based on FEC data through March 31, 2003.

Rumsfeld's Reorganization

Will Congress Defend The Constitution?

by Carl Osgood

The U.S. Congress has a make-or-break opportunity to live up to its Congressional responsibilities by shooting down Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's "emergency" legislation, which would effectively scrap the 100-year-old Civil Service system, eliminate collective bargaining rights, and greatly weaken protections against discrimination, and strong-arming of whistle blowers, among the nearly 700,000 civilian Defense Department employees. At stake in the fight over H.R. 1836, The Civil Service and National Security Personnel Improvement Act, is more than the fate of Federal employees. The larger issue is whether Congress will stand up on a bipartisan basis to defeat a flagrantly unconstitutional power-grab by the same Straussian gang in the Executive Branch that was behind the Iraq War and the drive to permanently transform the United States from a Constitutional Republic into a caricature of the Napoleonic or Roman Empire.

The Rumsfeld-Wolfowitz cabal at the Pentagon is dead set on ramming through this piece of fascist legislation (Adolf Hitler imposed almost the identical civil service "reforms" in Nazi Germany in Spring 1933, as part of his consolidation of dictatorial power). In a clear signal of this, Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz himself appeared before the House Armed Services Committee on May 1, and the House Government Reform Committee on May 6, the day before that committee's markup. Other big guns the Pentagon deployed to turn up the heat on Capitol Hill included Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard Myers, Vice Chairman Gen. Peter Pace, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark, and Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness David Chu. The four hearings—an April 29 hearing before the Government Reform Committee's Civil Service Subcommittee, the May 6 hearing of the full committee, and two hearings of the Armed Services Committee on May 1 and May 2—were highlighted by sharp attacks by the Democrats of both committees, who attacked both the bill's railroad speed and its content.

That railroad speed was shown by the fact that the bill was first sent up by the Defense Department on April 11, just as the Congress was trying to get out of town for the Easter recess. Members of the House, upon returning from the recess on April 28, were confronted with a schedule that called for a Civil Service Subcommittee and a full committee markup

in two days. In an April 25 letter to chairman Tom Davis (R-Va.), ranking Democrat Henry Waxman (Calif.) had written that, because of the magnitude of the reforms contemplated in the bill, “It is clear to me that additional hearings are necessary, as well as consultations with outside experts and affected groups, in particular DoD employees.” He noted that the start-

ing point for the authorities being demanded by the Pentagon are those granted to the Department of Homeland Security. “Before we grant these requests,” he added, “we need to evaluate how well the Homeland Security Department implements its flexibilities, whether they are working, and what problems have arisen.”

The entire package includes more than just civil service reforms. It also “reforms” the military personnel system—including giving the Secretary of Defense more control over promotion and assignment of flag-rank military officers—the defense acquisition system, and the Pentagon’s internal management system. The civilian personnel provision in the bill would give the department the unilateral ability to develop its own personnel system, exempt from most of the laws governing the civil service, including those portions of the law that provide for performance appraisal, pay rates and classification systems, collective bargaining rights, and due process and appeal rights. Those authorities were already given to the Homeland Security Department, but the Pentagon also wants more authority over the hiring and firing of employees.

In an unusual show of unity, the Democrats on both the Armed Services and Government Reform Committees came out swinging against the bill. The May 6 Government Reform Committee hearing was particularly tumultuous. Nearly all of the committee’s Democrats showed up to grill Wolfowitz, and a half-dozen Republicans showed up to express grave concerns about the race to pass the bill.

Wolfowitz Lies to Committee

Wolfowitz’s “Straussian” performance (committee members repeatedly caught him lying about the content of the bill, and simply contradicted him by reading from the draft text) was interrupted by House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-Md.). Hoyer, whose district is dominated by government workers, was allowed to give his own testimony strongly opposing the bill. He compared the mad race to ram it through to the lengthy and careful review that preceded the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act. Hoyer warned that Rumsfeld and Wolfowitz are planning to ram the bill through the House committees and then attach it to the defense authorization bill, so that it would never be taken up as a self-standing piece of legislation. He charged that the DoD intends to have the bill passed and signed by President Bush by Memorial Day.

Armed Services Committee Democrats have been equally energetic in their protests. At the May 1 hearing, Rep. John Spratt (R-S.C.) said, “I keep coming across this phrase in the draft, ‘at the Secretary’s sole, exclusive and unreviewable discretion.’ In other words, the Secretary is isolated and insulated from any kind of challenge. Sole and unreviewable discretion. Those are strange words for the government of the United States.” Spratt said to Undersecretary Chu, “I’m telling you, this is a hell of a grant of authority.”

Rep. Jim Cooper (D-Tenn.), also a member of the Government Reform panel, said, “Because there’s so much sole,

Rumsfeld’s ‘Notverordnung’

This statement was released by the LaRouche in 2004 Presidential campaign committee on May 10, 2003.

On the subject of the proposed “Defense Transformation Act of the 21st Century,” which has been presented on behalf of Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld:

1. Our U.S. Federal Constitution was crafted under the authority of that natural law stipulated by our 1776 Declaration of Independence and Preamble of that Constitution. The separation of powers is the principal functional distinction of that Constitution as a whole. In the matter of the proposed legislation, the authorities demanded for Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld would be a grave material breach of that Constitution, a leak in the dike which opens the way for the kinds of dictatorial powers assumed by the Adolf Hitler regime on Feb. 28, 1933, powers from which all the principal crimes of the Hitler regime ensued.

2. In this matter, we can not be blind to the fact that leading members of the present Administration, such as Vice-President Cheney and Secretary Rumsfeld, have associated themselves with a philosophy of unconstitutional and other insurrectionary practices, formerly identified as “Synarchist: Nazi-Communist.” The stated premises of the most clearly objectionable features of the draft legislation are also peculiarly consistent with the Nazi legal doctrine of Carl Schmitt, a notorious confederate of the late Professor Leo Strauss and Alexandre Kojève whose synarchist connections and style in philosophy are those of relevant high-ranking officers of Secretary Rumsfeld’s Department of Defense.

The relevant language presented within the proposed legislation should therefore be outlawed, root and branch.

3. Such features of the proposed legislation might be grounds to seek impeachment of those who are considered as conspiring to destroy our Constitution through imitation of Nazi-like emergency powers.

—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

exclusive, and unreviewable discretion here, I worry that we're abrogating our Constitutional responsibilities." When the Government Reform Committee met, on May 7, to mark up the bill, Cooper offered an amendment to strike the portion giving the Secretary of Defense such authority over the civilian personnel system. He noted that the responsibilities of the Congress are derived from the Constitution and that "we're not supposed to delegate that authority, but that's precisely what we're being asked to do." Cooper's amendment was defeated on a party-line vote of 16-24.

The Constitutional issue also came up with respect to the military personnel provision. Under the bill, the four-star generals and admirals would literally serve at the pleasure of the Secretary of Defense, for as long or as short a time as he would like to keep them on. Lawrence Korb, the director of national security studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, and a former Reagan-era defense official, told the May 2 Armed Services Committee hearing that senior military officers "serve the Constitution. They serve both Houses of Congress as well as the Executive Branch." He told the committee, "You have the power . . . to raise and support armies, provide and maintain a navy, as well as to declare war; and you need their honest opinion."

House Version on Fast Track

At least a handful of labor unions have been noisy, as well. The American Federation of Government Employees packed the April 29 hearing of the Civil Service Subcommittee. AFGE president Bobby Harnage told the subcommittee that the DoD proposal "erases decades of social progress in employment standards, punishes a workforce that has just made a crucial contribution to our victory in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and takes away from Congress and affected employees the opportunity they now possess to have a voice in crafting and approving the personnel and other systems of the Department of Defense." He added that "if this legislation is enacted, each individual Secretary of Defense, in cooperation with the President, will effectively own the Department of Defense as if it were a private concern."

However, so far, the runaway legislative train is not slowing down, at least in the House. On May 7, the Government Reform Committee passed a slightly amended version of H.R. 1836 on a straight party-line 24-18 vote. Throughout the markup, Chairman Davis kept assuring the Democrats that there was no Constitutional problem with the bill. However, as Waxman and others pointed out, there is absolutely no language in the bill preventing the Defense Department from abusing the authority granted it.

All that remains is the final disposition of the legislation. It could go straight to the House floor, through the Rules Committee, for passage as a free-standing bill; or it could be added to the Fiscal 2004 defense authorization bill. Either way, it's likely to be muscled through the House by the GOP. What is completely unclear is the fate of the bill in the Senate.

Documentation

Testimony on Rumsfeld's 'Emergency Legislation'

Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) to the May 6 Government Reform Committee hearing:

Mr. Chairman, I'd like to thank you for holding this hearing. The Bush Administration's proposal to rewrite the rules for civilian employees at the Department of Defense is breathtaking in its scope and implications. . . . We're working at a break-neck pace on a bill that will directly affect almost 700,000 civilian employees at the Defense Department.

Why, you might ask, are we doing this? No one seems to know. At a subcommittee hearing last week, I asked Undersecretary of Defense David Chu how the current personnel system had hindered DoD's war efforts in Iraq. He wasn't able to give me any examples. When Dr. Chu was asked whether Secretary Rumsfeld would consider delaying consideration of the bill, Dr. Chu pointed to "the three weeks it took our troops to get from the Kuwait border to Baghdad." Dr. Chu added that the Secretary "is not someone who is patient with a long, indecisive process."

In other words, now that the Defense Department has marched through Iraq in three weeks, it intends to do the same with Congress.

I might understand this better if we at least knew what DoD was going to do with the enormous flexibilities that it's seeking. But we have virtually no idea. Basically, the DoD proposal is nothing more than a blank check. DoD is asking to be exempted from 100 years of civil service laws enacted specifically to prevent a patronage system. Yet the Department isn't telling us how it's going to replace these laws. That's not the right way to deal with one of the most sweeping civil service reforms in history. . . . I urge my colleagues to slow down this runaway legislative train.

House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) to the May 6 Government Reform Committee hearing:

Thank you Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, for the opportunity to present to you my views on the Civil Service and National Security Personnel Improvement Act.

I am dismayed by the manner in which a civil service reform of this magnitude is being rushed through the legislative process. It is shameful that we will give no more than cursory consideration to legislation that will strip from more than a third of our Federal civilian employees, their most basic worker protections.

The last piece of legislation to affect this many Federal

employees was the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act; and the process by which it was developed and considered could not be more different than what we see today. Months prior to submitting his proposal to the Congress, President Carter established a working group to study personnel policies. The group heard from more than 7,000 individuals, held 17 public hearings and scores of meetings, and issued a three-volume report. Upon subsequent introduction of the legislation, House and Senate Committees held 25 days of hearings. . . .

This thorough, open, and fair process resulted in civil service reform legislation that garnered near-unanimous bipartisan support in both chambers.

The contrast to the current process could not be more clear. This measure was conceived by a handful of the President's closest advisors without any public input; regrettably, not a single Federal employee group was consulted. Since introduction of the legislation last week, the House has scheduled a couple of hearings; a handful of witnesses will provide testimony; and it will likely be attached to the Defense Authorization bill and approved by the full House prior to the Memorial Day recess. But why the urgency to enact such sweeping reforms? . . .

But this bill is even more objectionable for what it does than for how it came to be. This proposal will have the chilling effect of undoing decades of some of the most important worker protections enacted by Congress. Among its most egregious provisions, the legislation grants the Secretary of Defense the authority to strip Federal workers of their collective bargaining rights, deny employees their right to appeal unfair treatment, grant supervisors complete discretion in setting salaries and determining raises, and abolish rules requiring that reductions-in-force be based on seniority and job performance.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz to the May 6 Government Reform Committee hearing:

As we have seen so vividly in recent days, lives depend, not just on technology, but on a culture that fosters leadership, flexibility, agility and adaptability. To foster these qualities and bring DoD into the 21st Century, we need legislative help. One of the key areas in which we need your help, is in transforming our system of personnel management so that we can gain more flexibility and agility in how we handle the more than 700,000 civilians who provide the Department vital support, or to deal efficiently with those who don't. The ability to do so is nothing less than a national security requirement, because it goes straight to how well we will be able to defend our country in the years to come. . . .

In an age when terrorists move information at the speed of an e-mail, money at the speed of a wire transfer, and people at the speed of a commercial jetliner, the Defense Department is still bogged down, to a great extent, in the micro-management and bureaucratic processes of the industrial age, when the world has surged ahead into the information age.

U.S. Military

Rumsfeld & Co. Force Behind-the-Scenes Revolt

by Edward Spannaus

"Rumsfeld conducting war on Army," read a headline in the May 7 *Baltimore Sun*. In fact, Donald Rumsfeld's denigration of the Army and its infantry forces has been a hallmark of his entire reign as Defense Secretary, with Rumsfeld and his top deputies, such as Paul Wolfowitz and Steven Cambone, clashing repeatedly with top Army leaders over the past two years. This has now, according to knowledgeable sources, given rise to a full-scale, behind-the-scenes revolt against Rumsfeld, and in opposition to his attempts to wreck the traditionalist military and officer corps.

The latest affront was the disclosure that Rumsfeld had not only fired Secretary of the Army Thomas White—a former Army General—but had sent his deputy Paul Wolfowitz to White's office a few days after this, to order unceremoniously that White clear out by May 9. "The Army is in a state of belligerence over this latest insult," an Army official told the *Washington Times*. "The issue now is, when does this attack on the Army stop? When does President Bush put a stop to this?" the official asked. "We Republicans did not come into this building to experience a Stalin [purge]."

Syndicated columnist Robert Novak (who has frequently served as a voice for institutional opposition to the neo-conservative takeover of Bush Administration policy), recently wrote that Rumsfeld is now in a position to put his handpicked people in the three top Army positions. "Rumsfeld is forcing a thinner Army, and he does not want a service Secretary allied with 'dinosaur' generals backing their heavy forces with plenty of armor and artillery," Novak said. The dumping of White, the pending replacement of Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki, and the announced retirement of Vice Chief of Staff John Keane, "clears the board for Rumsfeld to pick generals who will not oppose reducing Army strength by the equivalent of two divisions."

A 'Transformational' Army Secretary

A high-level former military source told EIRNS that what Rumsfeld wants to do is to eliminate all heavy divisions, leaving only light, mobile divisions to serve as an imperial rapid deployment force. The same source said that Keane had let it be known within the Pentagon that he is stepping aside, because he does not wish to serve under Rumsfeld.

And, in what is taken as yet another slap at the Army,

Rumsfeld has reportedly chosen the current Air Force Secretary, James Roche, to replace White as Army Secretary. The appointment is regarded as unusual in several respects, including that Roche has no Army experience, but was a career Navy officer. Roche is closely associated with the anti-Army “transformation” group centered around Andrew Marshall—who has been a principal architect of the utopian “Revolution in Military Affairs” (RMA) for 30 years. Roche was Marshall’s chief military assistant from 1975-1979, and then worked with Wolfowitz in the State Department policy-planning office in the early 1980s. Roche has remained close friends over the years with both Andy Marshall and Wolfowitz.

Prior to the invasion of Iraq, there were indications that Rumsfeld might have been on his way out. Senior Republicans in the Senate were reported to be furious at Rumsfeld’s arrogance and his failure to keep them informed about the Administration’s Iraq war plans.

Then, a week into the Iraq invasion, retired and active uniformed military officers began talking to the news media about Rumsfeld’s personal interference in the military’s war planning, which had left U.S. troops dangerously exposed, with long, vulnerable supply lines. The highest-ranking active-duty officer to speak out was the V Corps Commander in Iraq, Gen. William Wallace, who made the now-famous comment: “The enemy we’re fighting is a bit different than the one we had war-gamed against.”

At a Pentagon press briefing on April 1, Rumsfeld and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard Myers were asked about these criticisms; Myers jumped in, very agitated, and said that these “bogus” and “false” criticisms were causing “harm to our troops who are out there fighting very hard, very courageously.”

But, nevertheless, on March 7, General Wallace reiterated his criticisms. “I make no apologies for those comments,” Wallace said. “The enemy that we fought in al-Samawa, the enemy that we fought in An Najaf, the enemy that we fought in Al Hillah and in Karbala, the enemy that we fought to some extent in An Nasiriyah when the 5th Corps first seized Tallil Air Base and the first intact bridge over the Euphrates River, was much more aggressive than what we expected him to be, or at least, what I expected him to be. He was willing to attack out of those towns toward our formations, when my expectation was that they would be defending those towns and not be as aggressive.”

Various media reports had interpreted Myers’ April 1 denunciations as a “shot across the bow,” on Rumsfeld’s behalf, directed at officers who were voicing their criticisms. It was also reported that colleagues of General Wallace wondered out loud if Wallace’s head was on the chopping block.

It was. On May 6, Rumsfeld dumped Wallace, replacing him as the head of the V Corps in what the Pentagon took pains to describe as a “normal rotation.”

‘Doomsday’ Budget For New York City

by Mary Jane Freeman

Fire! It’s blazing in your Brooklyn neighborhood. It’s 7:00 at night. Four and a half minutes later the New York Fire Department (NYFD) company arrives, the fire is brought under control, and no lives are lost. You were lucky. By the end of May, under the announced budget cuts of New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, your local fire company will close. Response time for a company farther away will be longer and lives will likely be lost.

On April 3, Bloomberg issued a two-tiered 2004 budget. The first immediately cuts \$600 million. Thousands of layoffs of city workers have begun, along with the closure of eight firehouses, and cuts to health, education, and seniors programs. The second tier, dubbed a “doomsday” contingency plan, slashes \$1 billion if promised state aid fails to materialize and/or new tax revenue streams devised as a temporary fix, fall short, which is likely in these depression times.

The bursting of the stock market bubble has hurt the city’s revenue base, as it became heavily dependent on the Wall Street speculative economy after its 1970s fiscal crisis. (In 1975, a bankers’ dictatorship, known as “Big MAC”—the Municipal Assistance Corp./Emergency Financial Control Board—took over the city, and imposed a policy called “planned shrinkage.” Shrunken was the city’s productive workforce, especially its manufacturing sector, and city services.) Bloomberg, raising the specter of Big MAC, warned, “We must not . . . surrender our destiny to the Financial Control Board.” So, instead, he will impose the austerity himself. His cuts will include immunization programs and sanitation jobs, the loss of which will expose citizens to potential epidemics, amidst collapsing physical and social infrastructure.

Over a year ago, the city had a \$7.5 billion deficit. To “fix” it, the Mayor slashed the budget, streamlined services, and raised property taxes by 18.5%. Still, revenues kept falling, and so the deficit hole grew again. By January it grew another \$2.9 billion, and as of March 30 it was \$3.8 billion. This shortfall is fueled by steep unemployment, which is now at 8.8% citywide, 2.8% higher than the official national rate; it is up to 11% in the Bronx and 9% in Manhattan!

Public Safety and Health Care Jeopardized

Bloomberg blames the labor unions for the new cuts because they failed to capitulate to his demand for \$600 million in concessions. The \$600 million plan will: lay off 194 Fire Department positions and reduce fire marshals by 25%, down

to 83 for the whole city; lay off 1,631 non-teacher school employees; close 4 child service facilities; close 12 of the 30 child health clinics; cut 165 school health jobs; end a hepatitis B immunization initiative; end a take-home weekend meals program for 7,500 senior citizens; and close two seniors centers. Cuts to the Transportation and the Parks and Recreation departments will reduce rush hour services and close the city zoos. These new cuts, combined with the \$3.2 billion axed over the last 16 months, mean 17,700 jobs are gone and programs reduced.

Even this first level of Fire Department cuts will jeopardize adequate protection for city residents. "After all the cuts . . . already made to fire marshals, and proposed firehouse closings, [we] will not be able to provide the level of fire protection that citizens need," said Stephen Cassidy, president of the Uniformed Firefighters Association. These staff and facility reductions mean the NYFD would be unprepared "for a possible terrorist attack or to handle two or more disasters at the same time."

'It's Going To Be Hell'

Bloomberg's \$600 million plan factors in getting about \$2.7 billion in new revenues from various state aid programs and/or taxing powers for the city. If the "doomsday" plan goes into effect, here's what can be expected. Cuts under this plan will result in 10,000 more job losses, shutter up the 18 remaining child health clinics, and close 30-40 more firehouses, as well as shut fire houses at night! The insanity of such a move was ridiculed by Cassidy: "The fact is, 73% of fire deaths occur between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m."

Police Department funds have already been cut by \$413,000 and would now be cut another \$155.3 million. Its July 2003 cadet class would be scrapped, severely reducing the police force to below 36,000. Patrick Lynch the president of the Police Benevolent Association (PBA), said, "We won't be able to stay up on crime. There are not enough police officers to man the radio cars in precincts. We're losing 300 officers every month," and there's already "a spike in homicides." Al O'Leary, a PBA spokesman, added, "New York is still the number-one terrorist target. Reducing the already dangerously low staffing levels . . . is sheer lunacy that will cost this city thousands of times in losses what it will save today." Sanitation Department cuts will mean 1,057 layoffs affecting collection, recycling, and street-cleaning functions. "You're talking about flies [and] . . . rats, etc. when pickup is once a week. It's going to be hell," a Queens resident railed. In this day of SARS and West Nile viruses, such cuts will hearten only the Grim Reaper.

Compounding this threat to the health of city residents are the planned cuts to Human Resources, eliminating city-funded HIV/AIDS and emergency food assistance programs, and Homeless Services' outreach programs and cleaning staff for homeless shelters.

Not only will child health clinics and school nurses be

cut, but Education Department after-school programs and Summer school for 29,500 students will, too. Children will have nowhere to play but garbage-cluttered streets, as the Parks and Recreation cuts will close all outdoor pools and city-funded recreation centers by Summer. Rose Anello of the Citizens' Committee for Children of New York summed it up: "It will create a domino effect. . . . The elimination of child care for low-income working parents will force many to give up their jobs, creating higher unemployment and swell the welfare rolls. We can expect a drastic increase in homelessness, too, if single parents have to quit their jobs."

Whether the Mayor's \$1 billion "doomsday" plan, slashing "virtually every service," will be implemented won't be determined until May 14, when Gov. George Pataki (R) decides to grant or veto a budget deal concluded on May 5. A \$2.7 billion bailout deal agreed to by Bloomberg, the New York City Council, and the state legislature authorizes the city to raise the sales tax rate by 0.08%, and to hike an income tax surcharge on city residents earning \$100,000 or more. Estimates are that the sales tax hike will raise \$115 million a year, and the income tax surcharge another \$400-600 million. Other, smaller taxing powers were granted, some aid for education agreed to, and the state will assume \$500 million of the city's Big MAC debt interest payments.

Pataki, a GOP tax-cut devotee, considers the deal a "fiscal disaster," and has strongly hinted that he will veto it in part or whole. Were the legislature to override his veto and the deal to go ahead, it remains to be seen whether the expected new revenues would materialize. As more people join the ranks of the unemployed or lose their shirts in the stock market, it is indeed a fool's errand to expect that such tax revenue streams will fill the void.

The state legislature's Black, Puerto Rican, and Hispanic Legislative Caucus even proposed re-instituting a stock-transfer tax which was repealed in 1981. The Caucus estimates it would generate up to \$2.75 billion a year. In itself, such a tax is not a bad idea; but it fails to address the underlying breakdown of the city's economy. Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche, years ago, had called for a similar tax at the height of the stock market bubble, as a way to destroy this speculative succubus which has bled investments out of the physical economy. Bloomberg, a Wall Street tycoon himself, has flatly rejected the idea, arguing that it will "kill" jobs—i.e., Wall Street jobs.

If Bloomberg truly doesn't want a return to a Big MAC bankers' dictatorship when "we cut services so the streets weren't safe any more," as he told WNBC.com in an interview, then he'll have to listen to LaRouche. Over the years, LaRouche has called for a city-building project to restore New York to its greatness. Today that would mean instituting his "Super-TVA" infrastructure-vectored job-creation approach, with bankruptcy reorganization of the doomed monetary system as the only human solution to Federal, state, and local budget crises.

AIDS Program Bill Clears the House

On May 1, the House passed a bill to implement President Bush's \$15 billion global AIDS program, by a vote of 375-41. As described by International Relations Committee Chairman Henry Hyde (R-Ill.)—who, along with Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), was the bill's chief sponsor—the bill “creates a more responsive, coordinated, and effective approach” among the various government agencies involved in the anti-AIDS effort. The bill funds anti-retroviral therapy, encourages a strategy for palliative care for people with AIDS, and supports efforts to develop vaccines for AIDS and tuberculosis.

Although no one disputed the seriousness of the AIDS crisis, especially in Africa, the bill fails to provide for an emergency science-driver approach, along with proven public health measures, for dealing with the pandemic. It ignores the role of poverty and economic breakdown in the spread of the disease. Instead, a major focus of the bill is, as Hyde put it, “prevention programs that stress sexual abstinence and monogamy as a first line of defense against the spread of this disease.” This includes the so-called ABC program—Abstinence, Being faithful to one partner, and Condom use.

The sharpest debate on the bill came on an amendment by Joe Pitts (R-Pa.) to earmark one-third of the funds in the bill for prevention, to abstinence programs. Pitts claimed that the ABC model has worked successfully in Uganda and that it makes sense “to guarantee that this money will fund what works.” Lantos responded that the Pitts amendment “undermines the ABC approach by earmarking funds solely for the abstinence program.” Lantos questioned whether the amendment would actually prohibit educators from providing full information about the use of condoms to high-risk

populations. Pitts' amendment passed by a vote of 220-197.

Leahy, Powell Come Out Swinging vs. Gingrich

The after-effects of former House Speaker Newt Gingrich's April 22 diatribe against the State Department were still being felt when the Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee convened on April 30 to take testimony from Secretary of State Colin Powell. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) blasted Gingrich's formulation that the Iraq war involved six months of diplomatic failure and one month of military success. “That's a misstatement of history,” Leahy said. “Diplomacy,” he added, “achieved important results, including a unanimous vote in the UN Security Council.”

Leahy said, “The senior Pentagon officials engaged in name calling, such as ‘Old Europe,’ exacerbated tensions with key allies, making the State Department's job more difficult.” He warned that the war in Iraq “has raised serious questions about the appropriate roles of the Pentagon and the State Department in diplomacy and managing foreign aid programs. . . . It's disturbing that key officials in the Administration seem determined to weaken the State Department.”

Powell thanked Leahy for his comments, then launched into his own defense of his department. He noted that, from time to time in history, the State Department has been criticized for “being like diplomats.” He said, “We do it damn well and I am not going to apologize to anybody.” He said that the department will respond to legitimate criticism, “But if you come after us just to come after us, you're in for a fight, and I'm going to fight back. I am going to protect my department and my people, and I'm also going to defend the policies of the President,

which were attacked even more vigorously than any sideways attack on the contributions and the loyalty and the dedication and the courage and the willingness to serve” of the people who work in the State Department.

Hollings, Byrd Blast Homeland Security Budget

Congressional Democrats are not pleased with the Bush Administration's budget requests for homeland security. This was shown, once again, during a hearing of the Senate Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee on April 30, where Robert Byrd (D-W.V.) took the Administration to task for not matching its funding requests to its rhetoric. He complained that the Bush Administration has “consistently opposed efforts by the Congress to provide critical resources for homeland security,” including funding for first responders, border and port security, and security for nuclear power plants, airports, and other critical infrastructure.

Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) focussed on security. He said that the Senate had unanimously passed a port security bill last year, that then got bottled up in the House over whether the port security fee included in the bill was a tax—revenue-generating bills must originate in the House. He said that the Senate had offered the House to let it rewrite the bill and send it back, but “we couldn't get them to budge.” Referring to the Administration's budget request, he said, “I find zero under your budget for port security.”

Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge told the subcommittee that the \$36.2 billion request for his department “supports the President's national strategy for homeland security.” He warned that “we are only at the beginning of our long struggle to protect our nation from terrorism.”

What Is the Dollar's Value?

With the U.S. dollar sinking like a stone—on May 10 at about \$1.15 to the euro, vs. \$1.06 three weeks earlier—the viability of the whole dollar system is being called into question. What can be done to save the dollar? Should the dollar be saved?

In a sense, those are both the wrong questions. What is essential is to restore the relationship between the dollar and the physical economy. From that standpoint, the current collapse of the dollar is totally lawful *and* correct: It reflects the disintegration of the U.S. economy! What has upheld the dollar over the last 30 years was the international looting game, enforced by brute power, despite the increasing, virtually unprecedented indebtedness of the United States. And that system of looting should come to an end.

While Lyndon LaRouche has forecast the inevitability of this development for some years, so have some others. One Kenneth Rogoff, an economics professor who is now the Chief Economist of the International Monetary Fund, warned back in August of 2000, that the dollar could well collapse by 50% in the short term, due to the growing current account deficit. Thus, when Rogoff told a *Washington Post* columnist on May 8, 2003 that a large drop in the dollar's value "might lay bare weaknesses in the financial system," by causing severe losses to major market players with derivatives portfolios and hedge funds, he was well aware that this collapse reflects a *systemic* problem, not some short-term "market" consideration.

For the most part, Washington policymakers, in and around the Bush Administration, appear blissfully ignorant of the dangers of the dollar, and economic, weakness. Not so with many other national leaders, some of whom have been speaking out about establishing alternatives to the dollar system.

There are now preparations and moves all over Asia to lower dependency on the dollar. About 80% of worldwide foreign exchange reserves are held by Asian central banks, and these banks are very much concerned about "the weak U.S. economy, Washington's aggressive foreign policy, and the ongoing corruption scan-

dals" in the U.S. corporate sector and at Wall Street banks. Last September, several Asian governments set up task forces, in cooperation with European governments, to advise central banks how to diversify their foreign exchange reserves and how to issue international bonds denominated in euros, not dollars.

Mahendra Siregar, advisor to the Indonesian Finance Ministry, confirmed that the country is considering introducing the euro as a currency for foreign trade. "Many institutions in Indonesia are studying this idea," he said.

According to Singapore's *Business Times*, the central bank of Indonesia has recently quietly replaced 15% of its dollar-denominated foreign exchange reserves—in total \$33 billion—with euros.

All these efforts, states the German business paper *Handelsblatt*, have a political background, in view of U.S. pressure on Asian governments to support the war against Iraq. All the capitals in the region are unhappy about this pressure, and one way to react to it is by lowering dependency on the U.S. currency.

Such maneuvering, however, will not solve the fundamental problem. What is required for the world, and the United States, is the very same policy, the one outlined by leading American economist and politician Lyndon LaRouche: The United States must pull together an international conference to discuss a general monetary and economic reform, which will set up a New Bretton Woods system, one based on sovereign nations making arrangements for a set of stable currency exchange-rates, and for long-term economic agreements for economic development.

Such a policy, combined with bankruptcy reorganization, will promote economic growth within the United States, and for the rest of the world. The dollar will be strengthened because the U.S. economy begins to produce again—but not at the expense of other currencies, or economies. Indeed, this is the only way in which the dollar will come out of the current crisis with any value—the value of contributing to the general welfare of the world economy.

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- SHELBY TWP.
Comcast Ch.20
WOW Ch.18
Mon/Wed: 6:30 pm

MICHIGAN

- DELAWARE COUNTY
Comcast Ch.42
Mondays—11 pm
- GARY
AT&T Ch.21
Monday-Thursday
8 am - 12 Noon

IOWA

- QUAD CITIES
Mediacom Ch.19
Thursdays—11 pm
- KENTUCKY
BOONE/KENTON
Insight Ch.21
Mon: 4 pm; Sat: 5 pm
JEFFERSON Ch.98
Fridays—2 pm

LOUISIANA

- ORLEANS PARISH
Cox Ch.78
Tuesdays & Saturdays
4 am & 4 pm
- MARYLAND
ANNE ARUNDEL
Annapolis Ch.20
Milleneum Ch.99
Sat & Sun: 12:30 am
- MONTGOMERY Ch.19
Fridays—7 pm
- P.G.COUNTY Ch.76
Mondays—10:30 pm

MASSACHUSETTS

- BRAINTREE
AT&T Ch.31
BEL D Ch.16
Tuesdays—8 pm
- CAMBRIDGE
MediaOne Ch.10
Mondays—4 pm
- WORCESTER—Ch.13
Tue—8:30 pm

MICHIGAN

- CALHOON
ATT Ch.11
Mondays—4 pm
- CANTON TWP.
Comcast Ch.18
Zajak Presents
Mondays: 6-8 pm
- DEARBORN
Comcast Ch.16
Zajak Presents
Mondays: 6-8 pm
- DEARBORN HTS.
Comcast Ch.18
Zajak Presents
Mondays: 6-8 pm
- GRAND RAPIDS
AT&T Ch.25
Fridays—1:30 pm
- KALAMAZOO
Thu: 11 pm (Ch.20)
Sat: 10 pm (Ch.22)
- KENT COUNTY
Charter Ch.7
Tue—12 Noon,
7:30 pm, 11 pm
- LAKE ORION
Comcast Ch.65
Mondays & Tuesdays
2 pm & 9 pm
- LIVONIA
Brighthouse Ch.12
Thursdays—5 pm
- MT.PLEASANT
Charter Ch.3
Tuesdays—5:30 pm
Wednesdays—7 am
- PLYMOUTH
Comcast Ch.18
Zajak Presents
Mondays: 6-8 pm
- SHELBY TWP.
Comcast Ch.20
WOW Ch.18
Mon/Wed: 6:30 pm

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Comcast Ch.18
Zajak Presents
Mondays: 6-8 pm
- SHELBY TWP.
Comcast Ch.20
WOW Ch.18
Mon/Wed: 6:30 pm

NEVADA

- CARSON—Ch.10
Wednesdays—7 pm
- WAYNE COUNTY
Sundays—3 pm
- RENO/SPARKS
Charter Ch.16
Fridays—9 pm

NEW JERSEY

- MERCER COUNTY
Comcast*
TRENTON Ch.81
Time Warner Cable
Thu—11 pm (Ch.35)
Sat—8 am (Ch.34)
- NORTHERN NJ
Sun—9 pm (Ch.78)
PISCATAWAY
Cablevision Ch.71
Wed—11:30 pm
- PLAINSBORO
Comcast Ch.3*

NEW MEXICO

- ALBUQUERQUE
Comcast Ch.27
Mondays—3 pm
- ANTHONY/SUNLAND
T/W Ch.15
Wednesdays 5:05 pm
- GRANT COUNTY
Comcast Ch.17
Fri & Sat:
7 pm or 8 pm
- LOS ALAMOS
Comcast Ch.8
Mondays—10 pm
- SANTA FE
Comcast—Ch.6
Saturdays—6:30 pm
- TAOS—Ch.2
Thursdays—7 pm

NEW YORK

- AMSTERDAM
T/W Ch.16
Wednesdays—7 pm
- BRONX
Cablevision Ch.70
Fridays—4:30 pm
- BROOKLYN
T/W Ch.34
Cablevision Ch.67
Tue: 3:30, 11:30 pm
- BUFFALO
Adelphia Ch.20
Thursdays—4 pm
Saturdays—1 pm
- CHEMUNG/STUEBEN
Time Warner Ch.1
Mon & Fri: 4:30 pm
Sun: 6 am; Mon: 11 pm
- ERIE COUNTY
Adelphia Intl. Ch.20
Thursdays—10:35 pm
- ILION—Ch.10
Mon & Wed—11 am
Saturdays—11:30 pm
- IRONDEQUOIT Ch.15
Mondays—7:30 pm
Thursdays—7 pm
- JEFFERSON/LEWIS
Time Warner Ch.2
Unscheduled pop-ins
- MARSHALL COUNTY
Galaxy Ch.2
Mondays—7 pm
- MISSOURI
ST. LOUIS
AT&T Ch.22
Wednesdays—5 pm
Thursdays—12 Noon
- NEBRASKA
LINCOLN
T/W Ch.80
Citizen Watchdog
Tuesdays—7 pm
Wednesdays—10 pm

NEW YORK

- AMSTERDAM
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Galaxy Ch.2
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Wednesdays—5 pm
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