

Chicken-Hawks as China-Hawks: The Straussians Target Beijing

by Mike Billington

Many leading U.S. policy-makers, military officers, and foreign service experts believed that their outspoken opposition to the war plan on Iraq would prevent that misadventure from taking place. The voice of the “Establishment,” they believed, would overcome the irrational impulses of the neo-conservative “chicken-hawks” who had the ear of a weak-minded President. Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche agreed with these traditionalist leaders that the war could be prevented, but warned that rational persuasion would not succeed—only a full exposure of the geopolitical purpose behind the drive for war could prevent it and the continual, global warfare it would trigger.

“Jamming up” the war plan with mass-circulation exposés through the last half of 2002, LaRouche demonstrated that the war on Iraq had nothing to do with terrorism, 9/11, or weapons of mass destruction, but was set in motion in the early 1990s as part of the imperial vision of Dick Cheney, Paul Wolfowitz, and others in their Straussian circle, as a necessary step toward the policy defined in their 1992 “Defense Policy Guidance” following the fall of the Soviet Union—to maintain the position of the United States as the “only superpower” *in perpetuity*, by preventing the emergence of any nation or alliance of nations which could match the economic and military strength of the United States.

We shall show here that the original writings which document the intentions of this utopian faction to use an Iraq War as a means to implement their imperial, pre-emptive war policy, also demonstrate that a primary target—perhaps *the* primary target—is China. The precise intention of the war party is the prevention of any alliance among the nations of Eurasia—China, Russia, and India, in particular—allowing the physical economic development of the Eurasian continent as a whole, and potentially serving as the basis for a new world economic order, independent of the bankrupt

dollar-based system.

While the neo-conservatives do not now have full control over the Bush Administration, the fact that they succeeded in launching the insane war on Iraq, with the expressed intention to proceed on to Syria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, North Korea, and others yet to be named, requires that serious minds consider seriously their intentions in Eurasia as a whole. The fact that their target is the *disruption* of any alliance of nations capable of creating a new world financial/economic order, is critical in understanding why they are willing to unleash operations self-evidently doomed to end in chaos.

Cheney and RAND Target China

The 1992 Defense Policy Guidance issued by then-outgoing Secretary of Defense **Dick Cheney**—portions of which were leaked to the *New York Times* at the time—included the first official expression of the now-operational “pre-emptive strike” doctrine. The document defined the purpose of pre-emption as the need to preserve America’s “pre-eminent responsibility for addressing selectively those wrongs which threaten not only our interests, but those of our allies or friends, or which could seriously unsettle international relations.” The United States must, the document continued, “maintain the mechanisms for deterring potential competitors from even aspiring to a larger regional or global role.” The document identified China and Russia as the most immediate threats, but even several of America’s closest allies, such as Germany and Japan, were named as potential threats that might need to be “deterred.”

This expression of a new imperial vision for the United States, in direct contradiction to the fundamental mission defined by the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, was amplified over the following decade by a number of governmental and neo-conservative think-tank documents,



Two leaders of the “chicken-hawk” faction that launched an unnecessary, pre-emptive war against Iraq: Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence Stephen Cambone (left) and Vice President Dick Cheney (shown at the Pentagon crash site on Sept. 16, 2001). The war party’s primary aim is to prevent an alliance of Eurasian sovereign nations, and one of their primary targets is China.

leading to the *official* adoption in 2002, of the pre-emptive war policy which had been contained in the rejected 1992 Defense Policy Guidance, and its implementation in 2003 with the pre-emptive war on Iraq.

The clearest expression that China was a primary target of this policy emerged in 1999 and 2000, in a series of RAND studies under the direction of **Zalmay Khalilzad**, a neo-conservative who worked under Cheney in the Bush “41” Pentagon, and is now the Bush “43” Administration controller of the Iraqi opposition networks, which the United States is trying to foist on the Iraqi people as “democratic leaders.” Khalilzad’s leading assistant in the RAND project was **Abram N. Shulsky**. Shulsky has subsequently made his name as the key player in the recently established Office of Special Plans, set up within the Department of Defense by **Secretary Donald Rumsfeld**, who was dissatisfied with intelligence reports coming from the CIA and the DIA which didn’t conform to his utopian, preconceived notions of what needed to be done (the new intelligence unit is known in some circles as the new CIA—Chicken-hawk Intelligence Agency).

The Khalilzad/Shulsky RAND series, called “Chinese Defense Modernization and Its Implications for the United States Air Force,” started from the premise of the Cheney/Wolfowitz Defense Policy Guidance—the need to prevent the emergence of any competitors to the American hyperpower. One of Shulsky’s contributions, “Deterrence Theory and Chinese Behavior,” states: “Chinese reforms since 1978 have given rise to unprecedented economic growth; if this course of development is sustained, China will be able to turn its great potential power, derived from its huge population, large territory, and significant natural resources, into actual power. The result could be, in the very long term, the rise of

China as a rival to the U.S. as the world’s predominant power. However, long before that point is reached, if it ever is, China could become a significant rival in the East Asian region.”

The suggested policy in this RAND proposal—and the ongoing policy of its authors from their current positions within the Bush Administration—is unambiguous: end the Clinton policy of “engagement,” use sanctions against the Chinese government and state industries, surround China with military forces and client states, and assert “the need to threaten high levels of violence to deter China.”

To understand the mentality behind this search for enemies by the neo-con imperial set, it is essential to understand the worldview of the Leo Strauss epigones. While Deputy Defense Secretary **Paul Wolfowitz** is the most famous of the direct Strauss creations, having studied with **Allan Bloom**, Strauss’s foremost student. Shulsky is also a leading Straussian: He runs a website dedicated to Strauss and his academic children, and co-authored with **Gary Schmitt** a chapter in the book *Leo Strauss: The Straussians and the American Regime*, called “Leo Strauss and the World of Intelligence (By which we do not mean *Nous*).”

Strauss, in a letter to his German sponsor Carl Schmitt, the Nazi jurist who authored and promoted Hitler’s emergency codes establishing the Nazi dictatorship, characterized Schmitt’s views as follows: “Dominion can be established—that is, men can be unified—only in a unity *against* other men. Every association of men is *necessarily* a separation from other men. The *tendency* to separate (and therewith the grouping of humanity into friends and enemies) is given with human nature; it is in this sense destiny, period” (emphasis in original).

With the fall of the Soviet Union, the neo-conservatives



Britain's Prof. Bernard Lewis (left) introduced the concept of the "Clash of Civilizations," which is now being implemented as policy by the Bush Administration cabal that includes Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz (right).

saw the opportunity to build their new Empire, but believed this required the creation of a new "enemy image," in keeping with this Straussian, Satanic sense of "human nature." The modern-day Straussians found their enemies in Islam, and in the Confucian culture of China.

Clash of Civilizations

The first formulations of the new Straussian "enemy image" following the demise of the Soviet Union, came from the academics **Bernard Lewis** and **Samuel Huntington**, with the introduction of the Clash of Civilizations. Lewis, a top British Arab Bureau asset working in the United States, introduced the concept; and Huntington, the Harvard icon who has issued constantly changing interpretations of "democracy" over the past 50 years, all aimed at facilitating the transformation of America into an imperial power, turned the phrase into a popular cliché. Western civilization, Huntington argued, is faced with a population explosion in the Islamic and Confucian areas of the world, and an unavoidable conflict over control of the world's resources and polity. Only the mobilization of the white races, he argues, to defend his perverse notion of "Western civilization," can prevent the eventual domination of the inferior Islamic and Confucian cultures.

The insanity of the Clash of Civilizations doctrine has been widely acknowledged, but nonetheless the policy is actively pursued. Take, for example, **Dr. Stephen Bryen** and **Michael Ledeen**, both leading spokesmen for the neo-conservatives and overt American agents of the right-wing Israeli networks of Ariel Sharon and Benjamin Netanyahu. Both Bryen and Ledeen are board members of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, JINSA. Bryen, a former Undersecretary of Defense under President Reagan, is suspected to be one of the controllers of convicted Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard, while Ledeen is a self-described "universal fascist." The two authored an article in 1997 called "China-Related Challenges," which described the United States as "the sole

surviving superpower, the source of inspiration for a global democratic revolution that has destroyed tyrannies ranging from Spain and Portugal in the '70s, to virtually all of Latin America and then Central and Eastern Europe in the '80s, culminating in the fall of the Soviet Empire itself." Unfortunately, they argued, the United States was slow to pick up on the need for Empire—in fact, both George H.W. Bush and Clinton are to be considered "criminally irresponsible" (!) for not only failing to take advantage of American power to "protect us and our allies against the inevitable rise of new enemies, but actually facilitated, indeed even encouraged, the emergence of new military threats." They name Bush "41" and Brent Scowcroft, as well as Clinton and his Defense Secretary William Perry, among others, as guilty of the crime of allowing advanced technology to be shared with foreign powers, specifically China, and thus failing to "protect American military superiority for years to come. To understand our current plight with China, it is necessary to understand what we unilaterally dismantled under Bush and Clinton. . . . We know that China is a totalitarian regime. And we know that the stronger China becomes, the easier it will be for Peking [Beijing] to maintain its evil regime."

Ledeen and Bryen are among the neo-con spokesmen for the pre-emptive war doctrine and the war on Iraq, and both are treated as "experts" on China! Both were chosen to be members of the "Congressional U.S.-China Security Review Commission," whose report in July 2002 reflected the hysterical mentality of these two extremists and their cohorts (see below).

Clinton's Engagement with China

President William Clinton embraced an engagement policy with China which went far beyond the "opening up" orchestrated by Henry Kissinger and Zbigniew Brzezinski during the Nixon and Carter Administrations, and sustained by Bush "41." The shift was clearly enunciated by Clinton's



President Clinton's diplomatic initiatives toward China sent the neo-conservatives into a frantic counter-mobilization, which included the President's impeachment. Here he is shown with Chinese President Jiang Zemin in Beijing in 1998.

Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, during his 1994 trip to China with a delegation of American industrial leaders: "We regard China as a commercial ally and a partner—that China's long history is deserving of respect; and China has responded." Most importantly, Brown said that Clinton had "junked a 12-year tradition of laissez-faire government." This Administration was not simply looking for a "level playing field," Brown said, meaning free-trade agreements aimed at consumer goods and financial services, but at major industrial and technological cooperation between the United States and China. "In this mission, we focus on infrastructure . . . , telecommunications, transportation, and power generation."

This concept moved forward dramatically over the following two years through the intervention of the movement of Lyndon LaRouche. In May 1996, Helga Zepp-LaRouche led a delegation from the Schiller Institute to the "International Symposium on Economic Development of the Regions Along the New Eurasian Continental Bridge" in Beijing. The adoption by China of a Eurasian development perspective, and the direct role of Lyndon and Helga LaRouche in that process, was viewed with alarm by the geopolitical practitioners of the New American Century.

Their fears were further aggravated in September 1996, when a delegation from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), the foremost institutional expression of the Franklin Roosevelt tradition of state-sponsored infrastructure projects

as the basis for national development, attended another conference in Beijing on "Economic Opportunities Through Water and Energy." The U.S. delegation, headed by Clinton's Ambassador to China, Tennessee's former Senator James Sasser, and TVA Chairman Craven Crowell, concluded agreements with China for the TVA to contribute to major water development projects on several Chinese waterways.

The following month, Dr. Song Jian, director of China's State Science and Technology Commission, visited the United States, signing protocols with U.S. agencies covering transportation, environmental technologies, high-energy physics, nuclear energy, and fusion energy research. He visited NASA's Johnson Space Center and the Center for Superconductivity at the University of Houston. He specifically offered the United States a major share in China's expanding nuclear power industry.

The potential for the United States and China to redirect the "globalization" process, for themselves and perhaps internationally, away from the speculative "new economy" bubble, toward the mutually beneficial exchange of heavy industry and infrastructural technology, was on a rapidly accelerating trajectory.

But this was not to be. A campaign of "China-bashing" had been launched in the Spring of 1996, led by the British, with cheerleading from the Anglophile American neo-cons. **Margaret Thatcher** traveled to the United States to speak at Fulton, Missouri, on the 50th anniversary of Winston Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech there, which had launched the Cold War. In a speech that sounded like many heard in America today, Thatcher sounded the Clash of Civilizations theme, but identified the threat as being terrorism from "rogue states, like Syria, Iraq, and Libya," and the "proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them" from "other powers like China and North Korea." She said that we could no longer "place our trust in international institutions to safeguard our future," and proposed that America and its allies "deal with the problem directly by pre-emptive military means."

As Thatcher's call for World War IV (as **James Woolsey** has recently called it) against the Islamic and Confucian world, was promoted by such neo-conservative institutes as Frank Gaffney's Center for Security Policy, former Congressman **Newt Gingrich** and Senator **John McCain** launched their own assault on Clinton's China policy, which soon became "China-gate." McCain demanded the appointment of a Special Prosecutor to investigate allegations that China had attempted to influence the U.S. elections through illegal contributions to the Clinton campaign. A series of popular books by *Time* reporters and other pseudo-experts, naming China as the next enemy to be confronted by the American "lone superpower," influenced popular opinion against China and against President Clinton. New neo-conservative think-tanks and journals popped up like weeds, all funded and staffed by a close-knit circle of Straussians (see below), all peddling the same "new American empire" theme, with the Islamic and

Confucian world on their enemies list.

Harvard China specialist Ezra Vogel told *EIR* at the time, “The President, Bill Perry, and Ron Brown had a vision of a much wider friendship with China. But there are a lot of people who would like to sandbag the President’s China policy.”

Target: Eurasian Land-Bridge

Clinton persevered, welcoming Chinese President Jiang Zemin in a highly successful visit in October 1997, and visiting China himself in July 1998, where he addressed the Chinese people on a live television broadcast. But China-gate was soon joined by the Monica Lewinsky/impeachment operation, which successfully sidelined the President from carrying out his intended policies.

However, the international efforts to foster Eurasian unity and development continued to progress. In September 1998, then-Russian Premier Yevgeny Primakov, while visiting India, proposed that the three dominant nations of Eurasia—Russia, China and India—ally themselves as a “strategic triangle” for the joint mission of developing the Eurasian continent. The idea paralleled LaRouche’s standing proposal for a “New Silk Road” of high-speed rail development corridors connecting the Atlantic to the Pacific, as the core of a joint economic development program for the Eurasian landmass.

This was the time of the so-called Asian Crisis of 1997-98, when the hedge-fund speculators raided the Asian currencies and thrust the last remaining area of real growth in the world into economic free fall. In the same month as Primakov’s call for the strategic triangle, Malaysia’s Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad struck a blow at the aura of invincibility of the Western financial institutions by rejecting an International Monetary Fund (IMF) “bail-out,” and the attached IMF conditionalities of austerity and free-trade concessions. He chose instead to impose strict currency and exchange controls on the Malaysian ringgit, thereby ending the power of the speculators and providing a demonstration to the world that sovereign nations need not submit to supranational economic tyranny.

The Asian Crisis was actually a global crisis, the first stage in the collapse of the great globalization bubble of the 1990s. It was soon followed by the collapse of the speculative bubble in Russia, and the near-systemic collapse of the world financial system when the hedge fund Long Term Capital Management (LTCM) went bottoms up. Primakov’s proposal for Eurasian unity set off alarm bells in the utopian citadels of power. Disruption of these proposed corridors of physical-economic development, connecting Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and



Lyndon and Helga LaRouche played a crucial role in China’s adoption of a Eurasian development perspective. Here, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, during her May 1996 visit to Beijing, speaks to a university audience. She also addressed the “International Symposium on Economic Development of the Regions Along the New Eurasian Continental Bridge.”

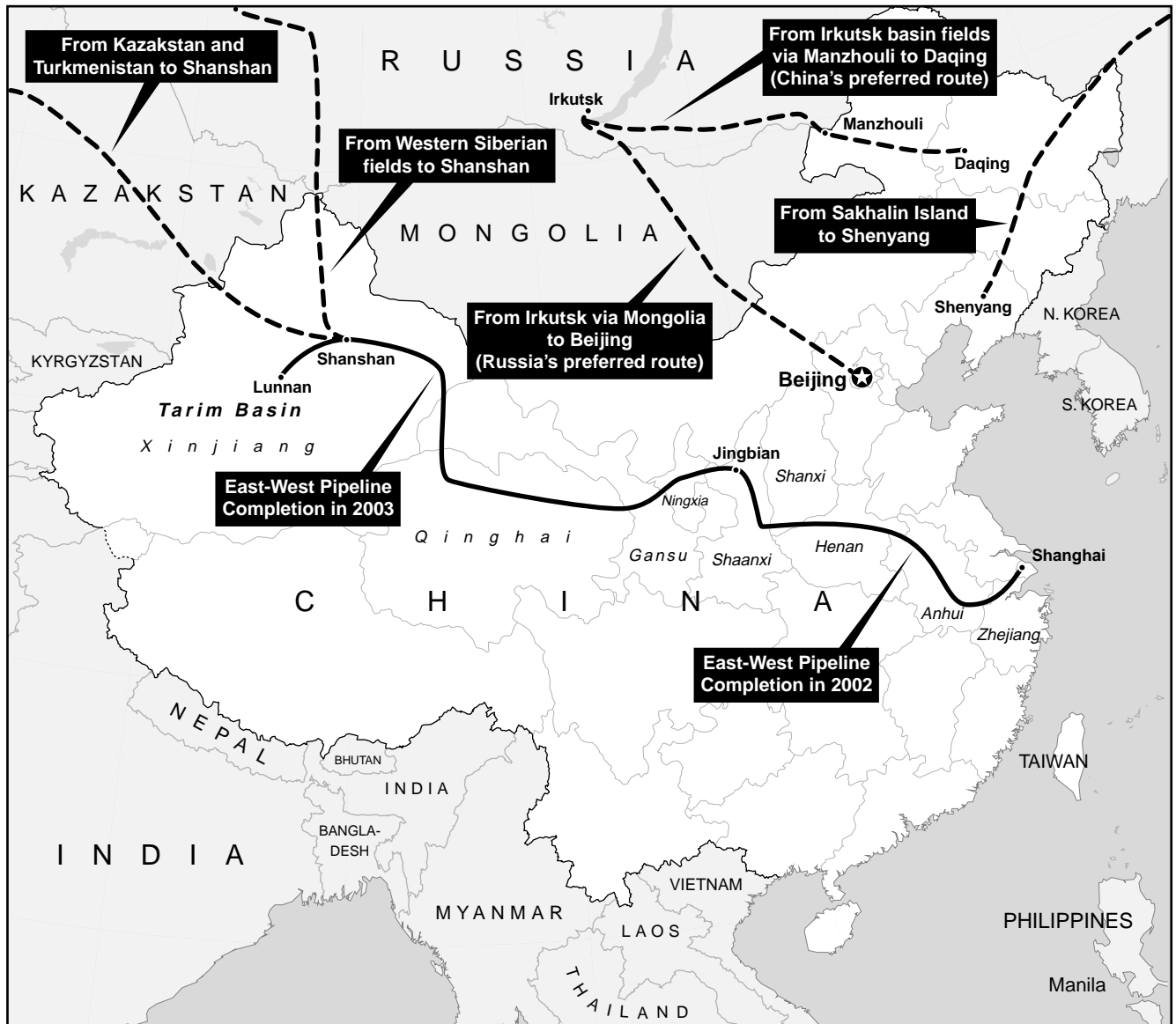
Africa, is the central target of the underlying oligarchical pseudo-science of “geopolitics.” As we have seen over the past five years, its core tactic is the disruption, through warfare when necessary, of the pivot points of Eurasian development—the Balkans, the Middle East, and Central Asia.

At the Heritage Foundation, Russian and Central Asia specialist **Ariel Cohen** went to work on Primakov’s new threat to the myth of the “only superpower.” In an April 13, 2001 paper for Heritage, Cohen told Putin’s Russia that it had better make up its mind: “Does it want to belong to the Euro-Atlantic world and to the democratic West, or does it want to build an anti-American ‘Eurasia?’” Cohen clearly identified the enemy: “Russia’s attempt to build an anti-American coalition to include China, India, Iran, Iraq, and other rogue states, started during the tenure of Yevgeny Primakov, [who] coated his anti-American policy in ‘multi-polar world’ rhetoric.” Thus, the notion that there could potentially exist anything other than a “uni-polar” world, dominated by “the world’s only superpower,” is a notion that defines an enemy of the United States, in Cohen’s imperialist-minded worldview.

Putin’s foreign policy, wrote Cohen, “is mostly a continuation of the Primakov doctrine.” When the Russians and the Chinese signed a Treaty for Good Neighborliness in July 2001, Cohen responded: “A major geopolitical shift may be taking place in the Eurasian balance of power.” He identified the danger as precisely the development of the vastly underdeveloped Eurasian landmass, the “Great Eurasian Land-Bridge” concept promoted by LaRouche since the early 1990s, and adopted as policy by China and Russia. “Russia and China could cooperate,” warned Cohen, “in developing a network of railroads and pipelines in Central Asia, building

FIGURE 1

China's West-East Pipeline Project, and Planned Links Into Russia



John Sigerson / EIRNS 2001

The emergence of a strategic triangle of cooperation among Russia, India, and China—including such infrastructure development projects as those shown here, has been continuously under fire by the neo-conservatives, who falsely describe it as an “anti-American” policy.

a pan-Asian transportation corridor (the Silk Road) from the Far East to Europe and the Middle East.”

The Israel-educated Cohen is intimately familiar with the U.S./British/Israeli recruitment of Islamic militants from around the world, throughout the 1980s, for training and service as *mujahideen* to fight the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. He pointed out that the best way to disrupt the emerging collaboration of the Eurasian nations is to play this Islamic radical card, to justify the introduction of U.S. forces into Central Asia. Cohen noted that the Shanghai Cooperation

Organization (SCO), formed by Russia, China, and four Central Asian republics, was primarily created to deal with the spreading terrorist threat left over from the anti-Russian *mujahideen*. “What remains to be seen is how effective the two countries will be against the Taliban, the Islamic Front of Uzbekistan, and the organization of Osama bin Laden.”

Note that this was two months *before* the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington—a crucial example of how the “Reichstag Fire” of 9/11 served to facilitate the implementation of long-existing neo-conservative policies.



U.S. Special Envoy for Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad. In 1999-2000, he directed a series of RAND Corp. studies on "Chinese Defense Modernization and Its Implications for the United States Air Force."

For example: Cohen's proposed solution to the problem was for the United States to "offer to help Russia and China counter the efforts of radical Islamic groups in Central Asia, including the Taliban and the Osama bin Laden organization. . . . Beyond such efforts, it should ask to join the SCO as an observer, to examine how sincere China and Russia are about cooperation in dealing with Islamic fundamentalism."

RAND released a study with similar results in 2001, authored by the same team of Khalilzad and Shulsky, among others, called "The United States and Asia: Toward a New U.S. Strategy and Force Posture." The study identified the unity of the Eurasian Land-Bridge nations as the primary strategic challenge to the United States. The study demands that America "prevent the rise of a regional hegemon" in order to "ensure its global pre-eminence." This requires the application of a "balance of power strategy" aimed at "China, India, and a currently weakened Russia—that are not now part of the U.S. alliance structure. The objective of this strategy must be to deter any of these states from threatening regional security or dominating each other, while simultaneously preventing any combination of these states from 'bandwagoning' to undercut critical U.S. strategic interests in Asia."

Cheney's China-Bashers

Vice President Dick Cheney, whose immediate response to the 9/11 attack was to call for the adoption of his long-standing pre-emptive war doctrine against Iraq and others, has an office which is top-heavy with notorious China-bashers from the neo-conservative stable. The Heritage Foundation is represented by former staffer **Stephen J. Yates**, who earned his appointment through dozens of papers and seminars during the Clinton years, denouncing Clinton's engagement policy with China, and warning of the dire threat to civilization brought about by such "coddling of communist dictators." Yates compiled his thoughts into a policy proposal for the

newly elected Bush Administration in 2001, called "Restoring Perspective and Priorities in U.S. Relations with China." "The Clinton Administration's greatest mistakes," he wrote, "were emphasizing economic over security interests, and focusing too much attention on China at the expense of significant regional allies." He argued that such "vacuous slogans" as "One China," "engagement," and "constructive strategic partnership" only served to draw the United States "dangerously close to Beijing's own view of China as the focus of power in Asia."

Since no sane observer could truthfully deny that China is now, and will be increasingly in the future, the "focus of power in Asia," the only worldview which permits of such a perspective as that of Yates, is one which is intent on undermining China's political and economic existence.

Cheney's Chief of Staff, **Lewis "Scooter" Libby**, was one of the primary authors, with Paul Wolfowitz and **Eric Edelman** (also in Cheney's office today), of the original Cheney proposal for pre-emptive war. Libby also served as the lawyer for fugitive gangster **Marc Rich**, the conduit for organized-crime money from the Russian and Israeli mafias into both the Democratic and Republican parties, still today.

Not least of Libby's services, was as legal advisor to the House Select Committee on U.S. National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People's Republic of China—called the Cox Committee—set up in 1998 under the chairmanship of California Republican Rep. Christopher Cox, Chairman of the House Policy Committee. The Cox Committee served as a witch-hunt against the Clinton Administration's engagement policy with China. It was set up at the instigation of the deranged Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (an old friend of both Cheney and Rumsfeld, now on the Defense Policy Board, who recently made a McCarthyite assault on Secretary of State Powell and his department). The Cox Committee was mandated to investigate alleged illegal technology transfers to China, and Chinese government covert financing of Democrats in the 1996 election. Libby served on the Cox Committee under Staff Director C. Dean McGrath, who now serves as Libby's assistant in Cheney's office.

The Cox Committee's investigation had hit a brick wall on all counts, until a "walk-in" to the CIA supposedly provided the committee with evidence of Chinese theft of computer designs of U.S. nuclear warheads from a U.S. nuclear laboratory. The original charges, of illegal campaign contributions and the illegal transfer to China of restricted technologies, were essentially dropped, while "stolen nuclear secrets" became the new target. Not a single member of the Cox Committee had any scientific background, nor did the committee call any of the expert scientific witnesses who were ready to demonstrate that the "secrets" supposedly stolen by the Chinese were readily available on the Internet. Former Los Alamos National Laboratory Director Dr. Harold Agnew, and several other former directors of national laboratories, endorsed the sentiments of leading Chinese scientists who

ridiculed the report, such as nuclear scientist Dr. Wang Fei, who called the report an “intentional insult designed to show contempt for Chinese scientists.” This did not restrain Cheney staffers McGrath and Libby from approving the final, fraudulent report, asserting Chinese criminal behavior on multiple counts. It is of note that a leading promoter of the Cox Committee’s “stolen scientific secrets” hoax was Washington Democrat Rep. Norm Dicks, a close collaborator and supporter of Al Gore within the Democratic Party.

The Cox Committee Report was coupled with that of another special Congressional Commission, headed by none other than Donald Rumsfeld, to appraise the ballistic missile threat to the United States. In a report released in July 1998, the Rumsfeld Commission warned of imminent danger of ballistic missile attacks from North Korea, China, Iran, Iraq, and Pakistan, and branded Russia a “proliferator.”

Demonstrating that Rumsfeld is not a newcomer to rejecting the professional judgment of the uniformed military on military matters, or the traditional intelligence community’s judgment on intelligence matters, the Rumsfeld Commission reported that under the existing military and intelligence estimates, “the threat is broader, more mature, and evolving more rapidly than has been reported in the estimates and reports by the Intelligence Community,” and that “the U.S. might well have little or no warning before operational deployment.” The primary intent of the Rumsfeld crew was to create a justification for the development of a missile defense program. This was not to be a competent program based on new physical principles and cooperation among sovereign nations, such as designed by Lyndon LaRouche and adopted by President Reagan in 1983 as the initial concept of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), but the ineffective, off-the-shelf boondoggle of “anti-missile missiles.”

The missile defense plan was part of the “Revolution in Military Affairs” (RMA) peddled by Rumsfeld and his cohort **Andrew Marshall** at the Office of Net Assessment (ONA) within the Department of Defense. The RMA policy, whose incompetence has been proven in the ongoing Iraq fiasco, promotes warfare from the air, with special forces and “high-tech” gadgetry supposedly eliminating the need for more than token troop deployments.

The Rumsfeld Commission’s manufactured evidence so angered the uniformed military that the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Henry Shelton submitted a rebuttal to the U.S. Senate. To Sen. James Inhofe, General Shelton wrote: “While the Chiefs and I, along with the Intelligence Community, agree with many of the Commission findings, we have some different perspectives on likely developmental timelines and associated warning lines. . . . We remain confident that the Intelligence Community can provide the necessary warning of the indigenous development and deployment by a rogue state of an ICBM threat to the United States.” Shelton specifically refuted the claim that North Korea could quickly develop an ICBM which the Intelligence Community could not detect.

Andrew Marshall’s primary theoretician at the ONA, **Andrew F. Krepinevich**, claimed that the Rumsfeld Commission conclusions show that existing missile defense plans were inadequate, “and perhaps even dangerous.” To Krepinevich and Marshall, “transformation” in an age of budget shortfalls required scrapping “outmoded” policies and technologies, such as modernization of armor and large troop concentrations, in favor of *wunderwaffen*.

Krepinevich also claimed that the Rumsfeld Report conclusions “have great credibility, given their unanimity and the Commission’s balanced and diverse composition.” In fact, the commission was a who’s who of the utopian chickenhawks, with a smattering of former Air Force officers who were partisans of the RMA. These included the leading Straussians in the utopian circle: Paul Wolfowitz; **Steven Cambone**, now Rumsfeld’s Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence, created by Rumsfeld to grab control of 80% of the intelligence community’s assets from Director of Central Intelligence George Tenet; James Woolsey, the would-be intelligence czar of the new American Empire; and **Bernard Victory**, a proponent of nuclear war from within the National Institute for Public Policy (NIPP, see below).

Andrew Marshall’s ‘Revolution’

The Revolution in Military Affairs, also known as “military transformation,” was launched after the first Gulf War, but had been a project of Andrew Marshall’s for several decades. Marshall started out as a nuclear planner at the Air Force-linked RAND Corporation, but has been at the Defense Department since 1973, where the ONA was essentially created for him, and has been his personal fiefdom ever since. He turned his attention to China after the fall of the Soviet Union, arranging for the translation of Chinese military publications during the 1990s, and creating a special project group in 1999 to prepare a report called “Asia 2025,” focussed on China. The “accidental” bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade during the U.S. air assault in May 1999, and the angry response of the Chinese population, provided the environment for Marshall’s new “yellow peril.”

The final “Asia 2025” report asserted that China must be dealt with as an enemy, whether or not it continued its current rapid pace of development. If it did continue developing, it “will be constantly challenging the status quo in Asia”; while if it falls back economically, “an unstable and relatively weak China could be dangerous because its leaders might try to bolster their power with foreign military adventurism.”

This is the same Andrew Marshall whom Rumsfeld called on in the first weeks of the Bush “43” Administration to conduct a full-scale review of the entire military process. This huge task was to be carried out in six weeks, obviously not allowing for any actual investigation, but only for Marshall to write up his already well-known fantasies for implementation.

Rumsfeld also slapped an effective ban on U.S./China military-to-military relations, by insisting on his own case-

by-case personal approval (none were approved before 9/11). Similarly, in the case of North Korea, the Marshall/Rumsfeld Pentagon successfully undermined the effort by Secretary of State Colin Powell to proceed with the uneven but promising U.S.-North Korea relationship set in motion during the Clinton Administration, which had allowed for the historic “Sunshine Policy” of South Korean President Kim Dae-jung. Kim’s Sunshine Policy aimed at reuniting North and South Korea in the context of Eurasian cooperation in building the “Iron Silk Road” from Pusan to Rotterdam. Bush eventually rejected Powell’s approach in favor of Rumsfeld’s confrontation, the “axis of evil,” leading to the potentially disastrous situation today.

9/11

The campaign to target China was shifted after 9/11, which provided the opportunity to activate the Ariel Cohen plan to use the war on terrorism to facilitate “cooperation” with China and Russia in the introduction of U.S. military forces across Central Asia. American promises that army and air bases in the region would be strictly temporary have, of course, proven false.

But despite initial U.S.-China cooperation in the war on terrorism, the targeting of China never dissipated, though it fell off the front pages. In July 2002, the chicken-hawks in the Pentagon and Congress released a double-barreled shot across the bow of the Middle Kingdom, in the form of the Pentagon’s *Annual Report on the Military Power of the People’s Republic of China*, and the *Report to the Congress of the U.S.-China Security Review Commission*. Neither report was intended to be a factual appraisal or a serious strategic study of U.S.-China military relations, but only to further the ideological fixations of the new imperial faction in the United States. The Pentagon report, signed by Deputy Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, was unambiguous in identifying the actual target of U.S. strategic planning to be China’s dedication to development. The Chinese promotion of “principled themes” such as national economic development and peaceful co-existence, the report states, “should not obscure the ambitious nature of China’s national development program and the nature of China’s approach to the use of force, which is contingent, rather than inherently passive or defensive, as Chinese commentators often vigorously assert. In particular, Beijing probably calculates that ambiguity in international discourse helps to buy China time in developing its national power.”

As to the Congressional study, the conclusions were best summarized by the one dissenting opinion on the commission, that of William A. Reinsch, the former Undersecretary of Commerce in the Clinton Administration, who wrote that the report “fails to present a fair and objective analysis of the U.S.-China security relationship . . . , adds to the level of paranoia about China in this country, and contains recommendations that could make that paranoia a self-fulfilling prophecy.” He particularly ridiculed the report’s effort to blame the decay of the U.S. economy on China, and adds: “It is ironic that the

Report implicitly criticizes the Chinese for viewing the United States as a hegemon, at the same time it presents a view of U.S. interests in Asia that can only be described as hegemonic.”

The Congressional report is revealed as a fraud by the character of its primary Commissioners. Both Michael Ledeen and Stephen Bryen, the JINSA spokesmen who hold Clinton and George H.W. Bush “criminally irresponsible” for not preventing the economic and military development of China, served on the Commission—with universal fascist Ledeen one of the co-signers of the report. The insanity of Ledeen’s approach towards China was captured earlier in his *Wall Street Journal* op-ed of Feb. 22, 2002: “China feels betrayed and humiliated, and seeks to avenge historic wounds. China even toys with some of the more bizarre notions of the earlier fascisms, like the program to make the country self-sufficient in wheat production—the same quest for ‘autarky’ that obsessed both Hitler and Mussolini.” Ledeen and Bryen, in their capacity as “China experts” for such neo-conservative centers as the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), also called for a boycott of virtually all technology sales to China, naming computers and machine tools.

Arthur Waldren, AEI’s Director of Asian Studies, was also appointed to the Congressional Commission, despite his published description of China as an “outlaw” nation, which is “almost by definition a potential threat to her neighbors and to the U.S.” Another Commissioner, **Larry Wortzel**, Director of Asian Studies at the Heritage Foundation, had repeatedly called for cutting off trade relations with China and building up Taiwan’s military capacities, while expanding U.S. presence in the region.

Surrounding China

In addition to the existing U.S. military presence in Korea, Japan, and more recently in Central Asia, the utopian plan is to further surround China, both militarily and politically. Straussian Abram Shulsky, one of the authors of the RAND studies discussed above, and part of Rumsfeld’s private intelligence operation at the Pentagon, also authored a RAND study in 2000 called “The Role of Southeast Asia in U.S. Strategy toward China.” The report called for “expanded U.S. military cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN),” as a necessary response to the “regional perception of a ‘rising China.’ ” These military relations with ASEAN were viewed as a “hedge” against what Shulsky conjured up as China’s “use of force to defend Chinese territorial claims and continued Chinese development of power projection capabilities.”

Shulsky spelled out the necessary measures, which, in hindsight, have in fact become the active policy of the Rumsfeld Defense Department: “Regional basing and access: . . . to secure cooperation from several ASEAN countries in establishing a more robust network of access arrangements. The Philippines and Singapore are the most promising candidates for such enhanced access. Military operations and force



The 9/11 terrorist events deflected the neo-cons' campaign against China for only a short time. Less than a year later, Congressional and Pentagon reports sounded the alarm of an emerging Chinese threat. Here: The World Trade Center, and (inset) President Bush with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld at the Pentagon on Sept. 12, 2001.

structure: The U.S. Air Force should consider the merits of increasing exercises in and rotational deployments of combat aircraft to Southeast Asia. . . . U.S. arms transfers and combined exercises could promote interoperability with ASEAN forces.”

Again, the so-called “war on terrorism” following 9/11 simply facilitated the already-existing intentions of this imperial cabal. In certain circles, this is a matter of pride, as seen, for instance, in Gary Schmitt, the head of the Project for the New American Century (PNAC), and the co-author with Abram Shulsky of a chapter in the book on Leo Strauss referenced above. PNAC was established in 1997, shortly after the *Weekly Standard* in 1995—both, by a core group of dedicated Strauss acolytes, including **William Kristol**, **Robert Kagan**, and Schmitt himself, dedicated to providing outlets for Straussian “big lies” in pursuit of the American Empire.

In an article the *Weekly Standard* published on July 15, 2002, just days before the release of the China-bashing reports from the Pentagon and the Congress, Schmitt gloated that 9/11 had permitted the encirclement of China, but complained that Bush was not taking proper advantage of the opportunity. Look at Asia since 9/11, wrote Schmitt: “The U.S. now has troops and bases at China’s back door. Add to this the new military-to-military ties between the U.S. and the Philippines, and the growing cooperation between Washington and New Delhi, and Chinese strategic thinkers had to wonder whether America’s war on terrorism wasn’t just an excuse to tighten the security noose around Beijing’s neck.” Although Beijing appeared to be avoiding a serious confrontation with the United States for the moment, Schmitt wrote, “the truth is, that the U.S. can put off competition with China only so long. At the end of the day, China’s ambitions make a contest inevitable. For that reason, the U.S. should be taking advantage of China’s current preoccupation with its internal affairs to

strengthen our hand in the region.”

Wolfowitz still brags today about his earlier exploits as a member of the U.S. diplomatic corps in Asia, where he claims he played a central role in bringing down the regimes of Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines, and General Suharto in Indonesia, faithful partners of the United States at the time, who had to be eliminated to make way for the desired instability in which the new American Empire could be established.

Korea as an Opening Target

The tensions between the United States and North Korea served the neo-conservatives as a means of indirectly circumventing the Clinton engagement policy with China, and continues today as a main theater in their “surrounding China” strategy. The effort by the neo-conservative faction to provoke a confrontation over North Korea is ultimately aimed at China. The fact that the Sunshine Policy of South Korea’s Kim Dae-jung centered on the rebuilding of the rail connections between the divided nations, and thus, via China and Russia, completing the “Iron Silk Road” connection between Pusan and Rotterdam in Europe, made the Korean Peninsula a particularly critical target in the minds of the neo-conservatives.

A confrontation with North Korea developed in 1993 over the U.S. insistence on inspection rights over the North Korean nuclear energy development program, and their potential for nuclear weapons development. **Richard V. Allen**, an analyst with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) at Georgetown University, and chairman of the Heritage Foundation’s Asian Studies Center Advisory Council, proposed a set of policies for the crisis, including: “The U.S. must be ready to lead its allies. . . . Washington must not defer leadership to any other country or to the UN . . . ; seek broad economic sanctions against North

Korea . . . , and inform the American people and its allies that economic sanctions could result in greater tensions with North Korea, and that the risk of war would be increased . . . ; dispatch additional attack aircraft and ground-support helicopters to the region; do not rely on China or Russia. . . . The U.S. should make clear to China that its cooperation is expected and then establish consequences for Chinese non-compliance . . . ; interdict North Korea missile sales and transfers of technology.”

Richard Perle, the “Prince of Darkness” of the utopian set, was just as bombastic in his demand for war on North Korea, as he is today regarding Iraq. Perle complained in a May 4, 1994 op-ed in the *Wall Street Journal* that the Clinton Administration was working with the United Nations to try to solve the Korea problem peacefully, rather than letting the military handle it: “That is a task for our armed forces. But this task is, unhappily, one they cannot now carry out.” In an April 10, 2003 special program by Public Broadcasting System’s “Frontline” entitled “Kim’s Nuclear Gamble,” Perle let it all hang out. We had then, and have today, he said, a “wider range of potential responses,” including a “precision strike to destroy the facility that we are most concerned about.” He treated former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung, the author of the Sunshine Policy, with nearly equal disdain as he did the leadership in the North: “I think that Kim Dae-jung’s interests, and the interests of the South Koreans, are not at all identical to ours. They have an interest in doing everything possible to avoid military conflict.” The Sunshine Policy, Perle said, was not only a failure, but was essentially a corrupt effort by the South to stage meetings with the North for political effect in the South.

Sharing Perle’s sentiment, Sen. John McCain presented a lengthy speech on North Korea on the Senate floor on May 24, 1994. The Senator raged that Clinton was relying “too little on the prospect of punishment, giving the impression of weakness in our resolve.” As with all of the proponents of waging war on Korea, McCain had China in mind: “We should make clear to China, quietly but very forcefully . . . , that a mutually advantageous engagement between our two countries will simply not be possible absent their cooperation on the sanctions [against North Korea]. China must understand that should they decline to cooperate, we will have reached an insurmountable impasse in our own relations. We should make the same representation to Russia.” We must “resolve the North Korean nuclear crisis on our own terms by whatever means necessary.” He then reviewed the options he considered viable for bombing targets in the North.

More recently, on Jan. 13, 2003, McCain was joined by Senators Jon Kyl, Jeff Sessions, and Democrat Evan Bayh (the leader of the neo-con Democratic Leadership Council—Bayh has demanded that no Democratic candidate should criticize the Iraq War), to introduce the “North Korea Democracy Act of 2003,” with the same general war cry as McCain’s 1994 diatribe.

A war against North Korea was avoided in 1994 through an intense diplomatic effort which went “outside the box.” Former President Jimmy Carter told the April 10, 2003 “Frontline” show on Korea, that he and President Clinton’s negotiator with North Korea, Robert Gallucci (probably speaking for the President), and the U.S. commander on the ground in Korea, Gen. Gary Luck, concurred that a catastrophic—and avoidable—war was about to break out. Recognizing that the failure in diplomacy was due in great part to the role of Secretary of State Madeline Albright, Carter circumvented the State Department, obtaining President Clinton’s agreement for him to undertake a “private” visit to Pyongyang, where, with help from his friends in China, Carter essentially arranged the deal which stopped the war and facilitated the subsequent progress on the Sunshine Policy.

The 1994 “Agreed Framework” with North Korea stopped the war, but it was undermined almost from the beginning. Donald Gregg, a former CIA and National Security Council official, and Ambassador to South Korea under President Bush’s father, told “Frontline” that the blame for the ultimate failure of the agreement falls largely on the 1994 right-wing takeover of the Congress under Newt Gingrich’s “Contract for America.” Gregg reported that “Gingrich began to wave the bloody shirt immediately,” demanding that the agreement be rescinded, while McCain called it “appeasement,” and accused Gallucci of treason. In addition to U.S. stalling on building the promised nuclear power plants to replace the more dangerous facilities which North Korea shut down, Gregg said that “a number of the ancillary agreements, such as getting North Korea off the terrorism list and improving relations between the United States and North Korea—they were just dropped.”

In 2002, as the new Korea crisis emerged, Ambassador Gregg followed the successful model set by Carter, visiting North Korea twice on his own, in an attempt to stop the rush for war by the neo-conservatives who had seized control over the White House. Gregg also speak out against the insane demonization of North Korean leader Kim Jong-il (which he compared to the demonization of Ho Chi Minh during the Vietnam War), and the foolish “axis of evil” diatribe.

Nuclear Weapons

However, there is a significant difference today. First, Clinton was then President, while today the utopians are ensconced in the White House. Secondly, and more importantly, the same crew that gave us the new strategic doctrine of pre-emptive warfare, also gave us the Pentagon’s Nuclear Posture Review of 2002, allowing the pre-emptive use of nuclear weapons, even against non-nuclear powers. Clinton’s 1994 negotiator Robert Gallucci told “Frontline”: “The North Koreans would notice not only the ‘rogue’ references in the State of the Union; they’d notice the leak of the Nuclear Posture Review . . . , they’d read our national security strategy in September 2002 and find that we will deal, by pre-emptive action,

or what we would call ‘preventive war,’ with rogues moving towards weapons of mass destruction who might be a source of fissile material for terrorist groups. I think that at that point the jig is up. . . . The North Koreans were worried once again that this Administration would deal with them by regime change.”

As LaRouche has warned, the pre-emptive war on Iraq—even though Iraq had largely submitted itself to disarmament—together with the adoption of the Nuclear Posture Review, has transformed a situation in Korea which was immanently solvable, into a nearly impossible quandary, since there is absolutely no motivation for North Korea to expect anything but the same treatment if they go along with U.S. demands. LaRouche also warned that the chicken-hawks are itching to use their new license to deploy nuclear weapons, and North Korea is deemed their favorite target.

This is not speculation. The Nuclear Posture Review drew largely on a study prepared by the National Institute for Public Policy (NIPP) in January 2001, called “Rationale and Requirements for U.S. Nuclear Forces and Arms Control.” The participants in the study included many familiar neo-cons: Steven Cambone (Rumsfeld Commission, now Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence); **Fred Iklé** (leading Straussian, mentor of Wolfowitz); **Stephen Hadley** (former Defense Secretary Cheney’s personal representative, now Deputy National Security Advisor); Lt. Gen. **William Odom** (aide to Zbigniew Brzezinski, now a director at the Hudson Institute); Bernard Victory (Cox Committee and Rumsfeld Commission, now with the NIPP); and James Woolsey.

The NIPP report promotes new justifications for a “robust nuclear capability,” while calling for the accelerated development of tactical nuclear weapons (so-called “mini-nukes”) for use in the “possible deterrence and wartime roles,” such as: “Deterring weapons of mass destruction use by regional powers . . . or massive conventional aggression by an emerging global competitor. . . . Providing unique targeting capabilities (deep underground/biological weapons targets).” A bill lifting the existing ban on research into these weapons was recently passed through the Senate Armed Services Committee, but is facing strong opposition.

The fact that the NIPP criteria for the use of tactical nuclear weapons all fit the neo-cons’ paranoid descriptions of North Korea, especially when the latter is linked to China as an ally, was not accidental, and has not been kept secret. In March 2003, in response to a recently declassified study from 1967, which found that the use of nuclear weapons would have been counter-productive from a military perspective in the Vietnam War, one of the participants in the NIPP study, **Willis Stanley**, spelled out the Korea scenario. Agreeing with the 1967 findings, Stanley asks: What do the findings say about “the utility of tactical nuclear weapons in 2003 in locales other than Vietnam? Alas, they found no universal truth . . . and we must look to the unique circumstances of any

present-day case in order to make similar judgments.”

This present-day case is Korea, says Stanley. North Korea, has “vast conventional force, and (at least) chemical weapons,” and “12,000 artillery tubes and 2,300 multiple rocket launchers that are capable of raining 500,000 shells per hour on U.S. and South Korean troops.” In these circumstances, Stanley writes, nuclear weapons are hardly irrelevant: “it remains possible that an American President’s only option to avoid catastrophic loss of life might be to authorize nuclear use,” either to stop a massive conventional force from the North, or for a “prompt, certain kill of a [North Korean] weapon of mass destruction-armed ballistic missile preparing for launch against Tokyo or perhaps even Anchorage,” or to “defeat certain target types that currently are only vulnerable to nuclear attack, for example, mobile strategic targets and hard underground facilities.”

With the proven record of the Cheney-Rumsfeld team’s willingness to launch war based on fraudulent intelligence readings cooked up in the Shulsky-Cambone Straussian kitchen in the Pentagon basement, such open-ended justification for nuclear warfare cannot be dismissed merely because it is mad. Stanley concludes with an appeal to “conscience”: “In the post-Cold War world, including Korea, the barrier between tactical and strategic nuclear forces has crumbled. . . . U.S. planners can not in good conscience rule out an option that may be the lesser of two very evil choices.”

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