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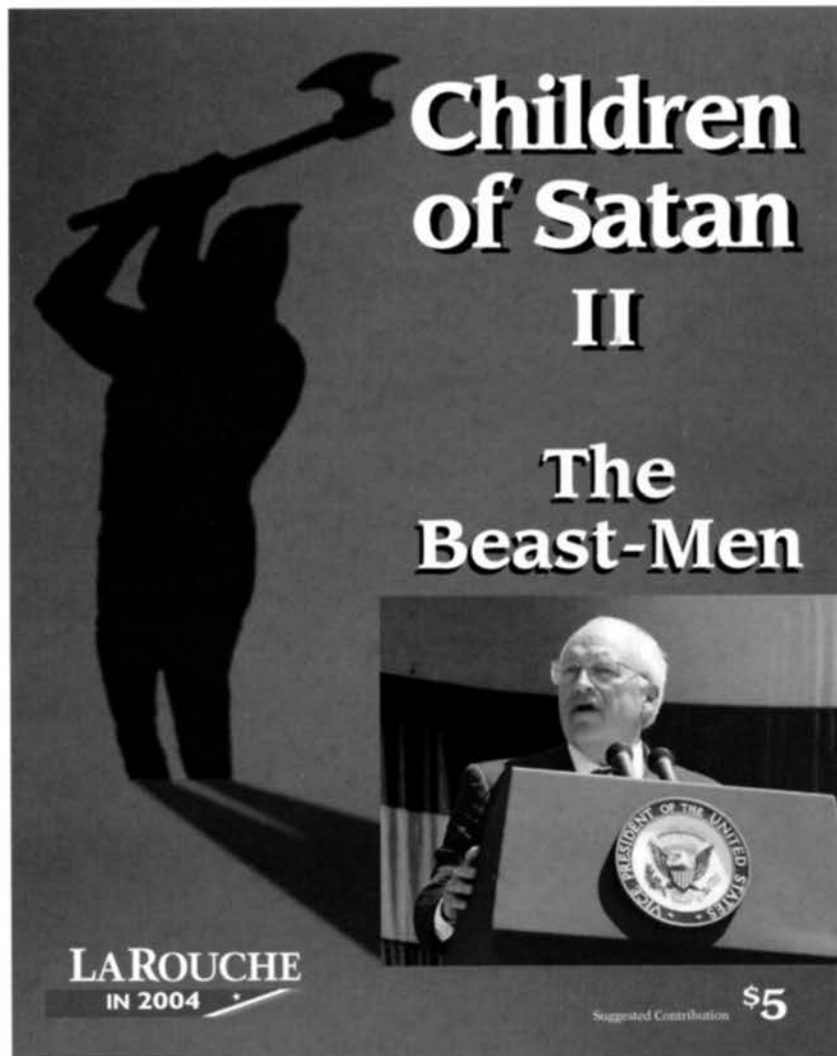
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From the Associate Editor

During Lyndon LaRouche's campaign tour to Alabama and Mississippi, he was often asked how he fits into the Presidential campaign process, as people see it on TV. "How come you're here and not in Iowa?" "Will the Democratic National Committee let you in the debates?" "What makes you think you will be included? When?" "How many delegates are you going to get?"

His answers made it clear that he is not playing the game the way "the others" are. Asked at a Jackson, Mississippi press conference, for example, about his exclusion from the candidates debates, he replied, "The question is, how long can that piece of foolishness continue? Because *if* I am continued to be excluded from the process, the Democratic Party will assuredly lose the next Presidential election. And may go down into fragmentation as a result of it. So, they have no choice. They have to bring me in, if they wish to survive." When will that happen? "I don't know. It's up to them."

What happens in the campaign road-show is essentially irrelevant, up to the point, soon, that a collapse of the dollar or something comparably dramatic hits on the financial-economic front—at which point, the American people are going to wake up from their stupor, and look around for leadership, for somebody who actually knows what to do. And LaRouche will be there.

LaRouche used his speech in Talladega, Alabama on Jan. 19, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (see *Feature*), to demonstrate for people what real leadership is, and to remind them of a time that, under King's leadership, many of them had themselves played an important role in history. That quality is needed again, he told them, because we are now in a much deeper national and global crisis.

The issues of leadership and policy requirements are addressed elsewhere in this issue: in Marsha Freeman's report debunking the myths surrounding the Apollo program; in the clash in Berlin between LaRouche representative Jonathan Tennenbaum and Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan; in the fight to oust Dick Cheney; and in our series on the candidates, "Where They Stand."

Next week, we'll have reports from the next stop on LaRouche's campaign tour (New Hampshire), and a major document by the candidate, "On the Subject of Tariffs and Trade."

Susan Welsh

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Speeches by Amelia Boynton Robinson and Lyndon LaRouche at the Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast in Talladega, Alabama. “We face the same problem, in principle, that Martin faced, and faced successfully,” LaRouche said. “And I would propose, that in the lesson of Martin Luther King, and his life, there is something we can learn today, which brings him back to life, as if he were standing here, alive, today. There’s something special about his life, his development, which should be captured today, by us, not only in addressing the problems of our nation, which are becoming terrible; but the problems of our relationship with the world as a whole.”

Photo and graphic credits: Cover, EIRNS. Page 5, (Greenspan) Bundesbildstelle/Georg Lopata. Page 5 (Hamilton), EIRNS/Philip Ulanowsky. Pages 12-13, Cooper Consulting Company/J. Craig Thorpe. Pages 17, 18, 20-21, NASA. Page 23, Courtesy of Robert McCall. Pages 25, 29, EIRNS/William Salisbury. Page 31, EIRNS/Susan Bowen. Page 35, sistani.org. Page 41 (Putin), Bundesbildstelle. Page 41 (Alexander II), www.clipart.com. Page 56, White House Photo. Pages 62, 64-69 (candidates), EIRNS/Stuart Lewis. Page 63 (Ashcroft), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Page 63 (Reichstag), Berlin/Acme.

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The Federal Reserve chairman, in a speech at Berlin’s Historical Museum, demanded radical deregulation and globalization of the world financial system, as the only way to prevent a collapse of the present, monstrously ballooning U.S. trade deficit and debt bubble. LaRouche representative Jonathan Tennenbaum was on hand to expose the idiocy of the argument of this “high priest” of the Anglo-American financial oligarchy.

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Correction: In last week’s issue, *EIR* omitted the photo and graphic credits, which we print here in full. Our apologies to the photographers and artists. Cover, pages 19, 20, 21, 26, 28 (illustration), 30, 31, 32 (Moon-mining), NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Page 13, EIRNS/Paolo Raimondi. Page 15, UNICEF photo. Pages 23, 35, 37, 39, EIRNS/Stuart Lewis. Pages 25, 26, 27, illustrations by Brenda Brown. Page 28 (EIRNS/Philip Ulanowsky). Page 28 (EIRNS/Carlos de Hoyos). Pages 29, 32 (Selenopolis), 33, illustrations by Christopher Sloan. Page 41, EIRNS/Adam Sturman. Pages 47, 71, EIRNS/Emiliano Andino. Page 54, POA Phil Ball, CPIC, Sarajevo. Page 59, detail from illustration by Gustave Doré.

On Dollar Crash: LaRouche Against Greenspan in Berlin

by Our Special Correspondent

An elite assemblage of some 300 persons—including top leaders of German and European finance, several ministers of the German government, many prominent politicians and members of the parliament, and representatives of the world financial press, gathered Jan. 13 at Berlin's Historical Museum for an anxiously-awaited address by U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan. In his speech, the “high priest” of Wall Street and the Anglo-American financial oligarchy demanded further, radical deregulation and globalization of the world financial system, as the only way to prevent a collapse of the present, monstrously ballooning U.S. trade deficit and debt bubble.

But Greenspan's proposals did not go uncontradicted, as a number of questioners in the audience poked holes in his arguments. Most prominent was Lyndon LaRouche advisor Jonathan Tennenbaum. In a substantial intervention, Dr. Tennenbaum characterized Greenspan's policies as incompetent and “totally opposite to the principles of the American System” as exemplified by Alexander Hamilton. He emphasized to the well-informed audience that the world is in the midst of “the collapse of the greatest financial bubble in modern history”, prophesizing the end of the system of independent central banking and a revival of the American System of *national banking* under the leadership of LaRouche. Greenspan was obliged to make a lengthy answer, denying the well-established fact of a gigantic real estate bubble in the United States, and defending the use of financial derivatives contracts—now estimated to amount to five or more times the total world GDP—as a means for staving off a collapse of the banking system.

Outside the event, a spirited group of LaRouche Youth Movement Organizers and contacts held an impromptu demonstration.

Financial Imperialism

Greenspan's Berlin speech was devoted to the exploding U.S. trade and current account deficits, and the menace of an uncontrolled, all-out collapse of the dollar. With his typical “delphic” psychological detachment, Sir Alan said “With the seeming willingness of foreigners to hold progressively greater amounts of cross-border claims against U.S. residents [i.e. to maintain the large net capital flow into the United States], at what point do net claims against the United States become unsustainable?” He emphasized that financing the gigantic U.S. debt would never have been possible without the growing globalization of the world financial system. The latter made it possible to divert vast amounts of capital, from domestic sectors of other nations, into the U.S. financial markets.

Thus today, he argued, the answer to a threatening collapse of the dollar, is to unleash new rounds of radical deregulation of the world economy and financial markets, eliminating all remaining traces of the former protectionist, regulated economic system of the immediate postwar period. Especially Europe, he said, must give up what he charged was “residual resistance” to the unbridled “free trade, free-market capitalism”, which he lyingly called the United States' tradition.

Implicitly referring to recent warnings by Robert Rubin and others—on the danger of an abrupt collapse of the dollar—Greenspan asked: “Can market forces incrementally defuse a worrisome buildup in a nation's current account deficit and net external debt, before a crisis more abruptly does so? The answer seems to lie with the degree of flexibility in both domestic and international markets. . . . Should globalization be allowed to proceed and thereby create an ever-more-flexible international financial system, history suggests that current imbalances will be defused with little disruption.” That



Sir Alan Greenspan in Berlin on Jan. 13, with German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder. He faced sharp questions about the dollar's huge "twin deficits," and a confrontation with LaRouche advisor Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum.



Greenspan chose as his "opponent," U.S. first Treasury Secretary and founder of American System Alexander Hamilton—and lyingly presented his virulent anti-Hamiltonianism as "traditionally American."

"flexibility," Greenspan implied, must include an unlimited, hyperinflationary expansion of financial derivatives, and the elimination of all remaining arbitrary "adjustments" of the relative parities of national currencies. "If we can manage to get a *fully flexible system*," he clarified in response to a journalist's question, "then we can resolve the problems of what is an inevitably expanding spread of deficits, and therefore accumulation of net liabilities by countries such as the United States. If however, we find we are going back to the types of rigid economies and rigid structures that have existed previously, then we risk (a crisis of confidence and dollar collapse)."

Greenspan's "full flexibility" means, in reality, a top-down global financial dictatorship by the private banking interests who control the Federal Reserve and the "independent" central banks of other countries.

Haunted by Protectionism' Ghost

While preaching "optimism" that the final victory of globalization would defuse all existing financial crises, Greenspan admitted to "one major caveat": "Some clouds of emerging protectionism have become increasingly visible on today's horizon. Over the years, protected interests have often endeavored to stop in its tracks the process of unsettling economic change. Pitted against the powerful forces of market competition, virtually all such efforts have failed. The costs of any new protectionist initiatives, in the context of wide current account imbalances, could significantly erode the flexibility of the global economy. Consequently, it is imperative that creeping protectionism be thwarted and reversed."

What is it that is giving Greenspan bad dreams? The growing influence of LaRouche's worldwide campaign for a "New Bretton Woods" reorganization of the world financial sys-

tem? The emerging French-German alliance against the Maastricht Stability Pact? The recent turn of Russia's Putin to break the power of the "oligarchs"? The motion among Europe, Russia, China, India and other Asian countries to consolidate a Eurasian economic development alliance? No doubt, all of these things! The Fed Chairman lashed out especially against the Europeans. Both the developing countries and Europe "have accepted market capitalism in large part as the most effective means for creating material affluence," he said; "(Europe) does so, however, with residual misgivings. The differences between the United States and continental Europe were captured most clearly for me in a soliloquy attributed to a prominent European leader several years ago. He asked, 'What is the market? It is the law of the jungle, the law of nature. And what is civilization? It is the struggle against nature.'

Greenspan insisted, however, that it is the law of the jungle—"unbridled competition"—that has produced what he described as a virtually infinite growth of U.S. productivity. Unfortunately, he complained, "those that still harbor a visceral distaste for highly competitive market capitalism, doubtless gained adherents with the recent uncovering of much scandalous business behavior during the boom years of the 1990s." Indeed, the apparent U.S. "economic miracle" of the 1990s has been shown to have been a total illusion, based on massive manipulation of statistics, unprecedented book-keeping fraud and a monstrous expansion of debt—for every dollar of GDP growth, overall indebtedness grew by 3 dollars!

'Can't Deny' Possible Collapse

"You mentioned globalization makes it easier to fund the U.S. deficit," asked Sir Alan's first questioner, a financial

Rubin Warns on Crash

Speaking to a Jan. 13 Brookings Institution conference on “Restoring Fiscal Sanity,” former Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin emphasized that it is now necessary to highlight nonconventional effects of huge deficits, which could trigger a crisis far beyond the expected parameters, instead of the conventional effects which most economists look for. He warned that attempts to use “quantitative models” to predict whether or not there will be a crisis, will not work.

Rubin noted that “virtually all mainstream economists” believe “there is a significant relationship between long-term deficits and interest rates.” Referring to a paper he recently presented at the American Economic Association meeting, he said it discussed “the conventional analysis of the effects of long-run deficits and then—recognizing that those conventional effects are indeed serious—went on to discuss the potential for exceeding those conventional effects.”

In his Jan. 13 speech, Rubin recapped the conventional analysis of what budget deficits produce: to cover the deficits, government must borrow a large amount of capital from the credit markets, which crowds out private sector demands for capital, causing a downturn in the economy, etc. But then, focussing on “nonconventional effects,” he added: “Beyond that, there are the effects that go beyond this conventional analysis; and in my judgment, at least, I think those effects have the potential of being far more serious, and far more severe, and should be far more troubling.”

As the crisis develops, he said there could be a sharp increase in interest rates over and above the increase projected through conventional analysis. “I think there is also a risk . . . that the international markets could lose confidence in our currency because of our long-term fiscal regime, and also because of our large current account deficits.” This can escalate, as the U.S. dollar drops, so that “the international markets will begin to demand [still] sharply higher interest rates in order to compensate for the risks—both currency risks and interest rate risks—that I’ve just mentioned.” This can lead to the risk “that they will become reluctant to engage in the rollover of the very large amounts of U.S. dollar-denominated Treasury debt now held abroad. Further, this process could begin to undermine business and consumer confidence more generally.

“Furthermore, all of these effects *could happen together*, and any one of them individually could create serious additional problems over and above the conventional analysis. *Put them all together*, and you could have a very severe set of effects” (emphasis added).

Rubin then attacked those who would rely on quantitative models to disprove crises, or to say they will not be severe. “There are various models that attempt to quantify the conventional kinds of effects. I don’t think there is any way to reasonably get at trying to quantify these nonconventional effects, and that, unfortunately, makes it much more difficult to convey them in a public domain and to create what I think would be a totally appropriate, terribly troubled public reaction—which in turn could help feed our political process. But in my judgment, there is no question that the risks are severe, and need to be taken with great seriousness.”

journalist, “but actually the reverse is also true: Globalization also makes it easier to *sell* U.S. assets. Do you see the danger of a crisis of confidence or a dollar collapse?” A second questioner raised the issue of how the claimed spectacular “upswing” of the U.S. economy fit with the continuing growth of mass unemployment. A third questioner asked Greenspan to comment on the recent publicized statements by former Treasury Secretary O’Neill, which he declined to do. The fourth questioner was the notorious Graf Otto von Lambsdorff, former German economics minister (1977-1984) and one of the most vicious “free trade” ideologues in Germany; unwittingly, von Lambsdorff contributed to raising the spectre of a “LaRouche turn” in the United States. He demanded: “You have warned rightly against creeping protectionism. Now we have an election year in the U.S.. Can we really be optimistic that new protectionism will not come up? Especially if we see the new forces worldwide—globalized forces—against the

free trade system?”

The shock, however, was delivered by LaRouche collaborator Tennenbaum, who followed Graf Lambsdorff. Introducing himself as an advisor to the U.S. Presidential candidate, Tennenbaum noted that Greenspan had entirely failed to address the crucial issue, the ongoing collapse of the entire global financial system. He pointed out that outstanding financial derivatives claims dwarf world GDP, and referenced the gigantic real estate bubble in the United States, and the implications of the behavior of leading U.S. financial institutions as revealed by the Parmalat affair. Tennenbaum challenged Greenspan to *prove* “that we are not in the midst of the collapse of the greatest financial bubble in modern history.” And he noted that the economic development of the United States, in all its periods of healthy growth, was based on Hamiltonian principles “totally opposite to those you seem to represent.”

“80% of the U.S. population do not see the great prosperity you talk about,” Tennenbaum said. Rather, the tide is rising for a new Franklin Roosevelt to come on the scene. “Lyndon LaRouche has pledged to put an end to the system of independent central banking. You, Mr. Greenspan, will be the last chairman of an independent central bank in the United States. What do you say about that?”

Tennenbaum’s remarks met with intense concentration from the audience, with applause from some, and enraged scowls from others. After a pause, Greenspan replied: “I can’t deny the possibility that the whole system might collapse. You are raising issues which, to really get at the root of them, would probably take a hour or so, so I’ll try to keep it short. It is certainly the case that credit derivatives have increased very substantially in the U.S. . . . They have been quite extraordinary in being able to take a very major potential problem in finance—and I will give you one specific example—and defuse what could have been the makings of what could have been a very major financial crisis.”

Elaborating on the method of “solving” one bankrupt bubble by creating another much larger one, Greenspan let some cats out of the bag: “I refer to the fact that between 1998 and 2000, world-wide and in all currencies, the equivalent of \$1 trillion of debt was taken out by the telecommunications industry, a significant part of which went into default. Had we had the type of financial system which we had in the earlier postwar period, with the rigidities you referred to, because banks are largely leveraged institutions, we would have had a very major collapse in banking. In the event, however, because credit derivatives moved the risks from banks who initiated the credits, to those far less leveraged institutions, which were insurance companies, reinsurance, pension funds etc. not a single major international financial institution was in trouble. These have been very major instruments for *smoothing out the system*.”

After flatly denying that there is a real estate bubble in the United States economy, the Fed Chairman concluded: “And you presume that as a consequence of all of these issues, that we are sitting on some massive financial bubble, which is going to blow up in our faces. You are not the only one who says that. . . .”

“How do we know that the total system will not collapse? Well, the answer to that question . . . is that no one has the omniscience and certainty to say, without qualification, that you are wrong. I shall merely say that the evidence that most of us who evaluate the data with respect to trying to answer that question, have overwhelmingly come to the conclusion, that that is extraordinarily unlikely to happen.”

Unfortunately for Greenspan, the questioner following Tennenbaum raised the issue of Argentina’s debt default, which is actually only the tip of the iceberg. Sir Alan replied, “I wish you had not asked that question.”

Can Argentina v. Vulture Funds Bring System Down?

by Cynthia R. Rush

It is with good reason that Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan found it distasteful to discuss Argentina, when asked about it during his Jan. 13 appearance in Berlin [see article above]. The Fed and its allies are panicked over Argentina’s current brawl with creditors holding bonds on which the country defaulted in 2001—many of them the notorious “vulture funds.” In the context of the deepening global financial crisis and dollar crash, this battle holds the potential to bring down the whole rotten International Monetary Fund system. Evidence of that panic was seen Jan. 14, when the New York Federal Reserve, the U.S. Treasury, and the New York Clearinghouse Association filed *amicus curiae* briefs on Argentina’s behalf in the court of New York Federal judge Thomas Griesa. Bondholders, who reject Argentina’s plan to restructure \$99 billion in debt with a 75% writedown, are beseeching Griesa to allow them to seize Argentine assets worldwide, including bringing injunctions allowing them to block Argentina’s payments to the IMF. The Fund is the only one of the country’s creditors to have been faithfully paid in full, to the tune of \$12.3 billion, since the December 2001 default.

There should be no “privileged” creditors, bondholders scream, demanding that Griesa make a liberal interpretation of the *pari passu* clause, according to which all creditors have equal standing. This would allow them to start embargoing any Argentine funds sent abroad—that is, to the IMF—as payment for what they say they are owed. Bondholders have already filed a series of legal suits against the Kirchner government, and are awaiting Jan. 31, the date on which Griesa may enforce execution of an October ruling by which vulture fund godfather Kenneth Dart was awarded \$724 million on an initial \$500 million investment in Argentine bonds, plus unpaid interest. Should Dart be allowed to collect, this would be the signal for a bondholder onslaught to seize Argentine government assets abroad.

But the international implications of any blocking of Argentina’s payments to an IMF which is in de facto bankruptcy itself, was more than the Fed and Treasury wanted to contemplate. In its *amicus* brief, the New York Fed warned in urgent tones that, were Argentina prevented from paying multilateral lenders, this would disrupt the banks’ payment systems, most particularly the “Fedwire” system of international payments and settlements, involving billions of dollars. “The availability of such injunctions would create uncertainty as to the fi-

nality of payments and settlements generally,” the New York Fed said, which, in turn, would “threaten the speed, efficiency, reliability, and cost of payment and settlement systems, and could seriously impact financial stability.”

There’s no missing the message there.

With the Treasury and Fed breathing down his neck, Judge Griesa opted to postpone his interpretation of the *pari passu* clause until Jan. 31, saying he needed more time to analyze the situation. He reportedly denied Argentina’s request that bondholders be stopped *pre-emptively* from blocking payments to the IMF; but told plaintiffs they must give 30 days’ notice before filing papers to stop payments under the *pari passu* clause.

Combined with President Néstor Kirchner’s very vocal attacks on the vulture funds, and on bondholder demands that the 75% writedown included in the restructuring offer be reduced to 35%, these developments aren’t likely to comfort the Fed or the Treasury.

Nor has Argentina’s relationship with the IMF improved, following the conflict provoked last December by the Fund’s deliberate delay of a three-month performance review of the loan agreement signed last September. Tensions reached a new high on Jan. 16, when IMF Deputy Managing Director Anne Krueger provocatively praised the free-market policies imposed by former President Carlos Menem in the 1990s—they gutted the economy and plunged the country into crisis—saying they had produced “significant economic progress.”

While Buenos Aires state Governor Felipe Solá said that the “ignorant” Krueger had obviously forgotten to “take her medication,” an angry Kirchner charged that “Krueger was one of the people directly responsible for Argentina’s indebtedness. . . . With these remarks, [Krueger] is trying to justify the harm these policies did to Argentina. . . . She should come and see in what condition her project left us—a scorched earth.” Kirchner vows he will not budge from the original restructuring offer. After foreign bondholders met in Rome Jan. 12 to form the Global Creditors Committee, and threatened to lobby the IMF and G-7 nations to pressure Argentina into making a better offer, Kirchner called them “disrespectful.” Those “who indebted the nation are those who say we have to pay more,” he charged Jan. 20. “We’re finished with the idea of building to pay [debt] abroad, at the expense of the hunger of the Argentine people.” Speaking from the World Economic Forum at Davos Jan. 21, Central Bank President Alfonso Prat Gay repeated that creditors “would have to accept big losses.”

There is already great worry about what will happen in March, when Argentina is scheduled to make a \$3 billion payment to the IMF. Anne Krueger now refuses to confirm the Jan. 28 date set for the IMF board to finally approve the first performance review. And should the Fund continue its provocations, the Kirchner government has made known it has the option not to pay. Whether it would take such a bold step is another question.

Book Review

Austrian Social Dems Reject Neo-Liberalism

by Alexander Hartmann

Wirtschaft für die Menschen— Alternativen zum Neo-liberalismus im Zeitalter der Globalisierung (Economy for Human Beings—Alternatives to Neo- Liberalism in the Age of Globalization)

Michael Häupl, ed.

Vienna: Löcker Verlag, 2003

Several leading figures of the Social Democratic Party of Austria (SPÖ) evidently do not wish to share the fate of Germany’s Social Democrats, who, holding fast to neo-liberal free-market austerity policies, have lost the support of about 10 million voters, if polls are to be believed. These Austrians have joined forces to settle accounts with the failed concepts of neo-liberalism, and the result is this book, edited by Vienna’s Mayor Michael Häupl. Most notable is the discussion of economist Lyndon LaRouche’s groundbreaking work in this field, and his proposals for global reform.

The book is the result of deliberations among a working group within the Vienna SPÖ, which discussed alternatives to neo-liberalism in the face of a global economic crisis. The group was initiated by Mayor Häupl, who is one of the most influential Austrian Social Democrats. He and SPÖ Chairman Alfred Gusenbauer co-authored the book’s introduction, while former German Social Democratic Party (SPD) Chairman Oskar Lafontaine, also a former Finance Minister, wrote the foreword.

The book is worthy of study not only by German Social Democrats, but by anyone who recognizes that there is a global and systemic economic crisis, as it deals with problems which have arisen elsewhere.

A Bankrupt Ideology

Dr. Andreas Höferl, who has been a years-long advisor to former Austrian Finance Minister Rudolf Edlinger, analyzes the main axioms of neo-liberalism, and states (in his own emphasis): “*Neo-liberalism is a political ideology. . . . Belief in the ‘markets’ dominates the actions of managers, politi-*

cians, mass media and many people. This market fundamentalism *has become sort of a world religion*— which is not being preached in churches, though, but in universities and colleges. And it is being defended with a fervor of religious characteristics. . . . But, the loving God has been replaced by the God of the markets, and he does not forgive his ‘debtors.’ ”

Höferl demonstrates how demands such as the privatization of state enterprises, public services, education and health facilities, and even military and social security systems, follow from the dogmas of neo-liberalism. In particular, he points to a sector of essential importance for economic policies, which has already been privatized: the monetary policy of independent central banks. It was their monetary policies that made rampant speculation possible, and created a widening gulf between poor and rich countries, and between the poor and rich within the so-called “rich” nations. Under conditions of world financial crisis, neo-liberalism fails. The big crash is looming, with incalculable social and political consequences, he writes.

“One axiom of neo-liberalism, according to which the market system tends toward a stable equilibrium, has turned out to be wrong. . . . In the industrial nations, we are experiencing the longest and deepest economic crisis ever since the 1920s and 1930s. . . .

“Thus, in economic policymaking, it no longer suffices to analyze the causes of changing economic trends. *We are experiencing the systemic failure of the current, neo-liberal economic order.* . . .

“But if people would start going to their banks, insurance firms, pension funds, to get their money, which exists on so many pieces of paper, contracts, and policies, then it will really be there: the big crisis, upon which usually follow—as history teaches—social and political upheavals.”

Neo-liberalism is dangerous, he argues, because “it *turns egotism and ruthlessness into principles of human action.* . . . It might well be more appropriate to call ‘neo-liberalism’ ‘neo-egotism’ or ‘new ruthlessness.’ ” Values like solidarity or justice in the distribution of income, liberties, and rights among all men are “maligned and represented as outmoded and especially as hostile to the economy.” Neo-liberalism alienates people from one another, and, “in its basic attitude, neo-liberalism is fascistoid, when it deals only with survival and the law of the stronger. And it is fascistoid and anti-democratic, because it wants, besides economic power, to control the state, too.”

A New Social-Economic Order

To this, Höferl counterposes a vision of a new social-economic order, in which “the value of man and of his basic rights is esteemed more highly than money.” In this new order, the state and the international community would have important tasks. The state not only protects the weak, but actively supports stable economic development. Currencies will have stable relations between them, as there will be no

speculation against currencies and national economies, and because the state intervenes to overcome economic crises. With such measures, the real economy will grow again.

Many of the demands raised by Höferl are in line with the traditional views of the Social Democracy, before it became infected with the neo-liberal virus. But here we have not just a laundry list of pious or populist wishes, but the application of the principle of the pre-eminence of the real economy. This becomes apparent in the section on “new monetary, currency and international policies.” Höferl writes:

“Money is a fundamental steering system of the economy. Monetary policy is policy (and not technocratic administration), and must therefore be subjected to democratic control. One of the biggest tasks of economic policy in the 21st Century will be, to make sure that financial assets do not grow faster than the real economy. . . .

“We also present for discussion, an *expansive monetary policy by the European Central Bank (ECB), a non-inflationary creation of money.* In times of crises and times of tight public budgets, ‘productive credit’ by the ECB should finance productive investments in the public interest. These credits should be issued at zero or low interest rates. Inflationary consequences can be ruled out, if most of that money is directed into the productive sector (industry, infrastructure), and the supply of useful goods and services grows faster than efficient demand. Similar systems have been or are being applied in the United States, in their early years and in the 1930s’ New Deal; in Germany after World War II; and currently, in China. . . .

“Because European monetary policies must aim at economic growth, employment and a just distribution of wealth, a coordination of monetary and economic policies is needed. *Therefore, the Euro Finance and Economics Ministers should be represented, jointly, in the ECB council, in their deliberations on monetary policies, and have a vote.* . . .”

But, the world’s monetary system needs changes, too. “The international financial markets need regulation, which must consider economic aims like employment, a socially just distribution of incomes, growing purchasing power, social safety, as well as development opportunities for poorer countries.”

Besides a tax on currency transactions (Tobin Tax) and a tax on currency transactions to tax havens, it is also necessary to stabilize exchange rates among the most important curren-

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ies. Instead of the formerly leading currency (the dollar), Höferl advocates the creation of a *neutral reserve currency* based on a market basket of goods of all countries. Currency revaluations or devaluations, he says, should be possible “with joint, international coordination.” For this reason, the international financial institutions must be reorganized. If necessary, “*Europe should consider leaving the IMF and creating an independent financial policy*, based on the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), which goes beyond the borders of Europe and is consistent with European interests.”

Harmony of Productive Interests

Höferl’s essay is complemented and elaborated by other high-ranking members of the party. Economist Stephan Schulmeister expands on the analysis of neo-liberalism, documenting the blindness of the neo-liberals to the fact that the instability in the financial markets is the epicenter of the world’s financial crisis.

Schulmeister points to the conflict of interest between “financial capital” and “real capital.” Entrepreneurs in the productive sector have, like their employees, an interest in stable exchange rates and commodity prices, and in low interest rates; whereas the financial sector profits from high interest rates and unstable prices. “Both of these ‘development conditions’ dampen economic growth. The profit and employment interest of labor needs a (sufficiently) high economic growth.”

Whereas entrepreneurs had pursued their interests in alliance with their employees in the first three decades after the war, beginning in the 1970s, they allied with the financial interests, and thus, they threw the switches toward today’s crisis. “It remains to be seen, if the resulting rise in the number of unemployed (to more than 5 million in Germany), will be sufficient to force recognition of the harmful character of neo-liberal therapies, for the real economy, and to undergo the pains of re-thinking. . . . At some point, the end of the dead-end road will be reached. Then, a re-thinking will begin about the necessary conditions for a new phase of prosperity.”

Claudia Schmied calls for a major conference of Social Democrats to discuss these issues. Ernst Tüchler, economist at the Austrian Trade Union Association (ÖGB), demonstrates how neo-liberalism leads to taking down the rights and living standards of labor. Further, the policy of “belt-tightening” is harmful to the economy at large. Instead, the government should invest more money into railroads and highways, for example.

The next six essays address the situation of Austria and Vienna within the world’s economy, with contributions by, among others, former Vienna State Minister for Finance and Economics Brigitte Ederer, her successor Sepp Rieder, and Members of Parliament Hans Moser and Christophe Matznetter.

More relevant for foreign observers, is the section on international economic policies. MPs Dietman Hoscher and

Ewald Nowotny (also former EIB vice president), co-author an essay on the so-called Lisbon Strategy for expansion of the European Union. They write: “One of the main problems in reaching and sustaining the listed aims, lies in the incompatibility of a strict taboo on the Maastricht criteria and a consistent pursuit of the Lisbon aims.” (The EU’s Maastricht Treaty required member states to adhere to strict neo-liberal limitations on government spending—a demand which has broken down as the economic crisis worsened.) Often, “the Lisbon Strategy subsumes merely more liberalization, meaning privatization; a one-sided view of social safety-net systems from the point of financing (combined with budgetary relevance); as well as unlimited ‘freedom of the markets.’ ” On the contrary, say the authors, public finances “must be, first of all, oriented toward employment and growth. . . . This implies, for example, that current public expenditures must be clearly separated from investment expenditures, with a significant rise in the share of public investments.”

The proposals of Franz Nauschnigg, director for international financial institutions (such as the International Monetary Fund/World Bank) at the Austrian National Bank, remain within the axioms of the current financial system—a Tobin Tax, a tax-haven tax, and a formal mechanism to reorganize state debt—and aims for reform solely within the current system.

By contrast, Jürgen Bozsoki, author of *Die blinden Flecken der Sozialdemokratie (The Blind Spots of the Social Democracy)*, goes further and demands a new global monetary system, and a reform of the ECB, as key for an economic recovery. In order to build a stable monetary system, the financial bubble “must be reduced to the level of the real economy.”

Bozsoki points to Lyndon LaRouche’s proposal to peg currency exchange rates, in the context of a New Bretton Woods conference, on a market basket of goods,¹ and explains how the creation of productive credits works. As successful examples of such a policy, Bozsoki lists Alexander Hamilton and Franklin Roosevelt. Along the same lines, in Germany, he takes up the case of economist Wilhelm Lautenbach, the head of the Friedrich List Society: “If the Lautenbach plan, a similar concept, had been implemented earlier than 1932 under the Schleicher government, the political turn toward Hitler could have been prevented.”²

Certainly, many of Germany’s Social Democrats desire a rejection of neo-liberalism by their party. But Schröder’s government lacks a coalition partner with which it could implement such a turn. Therefore, the demise of Germany’s SPD—and its economy—will continue, until it musters the courage to change the political landscape.

1. Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., “Trade Without Currency,” *EIR*, Aug. 4, 2000.

2. Cf. Hartmut Cramer, “Wilhelm Lautenbach’s Concept of Productive Credit Creation,” *EIR*, April 18, 2003.

Alaska: Gas Pipeline Or Bering Straits Crossing?

by Paul Gallagher

Reports that a new natural gas pipeline, running 1,300 miles from Alaska to the lower 48, was about to be announced—a fruit of the secretive energy task force of Vice President Cheney—circulated at a Jan. 15 conference in Juneau sponsored by the Alaska State Senate Transportation Committee. But the subject of the conference itself was the desire for new, through railroad corridors from Alaska down through Canada and back into the United States—one of the oldest infrastructure needs, and plans, in North America.

The juxtaposition of these two, quite different ideas of “economic infrastructure” was the subject of Canadian Broadcasting Company and CBS-TV interviews with rail consultants of the Alaska conference. It’s the difference between “energy profits” illusions—à la the California and national energy deregulation crisis since 2000—and infrastructure building for general economic recovery, whose finest expression is in Lyndon LaRouche’s proposals for the Eurasian Land-Bridge and a “Super TVA” recovery policy in North America. The question of a new connection to

Alaska—even if it’s Cheney’s energy-pirate friends’ plans for a new gas pipeline—actually involves the whole “world land-bridge” of transportation-centered corridors.

Veteran transportation consultant Hal B.H. Cooper, who presented a preliminary “Alaska-Canada Railroad Corridor Feasibility Study” to the Jan. 15 Juneau conference, pointed out one little-known aspect of the natural gas pipeline plan. Canadian natural gas production in Alberta rose dramatically from 1995 on, as the inflationary craze for natural-gas generation of electricity took off in North America; now Alberta production has peaked at 5 trillion cubic feet per year and is actually falling. Natural gas prices have skied up again to nearly \$9.50 per thousand cubic feet, nearing their level of the destructive 2001 price spike which shut down aluminum and other industrial facilities; average retail electricity prices have increased by .25¢ per kilowatt in one year.

An Alaska natural gas pipeline is aimed to replace dropping Canadian production in that energy-inflation geometry. Its capital cost—on the order of \$15 billion over five years—does not require the large-scale investment in new coal-fired and nuclear-powered electric plants around the United States, which would counter that inflationary pressure because of much lower fuel costs. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, in fact, is promoting an “alternative”: a big new U.S. dependence on *liquified* natural gas from the Mideast, to be brought into Gulf of Mexico ports. All this is part of the powerful inflationary forces which have been building up within the so-called “deflationary” U.S. economy during the productive economy’s collapse since July-August 2000.

Producing electricity with natural gas is a way to make quick, relatively small “emergency” additions to generating capacity in a localized electricity shortage crisis; but it makes no sense as a national energy strategy, as the spikes in heating-fuel costs and per-kilowatt-hour electricity costs have shown.

If a pipeline is to be built, a far more valuable resource to the economy to bring down through it, would be *water*, from the MacKenzie River and the overcharged Alaskan river system generally, into the arid Rocky Mountain longitudes of North America.

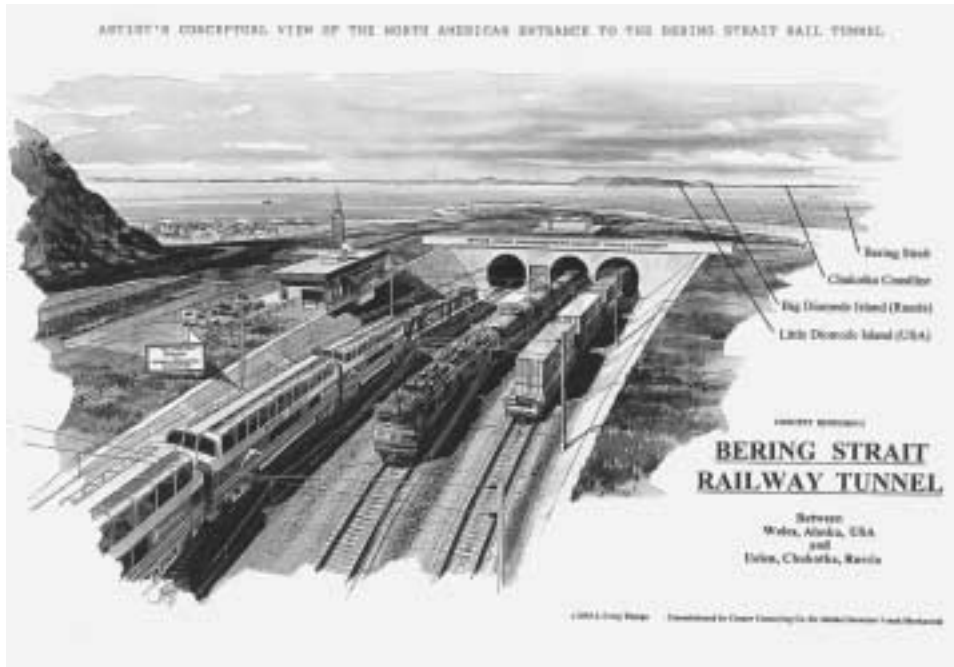
Rail Corridor Comes First

But *any* pipeline really requires a new transportation *de-*

FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2



velopment corridor. Why? The pipeline itself can't be built, Cooper notes, without finishing off the already beaten-up Alaskan Highway and American roads which connect to it. U.S. Interstate Route 5, for example, running up the American West Coast from southern California, is already disintegrating in stretches from the tens of thousands of heavy trucks that use it per day. The construction of a pipeline from British Columbia to Alaska requires carrying 100-110 million tons of materials up along its route between 2005 and its completion before 2010. That will crush the long north-south highways of western North America—even if, for example, the steel pipeline sections are made shorter than is economical for their final assembly, so that trucks can carry them.

Therefore, if we're not going to ruin existing infrastructure (Cheney energy-pirate style) while building new "infrastructure," a new railroad corridor to Alaska has to be built first, before any pipeline!

That railroad would transport trucks and their drivers, as well as the heaviest construction loads on rail cars. It would carry 40-60 million tons or so a year to serve the construction of a pipeline or pipelines while it was underway; and in a few years as pipeline construction ended, would be carrying 60-70 million tons of other freight—lumber products, energy products, food and other agricultural goods, consumer goods, and still, trucks—as well as passenger service. In the representation in **Figure 1**, a water pipeline is shown above ground along the railroad corridor; a natural gas pipeline would be buried underneath it. The railroad would require electricity, and the corridor could be planned for transmission of electric-

ity, as shown; it would run north from the northern end of the Western Interconnection, the western-most transmission section of the U.S. electricity grid.

That railroad corridor is now being planned by the Canadian Arctic Railway Company of British Columbia. But funding for the project is more than uncertain, and is planned to be private.

This idea has been seen as a necessity by those who planned or envisaged industrial and economic growth, since the first half of the 19th Century when Alaska still belonged to Russia—the first proposal was made in 1845 by the governor of the then-Territory of Colorado. But it has never been constructed. As the planning has been redone several times during the 20th Cen-

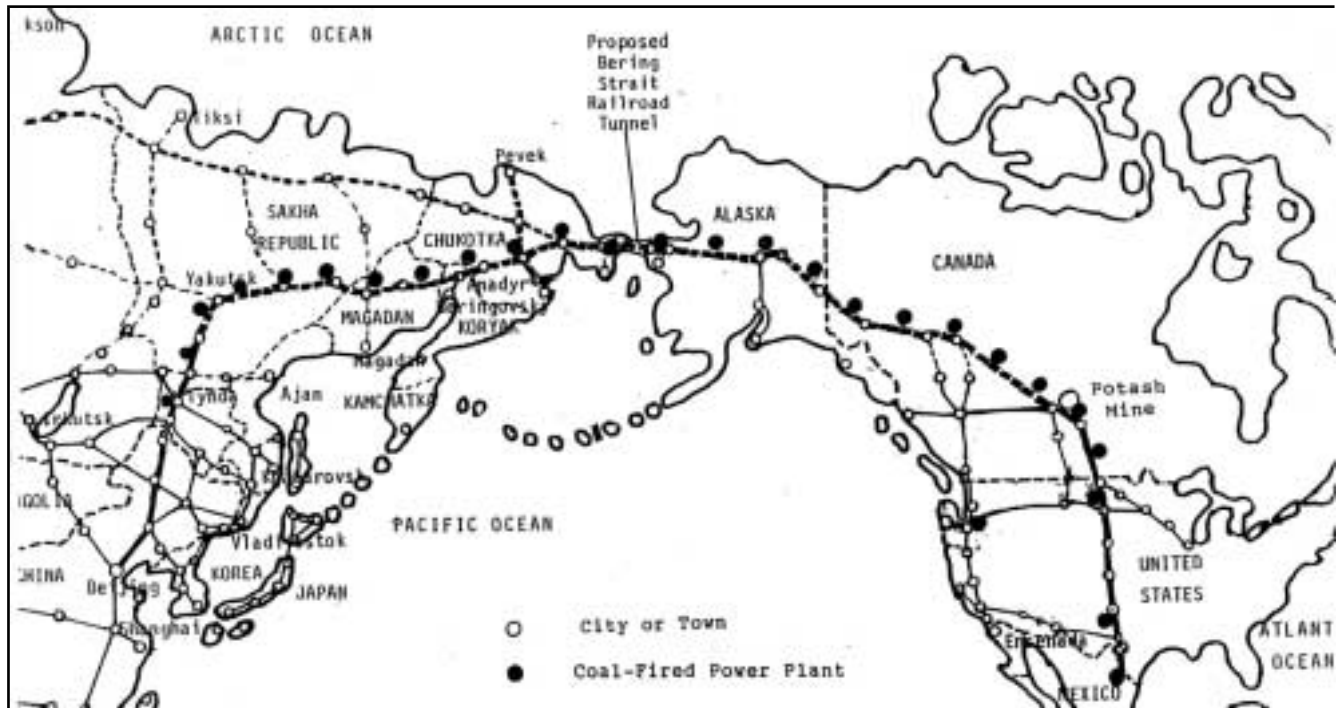
tury, it has been connected to the idea of crossing the Bering Straits into Russian and Chinese railroad corridors. In the first decade of the 20th Century, America and Russia were very close to launching construction of a U.S. West Coast-to-Siberia rail corridor, using freight ferries across the Strait. Again during World War II, President Roosevelt and Josef Stalin discussed the same thing, and Stalin attempted to revive the idea with President Truman after the war. But the rail corridor up over North America has never been built.

Bering Strait Imperative

The intensity of use of this railroad corridor, and its effect on overall economic productivity of North American and Eurasian nations, changes entirely when it crosses the Bering Strait—as is now definitely technologically feasible by tunnel (**Figure 2**), using the two islands, (Little Diomed and Big Diomed) which lie along the Strait crossing in order to break up its total length. The long-awaited Alaska-Canada railroad corridor then becomes an extension of the northern Eurasian Land-Bridge—involving the Trans-Siberian and Baikal-Amur lines, and the Chinese northern rail line construction extending to them—and part of the "world land-bridge."

For example, whereas American consultant Cooper in Juneau estimated that a railroad corridor between Alaska and Canada would reach 70 million tons of freight per year, he reported that the Siberian State Transport University has done extensive study of traffic over a Bering land-bridge. The freight traffic on the same corridor, if so extended, would then more than quadruple, to as much as 300 million tons per year

FIGURE 3
Bering Strait Tunnel Connection for Rail Corridors



among the nations of North America, Russia, China, Korea, Japan, and Europe.

This would be propelled by the savings of time in moving most kinds of freight. Take a 40-foot standard freight container being shipped from Shanghai to New York City. Entirely by sea—the cheapest means—it takes 30-35 days (by air, the cost per pound is nearly 20 times higher). By sea across the Pacific and then rail across America, takes 20-22 days; ship and truck, 20-25 days. But entirely by rail on the “world land-bridge,” the container would arrive in only 10-12 days, and cost just 3-5% more than all-sea shipping.

Moreover, in this context of world infrastructure building and connection, the transport corridor from Alaska down the West Coast of North America is then not enough. An additional corridor from Alaska becomes necessary and, in fact, more important: This corridor, as consultant Cooper has drawn it, will come southeast across Western Canada to cross into North and South Dakota, and continue as the Central North American Land-Bridge Corridor. This section of it is the long-“missing” major north-south rail corridor down the center of the United States—following the route of U.S. Highway 83—to Texas, and into Mexico.

This combination of two new rail and *development corridors*, both flowing across the Bering Strait to join the Eurasian Land-Bridge (**Figure 3**), connect North America to the “world land-bridge.”

They also make clear the complete coherence between

the Eurasian Land-Bridge idea—for which Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche is known internationally, and which is being carried out in projects by China and other countries—and his “Super-TVA” policy for the United States’ recovery from economic depression.

The North American side of this railroad corridor construction would involve tens of thousands of new productive jobs directly, and many tens of thousands more resulting from that economic activity. If double-tracked, the Alaska-to-West Coast and Midwest corridor routes would cost \$7-10 billion in construction; the much greater Bering Strait-crossing land-bridge corridor construction, by several nations, \$70-100 billion.

The American Federal states, including Alaska, have all been forced to cut their budget spending—despite more than half of them raising taxes—by the depression tax revenue drops since 2000. They—as in the cases of Alaska, Texas, California, and other states with ambitious transport corridor plans—can put no money into the the new infrastructure public works that would create new revenue and productive jobs. LaRouche’s Super TVA will target credits from the Federal Treasury—which uniquely has the power to create them—to assist states and the regulated public corporations they create to carry out such great projects. Through treaty agreements, credits will be created for international projects. His recovery program is modern economic infrastructure for the general welfare—like the Alaska/Central North America Corridor.

Business Briefs

Foreign Exchange

Malaysia Considers Breaking Dollar Link

Malaysia is considering de-linking its currency, the ringgit, from the dollar, if the decline of the U.S. currency continues, the *Malaysia Star* reported on Jan. 21. The “breaking point” could come before year’s end, said the executive director of the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research, Dr. Mohamed Ariff Abdul Kareem. This would be especially likely if the Chinese yuan were re-valued, or if the euro continued to rise against the dollar. He said the “breaking-point indicators” included the euro hitting \$1.40 or the dollar falling below 100 yen.

The ringgit has been pegged at 3.80 to the dollar since September 1998, when Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad shut down George Soros and his speculator allies by imposing currency controls. The Malaysian currency is estimated by some economists to be some 15-20% undervalued, and has been depreciating against other world currencies in tandem with the dollar.

Ariff challenged the presumption that a weak ringgit was good for the economy, since Malaysia is less dependent now on exports, and for instance, the auto industry was facing problems of rising production costs due to its high imported content. It is not clear whether Malaysia would re-peg to the dollar, or peg to a basket of currencies, as has been discussed in China. It is highly unlikely that Malaysia would allow a float.

In a related development, Prime Minister Mahathir urged Saudi Arabian officials on Jan. 19, to consider using another currency to sell oil, rather than dollars, in a speech at an economic conference in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. “The price of oil is \$33,” Mahathir said, but the U.S. dollar has declined by 40% against the euro, so you’re effectively getting \$20. So you’re being short-changed.”

He again presented his proposal that countries should tally their total annual imports and exports and then settle the difference at the end of the year in “gold dinars.” Mahathir also warned Saudi Arabia against joining the World Trade Organization: “Everybody should be careful before joining the

WTO because it is not all positive. It can be very negative if you don’t handle it properly. They try to impose their agenda without regard for some other countries.”

IMF Conditionalities

Bolivia To Announce Huge Budget Cuts

Bolivia’s government will announce a suicidal austerity program on Jan. 31, guaranteed to blow up the very precarious situation in that country. At the moment when border tensions are heating up between Bolivia and Chile, the government of Carlos Mesa is preparing to announce measures intended to reduce the current budget deficit, which is close to 9% of GDP. This involves “severe” cutbacks in government spending—eliminating some Deputy Secretary positions, merging ministries, etc. Other measures include eliminating the subsidy for liquefied gas, which will hit the population very hard. Note that this is a measure “recommended” by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in a study last year, to increase revenue.

There is talk of imposing more taxes on businesses, as well as an income tax on “large” salaries, which in Bolivia means anything above \$520 monthly. Most ominous is a proposed “pension reform,” about which there are few details available. Following the Jan. 16 meeting in Washington of the “Support Group” for Bolivia, in which multilateral lenders, the IMF, and representatives of 19 nations pledged no financial aid, Minister to the President José Galindo explained that the austerity program is the way that Bolivia is “doing its part.”

Already, labor, peasant, and other organizations are threatening to oust President Carlos Mesa, for failing to change the previous government’s policies. Juan Melendez, leader of the COB labor federation, based in El Alto, site of last October’s violence, demanded that “the landowners be punished, not the people.” Business leaders are also angry, protesting that new taxes on them are unfair.

Consumer Debt

Millions ‘At Risk’ In Britain, Spain

Millions of Britons are “at risk” due to high debt levels, warns Britain’s Financial Services Authority (FSA), in its “Financial Risk Outlook for 2004,” released on Jan. 20, according to the London *Financial Times*. The report states that a large number of British households have overestimated their ability to repay their debts, and even a one percentage point rise in interest rates could force families to cut spending or sell their homes. There is mounting evidence of financial stress, such as an increase in cash withdrawals on credit cards, and this could get much worse, once interest rates or unemployment rise. “There are signs that some households have already borrowed more than they can comfortably afford,” the authors state. “Households may begin to reach the limits of their ability to borrow relative to their income and a small change in borrowing costs or household outgoings may have a significant impact.”

On the same day, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) put out its latest “country report” on Britain, warning that the real estate bubble is about to burst, and this could lead to a “dramatic decline in private consumption.”

Meanwhile, the Spanish daily *El Mundo* on Jan. 21 cited the Bank of Spain, reporting that Spanish household debts rose for the first time in history above 500 billion euros, in the third quarter of 2003, a 14.7% rise compared to the same period the year before. As in other countries where such a phenomenon is occurring, the increase was induced by low interests rates and the rise in home prices, luring people into expanding consumer credit and mortgages.

Transportation

Debate on Maglev Continues in China

The Chinese Ministry of Railways on Jan. 16 denied a widely cited report in the *Beijing*

Times the day before, that the government had finally decided that it would not use magnetic levitation technology for the Beijing-Shanghai route. China's maglev from Shanghai to its airport is the first functioning maglev line in the world.

The *Beijing Times* was citing a Rail Ministry report on its long-term plans for railway construction, which was approved by the State Council on Jan. 7. This report does not announce which technology will be used for the Beijing-Shanghai railroad, as the paper had claimed it did.

Also on Jan. 16, China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs told a press conference that feasibility studies on the railroad have yet to be conclusive.

The *China Daily* on Jan. 19, however, notes the costs involved in building a maglev from Beijing to Shanghai, and states that "even Germany and Japan, two of the world's wealthiest countries and leaders in researching magnetic levitation, have not yet put the technology into commercial operation," and even scrapped plans to build relatively short maglev projects. *China Daily* also called for public hearings on the project, due to its enormous cost—no matter what technology is used—and national importance.

As *EIR* has reported, Germany's decision not to build a maglev—even though it was developed by the German company Transrapid—was based on phony environmentalist objections. Although maglev is expensive, as is any breakthrough transportation technology, it has enormous advantages, and would function as a science-driver for the economy.

Development

Russian Minister Has New Regional Policy

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Yakovlev, who is in charge of reform of the "natural monopolies" (raw materials enterprises), gave an interview to *Izvestia* on Jan. 15, revealing some of what his team will be submitting to the Cabinet in February: a Spatial Development Concept of Russia, with a

new government research institute attached. The institute will be staffed by experts from Russia's regions.

In 2003, he said, the development of a national transport strategy represented a step toward such a national concept. In addition to dealing with population migration within the Russian Federation, "there is a need to determine other lines, too: transportation, industry, construction of ports, and development of mineral resources. However, these issues should not be settled separately, by a regional or sector principle, but comprehensively, which a general plan for spatial development actually makes possible."

Yakovlev pushed aside the interviewer's wish to draw a parallel with Soviet Gosplan, the State Planning Commission, saying that it was simply a matter of the national interest, to overcome the "patchwork quilt principle," by which regional economic planning is currently done in Russia.

Science & Technology

Brazil's Amaral Forced Out on Nuclear Issue

Brazil's outspoken Science and Technology Minister, Roberto Amaral, resigned on Jan. 21, amid an international campaign against him. He had fiercely defended Brazil's right to develop all advanced technology, including the full nuclear fuel cycle.

In an interview published by BBC on Jan. 6, 2003, Amaral had declared that Brazil must master "all scientific knowledge," including "the technology of the atomic bomb"—not to build weapons of mass destruction, he said, but to apply nuclear technology in all areas of scientific endeavor. Nuclear energy is "strategic" for the country, he said. As Minister, he pressed for the completion of Brazil's third nuclear plant, long stalled by opposition from environmentalists.

Amaral was forced out of the government in the midst of an international campaign to shut down Brazil's program to produce commercial-scale uranium enrichment, scheduled to begin in a few months.

CALIFORNIA payroll employment contracted in 2003, the third year in a row. Between December 2000 and December 2003, non-payroll employment plunged by 310,000; which included a loss of more than 100,000 manufacturing jobs.

WAL-MART has locked employees into its stores from closing time until 6:00 a.m., the *New York Times* reported on Jan. 18. Often no one in the building has a key, and fire exits have been chained shut. One worker had to wait until 6:00 to go to the hospital, after shattering his ankle in an accident.

The store seems to have modified these practices, since it learned on Jan. 1, that the *Times* was investigating them.

GERMANY'S construction sector expects additional loss of jobs because of low corporate and public sector investments, the association of German construction sector firms said at a press conference on Jan. 20. Forty percent of its firms expect no improvement in 2004, and the association forecasts that 36,000 jobs in the sector, and the same number in supplying industrial sectors, will be axed this year.

U.S. PENSION FUNDS and university endowments are pouring money into risky hedge funds, to increase their yield on investment, *USA Today* reported on Jan. 20. Harvard University's endowment has put 12% of its assets into high-risk hedge funds, while Calpers, the nation's largest public pension fund, has allocated \$1 billion to hedge funds.

THE U.S. BUDGET deficit rose to \$128.67 billion for the first quarter of Fiscal 2004 (October-December 2003), up 18.9% from the budget gap in October-December 2002. This level corresponds to an annual deficit of more than \$500 billion. In December 2003, the Treasury Department said the U.S. government posted a \$16.15 billion budget shortfall.

Expose the Myths About The Apollo Program

President Bush has announced a program to return to the Moon and head for Mars. But unless the lessons of Kennedy's Apollo program are learned, there is little chance for success. Marsha Freeman reports.

Five days before President George Bush made his speech at NASA headquarters in Washington, proposing to open a "new age of discovery" in space exploration, the *Washington Post* printed an article stating that the President's aides wanted him to have a "Kennedy moment." That phrase referred to the proposal announced by President John F. Kennedy, before a Joint Session of Congress on May 25, 1961, in which he said, "I believe that this Nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon, and returning him safely to the Earth."

During the more than 40 years since President Kennedy made that speech, almost every analysis of why and how the decision was made to go to the Moon has been based upon fallacies of composition, a genuine misunderstanding of the purpose and goals of the Apollo program, or a willful rewriting of history, in order to prove that such an optimistic undertaking could never be repeated.

On Jan. 14, President Bush outlined an ambitious series of goals for manned space exploration, including a return to the Moon, and manned missions to Mars. Without learning the lessons of the Apollo program, which carried out the first manned landing on the Moon, there will be no possibility to meet the expectations the President has outlined.

As an efficient method for understanding the real history of the greatest peacetime mobilization of this nation's scientific, engineering, and industrial capability, it is useful to review and rebut the myths that surround the Apollo program, and examine their relevance to the space exploration initiative that has recently been proposed.

The Battle for Men's Minds

There is a misunderstanding as to why President Kennedy proposed that the United States embark on a manned lunar program to begin with. The generally accepted explanation is that he aimed to "beat" the Soviet Union in the space race, in order to show the, primarily, military might of the United States, during the Cold War. The President, after all, had campaigned accusing the previous Eisenhower Administration of allowing a "missile gap" to develop with the Soviet Union, and the same rockets that take men into space can carry nuclear weapons.

At the end of the Second World War, when the German rocket team had demonstrated the possibility of space flight, utopian think-tanks, such as the RAND Corporation, proposed that America should develop satellites and other space capabilities to carry out psychological warfare against the enemy. In a report titled, "Time Factor in the Satellite Program," in October 1946, RAND wrote: "The psychological effect of a satellite will, in less dramatic fashion, parallel that of the atomic bomb," giving "pause to any nation which contemplates aggressive war against the U.S." It was assumed that space technology, as RAND recommended, would remain under the auspices of the Army Air Forces. This study was followed up three years later with a conference to discuss "Methods for Studying the Psychological Effects of Unconventional Weapons."

President Eisenhower, and the powerful President of the Senate, Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex.), rejected this proposal, and, in 1958, established the civilian National Aeronautics and



The response to the international goodwill tour of the Apollo 11 astronauts, who are seen here in Mexico City, Sept. 23, 1969, brought to fruition President Kennedy's effort to win "the battle for men's minds." Inset: Apollo 11 astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin on the Moon; the first, not last, step in the Kennedy space initiative.

Space Administration. Unlike the Soviet program, a U.S. space program of exploration should be carried out, they believed, not in secret, but in full sight of the world.

To meet the military challenge, President Kennedy embarked on a defense build-up, including the development and deployment of intercontinental ballistic missiles. And in his May 1961 speech—which was not called to announce a new space policy, but to address “Urgent National Needs”—the President outlined the challenges before the nation, describing them as a “long and exacting test of the future of freedom.”

He spoke of the subversion of developing nations by the Communists, and, toward the end of his speech, proposed a solution: “Finally, if we are to win the battle that is going on around the world between freedom and tyranny, if we are to win *the battle for men's minds*, the dramatic achievements in space which occurred in the recent weeks should have made clear to us all, as did the *Sputnik* in 1957, the impact of this adventure on the minds of men everywhere who are attempting to make a determination of which road they should take” (emphasis added).

“Since early in my term,” the President reported, “our efforts in space have been under review. . . . Now it is time to take longer strides—time for a great new American enterprise—time for this Nation to take a clearly leading role in space achievement, which in many ways, may hold the key to our future on Earth.”

When the new President was initially considering what

the United States should do, to appeal to the minds of men in the competition between the American and Soviet forms of government, he considered various options. These included such projects as large-scale water development through the development of new desalination technologies. But he made his choice of a bold space initiative six weeks before he announced the Apollo program, after Russia's Yuri Gagarin became the first man to orbit the Earth, on April 12, 1961. The visibility, challenge, imagination, and effort entailed to place men in space, the President became convinced, would be the “great project” through which countries would turn toward cooperation with the United States, rather than the Soviet Union.

Just as Franklin Roosevelt's Tennessee Valley Authority became synonymous around the world with American system economic development, the space program would demonstrate what America could achieve. Speaking in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, in 1963, at a commemoration of the 30th anniversary of Roosevelt's signing the legislation that created the TVA, Kennedy disputed those who said that the TVA's work was done, since it had built dams and tamed the rivers in the Valley. Kennedy stressed that its importance was as a model for the rest of the world. He believed the space program could serve the same purpose.

For those who propose that the Apollo program was a military initiative to surpass Soviet might, it is difficult to explain why President Kennedy invited the Soviet Union,

multiple times, to join the United States in this endeavor. Kennedy saw space exploration as a war-avoidance policy, where two nations with opposing ideologies, while competing, could work on common goals.

A War-Avoidance Policy

In his Jan. 20, 1961 inaugural address, President Kennedy stated: “Let both sides seek to invoke the wonders of science instead of its terrors. Together let us explore the stars. . . . I invite all nations—including the Soviet Union—to join with us in developing a weather prediction program; in a new communications satellite program; and in preparation for probing the distant planets of Mars and Venus—probes which may someday unlock the deepest secrets of the Universe.”

In early February, Kennedy asked his science advisor, Jerome Wiesner, to set up a NASA-Department of State task force to recommend areas of space cooperation. On April 4, Wiesner presented the President with a Draft Proposal for U.S.-U.S.S.R. Space Cooperation. More than 20 possible areas for cooperation were listed, including a joint manned mission to the Moon.

Then, on April 12, Gagarin became the first man to orbit the Earth, putting the United States in second place. And the April 15-19 failed Bay of Pigs invasion put the President in a much weakened position, not all that different than George Bush’s failed war in Iraq. President Kennedy believed that the United States, through his Administration, had to regain a positive footing in both domestic and foreign policy. A goal that could restore America’s prestige, Vice President Lyndon Johnson recommended, was a manned mission to the Moon. Kennedy concurred.

A year later, on Feb. 21, 1962, with the Soviet Union still ahead of the United States in space, Soviet Chairman Nikita Khrushchov sent a letter to Kennedy, congratulating him on the flight of John Glenn. He also said: “If our countries pool their efforts—scientific, technical, and material—to master the universe, this would be very beneficial for the advance of science and would be joyfully acclaimed by all peoples who would like to see scientific achievements benefit man and not be used for ‘cold war’ purposes and the arms race.” Khrushchov had his own agenda, but Kennedy responded to the face value of the proposal.

On March 7, Kennedy sent a reply to Khrushchov, which proposed cooperation in operational weather satellite systems, operational tracking services, satellite communications, and space medicine research. Khrushchov coyly responded on March 20 saying, “Until an agreement in general and complete disarmament is achieved, both our countries will, nevertheless, be limited in their abilities to cooperate in the field of peaceful use of outer space.” But the door had been opened.

On March 27-28, 1962, Soviet and American scientists met in New York for the first round of discussions on cooperative research; and in July, an initial agreement was reached and joint work started.



Contrary to the popular misconception that the Apollo program was a “dead end,” President Kennedy, seen here in December 1962 inspecting the Nuclear Rocket Development Station in Nevada, accelerated the nuclear propulsion program, to enable future missions to Mars.

On Sept. 20, 1963, President Kennedy asked in a speech before the United Nations: “Why, therefore, should man’s first flight to the Moon be a matter of national competition? Why should the United States and the Soviet Union, in preparing for such expeditions, become involved in immense duplication of research, construction, and expenditure? Surely we should explore whether the scientists and astronauts of our two countries—indeed of all the world—cannot work together in the conquest of space, sending some day in this decade, to the Moon, not the representatives of a single nation, but the representatives of all our countries.”

On Nov. 12, ten days before he was assassinated, President Kennedy signed National Security Action Memorandum No. 271, giving the NASA Administrator the lead responsibility within the Executive Branch in developing substantive proposals for U.S.-Soviet cooperation.

While there certainly was pressure on the Federal budget, and opposition to the expenditures that were being made by NASA to meet the President’s Apollo directive—which some proposed could be reduced through international collaboration—Kennedy also saw joint space exploration as an amelio-

ration to the tension with the Soviet Union over Cuban missiles, the Berlin Wall, and the Cold War.

It would be a wise lesson for President Bush to learn, that visionary projects in science and technology, in which America sets an example for the rest of the world, can play a defining role in international relations, rather than clashes of civilizations and pre-emptive wars.

A Science Driver for the Economy

Some of the most inane opposition to President Bush's Jan. 14 Moon-Mars speech, has been by Democrats who simply repeat, like parrots, what they have been told for forty years—that money should not be spent “in space,” when there is so much need for resources to solve economic problems on Earth. This idea is often accompanied by the lie that the Apollo program achieved its goals because it was given a “blank check” by the Congress, and spent indecent amounts of money to accomplish little besides public relations. The nation is in such bad shape, this argument continues, that it could hardly afford the luxury today of a Moon-Mars program. “It is not worth bankrupting the country,” remarked Presidential hopeful Howard Dean in response to President Bush's proposal.

Aside from the obvious fact that NASA spends no money “in space,” but instead uses the money to create new industries, improve infrastructure, support education and scientific institutions, and develop more productive technologies on Earth, such comments turn the fundamentals of economics on their head.

President Kennedy understood what it would take to place a man on the Moon. In his inaugural address, he also stated: “I am asking the Congress and the country to accept a firm commitment to a new course of action, a course which will last for many years and carry very heavy costs of \$532 million in Fiscal 1962; an estimated \$7 billion to \$9 billion additional over the next five years. If we are to go only halfway, or reduce our sights in the face of difficulty, in my judgment it would be better not to go at all.”

To prepare the country for the vast mobilization of resources the Apollo project would require, President Kennedy also sent to Congress within his first months in office, legislation to up-grade education, health care, water management, and other infrastructure.

As Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche has stressed throughout his entire life's work in economics, it is precisely such national investments in infrastructure—such as education, health care, transportation, energy, and science—combined with the drive toward goals that challenge the existing capabilities of a society, that will uplift the population of a nation, not hand-outs that are supposed to “eliminate poverty.”

In fact, the space program does not “cost” anything; it is the best investment a nation can make. A study conducted in 1976 by Chase Econometrics estimated that for every dollar

spent in the space program, \$14 were returned to the economy in new jobs, factories, and technologies. And social improvements, such as in health and education, could not even be quantitatively included in their equation.

The Chase study also found that Federal dollars spent on research and development by NASA, with its mission orientation, were four times as effective as other R&D spending, and that the applications of technological breakthroughs were visible in the economy *within two years* of their achievement. The economic return from the Apollo program did start with the 1969 Moon landing, but virtually as soon as the program was announced.

A study done by *EIR* in 1986 revealed that during the 1950s, there was a steady decline of new orders for capital goods in industry, with a net loss of 211,000 metalworking machine tools. In 1963, there was a net addition of 124,000 such tools. During the Apollo decade of the 1960s, orders for non-defense manufacturing capital goods more than doubled, as heavy industry basically “rebuilt” itself, following its post-war stagnation.

President Kennedy recognized that to stimulate economic growth, it was necessary to provide an incentive for industry to implement the necessary policies. To do this, within 90 days of taking office, he called for an investment tax credit to spur capital formation. Unlike President Bush's self-destructive tax cut to households, supposedly to increase consumption and goose up the economy, Kennedy's economic advisors reasoned that the investment in new plant and equipment and creation of new jobs would more than pay for any loss to the Federal Treasury from the investment tax credit. And they were right.

Studies have also demonstrated that it was not simply millions of dollars of NASA contracts, but a general and pervasive *optimism* that drove physical economic growth during the Apollo years. Before Congress could even enact the laws to increase the space budget, small and large companies expanded their facilities, hired more employees, and eagerly got ready for the challenges ahead. In 1962, the editors of *Fortune* magazine described the coming era as one of “hitching the economy to the infinite.”

The technology developed to allow rockets to launch into space, and the spacecraft designed to carry, protect, and monitor human travellers, stretched the existing limits of technology. Developments in rocket technology led to improvements in every application of energy production using fossil-based fuels. Studies and development programs for nuclear power and propulsion for space travel created the next-generation, high-temperature nuclear designs, still awaiting commercial development.

Technologies such as portable electron beam welding had to be developed, because the components of the Saturn V Moon rocket were too large for conventional welding stations. New materials to withstand the heat, cold, and radiation of space have been applied to every facet of the economy.

Every person who has access to modern medical treatment has benefited from space technology, from intensive-care room monitors, diagnostic imaging devices, and artificial limbs, to heart-assist devices.

Space-based remote sensing and communications technologies created weather forecasting, and have improved agriculture, located new raw materials, warned of impending natural disasters, and increased the productivity of fishing, among dozens of other applications, including telemedicine, to bring modern medical techniques to the remotest regions of the Earth.

The Apollo program directly employed more than 400,000 people in highly skilled, well-paying industrial jobs, most of which required a dramatic upgrading in the capabilities of the workforce. Millions more were employed in feeder industries, or those spun off from the new technologies that were developed.

The most long-lasting economic impact of the Apollo program, however, was the creation of tens of thousands of scientists and engineers; not just those who worked for NASA, or in the aerospace industry, but all of the young people who saw the possibility that man was reaching for the infinite, and wanted to make a contribution.

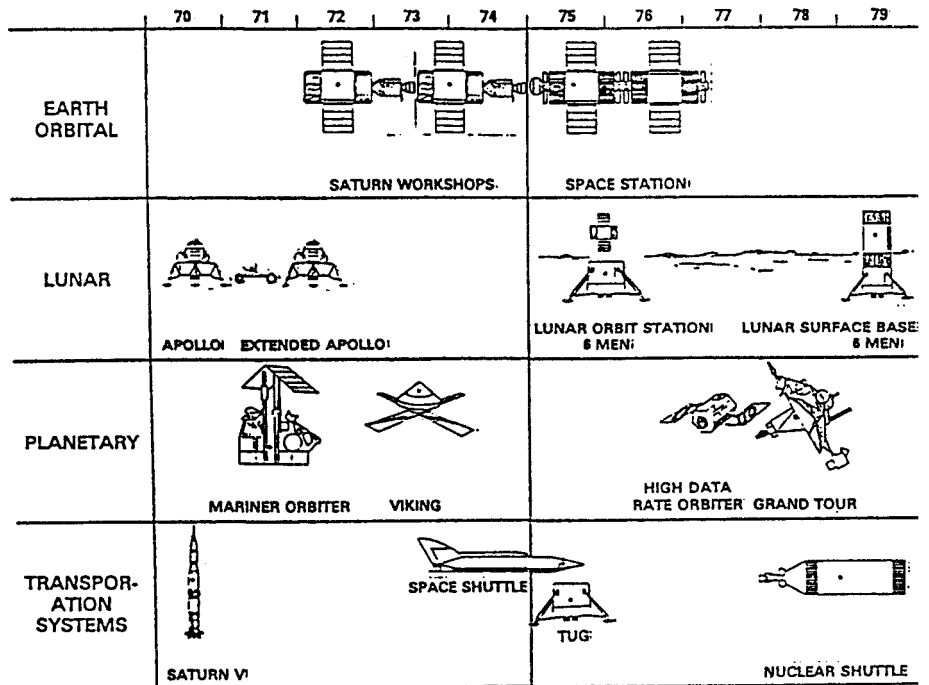
President Bush appears to believe that he could only propose a Moon-Mars program, as long as it did not cost too much money—when, in fact, a properly funded program that could meet his goals, would be the greatest legacy he could leave for the economic well-being of future generations.

Opinion Polls vs. Leadership

A persistent popular myth about the Apollo program is that President Kennedy had the mandate to announce it because there was support for it, whereas today, no one is interested in a visionary space program. A poll of over 1,000 adults carried out by Time/CNN immediately after President's Bush's Jan. 14 speech, for example, indicated that 61% of those polled were opposed to the initiative. About 9% said they would support spending "billions of dollars" on space exploration, while 40% said they would rather improve education, etc. All that these results actually show is that the majority of the American people understand economics, and education, as poorly as does the White House. President Kennedy faced a situation no different, of broad opposition.

The broad scientific community opposed the expenditure of large sums to land a man on the Moon. Dr. Philip Abelson, editor of *Science*, the magazine of the American Association

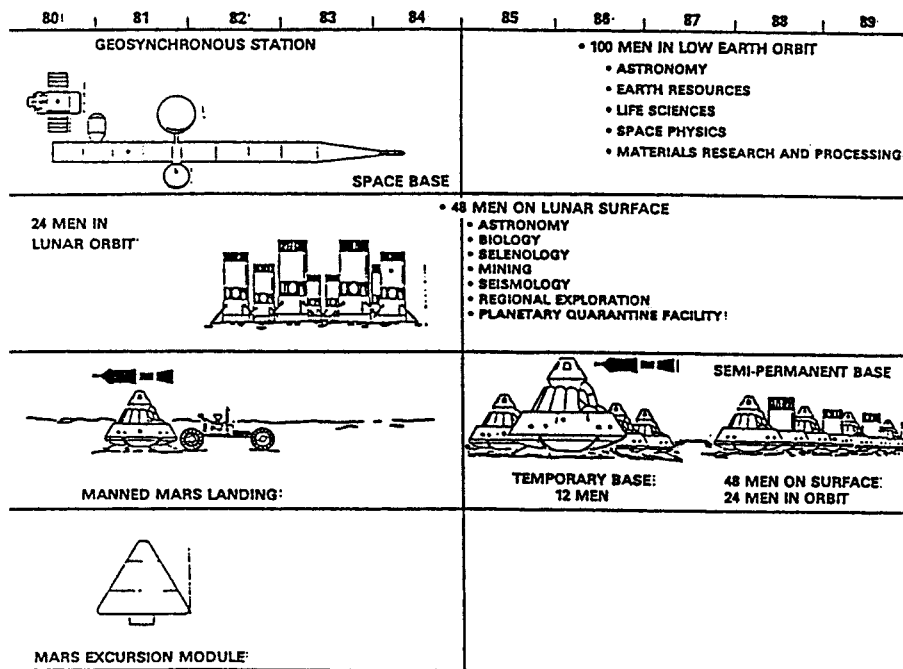
Von Braun Integrated Space Program, 1970-90



for the Advancement of Science, wrote: "NASA has sought examples of technology fallout from its program. To date, those cited have not been impressive. The problems of space are different from the earthly tax-paying economy. . . . I believe the program may delay conquests of cancer and mental illness."

Scientists feared that NASA funding would mean a diminution of support for their research. In fact, the lack of adequate scientific and engineering manpower was well recognized, and provisions for support of higher education were included in the space budgets. But that did not convince the President's own science advisor, Dr. Jerome Wiesner, who opposed the Apollo program from its inception. He continued to argue against it even when it was under way. President Kennedy's entire Science Advisory Committee believed that "such spectaculars [as manned space flight] may be drawing an undue amount of support away from a more rational science program," the *New York Times* reported before President Kennedy's speech.

When the mission to land a man on the Moon was under consideration, President Kennedy's Council of Economic Advisors, and Labor Secretary Arthur Goldberg, proposed that the President approve a substantial increase in public works programs, rather than new space spending, because they believed that would provide a better stimulus for the economy. At the time of President Kennedy's speech, polls showed that less than half of the American public supported such an effort.



and Lyndon Johnson were not about to terminate the martyred President's Moon program, they were unwilling to fund the effort to ensure, as he had outlined, a continuing program of exploration.

The opposition to the Kennedy space program, which always existed, gained the upper hand due to President Johnson's acquiescence to the escalation of the war in Vietnam, and also his "war on poverty." These "competing" programs to spending on space doomed President Kennedy's vision for the space program to an early demise. The replacement of Kennedy's optimistic economic plan by the drug-infested, anti-technology counterculture, sealed its fate.

The Long-Range Vision

It is often said that the United States has been unable to carry out any long-range plan for manned space exploration since the 1960s because the Apollo program was a "dead end"; that there was no program to follow the lunar land-

ing; that it was a "space spectacular," done for purely political reasons, an expensive flash in the pan. This view reveals an ignorance of space history, from well before the Apollo program, as well as a misrepresentation of what the President actually proposed.

Although it appeared to the public and many in public office that President Kennedy was proposing something truly "fantastic" in going to the Moon, the proposal was actually the culmination of work that scientists and space visionaries had been carrying on for decades. The first scientifically-informed visual presentation of such an adventure was unveiled in Germany in 1929 in movie theaters. The technical advisor for the film *The Woman in the Moon* or *Frau im Mond*, was scientist Hermann Oberth, whose published works had already described the physics, rocket technology, and biomedical research needed for an "Apollo" mission.

Oberth, and his young collaborators, including teenager Wernher von Braun, not only did experiments in the 1930s to try to tame the new field of rocketry, they held public lectures, debates, demonstrations, and published popular articles to organize public support. Once in the United States, after the war, von Braun, Krafft Ehricke, and others among the German space pioneers joined forces with American enthusiasts—including television producers and magazine publishers—to lay out their vision for the next 50 years of manned space exploration.

To the better informed, President Kennedy's Apollo announcement was not such a big surprise. Von Braun had au-

President Kennedy did not propose the Apollo program because it was "popular," and he consistently made clear that it would be difficult, risky, and expensive. It was a question of leadership. In his inaugural address, he stated: "I believe we possess all the resources and talents necessary. But the facts of the matter are that we have never made the national decisions or marshaled the national resources required for such leadership. We have never specified long-range goals on an urgent time schedule, or marshaled our resources and our time so as to ensure their fulfillment."

As the program moved forward, increased expenditures were required to meet the goal, and opposition from the Congress also increased. NASA never had a "blank check," from Congressional committees. The initial consensus in Congress to support Apollo, energized by the vision and forcefulness of President Kennedy's personal initiative, was short-lived.

Three months after his Apollo speech, the President's request for a \$1.5 billion NASA budget was cut by \$75 million on Capitol Hill. Space scientist Wernher von Braun warned that this would create slippage in the program's schedule, and prevent the hiring of an additional 600 people. NASA's leadership had, annually, to justify to the Congress and the budget office every cent that was spent by the space program.

President Kennedy had warned that if the nation were not willing to fund Apollo at the level that was necessary to accomplish the goal, it should not do it at all. While the President was alive, his leadership prevented the emasculation of the effort. But after his assassination, although the Congress

thored and co-authored popular and well-illustrated books with titles such as *Man on the Moon* and *Across the Space Frontier*. In 1955, the Walt Disney television show aired, “Man in Space,” with von Braun appearing, to explain the basics of rocketry and space travel.

The vision started with winged space planes to take man into Earth orbit; next came the construction of space stations in orbit where men would live and do research; and culminated with the construction and assembly at the station of interplanetary vehicles to explore the Moon and the planets. When President Kennedy announced the Apollo program, von Braun’s team had already designed the rockets that would make the plan realizable, and had outlined a multi-decade program to colonize space.

Because an important feature of the President’s plan was to demonstrate to the world that the United States could match and surpass the Soviet Union in space technology, he decided to change the order of the plan. He asked the scientists and engineers to skip a step, and devise a way to take astronauts to the Moon, without a space station as the intermediate jumping-off point. This, he reasoned, would save enough time to meet his deadline of “within a decade,” as well as push the state-of-the art in rocket and other space technology at a quicker pace.

Although this approach was not the orderly, step-by-step plan the pioneers had envisioned, they realized that they were finally going to get to the Moon. And because they had listened to or read the President’s speech, they knew that the Apollo program was just the beginning, and not a dead end.

The Moon, and Then Mars

The myth of the “Apollo dead end” has persisted for decades, for the simple reason that no long-term plan followed it. However, that was not the intention. When he announced the Apollo program, President Kennedy also said the following: “We propose additional funds for other engine developments and for unmanned explorations, explorations which are particularly important for one purpose which this nation will never overlook: the survival of the man who first makes this daring flight.

“Second, an additional \$23 million, together with \$7 million already available, to accelerate development of the Rover nuclear rocket. This gives promise of someday providing a means for even more exciting and ambitious exploration of space, perhaps beyond the Moon, perhaps to the very end of the Solar System itself” (or at least to Mars, which is what the nuclear rocket was being designed for).

The lack of a post-Apollo vision for space exploration is often blamed on President Richard Nixon, who, facing an economic crisis, would not commit to a long-range space effort. But, in fact, as soon as it looked reasonably assured that an American would be able to land on the Moon, the political momentum shifted to the doomsdayers and the naysayers in the Congress, the think-tanks, the media, and the

“popular culture.” There was no point in going into space, when there are limits to growth, technology is dangerous, and I’m “doing my own thing.”

At the same time, the NASA budget became the direct trade-off with the rising Defense Department expenditures for the escalating war in Southeast Asia. The peak year for funding for NASA was 1965. That year, layoffs started at NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center, as the development work on the Saturn V Moon rocket reached completion. While NASA had plans aplenty, there was no approved post-Apollo program. For the first time, a President supported a cut in the space agency’s budget, even though Administrator James Webb warned that the \$300 million reduction in the post-Apollo applications program would have serious consequences in the aerospace industry.

It was not NASA that lacked the vision. The space agency carried out advanced planning activities from its inception. Between 1962 and 1965, NASA spent \$70 million studying what to do following the success of the Apollo program. A report by NASA Administrator James Webb in 1965—conservative by design, since the lunar landing was still a half-decade away—proposed that there be a “systematic program” of manned flights around the Moon and Earth, using the Saturn V rockets developed for Apollo. But faced with rising defense costs, President Johnson asked Webb to postpone any post-Apollo plans.

To Webb, like the technical people who were the heart of the space agency, the lunar landing was never the only goal of the space program. At a briefing in 1965, he stressed that what NASA had developed was the “capability to fire, to launch, to get into orbit.” From there, you could go virtually anywhere.

From 1965 to the landing on the Moon in July 1969, Webb and others watched while not only post-Apollo planning, but the very infrastructure that the nation had built to land a man on the Moon, was dismantled. In 1967, Webb warned that a declining budget would leave him “no choice but to accelerate the rate at which we are carrying on the liquidation of some of the capabilities which we have built up.” He told Lyndon Johnson that there “has not been a single important new space project since you became President.”

By the Fall of 1968, James Webb—the man who had organized a space agency, almost from scratch, to be able to carry out the lunar landing—could not see any course that would stop the take-down of the nation’s space future. Three months before the first human beings would orbit the Moon, during Apollo 8, he resigned.

His chosen successor, Dr. Tom Paine, would pick up the fight for a long-term future for space exploration following the lunar landing. There was no lack of vision.

A Real Moon-Mars Program

Months before the first Apollo 11 landing, President Nixon established a Space Task Group to develop policy rec-

ommendations for the post-Apollo period. Two months after the landing, the Group presented its finding, stating that “a manned Mars mission should be accepted as a long-range goal,” and that to accomplish this, the NASA budget should be increased to \$6 billion. Instead, between 1965 and fiscal 1971, the NASA budget declined by more than 40%.

The plan which was developed by Wernher von Braun, to run from 1970-1990, centered around a 12-man space station, a reusable Earth-orbital shuttle to service it, a multi-purpose space tug for in-orbit operations, and a reusable nuclear-powered interplanetary shuttle. This infrastructure, to be built up during the 1970s, would then allow the establishment of a lunar surface base, and the first manned landings on Mars.

Faced with an economy that was unraveling due to a series of international financial crises, President Nixon and his “economic advisors” determined that no long-range plan would be adopted. In 1972, the development of a reusable Space Shuttle was approved; the rest of the vision would have to wait for better times.

The constraints on Shuttle funding throughout its development, resulted in an only partially reusable vehicle that is more expensive and less safe to operate than the original design.

In 1984, in his State of the Union speech, President Ronald Reagan initiated the development of the second piece of space infrastructure the von Braun plan had proposed—a space station. Once again, funding constraints, justified by economic theories based on false premises, doomed the project to delays and cost-overruns.

Recognizing that a long-range plan was needed, Reagan established the Presidential National Commission on Space, headed by former Administrator Tom Paine. Once again, the multi-decade von Braun program was brought forth in their 1986 report, but, once again, there would be no leadership taken to implement the program.

In 1989, during a celebration of the 30th anniversary of the first lunar landing, President George H.W. Bush, also looking for a “Kennedy moment,” stood on the steps of the National Air and Space Museum and announced the United States would go back to the Moon, this time to stay, and on to Mars. When NASA informed the President what such an effort would cost, it was abandoned.

The report of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board, released last August, stated that one of the problems in the space agency that led to the Shuttle accident, is that there has been no long-range plan, no vision. A space agency with no mission orientation, the report stated, is a space agency adrift. President George W. Bush proposed a Moon-Mars program that could fill that bill. But he has not learned the lessons of the Apollo program.

President Bush has proposed a plan that is premised on the idea that it will not cost very much money. He plans to abandon the Space Shuttle and space station infrastructure



In 1986, the National Commission on Space released its 50-year Moon-Mars mission program. There has been no lack of plans, only of the leadership to implement them.

that exists, to “save” enough money to pay for trips to the Moon and Mars. This will fail.

The only reasonable and potentially successful way to proceed, is to dust off the plans for space exploration that have been proposed, and re-proposed for the past 40 years. Such a plan would require the build-up of the infrastructure to lay the basis for planetary exploration.

Instead of trying to “sell” the program to the Congress and the American people through reassurances that it will not cost much, he should be proposing that this new thrust into space is the best hope for reversing 30 years of failed economic policy, and turning the ballooning budget and trade deficits into positive territory. Instead of fooling himself, and trying to fool the American public into believing that we are in the midst of an oxymoronic “jobless recovery,” the President should explain that each dollar NASA spends on his new space initiative, will return to the economy highly-skilled jobs, new industries, a boost to education and optimism, and new technologies.

The President should not concern himself with whether his Moon-Mars program is popular; it won’t be. He should assume there will be opposition, ready his ammunition, and prepare his forces for the fight.

On Southern Tour, LaRouche Speaks To 'The Forgotten Man'

by Nancy Spannaus

While the “other” Democratic Presidential candidates frenetically sought votes in Iowa and New Hampshire the week of Jan. 19-23, Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche accepted invitations to tour the Deep South, to address what he called “my constituency.” That constituency is comprised primarily of the impoverished people, African-American and otherwise, of the de-industrialized areas of the United States—the grouping Franklin Delano Roosevelt called the “forgotten men and women.” Unless these forgotten people, from among the lower 80% of income brackets in the country, activate themselves in a passionate fight for the future of the nation, LaRouche said, there is little hope for this election, or for the United States.

As LaRouche addressed the “forgotten men and women” of Alabama and Mississippi, the fight for the Democratic Presidential nomination blew wide open, with the dramatic upset victory in Iowa on Jan. 19 by Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry. As LaRouche had predicted, Howard Dean self-imploded, in a maniacal screeching fit, following his decisive defeat in the caucuses. As LaRouche has observed, Kerry was, among the “others,” the only candidate who might potentially be taken seriously, although his performance up to this point had been disappointing. Clearly, voters in Iowa agreed with LaRouche.

Illusions About To Go

With the withdrawal of Dick Gephardt, and the destabilization of “frontrunner” Dean, the race for the Democratic nomination is up for grabs. But whether it will successfully produce a nominee who can defeat George W. Bush, and create the conditions for the nation to survive up until Inauguration Day 2005, will depend upon how Democrats respond to LaRouche, and to the upcoming financial shocks, which will obliterate illusions about economic stability in the country, and put the necessity of a Franklin Roosevelt-style policy for the general welfare, at the forefront of the nation’s agenda.

Highlights of LaRouche’s Southern tour included an address to the historic Mount Canaan Church in Talladega, Alabama, and his keynote speech to the Martin



“My constituency”—an attentive audience listens to Lyndon LaRouche’s keynote speech at the Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast in Talladega, Alabama, Jan. 19. Asked why he was in the South when the other candidates were campaigning in Iowa, LaRouche replied that he was taking his message to “the forgotten man,” as Franklin D. Roosevelt had also done in a time of economic crisis.

Luther King Day Prayer Breakfast on Jan. 19, to some 400 people, in an event sponsored by the Talladega County Chapter of the Alabama Democratic Conference, whose chair, Eddie Tucker, a City Councilman, had organized LaRouche’s visit in the state. That speech, dwelling on the quality of leadership which King represented, and which must be reawakened today, is reprinted below. An indispensable role in introducing LaRouche to Alabamans during this tour was played by Mrs. Amelia Boynton Robinson, the civil rights heroine of Selma.

On Jan. 20, LaRouche addressed a public meeting at the B.N. Mabra Center in Talladega, which drew 20 Democratic Party activists for in-depth discussion.

On Jan. 21, LaRouche travelled to Mississippi, where he spoke before the Legislative Black Caucus, in Jackson, the state capital. LaRouche’s trip was hosted by State Rep. Erik Fleming, who recently endorsed his candidacy for President. The Black Caucus event was short, but intense, as the candidate took on the illusions of those who choose to deny the reality of the economic depression into which the last 40 years of “post-industrial” consumerism have led the United States.

Fleming formally introduced LaRouche to members of the state House of Representatives, and later he and LaRouche, joined by members of the LaRouche Youth Movement, held a two-and-one-half-hour discussion with a group of Young Democrats.

On Jan. 22, the candidate was introduced at a Jackson news conference by Mrs. A.M.E. Logan, the “Mother of the Civil Rights Movement” in Mississippi; the conference was attended by the state’s leading black newspaper, the *Jackson Advocate*, and by CBS and NBC television stations.

That evening, LaRouche addressed a town meeting at Tougaloo College, which was attended by more than 60 supporters, among them many students and professors.

On to New Hampshire

On Jan. 23, the candidate was scheduled to travel to New Hampshire, where his Youth Movement has moved heavily into the state for a final drive into the Jan. 27 primary. A second half-hour TV advertisement is scheduled to air on Sunday Jan. 25, the same day that LaRouche will hold a meeting in Manchester for his supporters.

LaRouche’s message to New Hampshire voters in the TV show stresses the point that he made in his Jan. 10 webcast, before the Washington, D.C. primary. He introduced it this way: “As most of you know, the Bush Administration and its propaganda machine is insisting that the U.S. economy is on the road to a glorious recovery. Quite the opposite is true. We’re on the brink of a collapse beyond anything in the past century, and it’s coming on fast now.

“The key point you’ll observe in the following broadcast, is when I address the question of the Erinyes. That in order to appreciate what is going to happen during this immediate election campaign period, is that at some point soon, this crack is going to come. When the crack comes, everything that people have assumed about the election campaign will be blown away by the perception of a general collapse of the system. “Therefore, my campaign is based on the assumption and the knowledge that this collapse is coming, and therefore, when the crack comes, it’s going to take everybody by surprise except me, and except those of you, who are watching this and similar broadcasts.”

The Immortal Talent Of Martin Luther King

Lyndon LaRouche keynoted the Jan. 19 Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast on Jan. 19, sponsored by the Talladega County (Alabama) Democratic Conference. City Councilman Rev. Horace Patterson, introduced the first speaker, civil rights heroine Amelia Boynton Robinson, the vice chairman of the Schiller Institute, who in turn introduced LaRouche.

Patterson: Before I present this gifted lady, I want to emphasize that she has been a civil rights activist . . . [which] involves some tiring, tiresome work. You get tired; and when you get tired, strength is often zapped, because you not only have to deal with ignorance, you have to deal with stupidity. You can fix ignorance with knowledge. But it's hard to fix stupidity. It's hard to fix stupidity. And so often, in the arena of civil rights, you have to sometimes even fight with the people you're trying to help. And this, of course, makes this lady so unique.

It is also a thankless task, from time to time. Many times, those who give of themselves, find themselves unappreciated. She was one of those people who made it possible for Dr. Martin Luther King to do the kinds of things he did. Many people who were there, understand. When it was time to register folk to vote, many times, many of us would go into their homes, and it was the first time they had ever registered to vote: And you have to promise—, you'd say, "I'll take care of the baby, if you'll go down and register. I'll wash your clothes." I'm serious! "I'll cut your grass. I'll do anything, if you will go down, and vote." And so often, the people who did these kinds of things were never fully appreciated. Dr. King understood it, and therefore he mentioned it, when he received his Nobel Prize.

This whole work, also, is a threatening work. It is very, very dangerous work. Because the evil we face, is systemic. It is an old evil. And many times, it is dressed up in new clothing. But, it's still the same old stuff.

And therefore, as we look at realities of civil rights activism, and we look at the hurdles that must be crossed, it makes this lady so unique. Mrs. Amelia Robinson was one of the persons who marched at the Edmund Pettus Bridge, on March 7, 1965. She was beaten so badly, they thought she was dead. It was a horrible, horrible day. I can speak to that: I was a young, 17-year-old kid, at that time. And I have such respect for those adults, who went through the *horror*, the horror of that hour—and yet, maintained a sweet and blessed spirit.

From the 1930s, Mrs. Robinson and her husband involved themselves in the fights for voting rights and property ownership, throughout the state of Alabama. During the 1960s, in her home in Selma, and her office, she often invited the King leadership team, Dr. King himself. And many times, they put together strategies that worked. In 1964, she was the first African-American female, but also the first female, who ran on the Democratic ticket for Congress.

Today, Mrs. Robinson is a leading member and vice chairman of the Schiller Institute, founded by Lyndon LaRouche and Helga Zepp-LaRouche in 1984. In April and May of 1990, Mrs. Robinson spent five weeks touring East and West Germany with the Schiller Institute, where she addressed thousands and thousands of German citizens about the lessons from the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. On July 21, 1990, Mrs. Robinson was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr., Freedom Medal, honoring her lifelong commitment to human rights and civil rights.

Today—in her nineties! in her nineties! And I want to talk to her, before she leaves here: Whatever she's been drinking, I want a bottle of it!—Today, in her nineties, Mrs. Robinson is still a vibrant, charismatic leader, touring the nation, and speaking for the Schiller Institute, on behalf of the principles of civil rights and activism.

Would you be kind enough to give a warm, Talladega County welcome to Mrs. Amelia Robinson?

Amelia Boynton Robinson: 'Footprints on the Sand of Time'

That's a beautiful tribute. But, that tribute makes me realize, that I still have a lot to do! God is not through with me, yet. And, I will be here. I happen to be in the B class. I never was supposed to be a very smart person—I'm in the B class. So, I'm going to be here! And, I hope, I will be here, to see every one of you become a registered voter, and use your vote, in order that we can destroy the evils that we have in our country.

And I believe that Martin is looking down now, Martin Luther King, who, to me, was just "Martin," because I'm old enough for his mother. And when he came to Selma, people rejected him.

I believed we could make a type of plan, that we are going in different places, and we are going to get people to realize that a vote-less people is a *hope*-less people. And the only way that we are going to be able to get our rights, is to get the ballot.

And, when we were small, we used to decide that we were going to make a resolution. And, of course, every year, the resolution was, "I'm not going to tell any more stories—or lies!" But I would like to see you make a resolution on this day: a resolution that, "I am going to become a registered

voter,” if you’re not. Because, if you haven’t voted in two years, you’ve lost. That you are going to exercise your ability as an American citizen, and vote. I would like for you to make that resolution, *this day*, that you’re going to exercise your God-given right, and become a registered voter.

I worked with Dr. King, and I cried when he came to Selma. Because, on the street that my office was on, we had all of the professional African-Americans. Not *one* of them came to him, and said, “Thank you for coming.” “I am glad that you’re here.” “I would like to give you a drink of water.” Or, “I would like for you to come to my house.” Nobody!

Because, you have evil against good. And the people who were evil feared our getting together, because they were successful in dividing and conquering. So, they said, “Don’t have Dr. King to come into Selma”—they even called me—“because he’s a rabble-rouser. He’s an agitator. He’s a Communist!” And most of them didn’t know what Communism was, but that’s what the white folks said, so “we’re not going to have anything to do with him.”

And some of these professional people closed their doors. And the only place he had to go, was to my office, and to the house; so I turned everything over to them. And thank God, out of that came, as you know, not only Resurrection City, but also, March 7, which was known as “Bloody Sunday.”

So, I would like for you to make that resolution, *this day*, that you are going to follow in the footsteps of Dr. King—the *little thing* to register, vote, and become a first-class citizen.

He was rejected. But so was Christ. Mahatma Gandhi was rejected. Kennedy was rejected. Martin Luther King was rejected. But all of them left footprints on the sand of time.

But, you know, God has leaders to take up the helm, and to have somebody to carry it on. And we have, *this day*, a man who is walking in the footsteps of all of these people: a combination of trying to right the wrongs.

Unfortunately, we went to sleep after 1965. In 1967, people got positions, and they fought for it. But, the young generation feels as though it has everything made. We don’t have to do—we can go in any hotel; we can go into any restaurant. We don’t have to sit in the back of the bus. But, you don’t have it made! The evil spirit, like a mold—I don’t know whether you know anything about molds, or not; but, in my grandmother’s home in South Carolina, we would see the ground breaking. We couldn’t see what was under it, but it was something like a mold. And, as it goes along, it breaks the ground. So, you don’t be like the mold. You come up to the top, and break the ground, and break out! Because, self-esteem is something that everybody can have. You *are* your brothers’ keeper, you are God’s child.

God Makes Leaders

And, we know that we have to have leaders. This is something that I would like for each and every one of us to realize: that leaders are not those that feel that, “Well, I want to be a leader tomorrow. And I’m going to lead.” God makes leaders.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. understood his life as a talent, given to him by God to spend wisely, for the benefit of all humanity. Here, he gives his “I’ve been to the mountaintop” speech on April 3, 1968.

And we refine those leaders. Thank God, that we are now at the place where we don’t look at the color of the skin, but the contents of a man’s character, regardless of who he might be.

But, we have to fight hate! And, I am so happy, that the gentleman whom I am standing beside, is a man who will tell anybody: Hate does not help! Hate only destroys the hater!

It used to be a time, that people of color were hated because of the color of their skin. But, hate is like—it’s like a cancer. It starts, sometimes, with just a little pimple. And, if you don’t stop it, it grows. It grows into a sore. Then it takes over the whole body. And that’s what hate has done. It’s not because of the color of a person’s skin that people are hated now, only. It’s gone into our cities, our counties, and even our nation: They *hate!*

And this is *one man*: Talk with him, day or night, wake him up, and he’ll tell you, that love can overcome everything; that we have to love. We have to look at the person’s inside. And I am very proud to say, that this gentleman is a man that I have known for many years. And it’s not because of what

somebody said. Like Martin: When Martin Luther King, before he came into Selma, Martin Luther King was told, “Don’t go into that section.” He was hated. But, he did what he was supposed to have done. And that is, what God had him to do. And then, He took him away. If he were living today, maybe, the rabble-rousers might have killed him mentally, rather than physically. But he did the job, that God had him to do.

And I think of people as—let’s say, a school: Here, the teacher comes in, and says, that “I’m going to give an examination today. And I want you to take your papers and pencils out. And we’re going to have an examination.” Okay, in this class, you have Martin Luther King; you have Mahatma Gandhi; you have many other people, including the Kennedys, including Lincoln. You have Lyndon LaRouche—and, because of my age, you’ve got me!

Then, she passes out the examination. Then, she says, “Now, I want you to be sure that you’re quiet, and do your work.” And, as soon as she turns her back, you find, let’s say, Martin Luther King: “Miss Teacher, I’ve finished.”

“Bring your paper up here.” She looks at it. “You have a perfect score. You may pass on.” And he passes off of the scene of this Earth, and God says, “Come up a little higher. You’ve done a good job.”

The Kennedys, 15 minutes afterward, the same thing. “Okay. You’ve got a good score. You may pass.”

But, 40 minutes pass—the time is only 45 minutes—40 minutes pass. Many of the people have finished their examination, and they pass on. Forty-five minutes pass, the bell has rung—and Lyndon LaRouche and I are *still* working!

So, we are here for a purpose. And I am so happy to see a man, that knows no color. He’s color-blind. He is working for people, for the human race. And he realizes that we are our brothers’ keeper, whether we are on this side of the ocean, or the other side. And he realizes, also, unless people throughout the world begin to recognize people, justice, understanding, love, humility, then we have not completed our job.

So, I introduce to some of you, present to others, the man that God has ordained as a leader for people throughout the world: Lyndon H. LaRouche.

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

Thank you, young lady. Oh, thank you Amelia! She’s very special to us, and to my wife—when I say “we”—my wife, as well. She’s been like a mother to my wife. And she’s been precious.

We have two problems, I think, which should be the basis for reflecting on Martin’s life, today. One, we have a national crisis. Now, I’m not going to mince words; and I’m not going to do any political hacking. But the facts have to be told. This economy is collapsing! The situation, relatively speaking, in terms of basic economic infrastructure, of the United States

today, *is worse than in 1933*, when Roosevelt came into the White House, in March.

That is, you look around you: infrastructure, energy, so forth; the conditions of life of our people, around the world; and don’t look in the big cities, where they put on a façade, and say, “Things are fine.” Look in the communities. For example, Detroit, now, has half the population it used to have. An industrial city is gone. Look around Birmingham, you see how the same thing is reported. It was never rich. But, their sense of loss, of loss, of loss, of this, of that: That’s the situation of the United States.

Then you get an indifference, an indifference to the problems of the United States. We have 48, at least, of the 50 states are bankrupt, hopelessly bankrupt. That is, the states can not possibly raise the tax revenue, without sinking the economy further, to meet the essential obligations of government. This is characteristic of at least 48 states.

And it’s getting worse.

‘We’re in Trouble’

If you look at the cost of living, the increase of the cost of living, as compared to what is officially reported, look at the prices of food in grocery stores, over the past six months, in the United States.

Look at the fact that the U.S. dollar—not long ago, 83 cents would buy a euro; today it takes a \$1.26 or \$1.28 to buy a euro. The U.S. dollar is collapsing in value.

What is increasing, is the amount of money associated with gambling. And the biggest form of gambling is occurring on Wall Street. The money is going to drive up—in a purely speculative way, on side bets on the economy—to drive up the value of stock prices for some companies. And, as soon as some company gets rich, the leaders of the company go to prison, like Enron. Because we have gone from the “steel” business, to the “stealing” business. The nature of the economy.

We’re in trouble. We’re in trouble on a world scale. Since January of 2002, when the present President made an unfortunate speech, in the State of the Union Address, the attitude toward the United States, has fallen rapidly to the lowest I’ve ever seen, among nations all over the world. Throughout Eurasia, throughout the Americas, the United States is despised, where it was still at least respected, or even loved, before. We are in trouble.

And look at the world. The world faces a great crisis. And the United States faces a great crisis, in dealing with the world. The largest concentrations of population of the world are China, for example, at one point, 1.3 billion or more; India over 1 billion; then you have Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the countries of Southeast Asia: This is the greatest concentration of population on this planet. It’s an emerging part of the world. The question is, what’s the relationship of the United States to these people of Asia, who represent, by and large, different



LaRouche at Mt. Canaan Baptist Church on Jan. 18, with Eddie Tucker, Talladega City Council member and Talladega County Democratic Conference chairman.

cultural backgrounds, than those of us in the United States or in Western Europe?

How are we going to find peace in a troubled world? How are we going to find reconciliation in a troubled world, with countries which have turned against us, because of the war policies of Cheney and some others?

So, we face the situation.

Now, go back a little bit, to the time that Bill Clinton was inaugurated as President. Now, think about something some of you know about: Think about the status of the Black Caucus, Legislative Caucus, or Black Congressional Caucus, in 1993, when Bill Clinton came into the White House. Now—go through the list of names: Where are those people, and their replacements today? There has been a winnowing out of the political achievements, throughout the country, of the black caucuses.

This is the problem I deal with constantly, actually from 1996 on. It became worse, accelerated. Brutally.

The Significance of Martin Luther King, Today

So, we do not face a new problem today, in one sense. We face the same problem, in principle, that Martin faced. And faced successfully. And I would propose, that in the lesson of Martin Luther King, and his life, there is something we can learn today, which brings him back to life, as if he were standing here, alive, today. There's something special about his

life, his development, which should be captured today by us, not only in addressing the problems of our nation, which are becoming terrible; but the problems of our relationship with the world as a whole. How are we going to deal with these cultures that are different than our own? With an Asian culture; with the Muslim cultures around the world—over a billion Muslims around the world; with the culture of China, which is different than ours; the culture of Southeast Asia, which is different than ours; the culture of Myanmar?

They're all human. They all have the same ultimate requirements, the same needs. But, they're different cultures. They think differently. They respond to different predicates than we respond to. But, we must have peaceful cooperation with these people, to solve world problems.

Then you start thinking about someone like Martin. And I want to indicate, in the context I just stated, what the significance of Martin is, today. We had no replacement for Martin, lesson number one. Martin was a unique personality. He was not a talented person who happened to stumble into leadership, and could be easily replaced by other leaders who would learn the job, and take over afterward. We had no replacement. No one in the position to replace him. Many wished to be—they didn't have it.

What did Martin have? What was the essence of Martin, that made him something special? Let's compare three cases, to get at this. One, Martin himself. The other, the case of France's famous heroine, Jeanne d'Arc—and I'm rather fa-

miliar with the details of the actual history of the Jeanne d'Arc case, which is comparable, in a sense, a very special way, to the case of Martin. And then, also, with a fictitious case, but which points to the problem we face: the case of Shakespeare's Hamlet, especially the Hamlet of the Third Act soliloquy.

Now, what was the issue? Martin was truly a man of God. Truly. In a way that very few people are actually able to realize in their lifetime. It wasn't just that he was a man of God: It's that he rose to the fuller appreciation of what that meant. Obviously, the image for him was Christ, and the Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. That was his source of strength. He lived that. He had gone to the mountaintop, at a point that he knew his life was threatened by powerful forces in the United States. And he said, "I will not shrink from this mission, even if they kill me." Just as Christ said, and I'm sure that was in Martin's mind, at that point. The Passion and Crucifixion of Christ is the image which is the essence of Christianity. It's an image, for example, in Germany, or elsewhere, where the Bach *St. Matthew Passion* is performed. It's a two-hour performance, approximately. In those two hours, the audience, the congregation, the singers, the musicians, re-live, in a powerful way, the Passion and Crucifixion of Christ. And this has always been important: *To re-live that*. To capture the *essence* of what Christ means, for all Christians. And Martin showed that.

The difference is this—and I'll come back to Jeanne d'Arc (or call it, Joan of Arc, in English). The difference is, most people tend to believe, "Yes, I wish to go to Heaven," or something like that. Or, don't. Don't care. But, they are looking for answers within the bounds of their mortal life. They're thinking of the satisfactions of the flesh. The security they will enjoy, between the bounds of birth and death. Whereas, the great leader, like Martin, rises to a higher level. They think of their life, as the Gospel presents it, as a "talent." That is, life is a talent, given to you: You're born, and you die. That is your talent, what you have in that period. The question is, you're going to spend it anyway. *How* are you going to spend it? What are you going to spend it for, to secure for all eternity? What are you going to do, as a mission, that will earn you the place you want to occupy in eternity?

Martin had a clear sense of that. That mountaintop address, for me, struck me years ago—*clear*: It was just a clear understanding of exactly what he was saying; what he was saying to others. Life is a talent: It is not what you get out of life; it's what you put into it, that counts.

Martin had that. That's why he was a leader. And I've known many of the other leaders with him, in that period. *They didn't quite have the same spark*. They may have accepted the idea. They may have believed in it. *But, it didn't grip them* the same way it did Martin. And it came to grip him, I'm sure, more and more, as he took on more and more responsibilities. As a leader, you feel this. You see your people. You see the things you have to cope with, the suffering; you see the dan-

ger. And you have to find within yourself the strength, not to flinch. Not to compromise.

The Martyrdom of Joan of Arc

Take the case of Jeanne d'Arc, to the comparison—Joan of Arc, as she's called. This is the real history: She was such a significant figure, in the 15th Century, that her history was thoroughly documented at the time, and cross-checked and so forth. She was a figure in all Christianity. She was a key figure in the history of France.

Here she is, a woman, a young woman, coming from a farming background, who is inspired to believe that France must be freed from the terrible occupation of the Norman chivalry; that France must become a true nation. And that it must be risen out of its condition, to become a nation, to take care of these problems; that God wished this to happen. So, she went, through a series of events, to a Prince, who was the heir, nominally, to the throne of France. And she said to this Prince—having gotten in there with various credentials—"God wants you to become King." And he looked at her, and he said, "What do you want from me?" She said, "I don't want anything from you. God wants you to become a King."

And so, because of her power, of her personality and her mission, the King gave her the command of some troops, in a very serious battle at that time, under the assumption that she would be killed, as the leader of these troops, and that would settle the whole problem. She wasn't killed. She won the battle! Personally leading the battle!

And, France was mobilized for the idea of its independence, to a large degree, as a result.

Then the time came that the Prince was crowned King. But then the King betrayed her to the enemies of France, to the British, the Normans. And she was put on trial by the Inquisition, which is a *horrible* thing. This is the worst kind of injustice you can imagine. And in the course of the trial, she was offered bait: "If you will back off a little bit, girl, we won't burn you at the stake, *alive*." And she said, "No." She flinched—"Maybe I should compromise." She had priests in there, trying to get her to compromise. She said, "I won't compromise. I can not betray my mission."

She had gone to the mountaintop. "I will not betray my mission. I will stay my course."

So, they took her. They tied her to a stake. They piled the wood on the stake. They set fire to the stake, while she was alive. They cooked her to death. Then, they opened the pile of wood, to see if she was alive or not; they found she was dead. And they continued the process, restarted the fire, and burned her, into ashes.

But, out of that, two things happened. Out of that, France revived and got its independence. And later, got the first modern nation-state of Louis XI, that is, Louis the Eleventh of France. And the significance of that is this, for us today: Because of that victory, because of what happened with Louis XI of France, we had the first European state, in which the



Joan of Arc, like Dr. King, “had gone to the mountaintop.” Though offered a deal that would have saved her from being burned at the stake, she refused. “I will not betray my mission. I will stay my course.” The result was the emergence of France as a nation-state.

government was responsible for the general welfare of all of the people. The general welfare, means exactly what it means in I Corinthians 13, when Paul writes of *agapē*; or we sometimes call “love,” or “charity.” It’s that quality. It is not the law, it is not the rule-book, that counts. It’s your love of humanity that counts. That you must always live for your love of humanity. And therefore, government is not legitimate, except as government is efficiently committed to the general welfare, of not only *all* of the people, but also the improvement of the condition of life of their posterity.

And, for the first time, in France, with that state, the principle of constitutional law, that government can not treat some of the people as human cattle—it is not legitimate; it is not a nation, if it treats some of its people as human cattle—it must think of the general welfare of *all* of the people. It must be *captured* by a sense of responsibility to all of the people *and* to their posterity.

Because we’re all mortal. And to arouse in us the passions, while we’re alive, which will impel us to do good, we have to have a sense that our life, and the consuming of our life—the spending of our talent, is going to mean something for coming generations. The best people look for things—like Moses—that are going to happen, when he will no longer be around to enjoy them. It’s this sense of immortality. It’s why parents, in the best degree, sacrifice for their children. It’s why communities sacrifice for education, for their children, for opportunities for their children. You go through the pangs of suffering and shortage, but you have the sense that you’re going someplace, that your life is going to mean something. That you can die with a smile on your face: You’ve conquered death. You’ve spent your talent wisely, why life will mean something better for generations to come.

That was the principle! That principle inspired the man who became King Henry VII of England, to do the same thing against the evil Richard III, and establish England, at that time, as the second modern nation-state.

In a sense, that’s what Martin was doing, the same kind of process.

Hamlet, and the Problem With Education

But, now, let’s take the other side of the thing. Let’s take the case of Hamlet: Hamlet says, that we have the opportunity to fight, to free ourselves from horrible conditions, but! But, what happens after we die? What happens beyond death? And, it is the *fear* of what happens beyond death, which makes people cowards: And, that is our problem, in the United States, today! It’s the problem of our leadership in the Democratic Party. It’s the problem in the Republican Party, because not all Republicans are bad. Some of them are very good. I intend to incorporate some of them in my government. I’m not very partisan, when it comes to government. I’m partisan about getting it established.

So, that’s the point. The problem here is this: [Most Americans do not] actually believe that man is different than an animal. Do you think, in the schools today, in the newspapers today—do you think that Americans believe, in any significant way, that man is different than an animal?

Our teaching, we don’t teach that. Look at our standard curriculum. Many of you know something about education. What our education policies are now, nationally, are a crime. You don’t *know* anything—you learn to pass a test! And you wonder if the person who designs the test knows what they’re talking about. Tests are issued in various parts of the country, not to test what you’ve done to the students, in terms of what they know. Sometimes the students come out, saying, “I know nothing.” Honor students say, “In my years in secondary school, I learned nothing! The way it’s being taught now, under the standard now.” What they’re testing is the obedience training of the students, in that school district, or that part of the country, as measured by some standard. Districts

are *competing* for money! And the performance, like the dog training, of the students in the school becomes a standard, for how much money and how many honors that district will get in the following year.

We're no longer concerned. We don't *believe*, as a nation—we don't believe in developing people! We have become like Rome, ancient Rome, a society of "bread and circuses." Get your crumbs, and be entertained. And the entertainment gets more and more vicious as it goes along.

For example, today, do people work? Is their mentality one of working? Do they believe in work? Do they believe the society gives them the opportunity to work? No. It doesn't. It gives them the opportunity to get some money.

What is the biggest growth industry in the United States? Gambling. What is Wall Street? Gambling. What is Enron? Gambling. What're these guys that are going to jail in New York? Gamblers.

The mentality of the country is that if you're getting lucky, and winning the lottery, and winning at the track, that you're getting ahead. Even though your industry is collapsing, your farm is gone, the city government can no longer afford to take care of your essential needs: We've gone into becoming a gambling society.

We rely on what? *Mass entertainment!* What kind of mass entertainment? Isn't this something you really should be ashamed of?

We no longer regard human beings as human. We no longer understand what is human.

I started a youth movement, some four years ago. It concentrates on young people 18-25 years of age, that is, the university age-group. And, as you know, people, when they get to about 18-25, under normal conditions, have passed over from thinking of themselves as adolescents—as being half-adults/half-children—into becoming, in a sense, adults. They have adult confidence, adult impulses, and so forth. . . .

If man were an ape, for example, the population of human beings on this planet would never have exceeded several million individuals. So, don't make a monkey out of man. We have now, over 6 billion people on this planet, to take care of—and they're growing. The point is that man has been able to discover what no animal can do: To discover universal physical principles of the universe, to apply these discovered principles to make improvements in society, which increases man's power over nature, just as you can read in Genesis 1: man and woman made equally in the image of the Creator, in the likeness of the Creator, and responsible for this function. That's what we are.

When we teach physical science, when we teach Classical art, and when we teach history from that standpoint, we are actually imparting to young people, a sense of their humanity. They are capable of re-enacting the great discoveries of principle from the past, whether in art, or whether in physical science. When they know that, they know the difference between themselves and the beast. They pride themselves on

this, and they say, "We're human." And they can look at each other with love, a kind of love which is expressed in education by the proper kind of class, in which students *share* in the process of fighting through the act of discovery for themselves, a principle presented to them as a challenge and a paradox.

I mean, there's a loving relationship, a class of the size of 15-25, typical, good university, good secondary school class; in which the students are given the responsibility, given a challenge, to try to fight it through *among themselves*. And, the good teacher tries to evoke this kind of response from among the students, find two or three in the class that'll start the discussion; and try to get the entire class involved in the discussion. So that, what comes out of that is not *memorizing* something in a textbook. What comes out of that, is the process of a social experience of discovering the meaning of a principle, *as if they had made the original discovery themselves*. This is done, not by teaching the individual student (although that sometimes works)—*it's done by getting the students to interact, in the process of discussion!*

That's why you want a class size of between 15 and 25. Not too many, to exclude the opportunity for people to participate. Not too few, so you don't get the stimulation of starting the discussion. But, it's this social process of relationship, among people *who love each other*, in a higher sense, because they have shared the process of discovery of a principle; or they've understood something about history. But, they shared it! And, the idea of sharing human knowledge, as human knowledge, is the essential act of loving. And you love mankind, and you're happy with mankind, when you have worked together to make a discovery together with people.

And you realize you can rely on those people for that kind of method. You got a problem with them? Well, go back to the method. Talk to them, the same way you do in a classroom. Fight it out with them. And these young people are fun: They fight it out, until 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning. I usually—you know, when I give a lecture with these guys, they go at me for about four hours. I give them about a one-hour presentation, or something like that, and they're at me—they're at me, all over the place! But, it's beautiful! It's wonderful! And, I think anybody who's been in education, knows exactly what I'm talking about. It's beautiful—it's wonderful.

So, this is the problem: We have a population, we have a world, in which there's a shortage of people who actually understand, fully, the meaning of the difference between man and beast. That man is a creature, as defined by Genesis 1, is made in the likeness of the Creator of the universe.

This is us!

Because we transmit these ideas, because we transmit this work as no animal can, we love one another. We love the people who come before us. We love those who are coming after us. We care for them. In a very selfish way: Because, in

our spending our talent of life, our sense of beauty depends upon what was coming out of our life, in future generations. We love children for that reason. They're our children. We love grandchildren, even more than children, sometimes. Because, our children were able to produce these children—that's great! I mean, you love them specially. Particularly, a person becomes a grandparent, they love these grandchildren especially for that reason.

So, this kind of loving is lacking, generally, in the population, in leaders.

Reach the 'Forgotten Man'

Martin obviously had that. Martin was one of the rare people, in his time, who had a deep sense of what it is to be a human being. Who had a deep sense of the lesson of the Passion and Crucifixion of Christ. He was able to bring to politics—which he didn't go into to get in as politics, as such—he was a natural leader. The natural leader is one, who comes not from the political process as such, but from the people. Martin never achieved political office. Yet, he was probably as important a figure of the United States as any modern President. He achieved that. His authority, as a leader, came from the people. He fought against the people, and with the people, to free them. He was a leader, in a true sense. His power as a political force, in the nation and in the world, came from his relationship to the people.

And, that's our situation, today. And why I'm so glad to be here, and have this opportunity to be with you: Because you typify those who are struggling, in this country and abroad, for the so-called "forgotten man," as Franklin Roosevelt was summoned, in 1933, to the Presidency. Eighty percent of the population of the United States, in particular, and many around the world, are the forgotten man and woman. Nobody really cares about them. Take the case of health care, the health care history; take the case of all kinds of things.

The only way you can renew a nation—as Martin made a great contribution to renewing the United States—is, you have to go to the forgotten man and woman, especially to the "have-nots," and if you can express a loving attitude, toward the problem of the have-nots, those who are the lower side of life—then, you are capable of representing the principle, upon which modern government should be based. The same principle that Jeanne d'Arc made possible, in a sense, in her contribution to the emergence of France as the first modern nation-state, committed to the general welfare.

If you want to be a true politician, you must be committed to the general welfare. You must be committed to mankind. And to be committed to mankind, is to look at the person who's in the *worst* condition, in general—and uplift them! Then, you really have proven, that you care about the general welfare. If you don't go to those people, you're not *with* the general welfare. If you don't have your roots in a fight for the general welfare, you're not capable of leading our nation, which is a nation Constitutionally committed to the gen-

eral welfare.

Martin had that.

All the great leaders of history have usually come out of that kind of background. They were not born leaders. They were not elected to be leaders. Some of them became elected, in the course of life. But, they didn't start out and establish their leadership by being elected. They established their leadership, by finding their roots in the struggle for the well-being of humanity. They became the representatives of some groups, struggling for that right; or, advocate of that group, struggling for its rights. And they rose to a position of leadership, because they had the moral character, built into them, in the image of the Passion and Crucifixion of Christ.

And, as they get deeper into the business, and it becomes more dangerous, as they get more influential—life does become more dangerous, as you become more influential—then they realize that they are *risking* their life. And, they have to ask themselves: "For what am I going to risk my life? For what will I *not*? What will I not betray, even at the cost of losing my life?"

And, you're thrown right back to the question of the Crucifixion and Passion of Christ.

The Passion of a True Leader

And that's where we are today. Martin had that. The problem in the United States, and the movement today, is we have, in the movement itself, become—shall we say—"civilized" in "going along to get along" with the political establishment. And, it's in tending to believe that the road to success is "going along to get along," you lose sight of the passion which should motivate the true political leader. The passion is this commitment: You have a talent. You have a sense of what your life means. You have a sense of obligation, a mission in life to uplift the nation, by uplifting a certain part of the population, or all of it.

And you will do *nothing* to betray that! That gives you power: It gives you the power of being a creature made in the image of the living Creator. You tap it. Martin tapped it. He was a man of God—not just by God, but *of* God. He was a man, who in the course of life, destiny gave him the mission of being a man *of* God. And, he had the strength to do that. He had the strength to walk the road of Christ. To walk through Gethemane. To walk through the Crucifixion. He had that strength, as Jeanne did, in her own way.

And, that's the lesson, I believe, that has to be taught, has to be understood, if we're going to save this nation. We need to tap into that power. And, as I say, of all the images of recent political leaders of the United States, Martin, both as a national leader, and as a world leader—which he also was, in terms of his influence—is the best example of the kind of personality who we must have, and must develop, to get us out of the horrible, frightening mess that threatens us today.

Thank you, very much.

Shades of 1920:¹ Occupiers Now See the Real Iraqi Resistance

by Muriel Mirak-Weissbach

All eyes were on New York on Jan. 19, as leading members of the Iraqi Governing Council (IGC), U.S. proconsul in Iraq Paul Bremer, and his British counterpart Jeremy Greenstock met with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, in an effort to push through a formula for an orderly “transfer” of sovereignty from the occupying powers in Iraq, to a newly constituted “sovereign” transitional government. But as the UN leader, the occupiers, and IGC members Adnan Pachachi, Ahmed Chalabi and Abdel Aziz al-Hakim convened around a table, the real decision-makers made a massive display of power in the streets of Baghdad. Up to 1 million people marched in protest against the “transfer” plan on that New York agenda. Nothing encapsulates the dilemma of U.S.-U.K. policy in Iraq better, than the juxtaposition of these two gatherings.

Although Western press accounts radically underreported the size and composition of the Baghdad demonstration, eyewitness accounts, illustrated by live coverage on Arab and Farsi media outlets, documented that not “tens of thousands,” nor “up to 100,000,” but a million Iraqis were involved. The mass mobilization, characterized in Western reports as organized by “the Shi’ites,” in fact involved Iraqis of all ethnic, religious, and political groupings. Live film footage and regional experts agree, that there were Sunni and Shi’ite Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen, and at least two Arab Christian groups. Demonstrators included followers of radical Shi’ite Muqtadar al-Sadr, who were seen carrying pictures of Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani, the highest religious Shi’ite authority. Other portraits visible were those of Imam Ali, Ayatollah Mohammed Bakir al-Hakim, and Jesus Christ, revered as a prophet in Islam.

Two U.S. military helicopters circled overhead, while the

masses of women and children, students, professionals, doctors, engineers, teachers, unemployed, etc. marched for six hours through Baghdad to the historic Mustansiriya University. Security for the march was organized by the Al-Badr Brigades (the militia of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, SCIRI), and there were no reported incidents of violence. American troops wisely stayed away. The Iraqi Governing Council (IGC), supposedly “representative” of the people, was conspicuous by its absence.

‘This Is Only the Beginning’

The demonstrators chanted, “No, no to America!”; “Yes, yes to Sistani!”; “Yes to Hawza!” (the theological center in Najaf); “No foreign leaders!”; and “Yes to elections!” The massive show of force was intended as a protest against the talks at the UN. A day earlier, on Jan. 15, an estimated 35,000 Shi’ites had demonstrated in the southern city of Basra, in support of Ayatollah al-Sistani and his demand that elections be held to elect a parliament and government. With “No to America!” and “Yes to Al-Sistani!” they shouted down Bremer’s plan for regional caucuses to select a legislature, which would, in turn, name a transitional government. One demonstrator was quoting, “We are here to support Sistani’s edict to avoid an appointed council laying down our constitution. If that happens, we will resist.”

But it was the Baghdad march which really shifted the correlation of forces in Iraq. For in the capital city, it was not only Shi’ite followers of al-Sistani, but representative layers of the entire population who hailed him as their figurehead in the struggle for national unity, independence, and sovereignty. The ayatollah from Najaf is known as the “conscience of the people,” and it is acknowledged that no one dares to contest him. As one Lebanese analyst told *EIR*, “Al-Sistani does not represent the Shi’ites, he represents a national movement, which includes Sunnis, Kurds, Turkmen, the whole

1. See “Lessons To Be Learned: Iraqi Resistance to British Occupation 80 Years Ago,” *EIR*, Nov. 14, 2003.



The scope and seriousness of the Iraqi pro-elections resistance led by Grand Ayatollah al-Sistani (right) became clear in mid-January, when marches brought out a million Iraqis. The Bush Administration and U.S. proconsul Paul Bremer quickly turned for help to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan—who may not be able to accomplish it.

population. This is the beginning. If the U.S. does not back down and allow elections, this will lead to ‘al Jihad’ and that will be the end of Mr. Bush and the Americans.”

In point of fact, al-Sistani can transform the political protest into active political (and, eventually, military) resistance against the occupation. Although he does not hold any political office, as supreme religious authority for all Shi’ites, al-Sistani can issue a religious edict, or *fatwa*, declaring the IGC, for example, illegitimate; or, a *fatwa* saying that any legislature, constituent assembly, or government selected other than by general free and fair elections, were illegitimate. Two of the ayatollah’s representatives announced this possibility, during the Basra demonstrations. His representative in Basra, Ali al-Mussawi stated, “The large crowd before you today are expressing their feeling that they don’t want anything imposed on them. We want to affirm our rights. We want elections in all political domains.” The ayatollah’s representative in Kuwait was more explicit. Speaking on Abu Dhabi television, Mohammed Baqir al-Mehri said: “If Bremer rejects the opinion of the Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, then he will issue a *fatwa* to deprive the elected council of its legitimacy. Then the Iraqi people will not obey this council, which we call a council made of paper and a U.S.-elected council.”

At the same time, Hojat al-Islam Ali Abdhahakim al-Safi, who is the second most senior Shi’a cleric in Iraq and a close aide of Ayatollah Sistani, sent a letter to President Bush and Prime Minister Tony Blair, rejecting the argument that early elections were not feasible as a pretext to deny Iraqis their legitimate aspirations. Mideast press reported that the letter

said: “We know that the mere fact of your favoring the appointment over elections is an indication to what you see as a threat to your interests . . . and a deliberate marginalization of the majority. . . . Your plan for the transfer of powers is vague and too complicated. . . . It is nothing other than replacing one dictatorship with another to serve your own re-election goals.” The letter concludes with a warning that the two countries would drag their countries into a battle they would lose, if they did not let Iraqis choose their own institutions. This is a clear warning that the Shi’ites could join the armed resistance.

Other Shi’ite personalities speaking indirectly for al-Sistani, have issued warnings of what could happen if Bremer continues intransigent. Sheikh Abdel Mahdi al-Karbalai said on Jan. 16, “In the coming days and months, we’re going to see protests and strikes and civil disobedience and *perhaps*

confrontations with the occupying force if it insists on its colonial and diabolical plans to design the country’s politics for its own interests. We tell you to support the *marja’s* (Sistani’s) call for general elections. The *marja* will do all in his power to stop those who would throw away the rights of the Iraqi people, and will not give up its cause.” (The term *marja at-taqlid*, source of emulation, refers to the elite of the clerics, headed by al-Sistani.) Al-Karbalai continued: “In these closed-door meetings, they (the Americans) want to decide the political, social, economic, and even geographical future of Iraq for their own benefit. I guarantee you that the *marja* is determined to continue his battle until the end. You must support this (struggle) because if you do not . . . you will know the anger and curse of God.”

Karbalai laid out what he said was the perspective defined by al-Sistani: “A huge section of the Iraqi people and the Shi’ites asked the *marja* to take a position and he has recommended to them to keep the peace. But the *marja* will lift this order if he finds himself at an impasse with the occupying power on the negotiations over the country’s future. We have not yet reached an impasse, but we must prepare the Iraqi people psychologically to support the *marja*, because we do not know what will happen these next three or four months, but it will be decisive. The *marja’s* actions will be progressive: We will begin perhaps first with mass protests, then move on to a civil disobedience campaign, and then finally a general strike.”

On Friday, Jan. 16, thousands gathered for prayers in Najaf, as al-Sistani met tribal leaders to discuss his opposition to U.S. plans for transferring power to Iraqis; they too

Ayatollah al-Sistani

When President George W. Bush promised “free democratic elections” in his State of the Union address on Jan. 20, he was certainly not thinking of Iraq. But the de facto leader of that country, Ayatollah al-Husseini al-Sistani, is committed precisely to implementing democracy.

The 73-year-old Ayatollah al-Sistani is a *Seyyed*, that is, a descendant of the Imam Hussein and the Prophet Mohammed. His family has its roots in Sistan, an eastern region of neighboring Iran. In 1949, he began his theological studies at the religious center Qom, in Iran; and then from 1952 in the Shi’ite holy city of Najaf, Iraq, where he has lived ever since. Al-Sistani is recognized now as the highest authority for Shi’ites; he is known as a *marja*, which means “source of emulation.”

In the 1920s Iraqi resistance against the British, it was a similar religious figure, Sheikh Mohammed Taiq al-Shirazi, who emerged as the leader of the national struggle for independence. Al-Sistani has the authority to issue a *fatwa*, or religious edict, which would be binding on all Shi’ites. Initially, as the U.S.-led war started, al-Sistani ordered restraint, telling Iraqis not to engage in active resistance against the occupying forces. But if the United States does not fulfill his demands for true, national elections, this will change; total national resistance would be only one *fatwa* away.

expressed their support for him. That same day, another of al-Sistani’s aides told *Reuters* television there was still time to find a compromise, and that people would continue to stage peaceful demonstrations to show their opposition to the U.S. plan.

Al-Sistani himself has been cautious in his public statements, hinting merely that if the deadlock is not broken, the security situation could worsen. But the direction of developments is clear.

Resistance Is Not Sectarian

Ostensibly, the conflict between the Iraqis led by al-Sistani, and the occupying powers, revolves around the modality of setting up a government which would be given “sovereignty” by June 30, 2004. The plan drafted by Bremer, and agreed to by the IGC last Nov. 15, foresees the selection of a national assembly or parliament, then a government, through caucuses in 18 provinces. Al-Sistani, on the other hand, is demanding free elections. Western press reports claim the ayatollah’s position is dictated by raw power politics—i.e.,

that he fears regional caucuses would deprive him of a Shi’ite majority in elected bodies, reflecting the 60% majority that Shi’ite Arabs represent in the population. In reality, it is more than a sectarian question. As the enormous support from all layers of the population in Baghdad illustrated, the Iraqi people demand authentic democracy and sovereignty—an end to the occupation.

This is what Washington and London fear. Thus their argument that there is “not enough time” to organize elections before the scheduled transfer of power.

The former Iraqi ambassador to the UN, Mohammed al-Douri, laid out the bare truth in a statement to *AP* on Jan. 17. “For me, what is important is Iraq,” he said, “not the majority or the minority. I’ll accept anyone who is elected—a Shi’ite or even a Kurd, if that is the people’s choice. The important thing is that the (Iraqi) people elect, and not have individuals appointed by foreign entities like the United States.” Al-Douri explained: “Elections pose a big threat to the future of America’s presence in Iraq, and the Americans sense this.” The United States “fears that Iraqis would elect people who are against the American presence in Iraq.”

American plans, in fact, foresee a post-transfer “invitation” by the new Quisling government to the occupying powers, to maintain their occupation under the guise of a “friendly” military presence.

Can The UN Mediate?

Between a rock and a hard place, the Bush Administration is seeking Kofi Annan’s UN help to extricate itself from the dilemma. During the Jan. 19 talks in New York, Bremer called on Annan to send a delegation to Iraq, to “explore” the feasibility of organizing elections within the pre-established timeframe. Bremer is gambling that such a delegation, on technical grounds, would rule out the possibility of organizing a vote; and that al-Sistani would accept such a verdict from the UN. In essence, Bremer is asking the UN to mediate between the occupying powers and al-Sistani. Annan has stated that he would consider sending a delegation, but would “insist on our independence and neutrality, and that both sides accept our judgment.” The Secretary General’s prime concern, he has reiterated, is that the security situation is not such as to permit the presence of the UN, which would be required for organizing elections.

According to the collaborators in the IGC, if a delegation goes, it will also seek some “alternative” to elections. “We should not stick to rigid positions on these matters,” said Iraqi Governing Council President Adnan Pachachi, who attended the UN meeting. “We’ve got to find ways and means to deal with problems as they arise..”

The next weeks will be decisive in determining the future of Iraq. The national movement spearheaded by al-Sistani does not necessarily want to see an escalation to military confrontation, but it is committed to satisfying Iraqis’ just demands for independence, sovereignty and democracy. It will not capitulate.

Sharon Named in Bribery Indictment

by Dean Andromidas

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon could soon become the first sitting prime minister of Israel indicted for bribery. On Jan. 21, real estate contractor and top Likud Party moneybags, David Appel, was indicted for bribing Sharon. Also named were Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Sharon's son, Gilad. Although the indictment does not formally accuse Sharon, Olmert, and Gilad of crimes, Israel's acting Attorney General Edna Arbel let it be known that the prosecution has enough evidence to indict Sharon and will make the decision within a few weeks.

Less than 12 hours earlier, Sharon had ordered Israeli airforce jets to bomb targets in southern Lebanon, in what was clearly a provocation aimed at changing the subject from Sharon the bribe-taker, to a new war against Lebanon and Syria. Expressing the concern that Sharon could drag Israel into a disaster because of his legal entanglements, Knesset member and Meretz Party leader Yossi Sarid told the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, "He could complicate the country in military or political adventures. He could get us caught up in a little war." Nonetheless, Sharon's window of opportunity for war could be closing rapidly as the Israeli fraud squad continues to collect criminal evidence in preparation for an indictment.

Israel's 'Sopranos'

Labor party Knesset member Ofer Pines-Paz told Israel Radio "This is very sad, very grave, but there's Sopranos on television, and there's Sopranos in Israel." A look at the charge sheet makes this reference to the American TV drama on a mafia family in New York no laughing matter. The indictment accuses Appel of paying bribes of up to \$700,000 to Sharon, in part to finance the latter's 1999 primary election campaign for the chairmanship of the Likud. Under Israeli law, authorities can convict someone of bribe-giving without necessarily convicting the bribe-taker, who must also have known he that was being bribed. The Appel indictment is nonetheless written in such a way that it is likely that indictments against Sharon, his son Gilad, and Olmert will soon follow.

Appel allegedly bribed Sharon over the period 1998-2001, for help to facilitate two major real estate deals. The first, the so-called "Greek Island" affair, involved Sharon—when he was foreign minister between 1998-1999—using his position in an effort to convince the Greek government to allow the sale of a Greek island to Appel, who wanted to build a casino resort there. Although the project never materialized,

the Sharons continued receiving payments. The second case involves bribing Sharon to rezone agricultural land, which Appel had purchased near the city of Lod, to commercial use. This move could have earned Appel hundreds of millions of dollars in profits. This alleged bribery occurred while Sharon was prime minister. In both cases the payments were transferred in a scheme that involved Appel hiring Sharon's son Gilad, as a consultant in the project. Gilad had absolutely no qualifications for the position, but he did manage Sharon's Sycamore Ranch, cleaning the sheep pens and managing the bank accounts to which the money was transferred.

The indictment states Appel "reached an agreement with Gilad, which in essence was paying enormous sums to the son of Ariel Sharon so Ariel Sharon would take action in his capacity as a public official, *inter alia* to advance the real estate interests of . . . [Appel] in the Lod area; for the above-mentioned participation in the island project; and in general to be of benefit." It goes on, "By his [Appel's] deeds - guaranteeing support for Ariel Sharon in two campaigns . . . agreeing with Gilad Sharon to transfer \$3 million and additional monthly payments through inflated compensation; a payment of \$100,000 and another NIS 2,582,634 [the equivalent of \$600,000] to the Sycamore Ranch estate. . . bribed a public servant [Ariel Sharon] directly and through Gilad, for the purpose of having that public servant in his public position, act on behalf of [Appel's] real estate dealings.

The indictment also accused Appel of bribing Deputy Prime Minister Olmert for his aid in the same Greek island deal mentioned above. Although Olmert was Sharon's rival in the Likud leadership primary of 1999, Appel promised to finance his campaign. He transferred, according to the indictment, 50,000 shekels to one of Olmert's campaign managers for this purpose.

Israeli prosecutors, in an independent investigation of the Sharons, are continuing to collect evidence, not only on the above bribery cases, but in the so-called "Kern affair." This grew out of the case of Sharon's financing of his 1999 primary campaign through illegal foreign donations of over \$1.5 million. The money was channeled through shell companies managed by his other son Omri, who is also a member of the Knesset. Although illegal, such financing was not a criminal offense. The crime came when Sharon, rather than pay a \$60,000 fine, decided to pay back the foreign contributors with \$1.5 million he raised through an English "rich old friend" living in South Africa, Cyril Kern. When it turned out that Kern left England as a bankrupt businessman, the actual source of the funds came into question. The police suspect yet another bribery, this time of foreign origin.

Knesset member Pines-Paz's reference to the TV show "The Sopranos" was not just metaphor. For weeks now, Israeli TV audiences have been watching video tapes of Sharon's two sons, Gilad and Omri, discussing various aspects of the above deals. On Jan. 12, on Israeli television, private investigator David Spector, the source of the tapes (which he made while working as a security advisor for the Sharon family),

revealed that Sharon was deeply involved in all the illegal financing activities now mentioned in the Appel indictment.

“There is no doubt that Sharon was involved in everything and was interested in the smallest details,” said Spector: Describing the division of labor within the Sharon clan, Spector said Omri dealt with “private technical” matters while Sharon dealt with overseas donations. Spector then played a tape of a telephone discussion he held with Sharon on Sept. 3, 2000 where it appears they are talking about money flowing into bank accounts, with Sharon asking for details. “Sharon’s family works only to benefit itself, that is its way, “Spector charged. “It has a political agenda and a private agenda.”

Sharon is ‘Polluting the Atmosphere’

“He must resign,” Labor Knesset member and former finance minister Avraham Shohach said after hearing the news of the Appel indictment. “He is polluting the atmosphere.” Sharon told the Israel’s largest circulating daily, *Yediot Ahronot*, “I am not about to resign. I emphasize, I am not about to resign.” But the rest of Israel doesn’t seem to agree. A poll by *Ha’aretz* revealed that 64% of the public feels Sharon should resign if it is shown that he was involved in criminal affairs, while 68% said they did not believe Sharon’s claim that he “knew nothing, heard nothing and saw nothing.” Even in his own party, 56% of Likud voters lack faith in him. The Israeli stock exchange took a dive and the Shekel become one of the few currencies falling against the dollar.

While Israeli Justice Minister Yossef Lapid said Sharon does not have to resign because of the Appel indictment, he added that once an indictment is handed down against Sharon and Olmert, “They would have to reach the appropriate conclusions.” Lapid, the head of the “clean government” Shinui Party, is under tremendous pressure—with calls for him to pull the party out of Sharon’s government or lose credibility.

One senior Israel journalist who has been writing on this affair told *EIR* that Sharon is “politically bleeding” and everyone knows his days are numbered: Any political surprises, including destabilizing the region, will be seen as an attempt to save himself from indictment. Another said Sharon’s days are not over: “It will take time, we will have to see what happens.” But there “could very well be new elections in Israel before the end of this year.” The Knesset’s term doesn’t officially end until 2007.

Preparing For the Day After

The day after the Appel indictment was handed down, Sharon’s chief of cabinet Dov Weisglass was in Washington meeting Bush Administration officials in an effort to win support for Sharon’s Berlin Wall of the Middle East, and his so-called “disengagement plan,” as a replacement for Bush’s nearly defunct Road Map for a Middle East Peace. Weisglass is not only Sharon’s chief of cabinet, but his attorney and co-suspect in the ongoing investigations.

The Brutuses in the Likud party are preparing for the day

Israel’s Caesar will resign. Likud Knesset faction chairman Gideon Saar, who used to be one of Sharon’s top cronies, is reportedly preparing a bill which would alter the present regulations governing the succession in the event of the resignation of a sitting prime minister. The current law gives the Israeli President seven days in which to hold consultations and designate the member of the Knesset he believes will have the best chance of forming a new government. Saar wants this changed to three weeks, in order to allow for primaries within the Likud for choosing a new party chairman. This is important because if Sharon goes, so does his deputy, Ehud Olmert, who could also be indicted. The top candidates that could replace Sharon would be Finance Minister and former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom, and Education Minister Limor Livnat.

The problem for these would-be Brutuses is that David Appel is more than just a “rotten appel,” as the police investigators dub him, but is a “big fish” in the Likud. Appel is not only a powerful member of the Likud’s central committee but his dubious activities over the years go to the heart of the corrupt patronage system that has formed the foundation of the Likud’s political power. There is no leading member of the party that has not benefited from his largesse. If he goes under, there could be many others besides Sharon and Olmert.

Israeli Officers See No Threat From Syria

by Michele Steinberg

Well-placed Israeli sources in Israel and New York have told *EIR* that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz, Sharon’s top henchman in the drive for a “Greater Israel” war with Lebanon and Syria, deliberately provoked the Jan. 19 incident in which one Israeli soldier was killed and another wounded. Rockets fired by the Hezbollah guerrilla group hit the soldiers—who were illegally operating a bulldozer *inside Lebanese territory*. The motive for the provocation: to save Sharon’s political hide. Sharon has feared for months that he and one or both of his sons will be indicted in a massive corruption scandal that came to a head on Jan. 20 (see accompanying article).

The provocation was clear. On Jan. 19, Israel first sent jet fighters over Lebanese airspace, where they broke the sound barrier. A few hours later, claiming they were clearing landmines along the border fence, the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) sent a military bulldozer to the Lebanese side of the border. Seeing the bulldozer clearly within Lebanon, the Lebanese Hezbollah, predictably, fired an anti-tank rocket, killing the soldier operating the bulldozer and wounding

another soldier. Then, the Israelis cried that they had been attacked! After a meeting of the Security Cabinet, Defense Minister Mofaz accused Syria of being responsible for the attack on the Israelis. Israeli northern commander Gen. Benny Ganz lied that the bulldozer was operating short of the border, and blamed Syria and Lebanon, warning that they “should be worried.”

Sharon’s closest advisor and direct channel to the right-wing Zionist Lobby in New York, Dore Gold, said, “The Hezbollah attack on the IDF position illustrates the duplicity of the Syrian regime, which talks peace to the *New York Times* and backs Hezbollah attacks in violation of United Nations resolutions.”

On Jan. 20, “in retaliation,” Sharon sent Israeli jets to bomb two Hezbollah camps in southern Lebanon. The IDF issued a statement asserting that “Israel considers Syria directly responsible for any terror activity emanating from Lebanon.” It warned of further retaliations if “terror organizations attempt to escalate the situation.” But all of these statements by Sharon’s inner circle were falsehoods.

Nonetheless, the hapless U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, who continues to appear a victim of White House slavishness to the Sharon’s mafiosi, immediately commented that “once again,” Hezbollah “caused this need for a response,” and hoped that “the Syrians” understand that they had better not support Hezbollah.

Israelis Expose Lies

One source close to military circles in Israel told *EIR* that it is obvious from the retaliation, that Sharon is facing major internal opposition to his schemes against Syria. For one thing, said the source, Sharon had wanted to retaliate against Syria, but was blocked from doing so; and had to settle for hits in southern Lebanon.

Another source with decades of experience in the Middle East commented that world opinion is on the side of Syria, which has refused to respond to Israel’s provocations in a ham-handed way. Instead, Syria has pursued initiatives at the United Nations—such as the recent resolution to the UN Security Council to make Israel a signator to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the ban on biological weapons, in order to make the Middle East a “weapons of mass destruction free zone.”

Additionally, the outrageous—but calculated—provocation by Sharon and Mofaz comes while Syrian President Bashar Assad, in coordination with other Middle Eastern leaders, and with significant support from U.S. political forces including former President Bill Clinton, is pressing Israel to restart peace negotiations. President Assad even had support from within Israel, whose President, Moshe Katzav, invited him to Israel to explore talks.

Knowing the Assad peace offer is gaining support, Sharon has sent Mofaz to Washington in several recent secret trips, where he has “informed” National Security Advisor Condo-

leezza Rice that the Israelis reserve the right, and have a plan, to “move against Syria at any time.” But even in Washington, Sharon and Mofaz no longer have a clear path to war.

Sharon’s lies are running into trouble from within the Israeli establishment and population as well.

A senior Israeli intelligence source told *EIR* that the latest incident on the Lebanese side of the border, was the “most obvious provocation” yet by Sharon, comparing it to the “old script” which the Israelis carried out in the months before the 1967 war. They sent tractors into the demilitarized zones, knowing that the Syrians would fire artillery at the tractors. This, in turn, was used as a justification to launch air attacks against Syria. So convinced were the Syrians and the Egyptians by these antics in 1967, that Israel was preparing for a war against Syria, that Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser decided to begin a troop build-up in the Sinai. This led to the “pre-emptive” attack by the Israelis, and the rest is history, said the source, noting that Sharon was very much part of that entire scenario and now appears to be re-enacting it quite closely.

There is high-level opposition in the ranks of the active-duty Israeli officers corps against Sharon’s hope for a war against Lebanon and Syria. Shortly before the Jan. 19 incident, Lt. Gen. Moseh Ya’alon, the Israeli Defense Forces Chief of Staff, had told a television interviewer that renewing talks with Syria was “definitely worth investigating and discussing.” Brigadier Gen. Yair Golan, who commands the Galilee Division responsible for the sector in the Northern border area, told Israeli radio on Jan. 20, the day of the retaliatory strikes, that the IDF bulldozer was *clearly* on Lebanese territory—a violation of international law.

Even the usually pro-Sharon *Jerusalem Post* reported on Jan. 20, a quote from an “senior military officer from the Northern Command Army” saying, “It was naiveté on our part to think that we could neutralize the minefields in such a blatant and noisy way. . . . We could have saved the price of a human life in this incident.”

The officer echoes the growing sentiment, now being expressed by parents, wives, and siblings of young soldiers, that these men are dying in needless provocations in the occupied territories—and now in foreign invasions. Such widespread opposition to Sharon’s line conforms with *EIR*’s Nov. 7, 2003 article, “U.S., Israeli Militaries Caution on Syrian War,” where *EIR* reported that top Israeli brass opposed a war with Syria, according to *Ha’aretz* military specialist, Amir Oren.

Sharon’s U.S. Connection

But Sharon and Mofaz, both fascists in the tradition of the late Mussolini-admirer Vladimir Jabotinsky, are depending on their “ace in the hole,” Vice President Dick Cheney, whose pro-Likud staff—the “real National Security Council”—includes neo-conservative David Wurmser, co-author of two think-tank war plans against Syria.

Czar Alexander II and Vladimir Putin

The Czar was no genius in statecraft, but a reformer who made Russia's recovery possible after the Crimean War. Michael Liebig reports.

Early this month, for the first time in several years, my wife and I travelled to Russia as the guests of an old friend, and visited St. Petersburg and its surrounding area. Our discussions with Russian politicians and journalists point not merely to a consolidation, but to marked improvement in the country's situation.

The real economy has made definite strides forward, after the devastation caused by "shock therapy" reforms beginning in 1992: hyperinflation that vaporized the population's savings, a plunge in the standard of living, declines and disruptions in every sector of tangible goods production, and a plague of criminalization. Russia has begun once more to produce for herself. This recovery began after the 1998 financial crash, following which imports, hitherto massive, collapsed. Owing precisely to that stream of imports, the domestic Russian economy had, save for the energy and raw-material sector, broken down. Since 1998, the trend has been steadily upwards. In 2003, industrial production rose by roughly 10%, and GDP by 7%.

Consumer goods for the domestic market are again being produced in Russia, as one can see with one's own eyes when out shopping. Even the foreign brand-name products on offer are Russian-manufactured. Over the past five years, the upswing in domestic production has afforded the middle and lower classes a visible, if modest, improvement in living standards, although 30 million Russians still qualify as poor. In 2003, thanks to this stabilization and improvement in living conditions, the catastrophic decline in the birthrate reversed for the first time since 1989.

The most dangerous problem facing the Russian economy is the stark difference in development from one region to the next, and not the manifestly special situations of Moscow and St. Petersburg, relative to the rest of the country. In most of the large cities and provincial towns with some industrial basis, the situation has improved, though modestly, and the same applies to the agricultural areas in southern Russia. The problem, is the territories North of the Arctic Circle, and broad stretches of Siberia and the Far East. Here, the picture is so critical that, in large numbers, people have begun to migrate to the more prosperous areas.

That Russia be so divided, from an economic standpoint, constitutes a threat to the unity of the Russian state. Neo-

conservative circles in the United States are well aware of this, as one gathers from the book *The Siberian Curse*, by Clifford Gaddy and Fiona Hill. The authors argue that Russia, in her present weakened condition, can no longer "afford" Siberia—while huge American firms are plainly ready to move in and loot its treasure-chest of raw materials! It so happens that Siberia is the linchpin of the entire Eurasian Land-Bridge; that these neo-conservatives seek to fish in troubled waters is hardly surprising.

The economic divide is critical to understanding President Putin's confrontation with "the oligarchs." The latter, whose stand against Putin has been highly confrontational, will now be barred from playing any further role, whether economic, or political: Berezovsky and Gusinsky live in exile, while Khodorkovsky, for the time being, is behind bars. Another group of seemingly "loyal" oligarchs, typified by Mikail Friedman and Pyotr Aven of the Alpha Group, or Anatoli Chubais, who controls the Russian electricity grid, remains.

The Alpha Group enjoys, by the way, close ties to Dick Cheney's Halliburton. In the late '90s, it was Cheney, then CEO at Halliburton, who intervened to ensure that the U.S. Exim Bank guarantee half a trillion dollars in credits to the Alpha Group.

'Natural Rent'

The oligarchs' powerbase was, and remains, the energy and raw materials sector. This is where the super-profits are made, to vanish down deep, private pockets. That both the country's overall economic development and the overcoming of regional differences will depend on applying most of the profits from that sector to the critical investment areas, is a fact President Putin cannot be unaware of.

The idea of taxing profits from the raw materials trade stems from Academician Dmitri Lvov, of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Sergei Glazyev, a prominent economist and co-chairman of the Rodina electoral bloc, has made the proposal into the bloc's central demand. In the parliamentary elections in December, Rodina garnered over 9% of the votes. Glazyev has for years been in intense discussion over political and conceptual issues with U.S. Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, is familiar with the Eurasian Land-Bridge proposal, and with the central role LaRouche sees Russia



Russian intellectuals are invoking role of Czar Alexander II, to describe President Putin's current efforts to rebuild the country.

playing in that context.

Although taxing raw-materials profits would, indeed, be an important step toward Russia's economic development, the 20-30 million euros this would represent will nonetheless scarcely suffice, relative to the magnitude of industrial and infrastructural projects required to overcome the divide we have spoken of.

To get a grip on the debacle into which the North, Siberia, and the Far East are now plunged, there is no alternative to making the Eurasian Land-Bridge a reality. Neither the raw-materials-profits tax, nor the currency reserves of the Russian Central Bank, which now amount to \$100 billion, will suffice to finance the needed Land-Bridge projects in Russia. What is required are financing methods and arrangements which would be out of the question, within the framework of the International Monetary Fund system as now constituted, a system to which Russia belongs.

Thanks to the ever-worsening dollar crisis, it has become clear to the Russians that their country is not alone in undergoing severe economic hardship. Meanwhile, the profits made by the Russian elite and the oligarchs, invested abroad in dollar-denominated investments, melt away—as do those of much broader layers of the Russian population, who have something in the area of \$150 billion in dollar-denominated savings.

As the Russian Central Bank has closely tied the ruble to the dollar, the fact that the latter dropped in value by 20% in 2003 has not yet hit people holding small savings, with full force. But there is widespread disillusionment in Russia over the dollar and the real condition of the U.S. economy. America, seen for so long as a model economy, has lost its halo. No longer do the country's foremost specialists seek to emigrate, because the Russian people knows what it means when a domestic economy—the U.S. one in this case—can

no longer feed its own people, but imports, on credit, \$500 billion more goods than it exports.

Faced with the international financial and economic crisis whose epicenter is the United States, many in the Russian elite have stopped arguing that LaRouche's New Bretton Woods proposal for reorganizing the world financial system is pie-in-the-sky. One should point out here that Russia has the second-largest gold reserves in the world, a major factor in its sense of financial-political independence.

Russia's Place in the World

The fiasco bearing down upon the U.S. occupation forces in Iraq has very seriously dented any credence Russians might have had in America's "overwhelming superiority," reminding them, as it does, of what their own country went through in Afghanistan in the 1980s.

The country's politics and world outlook give one a clear sense of a growing national consciousness. While, on the one hand, Russia will seek to avoid all confrontation with the United States, neither can it accept a unilateral world order, and certainly not a preventive-war doctrine. From both a quantitative and qualitative standpoint, the country's nuclear defenses are guaranteed for decades, and Russia will remain a world power. No matter how vexing, unsolved problems like Chechnya will remain marginal.

Though Russia be concerned to develop strategic cooperation with China and India, its leaders are aware that the other partners in the European Triangle are just as keen to work alongside her, notably the European Union, the latter being Russia's major economic partner. Seen from the Russian side, strategic and political cooperation with the EU will essentially depend on how tightly and effectively France and Germany coordinate their efforts, and act upon a joint strategic outlook.

In discussions with Russian politicians and intellectuals, the parallel between the country's position after losing the Crimean War (1853-56), and that in the first decade since Soviet rule, was often drawn. Vladimir Putin is being compared to Czar Alexander II, not, perhaps, a genius in statecraft, but a significant reformer nonetheless, and one who made Russia's recovery possible.

Real Issue Is Spiritual

At present, Russia has a Presidential Administration, which holds sway over the government and Parliament. The "loyal" oligarchs who enjoy—both in Parliament and in the Presidential Administration—political influence in the pro-Putin party known as United Russia, have now, in the form of Glazyev's Rodina party, met up with a significant parliamentary counterweight. That Putin has openly approved the Lvov/Glazyev proposal to tax raw-materials profits points to this. *Vis-à-vis* the "loyal" oligarchs, the stand thus taken by Putin and the Presidium appears to be something along the lines of, "We shall let you count your money in peace, provided you invest, produce, and help the economy to move forward."

Given the critical role played by the Russian President at the present time, one cannot, however, overlook the danger that there be covert pockets of resistance to the Presidency. In France, in the early '60s, as General de Gaulle launched a huge wave of economic and political reforms, the Organization of the Secret Army (OAS) perpetrated several assassination attempts against him.

No one would venture to claim that corruption and nepotism have been rooted out in Russia, but one can say that in this respect, things are much improved relative to the 1990s. The systematic mafia rule proclaimed against the Russian state, by organized crime, and by both foreign and domestic economic interests, has withered away, as the balance of power shifts in the state's favor. Nevertheless, and although the higher-level public agencies are now run more ethically, and more competently as well, on a lower administrative level there remains the problem of a fossilized bureaucracy, a dead weight obstructing entrepreneurial initiative, flexibility, and progress.

At the end of the day, according to many of our interlocutors, the real issue for Russia is a spiritual one. How can Russia's rich cultural, scientific, and religious heritage become the focus of the educational system once again, a heritage that has recently tended to be put aside, just as we have done in Europe over the last 30 years, through all manner of alleged reforms? Russia has an extraordinary tradition of Classical education and science, which persisted throughout the Soviet period, and that could today be brought together with a renaissance of Orthodox religious belief. No matter how important the various forms of entrepreneurial and economic knowledge may be, the country's real strength will lie in her Classical education system.

The Geneva Peace Accord And 'Nathan the Wise'

by Our Special Correspondent

Top Israeli and Palestinian organizers and backers of the Geneva Accord were hosted in Berlin on Jan. 15 by the Social-Democrat-connected Frederich Ebert Stiftung. Their overflow audience of over 300 included some 20 members of the German Parliament, diplomats, representatives of German think-tanks and foreign policy institutions, and press.

Featured among the panel participants were the originators of the initiative, former Israeli Minister of Justice Dr. Yossi Beilin and PLO Executive Committee Member Abbed Rabbo. Former Israeli Ambassador to Germany Avi Primor also spoke, as did Prof. Yael Tamir and Dany Levi from Israel; and Palestinian leaders Suhair Manassre, Kadura Fares, and Marwan Jilani. It is difficult to capture the remarkable agapic spirit—deliberately rising above all pettiness and rage—radiated to the audience by both the Israeli and Palestinian organizers. It moved LaRouche representative Jonathan Tenenbaum, in a well-received intervention from the floor, to evoke the memory of Berlin's Gotthold Lessing and Moses Mendelssohn.

Overcoming 'Moments of Despair'

Abbed Rabbo described the resolve of Beilin and himself, starting in 2001, "to reverse the growing disaster" in the region by continuing on their own, the negotiation process they had been forced to break off as official representatives. "During two years of continuous work, there were many moments when we felt despair. Are we doing the right thing, with the insanity going on around us? By producing a document based on realistic options, maybe we could help turn the tide of events."

Beilin emphasized that the Geneva initiative negotiations deliberately dealt with the whole range of detailed issues which nearly everyone on both sides had avoided, out of fear of opening up a "Pandora's box syndrome." They proved, instead, that these issues could be mutually resolved *in their entirety*. The key now, is to win over the minds and hearts of as much of the population on both sides as possible. "Already 40% on both sides essentially support the initiative, and that is already almost a miracle."

Through their present international tour, the Geneva Accord organizers hope to gain support from major governments and institutions—leverage to change the political balance in their own region. They reported on the "great success" of their

Features of the LaRouche 'Oasis Plan'



talks with the German government, which has thrown “total support” behind the Geneva Accord. But both Israelis and Palestinians voiced harsh criticism of the Bush Administration. Avi Primor stressed that the only the United States possesses “every means needed to quickly bring about peace in the region. But this is evidently not the intention. There is only lip service to the cause of peace.”

With the United States refusing to put the necessary pressure on the governments, the Geneva organizers decided to go directly to the people. Beilin added, that “American involvement is not a *sine qua non*”; after all, the Oslo negotiations were carried out entirely between the Israeli and Palestinian sides, without any U.S. participation. “Warren Christopher did not change a single comma,” but the American government did put its weight behind the agreement, once it had been made. On the other hand, several speakers prominently cited the promise of Secretary of State Colin Powell’s letter to the Accord organizers.

The recent distribution of the text of the Accord to all

Israeli households was, by itself, a kind of revolution, since most Israelis had never seen any of the *previous* agreements in their actual text.

The Berlin discussion heated up, with Israeli and Palestinian “radicals” in the audience shouting objections back and forth to each other and the podium. Beilin smiled and said, “Now we seem to be at home. Now we got into the real debate, which is not an artificial one.”

The ‘Oasis Plan’

Early in the discussion, LaRouche representative Tennenbaum evoked the memory of Berlin’s Lessing and Mendelssohn, declaring to the Accord organizers: “You have spoken with the voice of Reason. This is a sign of hope for humanity. Your presentations are out of the pages of [Lessing’s drama] *Nathan the Wise*. I will do everything I can to support these efforts.” Tennenbaum emphasized the necessity of realizing the common interests of Israelis and Palestinians, through a long-term development perspective for the region. Given the thrust of Lyndon LaRouche’s long-standing efforts in this direction, including the “Oasis Plan”—which had been echoed in the annexes to the Oslo accords—he suggested that the time has come for a comprehensive development plan, and for European and other nations to support it. Tennenbaum also noted the efforts of LaRouche and his movement to turn Amer-

ican policy in the current U.S. political battles.

Former Israeli Ambassador Primor answered enthusiastically and at length. “We have to think: What is peace, really?” he said. “A peace agreement, by itself, only makes peace *possible*. But a real peace requires the realization of common interests. At the time of the Oslo accords, we deliberately emphasized trans-regional development plans as key to a comprehensive peace. With such an approach, also Syria could quickly be brought to the negotiating table. Unfortunately, this perspective went down with the collapse of the Oslo process. Now, the precondition is the establishment of a Palestinian state. . . . But there is no reason not to work *now* on elaborating development plans for the future.” As a crucial example, he took the water problem. “There is simply not enough water in the region. The only solution is to *produce* water by desalination. But this is much too expensive when done on a small scale. We are far too small and too poor to tackle this all by ourselves. That is why we need international support.”

Shanghai Cooperation Organization Comes of Age

by Mary Burdman

Russian President Vladimir Putin, in a message to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's (SCO) meeting in Beijing on Jan. 15, underlined the ambitious role that the high-level group can play in Eurasian cooperation. "I am convinced that the SCO, from an historical point of view, is called upon to become a kind of transcontinental bridge which will organically link the European and Asian continents," he wrote. "Such a role of the SCO stems, first of all, from the unique geopolitical position of the SCO member-states; the philosophy professed by the SCO in respect to a variety of cultures, beliefs, and traditions; openness and orientation for extensive international cooperation."

The Beijing meeting included the Foreign Ministers of the SCO's six members—China, Russia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. It decided to open a permanent Secretariat with a high-level Chinese diplomat, Zhang Deguang, as the first SCO Secretary-General. At the same time in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Agency began operating. These two centers are to carry out the priority policies of the SCO: fighting the terrorism and extremism which threatens regional security; and developing economic cooperation.

These initiatives are useful steps in the direction of the Eurasian Land-Bridge conception that Lyndon LaRouche has advocated.

The SCO "has entered a new phase marked by practical partnership," Zhang Deguang said; he is China's former vice-foreign minister and ambassador to Russia. Its work can now "be conducted in a more efficient way." Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, in China, stated that the SCO now begins work "as a fully-fledged international organization, which has its own working mechanisms, personnel, and budget."

This has happened fast. The group was founded in June 2001, and only last May, SCO government heads pledged at their Moscow summit to have the organization begin functioning in January 2004. President Putin in his message called the group's rapid consolidation "convincing evidence of the correctness of the principles of equality and consensus that were laid down as the basis of our organization; the resolute determination of SCO member-states to turn the organization into an effective mechanism of multi-polar collaboration in the interest of peace, stability, and the welfare of the peoples of our countries."

The dangers posed by the unending wars in Iraq and Afghanistan prompted this consolidation. On the other hand, the political and economic changes in Russia—finally turning away from 10 years of "shock therapy" disaster—and China's steady economic growth provide a basis for improving Eurasian security.

Five of the nations began meeting on a regular basis in 1996—Uzbekistan joined them in 2001—to resolve what Chinese call "problems left over from history." A quarter century of tensions between the former Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China had left long stretches of the world's longest land border undefined, and costly levels of military deployments in border areas. The "Shanghai Five" agreed to establish trust and introduce military cooperation along the borders. There was good reason for this. The "Five" had more serious problems to deal with: the "three forces" of terrorism, separatism, and extremism, which exploded in Central Eurasia in the wake of the brutal civil war in Afghanistan beginning in 1979. This war—in reality a struggle between the then-superpowers, the United States and Soviet Union—generated tens of thousands of "Afghansi" fighters from all over Muslim Eurasia, sponsored by operations led by former U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski into his "arc of crisis." Since the collapse of the U.S.S.R., terrorist groups, funded by organized criminality and widespread drug production and trafficking in the region, have generated turmoil from Chechnya in the Caucasus to Xinjiang in far-western China.

Security Linked to Economic Development

The SCO nations, except Uzbekistan, held their first large-scale joint anti-terrorism military exercise in August 2003; but it is widely recognized that the SCO has to fight terrorism by economic development, and not just military means. Xu Tao, deputy director of Eurasian Studies for China's premier Institute of Contemporary International Relations in Beijing, emphasized to the *China Daily* on Jan. 16 that, despite the U.S. military deployments in Central Asia and the overthrow of the Taliban, the security situation in the region continues to be plagued by terrorist attacks. "This shows that the fight against terrorism is totally different from a traditional war," Xu Tao stated. Wars could overthrow regimes, but not completely eradicate terrorism, he said—an obvious reference to the military quagmires in Iraq and Afghanistan. "Military strikes can have a short-term effect, while only comprehensive measures, including economic development and improvement of law enforcement, would eradicate the evil roots" of terrorism. The unending economic crisis in many Central Asian countries is a key reason for extremism, Xu Tao emphasized. Political and security partnership "has provided a wide platform for economic co-operation."

Asian-Pacific security analyst Prof. Su Hao of the China Foreign Affairs University emphasized that the SCO not be

considered only a “security organization,” but as having a “second track” of economic and trade relations. Su Hao called for increased economic development, and restructuring national industries of SCO member countries to increase cohesion among them. The Central Asian nations’ economies had been part of the Soviet-wide economic grid, and they remain inter-dependent for such fundamental requirements as food, water, and power.

The new SCO Secretariat will coordinate economic cooperation, including developing proposals for investment programs, transport projects, and assistance for cultural relations. In 2003, the SCO government heads formed proposals for promoting free flow of commodities, technologies, capital, and services—but slowly, over a 20-year perspective. Energy, transport, agriculture, and communications are targeted cooperative sectors.

Here, enormous work remains to be done. Railroad links remain extremely sparse, considering the vastness of the territory involved: three-fifths of the Eurasian landmass. Such an important project as the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railroad is just in the feasibility-study phase. Water management is also a huge challenge for this region, where the Aral Sea ecological catastrophe could spread further. As Uzbek Foreign Minister Sadik Safaev, told Xinhua news agency in an interview, the SCO should focus on security issues of terrorism, extremism, and separatism, and, on the economic front, revitalize the ancient “Silk Road.”

Eurasian Reach

The SCO nations are looking well beyond their own borders. The Secretariat will maintain relations with the United Nations, the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the Islamic Conference Organization. Other nations will become partners, and, eventually, members of the SCO. Mongolian Minister of External Relations Lavsangiyn Erdenechuluun attended the Beijing meeting as a partner nation—an obvious step, given Mongolia’s location.

Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov had visited Ulan Bator, Mongolia, on his way to Beijing. On his return, he stopped off at Novosibirsk, Russia, to open a Foreign Ministry mission. There, Ivanov gave a press conference to emphasize the “vital and special importance” of the Asian direction of Russia’s foreign policy. The Novosibirsk office will focus on developing economic contacts for Siberia and the Russian Far East with the Asia-Pacific region, Ivanov said.

The new Beijing Secretariat is drafting regulations for creating observers and partners for the SCO, as well as, Zhang Deguang said, “the admission of new members to SCO.” New members are not being considered at the moment, but the potential is great. India, with the backing of Russia, has been proposed as a potential member for some time. Pakistan has also been proposed. Now, the rapid growth of ties between China and India, especially in the last half-

year, and improving relations between India and Pakistan, could make the expansion possible soon. On Jan. 12-13, India and China held their second “Special Representative”-level border talks in Beijing; though the results were kept secret, the talks were noted as “friendly and constructive.” One week before, China made a public issue of its refusal to give any shelter to the anti-Indian separatist “United Liberation Front of Asom,” then under full attack by the Bhutanese and Indian military.

Also interesting was the report carried in the Pakistani *Daily Times* on Jan. 17, that China has asked Pakistan to investigate a number of separatist-terrorist organizations operating in Xinjiang—known as “East Turkistan” by the separatists. The *Daily Times* quoted “highly placed” diplomatic sources, that a list compiled by China’s Ministry of Public Security on Dec. 15, of “identified Eastern Turkistan” terrorist organisations tied to “Afghansi” terror and drug-running networks, has been sent to Islamabad. “Pakistan has declared on many occasions that it will not allow its soil to be used to destabilize Xinjiang, the Chinese province that neighbors Pakistan’s Northern Areas,” the sources were quoted.

Pakistan and China, long-term close allies, agreed to concrete measures against terrorism in 2002, and the two sides signed an extradition treaty when Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf visited China in early November 2003. Pakistan’s harboring of terrorist groups—which goes back to its role as a “base” for the U.S.-sponsored Afghansi-*mujahideen* operations into Afghanistan in the 1980s—is a fundamental security issue for India.

Finally, relations among the “Strategic Triangle” of the Eurasian giants Russia, China, and India are moving forward. On the eve of his three-day visit to India Jan. 19-21, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov welcomed the trilateral cooperation: “I would greet Russia-India-China cooperation in the military-technical sphere and in joint development of new weapons. This would promote stability and security in Asia,” Ivanov said. But he cautioned, “Such cooperation can only come as a result of extensive political efforts by our countries. But I will not rule it out altogether. I share James Bond’s principle: ‘Never say never again.’ ”

Ivanov affirmed that Russian defense supplies to China would not threaten India’s security. “Russia strictly adheres to the principle that the weapons it supplies to other countries must not have a destabilizing effect, and be of defensive nature,” he said.

From New Delhi, where former Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov first publicly proposed the strategic triangle just five years ago, Ivanov said that, with the improving political climate between India and China, contacts among the Russian, Chinese, and Indian Foreign Ministries, to discuss security issues in the Asia-Pacific region, could be expected this year. Security in the region “will largely depend on our cooperation,” Ivanov said.

India Seeks More Nuclear And Military Cooperation

by Ramtanu Maitra

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov and his Indian counterpart, George Fernandes, signed a \$1.5 billion deal in New Delhi on Jan. 20, whereby the refurbished Russian aircraft-carrier *Admiral Gorshkov* would be delivered to India by 2008. India's only carrier at present, the *INS Viraat*, was built for defense and has a limited range. *INS Viraat* has hardly a decade of service left, while India's indigenously-built aircraft carrier, the Air Defense Ship, will not be ready before 2010.

The Long-Awaited Signing

The 44,000 ton *Admiral Gorshkov* is the last in a series of four Project 1143 air defense ships, officially known as aviation cruisers. The aircraft carrier was designed for STOVL (Short Take-Off Vertical Landing) aircraft, and was commissioned by the Russian Navy in 1987, but did not enter service until 1988. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, all four aviation cruisers were retired between 1991 and 1994, with the *Admiral Gorshkov* being the last to be withdrawn. The ship will be given to India free. But the project will cost close to \$1.5 billion, involving repair and modernization of the ship, the installation of the most up-to-date arms systems, the delivery of an air group (MiG-29K fighters and Ka-27 and Ka-31 anti-submarine picket helicopters), and the setting up of the relevant coastal infrastructure. All in all, several dozen contracts were signed.

Ivanov said that the *Gorshkov* deal will be followed by contracts to include the creation of port infrastructure. He called it too early to talk about price. But an Indian aviation industry source told the media that an option of 30 additional MiG-29s has been discussed. Overall, the eventual sum of contracts could come up to \$3 billion, said Konstantin Makiyenko, deputy head of the Center for Analysis of Strategies and Technologies. Makiyenko said the *Admiral Gorshkov* deal is the first major arms contract with India since 2001, when a \$700 million agreement was signed for 310 T-90C tanks to be either delivered or built under license. More than 130 tanks have already been delivered, and more units are being sent for assembly in India, Ivanov said in New Delhi. The remaining 12 Su-30MKI fighters under a 1996 deal will be delivered later this year.

Although India's naval chief Adm. Madhvendra Singh said the country was making no compromises and getting the

"best deal" in its efforts to buy the heavy aircraft carrier, others point out that the carrier purchase by India is the front end of a much larger deal yet to be worked out. Writing for the *Times of India* on Jan. 21, defense analyst Manoj Joshi pointed out that the *Gorshkov* deal is merely the sweetener for a more complex, semi-covert arrangement to give teeth to India's nuclear deterrent.

More Than Gorshkov

What India is seeking from Russia, as a *quid pro quo* for buying the old aircraft-carrier, is to lease at least two nuclear submarines and several nuclear-capable bombers. Joshi pointed out that India still lacks reliable delivery systems for the nuclear weapons it possesses. "The Agni missiles are still under development, and in the meantime, existing Indian Air Force fighters are designated for nuclear delivery even though they were not designed for the purpose. The Russians will lease four TU-22M3 nuclear bombers with the claim that these are sub-strategic aircraft of limited range," Joshi said. These bombers have a massive 24-ton payload and are likely to be equipped with supersonic anti-ship cruise missiles as well.

India and Russia are in the process of developing these BrahMos missiles. The ramjet-powered BrahMos draws extensively on technology from the 3M55 Oniks-Yakhont anti-ship missile. Serial production will be split 50:50 between Russian and Indian industries. On the other hand, with the Mig-29K, the Indian Navy will get a formidable capacity for protecting its carrier-based groups.

To some, the aircraft carrier deal ensures continuation of India-Russia relations centered on military hardware. But it is widely known that India, to modernize its military, is looking at more than one source. Makiyenko said that despite the long relationship, Russia will have to make good on its obligations to ward off growing competition from Israel and France. And the United States has identified India as a potential customer. President George W. Bush said in early January that the United States and India will expand cooperation on missile defense.

But Ivanov, prior to his Jan. 20-21 visit, had emphasized that India-Russia deals go well beyond the buyer and seller relationship. In a Jan. 19 interview with the RIA Novosti military analyst, Viktor Litovkin, Ivanov said: "We have no geopolitical, cultural, or any other contradictions. We have very similar views not only on the issues of big politics, defense, and world order, but also on common things of everyday life. . . . The military-technical co-operation . . . dates back to 1960. Since then, the overall volume of contracts in the sphere of military-technical co-operation reached \$33 billion.

"The joint creation of the BrahMos missile," Ivanov said, "became a new form of Russian-Indian co-operation. . . . We have created a naval missile that has no analogues in the world in many respects. But our co-operation is not limited to this.

We are working jointly on the T-72 and T-90 tanks for the land forces and the Su-30MKI plane for the air force. Last year Russia dispatched modern frigates to India. . . . I foresee that the co-operation of our defense enterprises, from the initial stages of the joint creation of weapons and embracing R&D, creation, production, and tests, will gain considerable weight.”

The Russian Defense Minister also told RIA Novosti that Russia, India, and China may join to create a fifth-generation warplane. Talks on the issue have already taken place; Ivanov expressed hope that such a triple union is beneficial not only for this project, but also in many areas of military and technical cooperation in the defense sphere.

Russian Nuclear Reactors

Negotiations over acquiring the *Admiral Gorshkov* for the Indian Navy have reportedly been going on since 1994. The two countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding in December 1998, during a visit by Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov. It took another six years to get India’s Cabinet Committee for Security (CCS) to clear the deal. Some analysts claim the delay had something to do with India’s requirement for more Russian nuclear reactors.

Russia is setting up two 1,000 megawatt VVER reactors in Koodankulam in Tamil Nadu. According to the Indian Atomic Energy Commission Chairman, Dr. Anil Kakodkar, the Koodankulam site could accommodate four more reactors to make it a 6,000 MW cluster. “Two VVER plants are now being set up with their (Russian) cooperation. Let it come up. Then we will see,” Kakodkar said. “There is space for four more reactors. What kind of reactors this will be, we will be able to decide only in the future,” He spoke in 2002 at the RMK Engineering College at Kavaraipeetai.

Though both India and Russia have said that they are keen on additional plants of the 1,000 MW capacity at Koodankulam, the talks, which have been on for some time now, seemed to hit a barrier. Dr. Kakodkar noted wide differences in perception between India and Russia in nuclear cooperation. He indicated that the atomic energy commission was prepared to look at “any country” willing to offer the nuclear power technology that India was looking for. Asked if India was looking at French or Canadian reactors, he said India could look at anyone willing to offer the technologies that the country wanted.

A clue can be found in the recent statement of the American President. On Jan. 12, Bush announced the long-anticipated agreement with India on deepening cooperation in civilian nuclear and space activities and hi-tech trade, calling the deal the “next steps in strategic partnership with India.” The proposed cooperation will progress through a series of reciprocal steps that will build on each other,” the statement read. “In order to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, relevant laws, regulations, and procedures will be strengthened. . . . These cooperative efforts will be under-

taken in accordance with our respective national laws and international obligations.”

The references reflected the difficulties the two sides had in arriving at the unprecedented deal, since the U.S., as a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and as a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, is obliged not to help countries such as India, which is a non-signatory. It is interesting that while Sergei Ivanov was signing the sale of the *Admiral Gorshkov* in New Delhi, India’s high-profile External Affairs Minister Yashwant Sinha was in Washington meeting President Bush. The ostensible reason was the thawing of India-Pakistan relations and the success of the South Asian Association of Regional Countries (SAARC) summit in early January in Islamabad. But beyond that, it is likely that the nuclear issue was discussed. Moscow must have followed the events closely, considering whether to plan to deliver the four more VVERs. Dr. Kakodkar is interested in setting up at Koodankulam.

Arabian Sea Presence

The introduction of the *Admiral Gorshkov* will provide India’s Navy a stronger presence in the Arabian Sea. It has achieved unprecedented expansion in recent years; India is setting up its security in the Arabian Sea, and eventually in the Indian Ocean. According to India’s *Defense Year Book 2003*, the bluewater Indian Navy has embarked on an ambitious submarine production plan. It is giving priority to procurement of aircraft carriers. It has acquired five new ships: two frigates from Russia; one missile corvette each from Goa and Mumbai’s shipyard; and a missile boat has been manufactured at Garden Reach Workshop at Kolkata.

According to a report in *Navy International* in April 2001, India is developing a 300 kilometer submarine-launched ballistic missile, Sagarika. Again, India is developing the medium-range Dhanush submarine-launched ballistic missile exclusively for the Indian Navy. The Navy is also seeking another variant of the Dhanush, a surface-to-surface ballistic missile capable of striking land targets with a range of 500 kilometers.

The deal with Russia will not benefit India alone. It is going to help the Russian military-industrial facilities as well. According to one official quoted in the Indian news dailies, the Severodvinsk machine-building enterprise, or Sevmash, where the *Gorshkov* has been idle since 1997, will get a boost. Currently, the company’s 23,000 employees survive on an average salary of a little more than \$100 per month, making an oil platform for state oil company Rosneft and constructing four nuclear submarines for the navy. “In Soviet times, we had 40,000 staff and made five ships per year. Now we make one in a decade,” a company official said. But he insisted that Sevmash has all the skilled labor it needs to carry out the retrofit of *Gorshkov* without outside specialists.

Bush Agenda Slammed At Monterrey Summit

by Valerie Rush

The Summit of the Americas took place in Monterrey, Mexico on Jan. 12-13, drawing together heads of state for what was expected to be just another “photo opportunity,” against a backdrop of sympathetic clucking over spreading poverty and the “crisis of governability.” In public, at least, the summit was a dialogue of the deaf, with President George Bush blindly chanting his mantra of “free trade solves everything”—the very same policy which has driven Ibero-America to the edge of the abyss where it finds itself today—and various Ibero-American heads of state, led by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, insisting that this “perverse” policy is a proven failure, but offering no serious alternatives. Thus it fell to the followers of Lyndon LaRouche to bring the voice of reason to this Summit. Nearly 30 activists from the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM) in Mexico saturated the event with literature on the looming world financial catastrophe, and on LaRouche’s proposal for a New Bretton Woods to reorganize the global monetary system. The activists made sure that copies of LaRouche’s programmatic campaign document, “The Sovereign States of the Americas,” got into the hands of various heads of state and the media representatives.

Protecting the Banks

The U.S. position at the summit was outlined most succinctly by Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs Roger Noriega, in a Jan. 6 speech on summit objectives, given before the Council of the Americas. The number one answer to poverty, he argued, is “protecting property rights”—and he made clear he meant the rights of foreign investors and creditors, primarily.

The second priority, Noriega said, is to facilitate the flow of remittances to the region through the major banks, because this money—sent back home by the millions of Ibero-Americans working in largely low-wage jobs in the United States, their own countries’ economies having been destroyed under free trade—has become the largest source of foreign revenue for many countries. If these nations are going to maintain the façade of servicing their unpayable foreign debts, it will be revenue from remittances, among other sources, which creditor banks so urgently need to keep the balloon afloat a bit longer.

Brazil’s President Lula spoke for the victims of these free-trade looting policies of the past decade, which were imposed

with the lying argument that privatization and market reform would bring prosperity. Not true, said Lula. The 1990s “was a decade of despair. It was a perverse model that wrongly separated the economic from the social, put stability against growth, and separated responsibility and justice.” Argentine President Néstor Kirchner added that “it is unacceptable to insist on recipes that have failed.”

Colombian President Alvaro Uribe Vélez reported that in his 50-minute meeting with International Monetary Fund chief Horst Köhler during the summit, he had urged the IMF to exclude infrastructure investment from the calculations of the fiscal deficit ceiling the IMF regularly imposes on these countries. He emphasized that he was speaking in the name of all the Ibero-American countries: “We need more space for social investment. . . . The IMF and multilateral [financial] institutions can help us, and should help us, by accepting the suggestion of all the South American countries that infrastructure investment not be included under the fiscal ceilings. If we need to build a roadway or waterway required internationally, why should we include this under the fiscal ceiling? By not doing so, we will have the opportunity to make investment advances that will have a major social impact.”

The Voice of Reason

LaRouche Youth Movement activists managed a number of personal encounters with Ibero-American Presidents, including Chile’s Ricardo Lagos and Bolivia’s Carlos Mesa. They also had an exchange with Mexican President Vicente Fox which garnered widespread coverage in the press there. Just after his arrival in Monterrey, Fox went to Mass at the Monterrey Cathedral, where he was approached by three LYM organizers, who urged him to take up LaRouche’s demand for writing off the Ibero-American foreign debt. They added that Mexico’s true friend and “good neighbor” in the United States is LaRouche, and gave him LaRouche’s book *Road to Recovery*.

The LYM’s brief exchange with Fox made headlines in papers ranging from the radical leftist *La Jornada*, to *El Norte*, *Milenio*, *El Universal*, *El Herald*, and *El Porvenir*. All covered the LYM’s call not to pay the foreign debt, its protest against the policies of the IMF, and more.

The LYM organizers joined a march against the do-nothing summit, where they were the only contingent to offer real programmatic alternatives to the sterile protests of the “anti-globalization” activists. Among the LYM’s chants was the popular “Who Is the Axis of Evil?: The IMF and World Bank!” The LYM’s enormous banner drew the attention of the media; it declared, “LaRouche: Mexico’s Ally Against Cheney and the IMF,” and “Put the IMF into Bankruptcy; For a New Bretton Woods with Justice and Development.”

Playing the part of the “bad boy” at the summit was Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez, whose provocative behavior stirred up a media hornets’ nest, providing Bush and company with a handy source of distraction from the real issues.

International Intelligence

Gerashchenko Bid For President Rejected

As expected, the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation ruled on Jan. 22 that Victor Gerashchenko could not be a candidate in the Russian Presidential elections without petitioning, even though he was nominated by the Russia's Regions Party, from within the Rodina bloc, which won representation in the Duma. "Parliamentary" parties are not supposed to have to petition, but Rodina is an alliance, not a party. Rodina announced it would appeal the ruling to the Russian Supreme Court.

The CEC decision leaves Rodina leader Sergei Glazyev as the sole candidate from Rodina. He filed his independent candidacy at the beginning of this month. Interviewed by NTV tonight, Gerashchenko affirmed that he and the rest of Rodina would support Glazyev if the appeal fails, "since there are no contradictions among us, at least regarding the problem we would want to raise during the Presidential elections—government economic policy."

Six non-party candidates, including President Putin, are attempting to collect the required 2 million valid signatures in Russia in the dead of Winter, by Jan. 28.

Iran Plans Six More Nuclear Plants

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Rezy Asefi announced on Jan. 18, that Iran would tender bids for the six new nuclear power plants. He reiterated Iran's plans for the peaceful use of nuclear technology, and referred to the protocol to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) signed by Tehran.

Hassan Rowhani, head of Iran's National Security Council, who negotiated the NPT protocol agreement with the European foreign ministers delegation, is currently in Paris. In an interview to *Le Figaro*, he also stressed the peaceful use, and added that, "We demand of the industrialized countries that they place nuclear technology at our disposal, for peaceful use, in accordance with

the NPT."

Rowhani went on to call for a nuclear-weapons-free Middle East, saying, "If Israel's arsenals of weapons of mass destruction are not destroyed, the countries of the region will be encouraged to start an arms race." Rowhani displayed confidence that relations with the United States would be restored.

China State Firms Laying Off Millions

Some 3 million workers will be laid off from China's state industries over the next three years, Xinhua reported last week. "Re-employment" is a big challenge, China's Labor Minister Zhang Silin said, even if the restructuring of the state-owned industry is completed by 2006. There are still 2.7 previously laid-off workers who have yet to get new jobs, and layoffs will go on, he said. Some 4 million laid-off workers did get a new job last year, Zhang said.

China started the re-employment agencies in 1998, and since then, some 27.8 million state industry employees have lost their jobs. These workers are not included in official unemployment figures, since they get a (very small) government stipend.

In addition, China has to generate 24 million new jobs in 2004 just to absorb this year's school graduates and the "surplus" rural workers who leave the countryside for the cities. This level of employment pressure will continue in China for the next 20 to 30 years.

Morales Threatens New Bolivia/Chile War

Following the lead of Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez, George Soros's favorite coca-producer, Evo Morales, told an Argentine radio station on Jan. 15 that there could be another war between Bolivia and Chile, and suggested Bolivia impose a trade embargo on Chile until it agrees to give Bolivia an outlet to the sea. Bolivian territory extended to the Pacific Ocean, until Chile seized Bolivia's coastline in the 1870's war known as the War of the Pacific, in which

Chile waged war against Peru and Bolivia, on behalf of British interests. Regaining access to the sea remains a hot issue within Bolivia, and a cause of long-standing hostility towards Chile.

Synarchist agent Chávez sparked the latest flare-up of the border issue last November, with a speech given at the Ibero-American Heads of State summit in Bolivia, declaring Bolivia's right to the sea the key to securing justice for Bolivia. Left-wing elements within the Mesa government jumped onto Chávez's provocation, suddenly declaring the border question *the* key to Bolivia's security and development today. Bolivia's President Carlos Mesa and Chile's President Ricardo Lagos exchanged sharp words over the issue at the Monterrey Heads of State summit, and Chile's Interior Minister José Miguel Insulza pronounced on Jan. 15, that "there isn't much room or climate for constructive solutions" between the two countries any more.

Indian Kashmiris Want No More Violence

The Indian-part of Kashmir's main political separatist group, the All-Party Hurriyat Conference (APHC), and the Indian Deputy Prime Minister, L.K. Advani, jointly urged on Jan. 22 an end to violence in Kashmir. Advani was meeting the APHC leaders, and the statement was issued after the very first meeting.

The unprecedented meeting took place two weeks after India and Pakistan agreed to resume bilateral talks in February over a range of disputes, including Kashmir, which lies at the heart of more than five decades of enmity and the cause of two wars.

"The Hurriyat delegation stressed that an honorable and durable solution should be found through dialogue," said a senior Hurriyat official, Abdul Ghani Bhatt. "It was agreed that the only way forward is to ensure that all forms of violence at all levels should come to an end," he said, adding that further talks would be held in March.

Indian intelligence believes the APHC does not have control over armed militants who come in from Pakistan across the border.

Electronic Voting Is a Threat to the Constitution

by Edward Spannaus

In the wake of widespread irregularities in the Jan. 13 Washington, D.C. primary, Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche gave his endorsement to the calls by local officials for an investigation of the vote tabulation in the primary election (See *EIR*, Jan. 23). Moreover, LaRouche has emphasized the threat to the fundamental constitutional right of the citizen to vote, and to the right to a fair election, which is posed by the introduction of new computerized vote-counting systems—systems which are easily rigged, and which render it impossible to verify the vote count.

In a Jan. 18 editorial, the *New York Times* issued the following warning: “The morning after the 2000 election, Americans woke up to a disturbing realization: our electoral system was too flawed to say with certainty who had won. Three years later, things may actually be worse. If this year’s Presidential election is at all close, there is every reason to believe that there will be another national trauma over who the rightful winner is, this time compounded by troubling new questions about the reliability of electronic voting machines.”

It’s a lot worse than the *New York Times* is admitting. As a result of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), passed by the Republican-controlled Congress in 2002, the Federal government is now subsidizing and encouraging the adoption of insecure electronic voting systems by the states. Under the pretext of assisting persons with disabilities, by 2006 every polling place used in a Federal election is required to have at least one direct recording electronic (DRE) device, or another device “equipped for individuals with disabilities.”

The only good news, is that a study issued on Jan. 22 by the Election Reform Information Project and electionline.org, shows that these “reforms” are proceeding more slowly than anticipated, explaining that “those who expected all the ills revealed in the 2000 elections to be cured by November 2004

will certainly be surprised.” They don’t admit, that in this case, the cure is worse than the disease.

The study does attribute some of the delays to security concerns, reporting: “Debates over the accuracy, security and integrity of paperless, electronic voting continue to delay and in some cases alter machine replacement plans in a number of states.”

The study also complains: “Once the darlings of election reform, direct-recording electronic (DRE) machines, using touch-screen or scrolling-wheel models, have raised more suspicion than the antiquated punch-card and lever machines they were slated to replace. The absence of voter-verified paper trails has computer scientists, members of Congress and newspaper editorial boards concerned.”

Another problem: “In a closely-related issue, the constant backlash against electronic voting might have sapped voter confidence in the same way the Florida fiasco and the problems with punch cards, vague recount rules, and poorly designed ballots did in 2000.” The report laments that “HAVA was passed, its supporters said, largely to restore shaken faith in America’s voting system,” but has it succeeded?

Another survey shows that nationwide, 56% of voters will use touch-screen or optical scanning systems this year, up from 43% in 2000. Punch cards are still in use in 22 states. Only Georgia and Maryland have made a complete cut-over to touch-screen systems, despite doubts about their security.

The Georgia ‘Upset’

Many questions and suspicions have been raised about the 2002 elections in Georgia, its first election using Diebold touch-screen machines statewide—indeed, the first election in the country conducted solely on touch-screen devices. The election produced a Republican sweep which raised a lot of

eyebrows. For example, incumbent Democratic Senator Max Cleland was leading Rep. Saxby Chambliss 49-44% in polls before the elections, but Chambliss won by 53-46%. Another unexpected upset was in the Governor's race, where a Democratic pre-election lead of 48-39% was reversed in a 52-45% Republican victory, the first Republican elected Governor of Georgia in 135 years. Such things do happen, of course, and the first explanation offered was a voting surge by angry white males triggered by the abolition of the Confederate flag as the state banner. However, post-election demographic analysis showed no such surge; the only population sector showing an increase in turnout was black women.

Fueling suspicions were many irregularities: machines freezing up, memory cards missing and lost.

Moreover, Georgia's election was not run by state officials; it was conducted by a private company, under a strict trade-secrecy contract that prohibited election officials from doing anything to the equipment, or examining the software to see if the systems were operating correctly.

Of course none of this proves that fraud, or even accidental mistabulation of the vote, actually occurred. But, the problem is that no one can prove that it *didn't*. There is no way of knowing, since there is no way of conducting even a partial recount. "Trust me," says Diebold—and the voters have no choice.

It doesn't help that Diebold has extensive ties into Republican circles, and that its chief executive, Wally O'Dell, is a frequent visitor to the Bush ranch in Crawford, Texas; that he hosted a \$600,000 fundraiser for Dick Cheney; or that he sent out a fundraising letter declaring that he was "committed to helping Ohio to deliver its electoral votes to the President next year"—even as his Ohio-based company was bidding for the state's contract for new voting machines.

"Trust me," says Wally O'Dell—and you, the voter, have no choice, for his machines produce no paper trail, no audit trail, and provide no ability to conduct a recount.

Security Flaws and Vulnerabilities

Experts who have analyzed the new generation of electronic voting systems have emphasized that there is simply no way to be certain that the vote is being counted accurately.

- The most cautious study on DRE systems, done by the Congressional Research Service (CRS) and issued in November 2003, concluded that "at least some current DRE's clearly exhibit security vulnerabilities."

The study reports that "the more complex a piece of software is, the more vulnerable it is to attack," and continues: "That is because more complex code will have more places that malware can be hidden, and more potential vulnerabilities that could be exploited, and it is more difficult to analyze for security problems. In fact, attackers often discover and exploit vulnerabilities that were unknown to the developer, and many experts argue that it is impossible to anticipate all possible weaknesses and points of attack for complex



Touch-screen voting on a direct-recording electronic machine.

software."

"The ballot itself consists of redundant electronic records in the machine's computer memory banks, which the voter cannot see," says the report.

The CRS report acknowledges that "voters must have confidence in the integrity of the voting systems they use if they are to trust the outcomes of elections and the legitimacy of governments formed as a result of them," and it adds: "If the concerns that have been raised about DRE security become widespread, that confidence could be eroded, whether or not those concerns are well-founded."

But the CRS report acknowledges, with respect to what is probably the most basic means of ensuring confidence in voting results—recounting the vote—that "problems with the machines themselves, including tampering, would probably not be discovered through a recount."

The Diebold Study

- A study of Diebold DRE machines by computer scientists from Johns Hopkins and Rice Universities, was released on July 23, 2003. This study was based on a review of Diebold software source code which had been inadvertently placed by Diebold on a public Internet site. Diebold has admitted that the software code on which the study is based is authentic, and that the study's conclusions regarding the software are essentially correct, but they claim that other factors will protect elections against their software.

The Hopkins study found "stunning flaws," including flaws that would allow a hacker to break into the system and alter the program, and which would allow a "back door" to be installed into the system. They determined that there was no way to ensure that the systems were bug-free, and did not contain malicious code.

The worst security errors found by the Hopkins study had been called to Diebold's attention five years earlier by Dr. Douglas W. Jones of the University of Iowa, a member of Iowa's Board of Examiners for voting systems. Dr. Jones says

that the Diebold story “represents a black eye” for the whole system of both state and Federal governments setting of voting equipment standards, because not only did the Diebold touch-screen system “pass all of the tests imposed by this standards process, but it passed them many times, and the source code auditors even gave it exceptionally high marks.”

“Given this,” Dr. Jones asks, “should we trust the security of any of the other direct recording electronic voting systems on the market?” He has called for de-certification of the Diebold equipment.

- The State of Maryland conducted a follow-up to the Hopkins-Rice study; in the follow-up, a group of computer experts found 328 software flaws, 26 of which they deemed critical. “If these vulnerabilities are exploited,” they said, “significant impact could occur on the accuracy, integrity, and availability of election results.”

Dangers of Internet Voting

Another just-released study recommends that the emerging trend toward Internet voting should be stopped in its tracks. Four computer-security specialists examined the new Defense Department program for Internet voting, known as SERVE (Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment). SERVE is now just a prototype, which is intended to be used in some primaries, including the Feb. 3 South Carolina primary, and in a number of states in the November general elections. The SERVE system was created by the consulting firm Accenture, a renamed successor to the Arthur Anderson accounting firm, of Enron notoriety.

The authors note at the outset that all of the criticisms which have been made of DRE voting systems “apply directly to SERVE as well.” But beyond that, they report that “because SERVE is an Internet- and PC-based system, it has numerous other fundamental security problems that leave it vulnerable to a variety of well-known cyber attacks,” which “could result in large-scale, selective voter disenfranchisement . . . vote buying and selling . . . and/or vote switching even to the extent of reversing the outcome of many elections at once, including the Presidential election.”

The authors of the SERVE study conclude that its vulnerabilities cannot be fixed, and that the system should be abandoned. They warn of the implications for the emerging trend for Internet voting. They warn that the system might appear to work flawlessly in the 2004 elections, but “the fact that no successful attack is detected does not mean that none occurred. Many attacks, especially if cleverly hidden, would be extremely difficult to detect, even in cases where they change the outcome of a major election.”

A “successful trial” of the SERVE system “is the top of a slippery slope toward even more vulnerable systems in the future,” the experts state; and they give, as an example, that “the existence of SERVE has already been cited as justification for Internet voting in the Michigan Democratic caucuses.”

The 14th and 15th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution

guarantee to citizens the right to vote, and the right to equal protection of the law—which means the right not only to cast a ballot, but to have it counted fairly.

The Constitutional right to vote is enforced by the Voting Rights Act of 1965—which is still on the books, despite combined efforts by right-wing Republicans and the Democratic National Committee to wipe it out. One of the provisions of the Voting Rights Act, is for the appointment of Federal voting examiners who are entitled to observe whether votes “are being properly tabulated.”

But, if votes are being counted by a computer “black box,” how can anyone know if they are being counted fairly? As studies have noted, it is possible to hide malicious code so that it is undetectable.

For example, Dr. David Jefferson, an election security expert at Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, states: “Any security expert will tell you that it is very easy to write hidden logic that behaves properly when being tested and only does its dirty work when used in a real election.”

Thus, without some form of a paper trail, such as the recording on paper of individual votes, it is impossible to verify the results of a computerized tabulation of votes.

One solution being proposed, with Dr. David Dill of Stanford University in the forefront, is what is called a “voter-verifiable audit trail.”

Dr. Dill has drafted a statement, which over 100 other computer scientists have signed, which says in part: “Computerized voting equipment is inherently subject to programming error, equipment malfunction, and malicious tampering. It is therefore crucial that voting equipment provide a voter-verifiable audit trail, by which we mean a permanent record of each vote that can be checked for accuracy by the voter before the vote is submitted, and is difficult or impossible to alter after it has been checked.”

Bills have been introduced into both the House and the Senate to require a voter-verifiable audit trail on every voting system; this is called the “Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2003.” It was first introduced in the House by Rep. Rush Holt (D-N.J.) in May 2003; Sen. Bob Graham (D-Fla.) introduced it in the Senate in December. The bills call for a permanent paper record to be created of each vote, which the voter can inspect and verify at the time of casting his ballot. The paper records would be securely maintained and would be the official record to be used in a recount. Additionally, there can be no undisclosed software in a voting system, and the source code must be open and available for inspection.

EIR is conducting its own study of the problem, and is not prepared to fully endorse these measures at this time, but we note that this is at least a step in the right direction. Unless the voter can verify his vote at the time it is cast, and unless there is a permanent, individual record which is available to be utilized in a recount if necessary, there no longer exists the right to vote and to have the vote fairly counted, as is guaranteed by the United States Constitution.

Congressman Moots Cheney Impeachment

by Jeffrey Steinberg

On the eve of the Iowa Democratic caucuses, Rep. Jerry Costello (D-Ill.) stunned voters at a Gephardt rally by mooting there could soon be impeachment hearings against Vice President Cheney, stemming from the Congressional probe of Halliburton sweetheart contracts in Iraq. Dick Cheney is the former CEO of Halliburton, and as Secretary of Defense in the Bush “41” Administration, he hired Halliburton to conduct a \$25-million secret study of how to outsource and privatize many Defense Department logistical and support functions. After he left Washington in January 1993, Cheney took over the Dallas-based oil industry service firm, and turned it into a major government subcontractor.

Halliburton is today the number one recipient of no-bid contracts for Iraqi reconstruction work, and is under Congressional investigation for price gouging and other contract violations. The *Wall Street Journal* reported on Jan. 23 that two Halliburton executives have confessed to taking a \$6 million payoff from Kuwaiti subcontractors, to cut them in on Halliburton’s Iraq business. And a recent Congressional Research Service study found that Cheney has not divested his holdings in Halliburton, as claimed; he still receives deferred salary payments in the hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, and holds nearly a half-million company stock options.

When the Internet Drudge Report characterized Costello’s remarks as a call for Cheney’s impeachment, the Congressman issued a clarification on Jan. 20: “I was not calling for impeachment hearings”; but hearings on Cheney and Halliburton contracts will continue, and “It Would not surprise me if a member of Congress called for such hearings based on the findings.” A Congressional aide told *EIR*, in response to the report on Costello, that many Congressmen are thinking of impeachment, “and they are even talking about it in the Administration.”

That Cheney has become a major liability for President Bush’s re-election bid is an open secret in Washington. As of this writing, the first 200,000 copies of the LaRouche in 2004 campaign pamphlet, *Children of Satan II: The Beast-Men*, have been distributed, and a second printing is to hit the streets in days. The report exposes Cheney’s pivotal role in the drive for an American imperium waging “perpetual war” across Eurasia, including the use of mini-nukes against Third World targets. On Jan. 21, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence began two days of closed hearings into the intelligence fakery leading to the Iraq war. Cheney led the effort to sell Congress and the American people on invading Iraq and over-

throwing Saddam Hussein, on the basis of fraudulent or grossly exaggerated claims that Iraq possessed arsenals of weapons of mass destruction, and had ties to al-Qaeda.

When a bipartisan Senate intelligence panel probe into the hoaxes was launched, Cheney, through Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.), ordered the panel to end the effort, and still-unidentified people stole and leaked a Democratic panel internal memo to rightwing journalists, to stymie committee efforts.

Cheney and top aides Lewis “Scooter” Libby and John Hannah head the list of suspects in the leaking of the identity of CIA covert operations officer Valerie Plame, the wife of former Ambassador Joseph Wilson. The probe of that leak is being headed by Chicago U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald, after Attorney General John Ashcroft recused himself due to possible conflict of interest. The issue of the Plame leak has also suddenly become red hot. On Jan. 20, ten former CIA case officers and analysts wrote to the House leadership, demanding a full bipartisan Congressional probe into the Plame leak, describing it as “an unprecedented and shameful event” that “has damaged U.S. national security, specifically the effectiveness of U.S. intelligence gathering using human sources” (see *Documentation*).

The letter, which was released by Rep. Nancy Pelosi, was sent as Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ), a member of the House Select Committee on Intelligence, who submitted a resolution of inquiry to force the White House, the Pentagon, the State Department, and the Justice Department to give the House documents related to the ongoing probe of the Plame leak. The unusual procedure, which is unique to the House of Representatives, could lead to the creation of a full House special “leakgate” panel; at minimum it, in the words of Rep. Holt, puts greater pressure on the Administration to end the six-month stonewall. Pelosi, the House Democratic Leader, issued a press statement Jan. 22, endorsing both the CIA officers’ letter and the Holt initiative, complaining, “I cannot understand, given the seriousness of this matter, why the President has not become personally involved. He has not been well served by the action of a person or persons on the White House staff who, having possession of information of great sensitivity, chose to disclose it to the media. The President should demand that those responsible identify themselves immediately to him and face the consequences.”

With all of this smoke around the Vice President, George W. Bush and chief political strategist Karl Rove asked the Vice President to launch a “charm offensive” to salvage his position on the ticket. Last weekend, Cheney used a campaign tour of the Western states to give his first interview to reporters in nearly two years. A team of journalists from the *Los Angeles Times* and *USA Today* were given an opportunity to interview him, and on Jan. 19, both papers ran versions of the Cheney chat.

In one of two *USA Today* stories, reporter Judy Keen made clear that Cheney has emerged from his cave on orders from Bush campaign strategists: “Politics is behind his emergence:

Cheney's 'Free Speech' Cages

On a campaign fundraising stop in Portland, Oregon on Jan. 13, Vice President Cheney exploited a recent Federal court decision, in the criminal case of *U.S.A. v. Bursey*, to expand the use of the shamefully mislabelled "Free Speech Zones" to literally cage his opponents. Protesters were not allowed to approach the event at a hotel near the Portland Airport, but were directed by police to a muddy field at least 100 yards away, where they were enclosed behind an eight-foot-high chain-link fence topped with razor wire. Over the last year, the Bush Administration has been implementing a Homeland Security policy of creating pre-arranged vicinity-exclusion zones, designated by Secret Service agents, during campaign speeches and stopovers. Secret Service teams advance-scout the vicinity for vacant lots, ballparks, airfields, and areas that might hold many hundreds or thousands of protesters. The sites are generally located from a block to a third of a mile or more from the

site of the political event, always well out of camera range. The area chosen, is enclosed in portable chain-link, and given the Orwellian designation of a Free Speech Zone. Secret Service then provides local law enforcement with criteria for determining which members of the public may enter the area where Bush is speaking, and which must use the Free Speech Zone. Administration supporters, with their signs, are allowed access to the President, and are present for the media. Other citizens with protest signs are told they must exercise their right of dissent in the Free Speech Zone.

Will Seaman, of the Portland Peaceful Resource Coalition, said of the area where Cheney protesters were caged, "It was completely inaccessible," and a half-mile from the nearest public transit. "It was a marsh," he noted. At one point, dozens of riot police and other officers on bicycle, horseback and all-terrain vehicles massed across from the protesters. They were informed, via loudspeaker, that any attempts to pass or tamper with the barricade could subject them to the use of force, including chemical agents or impact weapons, as well as to arrest and criminal charges.

Bush strategists believe it's time for Cheney to move from undisclosed secure locations to the front lines of the campaign, and a little image repair is in order." She noted, "Critics also view Cheney as the man responsible for the Administration's penchant for secrecy and a hard-liner who helped drag Bush into war with Iraq. Halliburton, the company he once headed, is being investigated for its lucrative Pentagon contracts. Some people wonder whether Cheney will be an asset or a liability in this campaign." She quoted Democratic strategist Paul Begala: "If you're a rich, fat white guy, he's your hero. But he's a very controversial guy. This is what comes with being the most powerful Vice President in history."

The *Los Angeles Times* was generally kinder to the Vice President, although reporter Maura Reynolds wrote, "Democrats and other critics paint Cheney as a dark, insidious force pushing Bush toward war and confrontation. But that doesn't bother the vice president. 'What's wrong with my image?' Cheney asks with a laugh. He contends that he operates in public when it serves the Administration's agenda, and in private when that is more effective. 'Am I the evil genius in the corner that nobody ever sees coming out of his hole?' he asks. 'It's a nice way to operate, actually.'" The interview transcript shows Cheney trying to soften his profile as the super-hawk who sought out cooked intelligence to justify war with Iraq. He admitted he asked tough questions, but denied he relied on "stovepiped" intelligence from Iraqi dissidents to sell the war. On the Paul O'Neill flap, Cheney grew defensive, denying charges that he is the real power in the Administration, responsible for the policy disasters; but making clear the former Treasury Secretary is no longer a friend.

Cheney's soft-peddling lasted exactly 72 hours. On Jan. 20, his war-party prints were all over President Bush's State of the Union address. And on Jan. 22, he showed up at the Conservative Political Action Committee (CPAC) annual conference in Washington, and delivered his standard lying rant: still linking Saddam Hussein to Al-Qaeda and the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001; and vowing that U.S. inspectors will sooner or later find those vast quantities of weapons of mass destruction that he and his neo-con minions cited as the reason for war.

Documentation

CIA Veterans Demand House Action on Leak

This letter was sent by ten retired CIA officers to Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), House Majority Leader Tom DeLay (R-Tex.), House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Cal.), Rep. Porter Goss (R-Fla.), and Rep. Jane Harman (D-Cal.), and the ranking Members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Dear Mr. Speaker:

We the undersigned former intelligence officers in the

U.S. intelligence community, request that you launch an immediate, bipartisan congressional investigation into who leaked the name of Valerie Plame, wife of former U.S. Ambassador Joseph Wilson IV, to syndicated columnist Robert Novak and other members of the media that exposed her status as an undercover CIA officer. The disclosure of Ms. Plame's name was an unprecedented and shameful event in American history and, in our professional judgment, has damaged U.S. national security, specifically the effectiveness of U.S. intelligence gathering using human sources. Any breach of the code of confidentiality and cover weakens the overall fabric of intelligence, and directly or indirectly jeopardizes the work and safety of intelligence workers and their sources.

While we are pleased that the U.S. Department of Justice is conducting an investigation, and that the U.S. Attorney General has recused himself, we believe that the Congress must send an unambiguous message that the intelligence officers tasked with collecting or analyzing intelligence must never be turned into political punching bags. We believe it is important that Congress speak with one non-partisan voice on this issue. Moreover, the investigation must focus on more than simply identifying who leaked the information. We believe it is important that Congress help the American people understand how this happened, and take a clear stand that such behavior will not be tolerated under any Administration, Republican or Democrat. A thorough and successful Congressional investigation of this crime is necessary to send a clear signal that the elected representatives of this government will not accept nor ignore the political exploitation of the men and women in our intelligence community. A professional, thorough investigation will also help boost the weakened morale of our intelligence personnel and renew their confidence and trust in the elected leadership of the country.

Our friends and colleagues have difficult jobs gathering the intelligence, which helps, for example, to prevent terrorist attacks against Americans at home and abroad. They sometimes face great personal risk and must spend long hours away from family and friends. They serve because they love this country and are committed to defending the principles of liberty and freedom. They do not expect public acknowledgement for their work, but they do expect and deserve their government's protection.

For the good of our country, we ask you to please stand up for every man and woman who works for the U.S. intelligence community, by immediately launching a Congressional investigation.

Sincerely Yours,

Larry C. Johnson, former Analyst; **James Marcinkowski**, former Case Officer; **Michael Grimaldi**, former Analyst; **Brent Cavan**, former Analyst; **Dr. Marc Sageman** MD; Ph.D., former Case Officer; **James A. Smith**, former Case Officer; **John McCavitt**, former Case Officer; **Ray McGovern**, former Analyst; **Ray Close**, former Analyst; **William Wagner**, former Case Officer.

Schwarzenegger Hangover Sickens California Dems

by Harley Schlanger

During the campaign to recall Gov. Gray Davis (D), which culminated in the election of Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger as Governor of California, Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche warned at a Burbank town meeting on Sept. 11, 2003 that the election of Schwarzenegger would have devastating consequences for the state. LaRouche characterized Arnie as a "Hollywood geek act," whose appointed role would be to beat down resistance to a fascist-style austerity regime in California—which would result in many premature deaths among the poor, elderly, and disabled. He called on Democrats to mobilize to defeat the hand-picked Beast-Man of Wall Street.

Instead, the Democratic Party caved in, under the willful misdirection of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), which acted to undermine efforts to rally support for Governor Davis. With the exception of the extraordinary mobilization against Recall waged by the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM), in collaboration with a small group of Democratic activists, Schwarzenegger was given a free ride.

Since his election, the new Governor has put forward a series of fiscal and budgetary proposals which confirm LaRouche's warnings. Either accept the cuts I am proposing, he has repeatedly told both legislators and voters, or there will be much more draconian cuts to come. With the state's plunge toward bankruptcy continuing unabated, his first measure, to repeal the higher car license fee passed by the legislature, added \$4 billion to the deficit. His second action was to bully the legislature to place a \$15 billion bond measure on the March 2 ballot, threatening that failure to do so would ensure that the state would run out of cash before the end of the fiscal year in June 2004.

Next, to "balance" the budget for the upcoming year, which begins in June 2004, Schwarzenegger proposed over \$4.6 billion in cuts, largely from health and social services, in a state where more than 6 million people already lack health insurance, and which has seen a dangerous level of hospital closings and triaging of community health centers. Doctors at USC/County Hospital in Los Angeles, the largest remaining public hospital in the county, have already submitted affidavits which document unnecessary deaths due to overcrowded emergency rooms, even before this latest round of cuts.

The Governor has demanded additional cuts in education, trashing his campaign promise that it would be cut "over my dead body." His 2004-05 budget includes \$2 billion in cuts



A meeting of two synarchist “beast-men” who threaten the United States republic with fascism: Vice President Cheney (left), whose energy-pirate allies looted California through the energy deregulation swindle; and Arnie Schwarzenegger, whom they then rammed into the California governor’s office for another round of vicious looting.

in K-12 education funding; over \$700 million from higher education; and massive tuition and fee increases in the state college and university systems. He intends to grab \$1.3 billion in property tax revenue from cities and counties, to be channeled into the state’s coffers, producing damaging hits to already over-stretched municipal police and fire departments.

Even after these cuts, there is a projected deficit of more than \$6 billion in 2004-05, on top of the projected \$14 billion this year—and these figures assume a “robust recovery” arising from Arnie’s bloody budget cuts! That Dracula script is more fantasy-ridden than any underlying his successful Hollywood fantasy flicks.

Beast-Man Warns of Armageddon

Why no fight from more sensible circles in California? Has everyone bought into the neo-con ideology of less government? Does no one in the state remember that the budget crisis is a product of the implementation of electricity deregulation, which was sold on the lie that it would reduce electricity costs? Has everyone forgotten that the prosperity of the once-Golden State was built through an alliance between government and productive industries, with a special emphasis on government spending on infrastructure, an approach championed by President Franklin Roosevelt and continued by governors such as Pat Brown? Or have potential opponents been cowed by Arnie’s “aura of power,” and reduced to impotence by his repeated threats?

The Beast-Man quality nailed by LaRouche was in full display in Schwarzenegger’s first outing the week of Jan. 19, promoting Proposition 57, the \$15 billion bond referendum. If voters don’t approve it, he bellowed at a hand-picked audi-

ence at a Fresno ceramics plant, “we will have to make drastic cuts, deep cuts. I call them *Armageddon cuts*. Cuts in services that we don’t want to make, that would be devastating.” Hyperbolic? This is standard for Schwarzenegger, whose election was pushed through by “neo-conservatives” linked to Vice President Cheney, synarchist bankers guided by George Shultz, and swindlers tied to former Gov. Pete Wilson, the man who opened the door to deregulation, Enron, and the energy pirates.

Since his election, Schwarzenegger has used a steady stream of violent images to force legislators to knuckle under, and accept imposing killer austerity on state government. In a previous series of public meetings, he threatened there would be “severe casualties” among legislators if they resisted his efforts. In his State of the State address, he said he did not intend to merely “move boxes around” in a reorganization of the state’s administrative structure, but “to blow them up.”

The rhetoric appeals to frightened but enraged suburbanites who are losing ground—not due to government spending and regulation, but due to the reversal of the national economy from one based on production, to a consumer-driven post-industrial society. The popular base of Schwarzenegger is drawn largely from such debt-ridden rageballs lacking any sense of economics or history, who want to see someone pay the price for their insecurity and fears. It is a classic example of the social base which can be mobilized to back a strong man, or a Beast-Man, who promises to make the weakest section of the population—the poor, the elderly, minorities—suffer for being “overly demanding.” This is the social base which cheered lustily when Arnie, during his campaign, told

them he would “terminate” Governor Davis, and foamed at the mouth when right-wing radio jocks promised “bodies flying out of windows in Sacramento,” the state capital.

The violent rhetoric pleased Pete Wilson, who served as co-chair of his campaign, and whose former staffers are the top aides to Schwarzenegger. Wilson enthused that, finally, there is someone with the “stomach” required to destroy the social safety net for the bankers.

Dems’ Denial on Economy Feeds Fears

Many leading Democrats have capitulated to the environment of terror created by Schwarzenegger, which is hyped by star-struck media as proof that he is a “real leader.” The annual state Democratic convention, held on Jan. 17-18 in San Jose, was poorly attended. While there were some weak jabs at Schwarzenegger, the deliberations as a whole were shaped by Democrats’ fears of Arnie and his fascist base. They are suffering from what LaRouche called the “Schwarzenegger Hangover Effect,” the sense of impotence stemming from the Recall, and the fear that the screaming lunatics of the far right represent a new majority in the state. This effect is reinforced by the Democrats’ strong denial that the financial crisis battering the state is part of a systemic global financial meltdown, not merely a “cyclical” problem.

The political vacuum created by this effect is most obvious in the dilemma, among party activists, over whether to back the \$15 billion bond referendum. If we don’t support the expanded borrowing, some party leaders argued at the convention, Schwarzenegger will use emergency powers to destroy the already-inadequate safety net. (He has already used emergency powers to make cuts, asserting such powers even more rapidly than Hitler did on assuming power!) Other Democrats countered that they should oppose the referendum, citing polls going against it, and saying that the chaos which will result from lack of funds will turn people against Schwarzenegger.

LaRouche noted that the only way out of this trap is to attack the underlying problem, the collapse of America’s physical economy. The real issue is leadership. With the cringing lack of it coming from party officials, it was left to the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM) to fill this vacuum in San Jose. They intervened with a spirited deployment which challenged party activists to get a spine. The 1,000 delegates attending saw the LYM everywhere, as more than 100 LaRouche activists engaged the dispirited delegates in Socratic dialogues and uplifted them with Classical music. At first startled to hear beautiful polyphony in the convention center, many delegates were moved, even some who “did their duty” by removing the activists from some party caucuses!

The only alternative to complete chaos soon in California, is to get out from under the “Schwarzenegger hangover,” and join LaRouche in an impassioned fight to protect the General Welfare from the gang of synarchists who are deploying Arnie as their fascist Beast-Man.

Would Today’s Edison and Einstein Be on Ritalin?

by Donald Phau

Today, millions of children under 18 years of age are being prescribed the behavior-controlling drugs Prozac and Ritalin. But an announcement in December 2003 by the British equivalent of the U.S. Federal Drug Administration (FDA) called for a partial ban on this mass drugging of youths. Britain’s Committee of Safety on Medicines (CSM) banned the usage of the anti-depressants called selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) for children under 18. The SSRIs are the leading medicines used to treat depression. The report was sent to every psychiatrist, pediatrician, mental health establishment, and pharmacy in Great Britain.

On Dec 10, the British *Guardian* newspaper reported: “Modern anti-depressant drugs which have made billions for the pharmaceutical industry will be banned from use in children today because of evidence, suppressed for years, that they can cause young patients to become suicidal. The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) told doctors last night not to prescribe all but one of the anti-depressants known as the selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors (SSRIs). The exception is Prozac, which is licensed for use in depressed children in the US. But the MHRA warns, at best, it helps only one child in 10. The decision has big implications for drug regulation.”

Ban on Ritalin Possible?

It was not explained why Prozac was the only SSRI exempted by the British ban. Could Prozac’s manufacturer, the pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly, have pulled some strings to have it exempted? The CSM report states that for five out of seven SSRIs evaluated, the “risk/benefit balance is unfavourable”; but for Prozac, “risk/benefit balance is not assessable”; meaning that it had no evaluation of the drug as of now.

The SSRIs and Ritalin have been linked to suicides and youth violence for many years. In 1998, 18-year-old Eric Harris and 17-year-old Dylan Kleibold killed 13 people at Columbine High School in Colorado. Harris, who had been taking the SSRI Luvox, then committed suicide. The same year in Springfield, Oregon, 14-year-old Kip Kinkel killed two students and wounded 25 others at Thurston High School. Kinkel had been taking Prozac and Ritalin.

Will a ban on Ritalin now be next? In the United States, a series of books has been published exposing the dangers of Ritalin. Ritalin, the brand name for methylphenidate, is categorized by the Drug Enforcement Administration, as a drug

within Federal Schedule II, which also includes cocaine. The drug itself is an amphetamine, but was given the name Ritalin by its manufacturer, Ciba-Geigy, which holds its patent. Sales of Ritalin are a billion dollars a year. Ritalin was first used to treat ADD or Attention Deficit Disorder. The name has been expanded and is now called ADHD, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Today, an estimated 5 million American school children are given Ritalin.

One of the first experts to call for stopping the widespread use of Ritalin was Lawrence H. Diller, M.D., whose book, *Running on Ritalin*, was published in 1998. Diller wrote how the professional acceptance of ADD was secured when it was listed in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM). The DSM is considered a virtual “bible” by psychiatry professionals, the American courts, and police. Some of the DSM criteria listed for “Hyperactivity” are: “often fidgets with hands or feet”; “squirms in seat”; or for “Inattention”: “often has difficulty in sustaining attention”; “often fails to play close attention to details.” Diller ridiculed these DSMs: “Don’t all kids, at one time, fidget with their hands?” He noted that these “symptoms” may be a product of boredom, and that it’s the smarter students who are most affected. Diller sarcastically added that Thomas Edison, Benjamin Franklin, and John F. Kennedy may have all displayed the symptoms listed in the DSM: “But the way things are going, even some of these notables might be offered Ritalin by today’s diagnosticians.”

Diller asked the basic question: “Is America ready to have 10% of its children taking Ritalin? With boys disproportionately represented, this means giving Ritalin to one in six boys between the ages of five and twelve” (emphasis in original).

Six years later, the answer, unfortunately, is “yes.”

Another 1998 book, *The Hyperactivity Hoax*, by neurologist and psychiatrist Dr. Sydney Walker III, blasted the educational and medical establishment: “Has your child been labeled hyperactive? If so, you’re not alone. According to doctors, there’s an epidemic of hyperactivity in America today. Three to five percent of all U.S. schoolchildren, and more than 10 percent of elementary school-age boys, currently take Ritalin or other drugs for hyperactive behavior, attention deficits, and impulsiveness.

“These children are labeled hyperactive by family practitioners, neurologists, and psychiatrists. Some of them are initially ‘diagnosed’ by teachers, school counselors, or nurses. There’s only one problem with this scenario: Hyperactivity is not a disease. *It’s a hoax perpetrated by doctors who have no idea what’s really wrong with these children*” (emphasis in original).

The Role of the HMOs

Dr. Walker writes that hundreds of thousands of healthy children were being drugged “and huge numbers of sick children are taking Ritalin to cover up symptoms of undiagnosed and untreated medical problems.” He presented a number of

case studies of children who were labeled ADHD, and treated with Ritalin, but who, when competently diagnosed, had real medical problems which were never looked into further. Walker wrote that drugs such as Ritalin are treating symptoms, not diseases, and laid part of the blame for this on the takeover of much of medical practice by health maintenance organizations (HMOs).

According to Dr. Walker, HMOs reward the doctors who quickly diagnose their patients with ADHD, while penalizing those physicians who refer their patients for follow-up by neurological or psychiatric specialists. One case he cited was that of a girl named Debbie, five years old when he saw her. Though she was “tiny and delicate,” her mother described her as a “mean little kid” who had temper tantrums and screaming fits. “As a baby, she cried continuously, slept very little, did not nap, and banged her head on her crib. Now in school, she’s run away from kindergarten twice. Her teachers despair over her out-of-control behavior and recommend medication. Debbie’s first doctor agrees.” Fortunately, Debbie’s mother did not agree and insisted on a second opinion. Debbie was examined by Dr. Walker, who referred her to a cardiac specialist. It turned out that Debbie had defective blood vessels between her heart and lungs, which prevented a normal flow of oxygenated blood to her brain. Surgery corrected this, and her behavior immediately improved, her tantrums stopped, and her teachers began praising her learning abilities.

Under HMO-run medical procedures, Debbie would have likely been on Ritalin for her entire youth. Walker writes, “In fact, many, if not most managed care programs are actually set up to punish doctors who offer careful and thorough care, and reward those who skimp. As the HMO population grows exponentially, the number of children labeled as hyperactive and put on Ritalin is growing right along with it: from about 150,000 in 1970 to approximately 2 million today [1998]. In my opinion, it’s no coincidence that the number of children labeled hyperactive or ADD started skyrocketing at about the same time managed care took over the medical industry. Under managed care, the pressure for doctors to treat patients quickly is intense. The ten-minute office visit is the gold standard, and many procedures must be approved by nonmedical business managers who frown on diligent and appropriate diagnostic efforts. . . .

“A decade ago, when the managed care movement was still in its early years, a Georgia parent-advocacy group found that out of 102 children put on Ritalin, *only two* received an evaluation that met even the cursory standards recommended by the manufacturer of the drug.”

In a webcast on Jan. 10, Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche was asked by a youth to say something about all the drugs that are forced on his generation. LaRouche answered that this was “brainwashing” and its purpose was to make you “stupid,” like taking Soma in Aldous Huxley’s book *Brave New World*. The full exchange follows.

'Read Brave New World: This Is Soma'

This question was put to Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche at his Jan. 10 webcast, by a member of the LaRouche Youth Movement.

Q: Lyn, what do you think of this theory that's presented to my generation, at the behest of the Baby Boomers: That being irrational, or being unable to control mood swings, is some chemical function of the brain? It just can't be the case that my generation suffers from some kind of unique chemical imbalance. Yet, at least half of the people that we meet are on some kind of drug.

Now, it may be the case that this was also true with Baby Boomers. But they *chose* to do drugs. In my generation, we're *given* drugs, and we're given them very early on. We're given anti-depressants, anti-anxiety pills, and other kinds of medication, and are told that this is helpful and necessary. Can you please say something about this?

LaRouche: Well, this is simply brainwashing. Read Aldous Huxley, *Brave New World* Soma! This is Soma.

What's the purpose? It's to make you stupid. It's done deliberately. And in fact, it was done, it was also done to the Baby-Boomer generation. Soma was administered: It was called LSD. LSD was a synthetic drug, based on a naturally-produced substance, which is called a psychotomimetic drug; made out of this rust. So, this was done, to try to find a way of mass drugging people, to make them totally irrational, and non-creative.

The function, here, has always been—like empiricism, for example. Empiricism was designed to make people stupid, make them inhuman. Empiricism says, as like your $x^2=4$; that's empiricism. It means a person who does that, is stupefied: "Well, that's that. That's that! We agreed, it's that! It's a social contract."

That's stupidity! "I'm a cow, he's a cow, she's a cow, Mo-o-o-o!" It's the nature of the beast, shall we say.

The 'Life-Style' Generation

Now, what we have is the following problem. If you're in a society, which is organized by a bunch of drug addicts—and remember drug addicts you know; what do middle-class housewives take? Thorazine! Or similar kinds of drugs. Poppers of one kind or another. It was a society like that. And so, what happens is, they create a society, in which they brought this about. They brought about this drugging program, which hits the younger generation. They created it. You have parents destroying their children.

The significant part about this, is that, with the younger

generation now, the children who've been looking at what they're in, they say, "We have been dumped into a *no-future society*. We are not going to go along. Our parents are in that sense our *enemies!* You can't talk to our parents! They won't listen. They're stupid! They don't know what they're talking about! They're off in a hysterical cult. You tell them there's reality, and they scream. They say, 'That's interfering with my lifestyle!' "

They're life-style freaks. And they believe in this stuff. As a result of the people in their fifties, now entering their sixties, the younger generation has been stuck into a swamp of drug culture.

Now, what do you think you've got on television? Do you think anybody with a brain can watch the movies that are being produced now? They're boring! They're absolutely boring. There's no structure to them whatsoever. It's like one of these crazy rock video things. They're all like rock video.

You're in a society that has no meaning. You're in a nightmare, an existentialist nightmare. And you find around you, that the effect of the second generation of druggies—the first generation was your parents' generation, and don't let them kid you. Some of us were there! We saw it. A bunch of druggies.

Now you're the second generation—who have been victimized by the effects of the first *degeneration*. I do say "*degeneration*" advisedly.

How do we deal with it? *We have to deal with it.* We have to decide, as a layer of the population, we are not going to let this become a third generation which is all the way down to the bottom. We are going to try to have to find ways to heal those who are victimized by this drug culture.

Because, as I said in New Hampshire: The Baby Boomer generation has no idea what they're talking about, when they talk about the drug culture. None! You who are younger, have some sense of it. It's different! You're seeing the debris, as a result of the previous generation's drug culture, when they shove Ritalin into you in schools. When they shoved Prozac into you, which is a deadly thing. It turned people into actual, physical vegetables, with this crap. And they do it!

We say, "No! *We don't accept that.*" And the human will, particularly when reinforced by a bunch of people getting together and agreeing, is a wonderfully powerful force. And you have to use that force, and get us free of that.

But, the generation that is victimized—which is adult, but has been victimized—is the best way of getting rid of the disease their parents' generation dumped on them.

— FOR A —
DIALOGUE OF CULTURES
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Cover-up Continues On 1967 Mideast War

by William Jones

The regular publication of the series “The Foreign Relations of the United States” (FRUS), which comprises recently declassified State Department documents, is normally greeted with a simple one- or two-page announcement issued by the State Department’s Office of the Historian. But the documents recently released that concerned the outbreak of the Arab-Israeli Six-Day War in 1967, were made the focus of much closer examination by a gathering of scholars during a two-day conference at the State Department on Jan. 12-13, undoubtedly with the intent of helping bring the languishing Middle East “Road Map” back to center stage. The forum also revived some unresolved issues in the “special relationship” between the United States and Israel, so dear to the neo-conservative war-mongers gathered around Vice President Dick Cheney.

It was that war which laid the basis for the horrors of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that we see today. As was stressed in opening remarks on Jan. 12 by David Satterfield, the Assistant Secretary for Near East Affairs, “The [Six-Day] war defined the shape, literally, of the continuing Middle East conflict, and physically changed the face of the region. When the war ended on June 10th, 1967, Israel was in control of more than double the amount of land it had controlled the week before, and Israel was in control of a Palestinian population. That fact has been a key element in the Arab-Israeli conflict and efforts to end it ever since.”

While admonishing the Palestinian Authority to deal effectively with terrorist activity, Satterfield had a clear-cut message to Israel with regard to the Sharon government’s settlement policy in the occupied territories. “For friends of Israel, the conclusion is hard to escape: Settlement activity must stop, because it ultimately undermines Israeli as well as Palestinian interests,” he said.

As one of the few Arab speakers, Dr. Hisham Khatib, a former Jordanian government minister, pointed out, today’s attempt to establish Middle East peace in a land-for-peace formula, which would restore Arab control over the West Bank and Gaza, in the form of a Palestinian state, is in a sense the restoration of the status quo ante to the 1967 Six-Day War.

‘Eretz Israel’ and the Push to War

One of the key issues debated at the conference was the

actual responsibility for the 1967 war. Some Israeli and American scholars, who were preponderant at the conference, argued that the Israelis, propelled by military necessity, simply launched a pre-emptive strike against the Egyptian forces mobilized in the desert, and that the real *casus belli* was the Egyptian mobilization. One Israeli scholar, Dr. Isabella Ginor, reiterated a widespread myth in the region, and claimed that the real perpetrator was the Soviet Union, which wanted to provoke an Egyptian attack on Israel.

While the FRUS documents released by the State Department don’t give an unequivocal picture on this particular question, some of the speakers, who had examined the Israeli sources, argued that there was a desire on the part of certain Israeli circles to foment such a fight, in order to take over the West Bank and Gaza, and strike a blow to Arab nationalism. As a number of speakers emphasized, it was generally known that the Israelis had the technological advantage, and could defeat the Egyptian forces without outside aid. For some, the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza was a strategic question; for others, there were the well-worn Biblical arguments, which for them provided sufficient grounds for such a move.

The other side of this picture, to which the State Department files won’t provide much illumination, is the way that certain U.S. intelligence forces, around the notorious CIA Director, James Jesus Angleton, tried to encourage just such a war, in order to undermine President Johnson’s attempts to broker a peace. Angleton was out to redesign the map of the Middle East with an expanded Israel as a potential “hand grenade” aimed at the Arab world, which plug might be pulled at the opportune moment for whatever geopolitical reasons might arise.

With regard to Soviet intentions, Ambassador Richard Parker, who had been one of the top diplomats at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo during the crisis, insisted that most of the Soviet leaders, with the possible exception of Marshall Grechko, were intent on avoiding war, and were advising Egypt’s President Gamal Abdul Nasser on ways of doing just that. In fact, when the Israelis attacked, the United States was speaking with Egyptian envoys regarding a possible peaceful settlement.

On the Israeli side, Dr. Tom Segev of the daily *Haaretz* argued that there already had been a very serious discussion within the Israeli leadership to expel the Palestinians living on the West Bank to Jordan and/or Iraq; to annex the West Bank and Gaza; and to populate the conquered territory with Israeli “settlers.” In 1967, before the start of the war, Segev said, Yigal Allon was advocating just such a policy. Even Israeli Gen. Moshe Dayan felt that the expulsion of the Palestinians was “barbaric,” Segev said. Others argued for an occupation with mass expulsions of the Palestinians, transforming the Israeli Defense Forces into an occupying force. “The Palestinians, who had previously played a negligible element in the formulation

of Israeli policy, were now put back in the center of things,” Segev said ruefully.

Johnson’s Failed Mideast Policy

In the panel on Lyndon Johnson’s Middle East policy, Dr. David Leach from Trinity University told how President Kennedy, who understood the great significance of the nascent nationalism in the Third World countries, including Arab nationalism, was in the process of building a workable relationship with Nasser’s Egypt. When Kennedy was killed and Johnson became President, the new President was more suspicious of such nationalism, a fact of which the Egyptian leader was not unaware.

And yet even Johnson, who, according to Leach, had developed a close relationship with Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, was not prepared to accept a permanent occupation of the Palestinian territories, if Israel, as he suspected they might do, conducted a pre-emptive strike.

While Johnson was made aware that the Israelis were indeed going to attack Egypt, he was also intent, as the FRUS documents indicate, on bringing the war to a close quickly and without Israeli annexations, a policy which the Israelis, with support from the Zionist Lobby in the U.S. Congress, successfully undermined. Johnson also warned the Israelis not to attack Syria or Jordan, a request they ignored.

Israelis Attack USS Liberty

The issue which created the most controversy at the State Department conference, and garnered the most media attention, was a panel that dealt with the Israeli attack on the *USS Liberty*, a U.S. reconnaissance vessel stationed off the coast of Egypt during the 1967 war. In the unprovoked attack, in broad daylight, 37 U.S. sailors were killed and 171 wounded. While the State Department papers give no unequivocal answer to the question of whether the attack was intentional (many of the overheard radio transmissions between the attacking Israeli pilots and their ground controllers just prior to the attack having completely disappeared), the evidence points clearly to foreknowledge on the part of the Israeli attackers, and intent to destroy a U.S. Navy ship, which they suspected was monitoring Hebrew-language traffic among the Israeli forces (see *EIR*, May 2, 2003).

The State Department forum included those who argued that this was simply a case of mistaken identity, as well as others, like author James Bamford, who, using National Security Agency (NSA) files, presents overwhelming evidence that the attack was intentional. But some of the survivors of the *Liberty* attack, who were present in the audience, were prevented from even stating their case.

When a number of these went to the microphone to refute the bogus claims of Israeli author Michael Oren, that the attackers did not see the American flag on the ship, or that they made attempts to identify the ship prior to launching torpedo attacks against the lifeboats on the *Liberty*, they were cut off

by the moderator. Obviously, while academic “debate” on the topic is considered legitimate, any attempt to get at the truth of the matter, even including eyewitness reports, is too hot for the State Department to handle.

The survivors and the families of survivors are demanding a congressional investigation of the *Liberty* incident, because of still unanswered questions and the massive whitewash that was conducted, with the full backing of the Johnson and following administrations, so as not to jeopardize the U.S.-Israeli “special relationship.” (Democratic Presidential contender Lyndon LaRouche has endorsed the call for such an investigation.)

Clarifying the truth behind the 1967 war more generally would also serve to spotlight the folly of much of U.S. Mideast policy, under the influence of such neo-cons as Richard Perle and his friends, during the last 37 years, in which Israel has served as a hand grenade about to explode, whenever a serious attempt at peace is made. Even Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Chief of Staff who led Israeli forces into Jerusalem during the 1967 war, came to realize the folly of such a policy, and sacrificed his life in an attempt to change it. Similar courage must also be shown by those inside and outside the U.S. government, in clarifying the record on a flawed U.S. policy, in order finally to establish a permanent peace between Israel and the Arab world, including the long-awaited creation of a sovereign Palestinian state.

COVERUP EXPOSED!

The Israeli Attack On the ‘USS Liberty’



“The Loss of Liberty,” a video by filmmaker Tito Howard, proves beyond any doubt that the June 8, 1967 Israeli attack against the *USS Liberty*, in which 34 American servicemen were killed and 171 wounded, was deliberate. The video includes testimony from *Liberty* survivors, many Congressional Medal of Honor winners, and from such high-ranking Americans as Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Adm. Arleigh Burke, Gen. Ray Davis, and Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

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Threat of Police-State, Rule by ‘Emergency’ Decree

The following is **Part 4** in a series of documentary comparisons of the views of the 2004 Democratic Presidential contenders. The topics are those raised by Lyndon LaRouche’s candidacy since Jan. 1, 2001, and therefore we place him first. The other candidates are listed in the order of the number of their itemized campaign contributions. (LaRouche is number two by this count.) **Part 1**, in EIR Dec. 12, 2003, dealt with the Iraq War and the Cheney neo-conservative coup; **Part 2**, in EIR Dec. 26, 2003, was on economic policy; **Part 3**, in EIR Jan. 16, 2004, was on military policy.

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.



1. *The Ashcroft Appointment and Threat of Rule by Emergency Orders*

On **Jan. 3, 2001**, when President George Bush had announced his intention to appoint former Sen. John Ashcroft as his Attorney General, Lyndon LaRouche responded to a question from a member of the Congressional Black Caucus,

about what to do. LaRouche, who was addressing a public symposium at the time, answered as follows:

“First of all, when Bush put Ashcroft in, as a nomination for the Justice Department, he made it clear, the Ku Klux Klan was riding again. That’s clear. Now, maybe Bush didn’t know what he was doing. But somebody in the Bush team did. And a lot of them had the voice to say something about it. Ashcroft was an insult to the Congress. If the Democrats in the Congress, capitulate to the Ashcroft nomination, the Congress is finished.

“This is pretty much like the same thing that Germany did, in Feb. 28, 1933, when the famous *Notverordnung* [emergency decree] was established. Just remember, after the Reichstag burning, the Reichstag fire, that Göring, who commanded at that time, Prussia—he was the Minister-President of Prussia at the time—set into motion an operation. As part of this, operating under the rules of Carl Schmitt, a famous pro-Nazi jurist of Germany, they passed this act called the *Notverordnung*, the emergency act, which gave the state the power, according to Schmitt’s doctrine, to designate which

part of his own population were enemies, and to imprison them, freely. And to eliminate them. This was the dictatorship. . . .”

In the days following this webcast, LaRouche mobilized his supporters to campaign for a Senate filibuster against Ashcroft’s confirmation.

On **Jan. 16, 2001**, testimony in opposition to the appointment of John Ashcroft as Attorney General, was presented to the Senate Judiciary Committee, for the written record, on behalf of LaRouche, by Dr. Debra Freeman, LaRouche’s campaign spokesperson. LaRouche was quoted:

“My opposition to Mr. Ashcroft’s confirmation is shaped by two considerations that go beyond the normal factors that one would weigh, in considering a candidate for the top law enforcement post in the U.S. Federal Executive Branch.

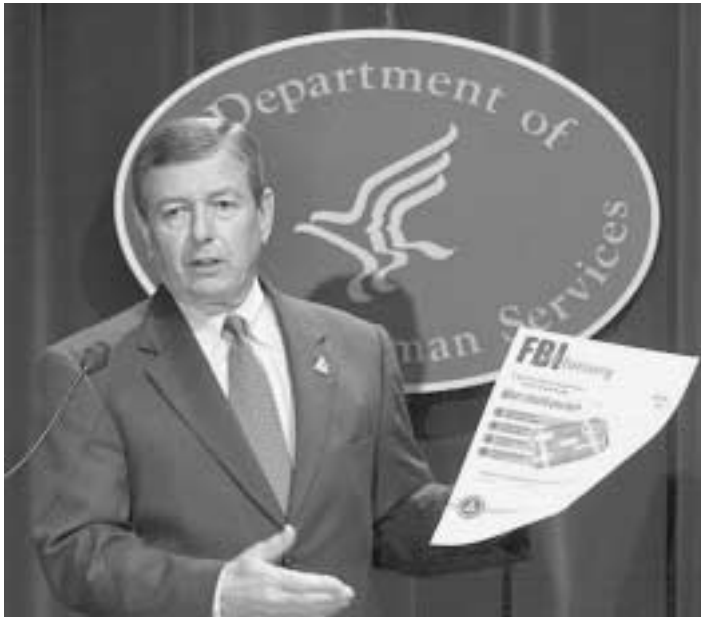
“The first of those factors is the extraordinary global financial and monetary crisis that will be the first and overriding order of business confronting the incoming Bush Administration, as even President-elect Bush and Vice President-elect Richard Cheney have limitedly acknowledged in public statements. . . .”

“The second factor, in this context, is the role that the next Attorney General will play, as a leading member of the Executive Branch crisis team, dealing with the global financial and monetary crisis, and the other consequent regional and domestic crises, that will arise from these extraordinary circumstances. As the chief law enforcement official of the Federal Executive Branch, the next Attorney General will have responsibilities in this broader crisis-management team setting, that will often supercede his more immediate role within the Justice Department and subsumed Federal law enforcement agencies, proper. . . .”

While LaRouche’s campaign helped generate sufficient opposition to get 42 Senators to vote against Ashcroft’s confirmation, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle refused to permit a filibuster, which would have blocked Ashcroft’s appointment.

2. *The 9/11 Attack and How To Provide for Security*

In his campaign document *Zbigniew Brzezinski and September 11th*, written **Dec. 23, 2001**, LaRouche reiterated his judgment that the Sept. 11 attack was not organized by al-



Lyndon LaRouche warned, in opposition to the nomination of John Ashcroft (left) as Attorney General in January 2001, that Ashcroft would seek a pretext for unconstitutional rule by emergency decree, just as the Nazis did after the Reichstag Fire of Feb. 28, 1933. Months later, the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 provided that pretext.

Qaeda/Arab terrorists, but was an attempted coup d'état, with the indispensable role being played by forces inside the United States. He wrote:

“For those who are able and willing to accept the way in which history actually works, the evidence provided by the U.S. events of Sept. 11th permitted but one concise conclusion: The crucial developments inside the U.S.A., between the bookends of approximately 08:45 and 11:00 h EDT, were a reflection of an attempted military coup d'état against the U.S. government of President George W. Bush.

“I first reached that conclusion early during the first hour of that interval, while I was being interviewed in a nearly two-hour, live radio broadcast. My broadcast remarks during that interval have become an important integral part of those developments themselves, not only inside the U.S.A., but in their radiating effects throughout much of the world besides.

“For those who would debate the matter, there were only two available, competent choices among possible alternative explanations, for even the mere possibility of the known sequence of the relevant events which had been reported widely during that interval:

“*The first, most ominous possibility*, was that the relevant, pre-established security safeguards, which had been instituted earlier against such types of contingencies, had, previously, simply been allowed to deteriorate to virtual non-relevance, that itself a very dangerous state of national security,

“or,

“*The second, more likely possibility*, was that some top-ranking U.S. military personnel ‘at the switch,’ turned off a significant part of those standing security pre-arrangements which would have been sufficient, at a minimum, to defeat, at the least, the attack upon the Pentagon itself.”

This evaluation of the source of the Sept. 11 attack led LaRouche to oppose measures of expanded police-state controls, such as the proposal for the establishment of a U.S. Army Northern Command. In a statement issued on **May 17, 2002**, “The Northern Command Crosses the Rubicon,” LaRouche warned, “The proposal for the probably unlawful, U.S. Army Northern Command (‘USNORTHCOM’), when taken in its current strategic-policy-setting, is clearly a proposal to ‘cross the Rubicon,’ a preparation to create a Caesarian military dictatorship over both the North American continent and the Caribbean, in imitation of the 49 B.C. action of Julius Caesar’s setting off that civil war among Roman military forces which led to 31 B.C. establishment of the Empire of Augustus Caesar. In today’s world, it is a preparation for the Pentagon to cross the Potomac one morning, to place the U.S. Attorney-General and his minions in power, reducing the President himself to a ceremonial, or even lesser figure in the configuration.”

On **Feb. 26, 2003**, LaRouche demanded that President Bush fire Ashcroft, due to the Attorney General’s misuse of his powers, under the Patriot Act and other executive decisions.

3. *The Patriot Act and "Patriot II"*

In **Fall 2001**, at the time of passage of the Patriot Act, LaRouche launched a public education drive, to make clear the danger to the nation posed by elements within the Administration, including the Ashcroft Justice Department, who were positioned and disposed to use the threat of terrorist attack against the United States to impose a pre-existing fascist agenda. In his Special Report on *How to Defeat Global Strategic Irregular Warfare*, he called for measures against drug-money laundering, and other such sources of funding of terrorism, and measures of collaboration with other sovereign governments.

On **Feb. 17, 2002**, LaRouche stressed how to fight the danger, by identifying the real nature of the enemy: "The enemy is an agency, an agency of evil. People have been talking about 'axes of evil,' and this and that—there is an agency of evil; that evil on this planet, by certain forces, to establish a regime, a caricature of the Roman Empire, which is universal fascism.

"Our job is to expose the character of that movement for universal fascism, and to destroy the power of that movement, by mobilization of the people of the world." To understand it, he said, look for example, at the U.S. backing for the murderous policies of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. All this "is an injustice which has *taken control* of the U.S. government. And we have to free this government from the control by that injustice. The way we do that is, essentially, moral and political, by educating people as to the nature of the danger."

In **May 2002**, when commenting on the Patriot Act, LaRouche said:

"Such measures are 'in the wind' at this time, and do constitute the greatest threat to our nation's civil liberties since the victory at Yorktown."

When in **February 2003**, a new "Patriot II" draft Act was revealed, LaRouche called it the "Heinrich Himmler II" Bill.

On **March 16, 2003**, LaRouche issued a press release, "Stop Ashcroft's 'Heinrich Himmler II' Bill—While You Still Can," opening by asking the citizen to imagine a scenario in which threats of terrorism and war are cited by the President and Administration as reasons why Congress is to rush through a new "Domestic Security Enhancement Act of 2003," giving the Federal government emergency powers, as the modern-day version of the *Notverordnung* doctrine delivered for Hitler on Feb. 28, 1933, by the Nazi jurist Carl Schmitt. LaRouche pointed out: "The connection is not accidental. Attorney General Ashcroft was indoctrinated in this by disciples of Chicago University professor Leo Strauss, who owed his own career to that same Carl Schmitt. Ashcroft, like Vice President Dick Cheney, uses the exact same, Leo Strauss-copied arguments of Carl Schmitt, the same arguments which transformed Hitler into a dictator on Feb. 28, 1933. . . ."

LaRouche said of the scenario, "None of the above is

fiction; it is real, and ready to go. For months, staffers in John Ashcroft's Justice Department have been drafting and putting the finishing touches on a sequel to the 2001 'USA/Patriot Act'—which has become known as 'Patriot II,' or better named 'Heinrich Himmler II'"

Howard Dean

1. *The Ashcroft Appointment and Threat of Rule by Emergency Orders*

Dean criticizes Attorney General Ashcroft in terms of prejudices and violation of civil rights, but not in terms of the danger he represents in the midst of the current global financial crisis. The Dean campaign website lists ten action commitments—including equal rights for same sex couples, a Federal ban on anti-gay violence, defense of a woman's right-to-choose, an end to racial profiling, and others, and then this appears as the sixth point: "I will appoint an Attorney General who sees our constitution not as a document to be manipulated, ignored, and violated, but who recognizes and respects it as the fabric that binds the American community together."



2. *The 9/11 Attack and How To Provide for Security*

"Fighting Terrorism Does Not Mean Compromising Our Freedoms," is the title of an undated item on the Dean website, referring to the aftermath of 9/11, stating, ". . . as we fight the war on terror, we must be vigilant in protecting civil rights and liberties. The rule of law and due process must continue to be the hallmarks of our judicial system. . . . The Administration has unnecessarily compromised our freedoms in the name of fighting terrorism. President Bush and Attorney General Ashcroft have adopted a series of anti-terror tactics that erode the rights of average Americans and cannot be justified on national security grounds. Reports of the Department of Justice Inspector General and numerous watchdog groups document a troubling pattern of hostility to civil rights and liberties since September 11. . . . And recently the Justice Department's Inspector General identified credible allegations that detainees have suffered physical abuse in custody." Other wrongful detention practices are also cited.

Yet, from all statements available, Dean buys into the official line that the Sept. 11 terrorists were a force deployed from outside, against the United States.

On how to provide for domestic security, the Dean website provides a section on "Homeland Security," in which three points are stressed: 1) to ensure resources for first-responders; 2) "a circle of protection to defend our critical infrastructure and borders"; 3) "a circle of prevention, in cooperation with Russia and our allies," to reduce chances for weapons of mass destruction (WMD) to fall into terrorist

hands, and to reduce social ills that can lead to fostering terrorism. These points are elaborated in detail. For example, Dean calls for transferring \$5 billion from the Homeland Defense Trust Fund to the states to fund urgent first-responder needs.

On intelligence functions, Dean calls for strengthening “our military and intelligence capabilities.” Dean has stated his belief that “America should have been better prepared for the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Bi-partisan reports warning of the imminent threat had been largely ignored.”

3. *The Patriot Act and “Patriot II”*

Under “Fighting Terrorism Does Not Mean Compromising Our Freedoms,” Dean’s campaign website gives this summary view: “Now the Attorney General is seeking to supplement the Patriot Act with Patriot Act II, included in the Administration’s so-called ‘Victory Act’ proposal. Rather than expanding the Patriot Act, we should reconsider the wisdom of the original bill.”

One of Dean’s ten “action commitments,” is: “I will oppose expansion of the Patriot Act, efforts to remove sunset clauses included in the act, and I will seek to repeal the portions of the Patriot Act that are unconstitutional.”

Elsewhere on the website, Dean states, “I am also deeply troubled by some provisions in the USA Patriot Act, which was enacted in the wake of 9/11 without meaningful debate. The Act gives overly broad investigative and surveillance powers to the government and strips federal courts of their traditional authority to curb abuses of power by the executive branch. Many of the Act’s provisions have little or nothing to do with combating terrorism; in fact some had been previously rejected by Congress. But the Ashcroft Justice Department took advantage of the climate of fear following the attacks to make fundamental changes in law enforcement procedures.” Dean identifies five specific provisions he opposes.

John Kerry

1. *The Ashcroft Appointment and Threat of Rule by Emergency Orders*

On **Feb. 1, 2001**, Senator Kerry voted among the other 41 Senators against the confirmation of John Ashcroft as Attorney General.

On **Jan. 7, 2001**, Kerry appeared on NBC’s “Meet the Press,” stressing that Ashcroft has a record as “a man who opposed voluntary desegregation in his state, a man who has been on the fringe of a number of different issues that really challenge the very community and communities in general, minority communities.”

After the Iraq War, Kerry’s criticism of Ashcroft and the Administration broadened, for example, on the issue of Ash-



croft’s role in covering up the lie that Iraq attempted to obtain fissile supplies from Niger.

On **Sept. 29, 2003**, Kerry called for a Special Counsel to investigate the leak of the identity of CIA covert operative Valerie Plame, the wife of former Amb. Joe Wilson, who had exposed Dick Cheney’s lie about Iraq and Niger nuclear supplies; thus, Kerry called for the investigation to be taken outside the hands of John Ashcroft and the Justice Department.

On **Dec. 1, 2003**, Kerry gave a lecture at Iowa State University, referencing the aftermath of 9/11, titled, “Ending the Era of John Ashcroft.” In it he criticized “ideologues in the Administration,” saying, “In the name of the War on Terror, they are attempting to diminish the very rights that define us. . . . After September 11th, this Administration gathered and used broad new powers to investigate the private lives of people in this country. The powers were supposed to be used to fight the War on Terror. But George Bush and John Ashcroft have gone far beyond that.”

Kerry indicated measures he would take as President, beginning with installing a competent Attorney General. Among the measures cited: to put “an end to ‘sneak-and-peak’ searches which permit law enforcement to conduct a secret search and seize evidence without notification,” and also, to “eliminate the potential of fishing expeditions into people’s library and business records,” and other proposals. “We will provide Americans with protections from wiretaps, prevent local police officers from spying on innocent people,” and at the same time, help law enforcement, firefighters, and others “on the front lines,” with access to critical data.

2. *The 9/11 Attack, and How To Provide for Security*

There has been no indication that Senator Kerry understands the 9/11 attack as an attempted coup d’état involving forces inside the United States. He has concentrated instead on particular domestic security measures. As of **Dec. 21, 2003**, at the time Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge issued a Code Orange threat warning, the Kerry campaign website presented a Five-Point Plan for domestic security. The points are:

- Orange Alert Fund. This is to reimburse localities for additional costs during threat alerts.
- Citizen Preparedness Initiative. The website item states: “There would also be more effective local alert systems to notify the public in the event of a threat or attack. John Kerry’s National Service Initiative [a civilian corps] includes a new Community Defense Service, which would put in place hundreds of thousands of service captains to assure our communities are ready to respond to a crisis, complementing, but not supplanting, the work done by police, fire fighters, and other first defenders.”
- More Targetted Alert System. To share intelligence on a focussed, local basis, and delimit alerts accordingly.
- Improve Airport Security. Screen all air-cargo. Add

explosives detection screening at airports.

- Homeland Security Corps. Give local communities resources to hire 5,000 additional law enforcement officials for local assistance.

Kerry's website offers additional facets of domestic security, including, "A National Homeland Health Initiative" and "Reforming Domestic Intelligence," where the FBI's role is questioned ("their fundamental role is to catch and prosecute criminals"), and likewise, "the Bush Administration's proposed terrorist threat integration center (TTIC) would not be able to do the job," and other points.

Kerry continues to refrain from naming names or networks in positions in Washington agencies, known to him from his several key Senate investigations of counterintelligence matters, including into the scandal over the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), as well as Iran-Contra.

3. *The Patriot Act and "Patriot II"*

Senator Kerry voted for the Patriot Act. In his **Dec. 1, 2003** Iowa State University speech, he said: "I voted for the Patriot Act right after September 11th—convinced that—with a sunset clause—it was the right decision to make. . . . But George Bush and John Ashcroft abused the spirit of national action after the terrorist attacks. They used the Patriot Act in ways that were never intended and for reasons that have nothing to do with terrorism.

"That's why, as President, I will propose new anti-terrorism laws that advance the War on Terror while ending the assault on our basic rights."

On **June 17, 2003**, in an interview with MoveOn.org, Kerry said, "I am alarmed by what has been reported to be part of 'Patriot Act II' and I will very carefully review any new proposal and fight to ensure that it does not violate civil liberties."

John Edwards

1. *The Ashcroft Appointment and Threat of Rule by Emergency Orders*

Edwards opposed the Ashcroft nomination. In a speech on the Senate floor on **Feb. 1, 2001**, he called the nominee a "polarizing and divisive figure," at a time, after a divisive election, when we have a responsibility to unite the country. He cited the example of Ashcroft's opposition to the nomination of an African-American, Ronnie White, to the Missouri Supreme Court, "for what appear to be simply political reasons." Ashcroft once called a U.S. Supreme Court ruling "illegitimate," Edwards said, and this shows "a fundamental disrespect for the rule of law which we believe is so critical in this country."

At the **May 3, 2003** Democratic Party debate in Columbia,



South Carolina, Edwards said, "John Ashcroft, in the name of protecting America, in the name of fighting a war on terrorism, is eroding our right to privacy, eroding our civil liberties, eroding the very heart and soul of what makes this country great. It's all around the edges. It's creeping. But we have to be so careful and so vigilant to make sure that America does not lose what makes America great."

2. *The 9/11 Attack and How To Provide for Security*

In **early 2003**, Senator Edwards introduced legislation that would create a Homeland Intelligence Agency, that would track terrorist operatives in the United States and coordinate with law enforcement and other functions. Edwards has faulted the FBI and CIA for not following leads and taking other actions prior to Sept. 11, 2001, that might have uncovered the plot. Edwards does not indicate recognition of any threat from corrupt figures and networks in power *inside* the United States, as being behind Sept. 11-style terror.

On **Sept. 25, 2003**, at a Pace University debate in Manhattan, Edwards said of the aftermath of 9/11: "I know the American people are worried about their safety and security. But we can't ever forget what it is we're supposed to be fighting for. And in this effort to protect ourselves and fight our war on terrorism, we cannot allow people like John Ashcroft to take away our rights, our freedom, and our liberties. Those things are under assault. After Sept. 11, it's much harder to stand up for those things."

Edwards has made a proposal to establish a new intelligence agency as the centerpiece of a number of security proposals, outlined on his campaign website: "Securing Our Infrastructure," "Supporting Our First Responders," "Tighten Our Border Security," and others.

3. *The Patriot Act and "Patriot II"*

Senator Edwards voted for the Patriot Act. By late in 2003, he began to criticize it and call for it to be revised.

On **Sept. 8, 2003**, Edwards gave an address, whose prepared remarks on his website stated that the Patriot Act should be changed to 1) Protect the basic rights of U.S. citizens. No American should be detained forever without a chance to argue before a judge that he is innocent; 2) Repeal provisions of the act that don't work, such as getting a person's records from a library or business if the attorney general tells a judge these are related to a terrorism investigation. The law should require the Justice Department to prove to a judge that there is a real justification; 3) Make sure the public has enough information about how the Patriot Act is working, such as more disclosure of the number of wiretaps used under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, as amended by the Patriot Act.

On **Oct. 27, 2003**, at the Detroit candidates debate, a reporter pointed out that Edwards had voted for the Patriot Act. Edwards replied that there are some good things in the Act that get no attention, such as allowing us to go after money laundering, and measures to allow information-sharing, some

of the problems that existed before 9/11. But “the problem with the Patriot Act and the reason we need to make changes is because it gave entirely too much discretion to an attorney general who does not deserve it. . . . He has abused his discretion. . . . It’s not just the Patriot Act. You know, they are—they have a policy that allows them to arrest American citizens on American soil, put them in prison, keep them there indefinitely. They never see a lawyer, they never see a judge. This is not the America that we believe in.”

In the **May 3, 2003** debate in Columbia, South Carolina, Edwards said: “The problem with the Patriot Act is not the law itself. It’s the way it’s being administered, particularly by Attorney General Ashcroft. . . . It is why I have proposed taking away from the FBI the responsibility of fighting terrorism and simultaneously setting up an independent watchdog group to make sure that none of us are losing our civil liberties.”

Joe Lieberman

1. *The Ashcroft Appointment and Threat of Rule by Emergency Orders*

On **Feb. 1, 2001**, Sen. Lieberman was among the 42 Senators who voted against confirmation of Ashcroft as Attorney General. In his speech that day, Lieberman gave an extremely mild explanation, first dissimulating by making the point that “many prominent figures” in history, have been voted down for high office; and, secondly, on Ashcroft in particular, “Suffice it to say that on issues ranging from civil rights to privacy rights, Senator Ashcroft has repeatedly taken positions considerably outside of the mainstream of American thinking . . . he has spoken and written words that have particularly led many in the African American community to question his sensitivity to their rights and their concerns.” He ended his remarks, “I admire Senator Ashcroft for his private and public adherence to his faith. . . .”

Lieberman has deployed aggressively in support of the Clash of Civilizations policy against the Muslim World, and for war against Iraq, which Sept. 11 and Ashcroft’s measures were geared to facilitate and further.

From 2001 on, Lieberman deployed intensively for the creation of a new, powerful domestic emergency agency—pilot ideas for what became Homeland Security; and he continues to the present day. The following are representative actions of his mobilization:

- In **December 2001**, a Senate amendment was introduced by Lieberman and John McCain (R-Ariz.)—Lieberman’s cohort in demanding war on Iraq—to establish a National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States. This initiative was in line with the Democratic Leadership Council’s demand at that time for the creation of a U.S. domestic “Interior Ministry.”



- On **May 21, 2002**, Lieberman addressed the New Democratic Network, of which he is the founder and former chairman, speaking of a “bipartisan effort” for “safeguarding American security.” He said, “Senator John McCain and I have called for a bipartisan, non-political, independent, blue ribbon commission . . . composed of citizens, not office holders” to investigate 9/11 terrorism; and he announced, “Tomorrow, the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee I chair, will mark up a bipartisan proposal I helped author that would do just that—the National Homeland Security and Combating Terrorism Act.”

- On **Aug. 29, 2002**, Lieberman sent a letter to his Congressional colleagues, in which he spelled out more elements of transforming the Homeland Security Department into an Interior Ministry for rule by decree. He listed five points, of which one called for creation within the Department of an “Undersecretary for Intelligence,” to whose office all formerly standing functions (CIA, FBI, etc.) would be subsumed, even that of the Presidency. That is, unless there was a specific Presidential order to the contrary, all intelligence agencies were to refer unanalyzed intelligence, through means that would protect sources and methods, to the Secretary for Homeland Security.

In point 5, Lieberman called in vague language for the creation of a “National Office for Combating Terrorism” within the Department of Homeland Security.

2. *The 9/11 Attack and How To Provide for Security*

After 9/11, Senator Lieberman was a leading proponent of war against Muslim nations, such as Iraq, for their alleged responsibility for these actions. He also endorsed police-state measures.

Soon after 9/11, an association founded in 1995 by a grouping including Lieberman; Lynne Cheney, the wife of the Vice President; William Bennett; and other neo-cons, titled the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA), released a blacklist of 117 professors and students, whose statements were deemed by ACTA as evincing “hatred for the American ideals of freedom”—a McCarthy-style action typifying the outlook and deployment of Lieberman. The report was titled, “Defending Civilization: How Our Universities Are Failing America,” and termed subversive, such a statement as, “We have to learn to use courage for peace instead of war.” ACTA-related individuals continued this campaign into 2002. Among those targeted, by name, was Rep. Dennis Kucinich.

On **May 3, 2003**, in the Democratic Party debate in Columbia, South Carolina, when Kucinich said that the President gives “ever-changing reasons” for war, which are “not justified by evidence,” Lieberman replied, “I’d say, how can we win this election if we send a message of weakness on defense and security after Sept. 11, 2001?”

To Lieberman, “weakness” means questioning the official blaming of Osama bin Laden and “Muslims” for terrorism for 9/11. Do that, and you are suspect.

3. *The Patriot Act and "Patriot II"*

Senator Lieberman voted for the Patriot Act. Not until **Sept. 10, 2003**, did Lieberman issue a three-paragraph statement of mild criticism of Bush's request for new powers for the Justice Department, saying, "All over America, I hear deep concerns about the Bush Administration abusing the USA-Patriot Act and other powers they already have. Is the government snooping through people's library records. Inappropriately searching people's belongings? . . . This Administration's 'don't ask, don't tell' approach to governance should make every American leery of handing over new authority to John Ashcroft before we know how he's using the power he already has."

Wesley Clark



1. *The Ashcroft Appointment and Threat of Rule by Emergency Orders*

Clark has criticized Ashcroft's conduct in office, and criticized senior officials in the White House, and the Pentagon, for hyping intelligence and overreaching their authority—notably with respect to the Patriot Act—but he does not locate this in the strategic context of a threat to the nation by a faction prepared to impose fascism at time of economic breakdown. Clark's formulation is that there are threats to "civil liberties" from the ill-conduct of people, most of whom, save for Ashcroft, Clark does not name.

2. *The 9/11 Attack and How to Provide for Security*

On **June 15, 2003**, on NBC's "Meet the Press," Clark discussed how, around the 9/11 attack, there was a hyping of intelligence about Iraq. He said, "There was a concerted effort during the Fall of 2001, starting immediately after 9/11, to pin 9/11 and the terrorism problem on Saddam Hussein."

"It came from people around the White House," Clark said. "I got a call on 9/11—I was on CNN, and I got a call at my home saying, 'You've got to say this is connected—this is state-sponsored terrorism. This has to be connected to Saddam Hussein.' And I said, 'but I'm willing to say it, but what's [the] evidence?' And I never got any evidence. And these were people who were Middle East think-tanks and people like this. I mean, there was a lot of pressure to connect this, and there were a lot of assumptions made. But I never personally saw the evidence, and didn't talk to anybody who had the evidence to make that connection."

Subsequently, Clark has indicated his discomfort with the targetting of numerous Mideast countries in the name of fighting terrorism, but has left it at being "deeply concerned."

On **March 23, 2003**, Clark made a general reference to the domestic impact of making war on terror. In an interview on Salon.com with Jake Tapper, Clark said, "One of the things about the war on terror that I am disturbed about is that we've

essentially suspended habeas corpus. Which is something that's only been done once in American history and then only for a very brief period. . . ."

Clark has stated that had he been President after 9/11, he would have set up an international tribunal right after the terror attacks.

On **Oct. 3, 2003** in Manchester, New Hampshire, according to AP, Clark said that international trials should be arranged for the 660 Guantanamo detainees. He said they should have lawyers and be tried in an international venue.

Clark's national security proposal on his campaign website, is for the creation of a Homeland and Economic Security Fund (\$40 billion over two years), to "protect our country and provide a jump-start for job creation." There is no indication of where the money would come from.

3. *The Patriot Act and "Patriot II"*

The Clark website carries a section on "Civil Liberties and the Patriot Act," which states: "The USA Patriot Act was jammed through Congress in a matter of weeks, when the country was still in shock from the horrific attacks of September 11th. It wasn't carefully drafted and it wasn't fully debated. More troubling is that, in just two years, the Act has grown the tentacles that many feared. Last month, a Justice Department report admitted that John Ashcroft has actually expanded the substantial reach of the Act, using it to snoop in secrecy for evidence of crimes that have nothing to do with terrorism.

"Now Ashcroft is proposing the Protect Act. . . . I am concerned that the USA Patriot Act goes too far in expanding the authority of government investigators, and that it does so without sufficient oversight. . . ."

In his **March 23, 2003** Salon.com interview, Clark said, "When I go back and think about the atmosphere in which the Patriot Act was passed, it begs for a reconsideration and review."

On **June 19, 2003**, in an interview on WBUR Public Radio, Clark said, "The Patriot Act ought to be pulled out and given a full sunshine review. You're not going to win the war on terrorism if you destroy who we are as Americans and take away our rights and liberties."

Dennis Kucinich

1. *The Ashcroft Appointment and Threat of Rule by Emergency Orders*

Kucinich has criticized Ashcroft's actions in office, and also exposed the misconduct of other figures whom he names, in terms of making war on Iraq, but also in terms of operating in secret domestically, destroying "Constitutional principles," and "compromising civil liberties."

On **Feb. 17, 2002**, in a speech to the Southern California



Americans for Democratic Action, in Los Angeles, Kucinich singled out many actions by Ashcroft for criticism, including, “We cannot justify giving the Attorney General the ability to designate domestic terror groups.” Kucinich spoke of the “great fear” after 9/11, under which condition, “the Attorney General declared a nationwide terror alert.”

On **Sept. 9, 2003**, in the Congressional Black Caucus debate, Kucinich called for the repeal of the Patriot Act.

2. *The 9/11 Attack and How To Provide for Security*

On **Aug. 1, 2003**, on his campaign website, Kucinich refers to how the 9/11 attack was used as a pretext. He says, “We must challenge the rationale of the Patriot Act. The American jurisprudence system is the envy of the free world with its emphasis on due process. We cannot justify widespread wiretaps and Internet surveillance [and other similar intrusions]. . . . We cannot justify a government that takes from the people the right to privacy and then assumes for its own operations a right to total secrecy. We should not let the actions of terrorists cause us to reject our American system of justice. The ultimate terror in a democracy is the destruction of constitutional principles.”

Under “National Security” on the Kucinich website: “The current administration’s national security doctrine, with its reliance on preventive war as a standard instrument of policy, is making the world more dangerous. . . . National security policy must contribute to broader foreign policy objectives, and complement our domestic priorities. . . . My vision of national security ties together not only military but diplomatic, economic, and human rights policies, and views the use of military force as a last resort. Building the link between domestic and defense issues, I believe that this country is more secure when the largest possible number of its citizens have a stake in its success, when decent education, health care, and housing contribute to productive lives for everyone.”

3. *The Patriot Act and “Patriot II”*

Kucinich points out on his website, “I am the only candidate who voted against the ironically-named USA Patriot Act.”

On **Sept. 24, 2003**, he and several co-sponsors announced the introduction of legislation to repeal the most egregious portions of the USA Patriot Act.

Kucinich’s bill, which is labelled the “Benjamin Franklin

True Patriot Act,” would repeal those sections of the Act that authorize warrantless sneak and peek searches; warrantless library, medical, and financial record searches; and the detention and deportation of non-citizens without meaningful judicial review.

Al Sharpton



1. *The Ashcroft Appointment and Threat of Rule by Emergency Orders*

On **Oct. 27, 2003**, at the Detroit candidates debate, Sharpton spoke of Ashcroft targeting people. He said that it is very dangerous, on the second anniversary of the Patriot Act, to empower this Attorney General in any way that can target people. He boasted that he, Robert Kennedy, Jr., and labor leader Dennis Rivera went to jail over protesting the Navy bases in Vieques before the Patriot Act. “This administration wants to stifle and stop dissent.” He cited the case of people of color who rise to power, like Philadelphia Mayor John Street, “and what they’ve tried to do to Kwame Kilpatrick here in Detroit.”

2. *The 9/11 Attack and How To Provide for Security*

On **Jan. 1, 2002**, in “Al on America,” Sharpton said, “The military budget has increased by 30% in 2002. Most of the expenses had nothing to do with terrorism but were things they were trying to push through for years. Bush called for even more money to be pumped into the military, but the majority of that money will never see its way down to the soldiers; it will not dramatically increase their pay and benefits or protect them. Meanwhile, schools, Social Security, and other domestic needs are getting a budget cut.”

On **Nov. 5, 2003**, on the CNN “Rock the Vote” Democratic Party debate, Sharpton said, on security from terrorism: “First of all, I think we’ve got to start at the beginning. We were told we had to go to Iraq because we were in imminent danger. That was not true. If we go to the UN, if we go to the world community and we say to them, ‘We are not in charge. We will submit to a world body, Kofi Annan is in charge. We will be part of a partnership.’ The world can then come forward.”

3. *The Patriot Act and “Patriot II”*

On **June 17, 2003**, in an interview on MoveOn.org, Sharpton replied to a question about whether he would revise or repeal the Patriot Act: “I would definitely revisit them. They seem to be a throw-back to the Cointelpro days of J. Edgar Hoover, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Black Panthers—making legal today, what was illegal then. These ‘Patriot Acts’ appear to be using the legitimate fear of 9/11 to pass illegitimate legislation. This legislation is unpatriotic in the most patriotic sense.”

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AUDIO TALK SHOW
The LaRouche Show
EVERY SATURDAY
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NASA Restructured For Exploration Thrust

National Aeronautics and Space Administrator Sean O'Keefe announced on Jan. 15 that the new Office of Exploration Systems, charged with organizing President Bush's new space initiative for exploration of the Moon, would be headed by Rear Adm. (ret) Craig Steidle. The Office, according to NASA, is to set priorities and direct the identification, development, and validation of exploration systems and new technologies. The move will take a set of unrelated programs and put them together under one roof.

Unlike the Office of Exploration, created by NASA after the first President Bush announced his Moon/Mars program in 1989, this new office will not do viewgraph-based planning, but will run existing programs. This reflects the fact that NASA will not be getting much additional funding.

Admiral Steidle said during a telephone discussion with reporters, that his office will be staffed and funded by shifting most of the \$11 billion the President said would be "reprogrammed" from the current projected five-year budget. The office will run the Orbital Space Plane program, which will be reformulated as a Crew Exploration Vehicle; Project *Prometheus*, which is developing small-scale unmanned nuclear propulsion technology; and development of a next-generation launch vehicle, to replace the Space Shuttle.

LaRouche First On Conn. Ballot by Petition

Democratic Presidential Pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche won his rightful place on the March 2 Connecticut Democratic Presidential Primary ballot on Jan. 21, when Connecticut's Secretary of State stopped the count of LaRouche's petitions early, and admitted that LaRouche had more registered Democratic signers than needed.

Under heavy pressure by Connecticut

Sen. Joe Lieberman, a leader of the organized crime-funded wing of the Democratic Party, the Democratic Secretary of State, Susan Bysiewicz, made a fool of herself on Dec. 19 by refusing to place LaRouche on the ballot with the other Democratic candidates, as meeting the state's criterion of "generally recognized and advocated by the media." Major candidate LaRouche, who ranks second among Democrats in the number of individual contributions, was therefore the only candidate required to collect 6,235 signatures of registered Democratic voters to gain ballot status.

Connecticut's ballot access requirements are among the most onerous in the nation. In 1992, the ACLU sued the state to overturn them, on behalf of LaRouche, former Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.), and others, and won in Federal court only to have the ruling overturned by the Federal Court of Appeals.

In a four-week period which included the coldest day in the Northeast in 10 years, LaRouche's supporters collected 12,527 signatures, and divided and delivered them to more than 100 different Democratic registrars throughout the state during a three-hour legal "window" on Jan. 16. Connecticut's petition period also overlapped that of New York State, where LaRouche gathered and filed 58,000 signatures on Jan. 2.

LaRouche appears to be the *only* Presidential candidate who has ever successfully petitioned for ballot status in Connecticut. At *EIR* press time, the Secretary of State's spokesman said he "did not know [whether anyone else had ever done it] . . . and it would take several weeks to find out."

Drive Starts To Recall D.C. Mayor

Organizers on Jan. 20 filed on official "notice of intent" with the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, thus launching a drive to recall Mayor Anthony Williams. Williams shut down the city's only public hospital, D.C. General Hospital, on behalf of Wall Street's dictator over the capital's finances, the Financial Control Board (FCB), in 2001. The notice says that

Williams' "malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance endangered the well-being and even the very lives of District residents."

The chairman of the D.C. Democratic Party attacked the recall and its chief organizer, Barbara Lett Simmons. Simmons is one of D.C.'s representatives on the Democratic National Committee, as well as being the senior member of the State Committee. She is also a former chairman of the D.C. Board of Education.

Recall organizers cite the Mayor's shutdown of D.C. General, cuts in funding for education, and 12,000 homeless residents; while Williams is at the same time courting major real estate developers, building a \$1 billion convention center, and trying to get a major league baseball team into the city.

NASA Cancels Hubble Service Mission

The scientific community was disappointed last year when NASA cancelled the sixth Shuttle servicing mission to the Hubble Space Telescope, in 2010, and decided to deorbit the Hubble then instead. But they were confident that the fifth servicing mission, scheduled for 2006, would proceed. On Jan. 16, Administrator Sean O'Keefe announced that the 2006 mission has been cancelled. That mission was to install two new scientific instruments (already built, at a cost of \$200 million), and replace its failing gyroscopes, which keep it pointed at its astronomical targets. There is no way to know how long Hubble will be able to function without that servicing mission.

Former Shuttle astronaut, Hubble servicing mission veteran, and current NASA chief scientist John Grunsfeld explained that cost was not (directly) the issue in cancelling the Hubble mission. In order to meet the safety requirements laid out by the Columbia Accident Investigation Board, astronauts will have to be able to inspect and repair the Shuttle while in orbit. Technology is being developed to do that at the space station, but not for a stand-alone Shuttle mission. If that capability didn't exist, the board stated, a second orbiter would have to be on the launch pad

PATRIOT ACT was denounced by the Los Angeles City Council on Jan. 21, the day after President Bush demanded that Congress extend that Act. The Los Angeles resolution calls the law anti-American, and says that it encourages racial profiling. Los Angeles is the largest city in the country to come out against the Patriot Act, and joins over 230 other localities which have already passed similar resolutions.

CHIEF JUSTICE Antonin Scalia was challenged by the *Los Angeles Times* on Jan. 16, concerning his duck-hunting trip with his friend Dick Cheney, just three weeks after accepting the case *in re* Richard B. Cheney to be argued in April, concerning Cheney's coverup of his energy dealings with Enron in 2001 as head of the White House energy task force. Scalia responded: "I do not think my impartiality could reasonably be questioned."

9/11 LEAKS probe by the Justice Department is said now to focus on Sen. Richard C. Shelby (R-Ala.), who was the chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence at the time of the disclosure, according to the Jan. 21 *Washington Post's* Congressional sources. The investigation centers on the disclosure in 2002 that the NSA had intercepted two warning messages on the eve of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

SEGREGATION in American schools has returned to the level of 1969, after Martin Luther King was killed. According to a study by Harvard University's Civil Rights Project, after peaking in the 1980s, school integration began to slide backwards such that today, many white students have "little contact" with minority students in many areas of the country.

Moreover, hundreds of "new segregated and unequal schools" have appeared in the suburbs, resulting from large migration of both black and Hispanic families into these areas.

to rescue the astronauts were there a problem, which is unfeasible.

In fact, according to President Bush's plan, the Shuttle will be "retired" in 2010, leaving no justification for spending the money to develop the means to inspect and repair an orbiter on its own, Grunsfeld admitted. "If we had plans to fly the Space Shuttle for another 15 years, this is an investment that we might have made to develop for all those rescue scenarios," he said. Said NASA spokesman Glenn Mahone, "It was a tough and painful decision, but given where we are now in terms of the flight of the Space Shuttle and the context of the national space policy outlined by President Bush, it was a decision we had to make."

Astrophysicists had hoped that Hubble could remain on station until at least 2011, when the Webb Space Telescope is scheduled to be launched. Hubble's images in visible wavelengths could then have been combined with Webb's observations in the infrared, to carry out the kind of multi-wavelength astronomy Lyndon LaRouche has promoted, in studying the Crab Nebula.

Groups Ask Criminal Probe of Ashcroft

A call was launched on Jan. 15 for appointment of a special prosecutor to start a criminal probe of Attorney General John Ashcroft's violation of Federal campaign finance law during his 2000 Senate campaign, and his possible tax evasion. A coalition of public interest groups said FEC documents show that Ashcroft knowingly accepted a fundraising mailing list developed by his political action committee, which constituted an illegal, excessive contribution of at least \$255,000—in direct violation of Federal campaign finance law. In addition, while Ashcroft told the FEC that he personally owned the mailing list, he failed to disclose it as an asset on a required report to the Senate, the groups said. Moreover, he may have engaged in tax evasion, by failing to report income earned from the list on his IRS income tax filings.

"There can be no doubt that the appoint-

ment of an outside special counsel is required in this case to fully investigate potential criminal actions implicating the United States Attorney General himself," the groups stated in their letter to Deputy Attorney General James Comey. The coalition includes the National Voting Rights Institute, Public Citizen, and others.

Kerry Confronted With The Cheney Question

At a Jan. 22 speech at Exeter Academy in New Hampshire, Presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry was twice urged—by passionate supporters of candidate Lyndon LaRouche—to take seriously the necessity to remove Vice President Dick Cheney from office. LaRouche Youth Movement organizer Eric Thomas, with the tense silence of a large audience broken only by some Baby Boomers' cries of protest, told Kerry, "LaRouche knows that you can't ignore the threat that VP Dick Cheney poses to the nation, because when it came to spreading the lies about the yellow cake, that was Cheney, not Bush. When it came to bullying the CIA into faking intelligence, that was Cheney, not Bush. When it came to lying to you and the American population about the weapons of mass destruction in order to get us into war, Cheney was the one who was responsible. And it wasn't Bush's office that outed Ambassador Wilson's wife as a CIA agent, but Cheney's. I want to know why you support or don't support LaRouche's call for Cheney's impeachment."

Kerry answered Thomas, "Well, seeing as the Republicans control the House and Senate, I don't see how we'd even get a motion towards an impeachment; but I will defeat Cheney in the November elections!"

Later, LaRouche campaign activist Laurie Dobson re-posed the same question to Kerry, who responded, "I am glad that this question was asked. She raises a very good and important question which must be seriously addressed in our country right now. The need to develop specific proposals for peace, and for insuring that we do not further this idea of "clash of civilizations."

The State of Denial

The most succinct evaluation one could make about President George W. Bush's Jan. 20 report on the "State of the Union," is that it showed that the President and his advisors are in a state of denial. Most importantly, that denial concerns the world financial system and the U.S. economy. President Bush says it's on its way back, and growing in certain respects at an unprecedented rate. The reality is that the system is shot, the depression is deepening, and catastrophe is right around the corner—unless measures such as those proposed by LaRouche are adopted.

It is quite possible that the President honestly believes what he said, even though it's a lie. Clearly he also believes what Dick Cheney and his disinformation-factory have told him about the threat of terrorism hitting the United States, and therefore felt it necessary to reiterate various of the themes that the Beast-Man Vice-President has been putting forward in recent public speeches. But by retailing these lies—about the alleged danger of WMD and the need for an even more draconian Patriot Act—the President further discredited himself, both before the thinking U.S. public, and the world.

Unfortunately, however, most observers will not be rushing to point out the President's inanities on the economy. Yes, of course, the Democrats are taking potshots at him for his pitiful and deceitful jobs and healthcare programs, not to mention the "help a rich man today" tax cuts. But such criticisms are the equivalent of requesting that the President rearrange the deck chairs on the Titanic. They do not address the fact that the system as a whole is sinking.

For, you see, the bulk of the American population is also in a state of denial about the collapse of the financial system; and, more importantly, about the way they were sucked into accepting the shift into a consumer society over the past 40 years. The impending disaster is acknowledged more openly in Eurasia, but even there, the implications are ignored, out of fear of taking responsibility for coming up with an alternative to the bankrupt dollar system. In fact, the requirement for crafting such a new system, along the lines of LaRouche's New Bretton Woods, means intervening to

change the situation within the United States, starting by such measures as telling the truth.

It may seem astonishing, but if the President had told the truth, he may have come under even more attack.

There is nothing more hysterical than a population committed to blinding itself to the collapse. They choose not to see, and therefore do not see, the loss of manufacturing capability, the bankruptcy of the state governments, the dramatic increase in poverty, including homelessness, hunger, and lack of medical care. They do not wish to see this reality because its implication is that this nation *has no future*, unless there is a change in policy, and soon.

Soon, however, they will be forced to see. The very speed and scale on which the bankers are moving to defend their right to loot, in the midst of this collapse, is going to not only accelerate the rate of physical collapse, and a collapse in living standards, but is also going to eventually create a blowout of the bubble. What is being stoked up by the Federal Reserve, as *EIR* has long and correctly asserted, is nothing other than a huge cancer, which is consuming its host. When the host (productive activity and living standards) dies, so will the cancer.

It were best, of course, that the citizenry, at home and abroad, take appropriate measures far before that time. They need only look at the proposals which have been put on the table by Lyndon LaRouche, in terms of bankruptcy reorganization, massive credit generation for infrastructure building in the United States, and trade and reconstruction collaboration with other nations. The model is the shift made by Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who exerted the kind of principled leadership that permitted the population to overcome its fears. Even after FDR had been in office four years, and turned some of the horrors back, he was willing to admit the desperate state of large portions of the U.S. population.

It's that kind of courage to face reality that we need today. It's harder than confronting imaginary enemies, or just blaming the powers that be for disasters. And it's what is necessary to really secure our future.

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2nd Fri.—9 pm
Astound Ch.31
Tuesdays—7:30 pm
- CONTRA COSTA
AT&T Ch.26
2nd Fri.—9 pm
- COSTAMESA—Ch.10
Wednesdays—6:15 pm
- CULVER CITY
MediaOne Ch.43
Wednesdays—7 pm
- E.LOS ANGELES
Adelphia Ch. 6
Mondays—2:30 pm
- FULLERTON
Adelphia Ch.65
Tuesdays—6:30 pm
- HOLLYWOOD
Comcast—Ch.43
Tuesdays—4 pm
- LANC./PALM
Adelphia Ch.16
Sundays—9 pm
- LAVERNE—Ch.3
2nd Mondays—8 pm
- LONG BEACH
Analog Ch.65
Digital Ch.69
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Alt. Fridays—1:30 pm
- MARINA DEL REY
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Thursdays—4:30 pm
MediaOne Ch.43
Wednesdays—7 pm
- MID-WILSHIRE
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Wednesdays—7 pm
- MODESTO—Ch.2
Thursdays—3 pm
- OXNARD
Adelphia Ch.19
Americast Ch.8
Tuesdays—7 pm
- PLACENTIA
Adelphia Ch.65
Tuesdays—6:30 pm

- SANDIEGO Ch.19
Wednesdays—6 pm
- SANTA ANA
Adelphia Ch.53
Tuesdays—6:30 pm
- STA.CLAR.VLY.
T/W & AT&T Ch.20
Fridays—1:30 pm
- SANTA MONICA
Adelphia Ch. 77
Thursdays—4:30 pm
- TUJUNGA—Ch.19
Mondays—8 pm
- VENICE—Ch.43
Wednesdays—7 pm
- VENTURA—Ch.6
Adelphia/Avenue
Mon & Fri—10 am
- WALNUT CREEK
AT&T Ch.6
2nd Fridays—9 pm
Astound Ch.31
Tuesdays—7:30 pm
- W.HOLLYWOOD
Adelphia Ch.3
Wednesdays—4:30 pm
- W.SAN FDO.VLY.
Time Warner Ch.34
Wed.—5:30 pm

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Mondays—5 pm
- MANCHESTER Ch.15
Mondays—10 pm
- MIDDLETOWN—Ch.3
Thursdays—5 pm
- NEW HAVEN—Ch.29
Sundays—5 pm
Wednesdays—7 pm
- NEWTOWN/NEW MIL.
Cablevision Ch.21
Mondays—9:30 pm
Thursdays—11:30 am

ILLINOIS

- QUAD CITIES
MediaCom Ch.19
Thursdays—11 pm
- PEORIA COUNTY
Insight Ch.22
Sundays—7:30 pm
- SPRINGFIELD Ch.4
Mon-Fri: 5-9 pm
Sat-Sun: 1-5 pm

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Insight Ch.3
Tuesdays—8 pm
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8 am - 12 Noon

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- ANNE ARUNDEL
Annapolis Ch.20
Millenue Ch.99
Sat & Sun: 12:30 am

All programs are *The LaRouche Connection* unless otherwise noted. (*) Call station for times.

- MONTGOMERY Ch.19
Fridays—7 pm
- P.G. COUNTY Ch.76
Mondays—10:30 pm

MASSACHUSETTS

- BRAINTREE
AT&T Ch.31
BELD 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—4:30 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
- WAYNE COUNTY
Comcast Ch.68
Unscheduled pop-ins
- WYOMING
AT&T Ch.25
Wednesdays—10 am

MISSISSIPPI

- 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

NEVADA

- CARSON—Ch.10
Wednesdays—7 pm
Saturdays—3 pm
- RENO/SPARKS
Charter Ch.16
Wednesdays—9 pm

NEW JERSEY

- MERCER COUNTY
Comcast*
TRENTON Ch.81
WINDSOR Ch.27

- COLD SPRING
US Cable Ch.10
Wednesdays—5 pm
- COLUMBIA HTS.
MediaOne Ch.15
Wednesdays—8 pm
- DULUTH—Ch.20
Mondays—9 pm
Wednesdays—12 pm
Fridays 1 pm
- FRIDLEY—Ch.5
Thursdays—5:30 pm
Saturdays—8:30 pm
- MINNEAPOLIS
PARAGON Ch.67
Saturdays—7 pm
- NEW ULM—Ch.14
Fridays—5 pm
- PROCTOR/
HERMANTOWN—Ch.12
Tue: Btw. 5 pm-1 am
- ST.CLOUD AREA
Charter Ch.10
Astound Ch.12
Thursdays—8 pm
- ST.CROIX VLY.
Valley Access Ch.14
Thursdays: 4 & 10 pm
Fridays—8 am
- ST. LOUIS PARK
Paragon Ch.15
Wed. Thu. Fri:
12 am, 8 am, 4 pm
- ST. PAUL (city)
SPNN Ch.15
Saturdays—10 pm
- ST. PAUL (NB burbs)
AT&T Ch.14
Thu: -6 pm & Midnite
Fri: -6 am & Noon
- ST. PAUL (NE burbs)*
Suburban Ch.15
- ST. PAUL (S&W burbs)
AT&T-Comcast Ch.15
Tue & Fri: -8 pm
Wednesdays—10:30 pm
- SOUTH WASHINGTON
ATT Ch.14—1:30 pm
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu

- MONTVALE/MAHWAH
Time Warner Ch.27
Wednesdays—4 pm
- NORTHERN NJ
Comcast Ch.57*
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
- LOS ALAMOS
Comcast Ch.8
Mondays—10 pm
- SANTA FE
Comcast—Ch.8
Saturdays—6:30 pm
- TAOS—Ch.2
Thursdays—7 pm

NEW YORK

- AMSTERDAM
Time Warner Ch.16
Wednesdays—7 pm
- BRONX
Cablevision Ch.70
Thursdays—4:30 pm
- BROOKLYN
T/W Ch.34
Cablevision Ch.67
Tue: 12 Noon & 8 pm
- BUFFALO
Adelphia Ch.20
Thursdays—4 pm
Saturdays—1 pm
- CHEMUNG/STUEBEN
Time Warner Ch.1
Mon & Fri: 4:30 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
- MANHATTAN—MNN
T/W Ch.34; RCN Ch.109
Alt. Sundays—9 am
- NIAGARA COUNTY
Adelphia Ch.20
Thursdays—10:35 pm
- ONEIDA—Ch.10
Thu: 8 or 9 pm
- PENFIELD—Ch.15
Penfield Comm. TV*
- QUEENS OPTV Ch.34
Fridays—5 pm
Tuesdays—9 pm
- QUEENSBURY Ch.71
Thursdays—7 pm
- RIVERHEAD Ch.70
Thu—12 Midnight
- ROCHESTER—Ch.15
Sundays—3 pm
Mondays—10 pm
- ROCKLAND—Ch.71
Mondays—6 pm
- STATEN ISL.
Time Warner Cable
Thu—11 pm (Ch.35)
Sat—8 am (Ch.34)

- TOMPKINS COUNTY
Time Warner Ch.13
Sun—1 pm & 9 pm
Saturdays—9 pm
- TRI-LAKES
Adelphia Ch.2
Sun: 7 am, 1 pm, 8 pm
- WEBSTER—Ch.12
Wednesdays—9 pm

OHIO

- CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Ch.21: Wed—3:30 pm
- FRANKLIN COUNTY
Ch.21: Sun—6 pm
- LORAIN COUNTY
Adelphia Ch.30
Daily: 10 am; or
12 Noon; or 2 pm;
or 12 Midnight
- OBERLIN—Ch.9
Tuesdays—7 pm
- REYNOLDSBURG
Ch.6: Sun—6 pm

OREGON

- LINN/BENTON
AT&T Ch.99
Tuesdays—1 pm
- PORTLAND
Thu—6 pm (Ch.22)
Thu—3 pm (Ch.23)
- SALEM—Ch.23
Tuesdays—12 Noon
Thursdays 8 pm
Saturdays 10 am
- SILVERTON
Charter Ch.10
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri:
Betw. 5 pm - 9 am
- WASHINGTON
Comcast Ch. 23
Wed: 7 pm; Fri: 10 am
Sun: 6 am; Mon: 11 pm

RHODE ISLAND

- E. PROV.—Ch.18
Tuesdays—6:30 pm
- STATEWIDE
RI Interconnect
Cox Ch.13
Full Ch.49
Tuesdays—10 am

TEXAS

- AUSTIN Ch.10
T/W & Grande
Wednesdays—7 pm
- DALLAS Ch.13-B
Tuesdays—10:30 pm
- EL PASO COUNTY
Adelphia Ch.4
Tuesdays—8 pm
- NIAGARA COUNTY
Thursdays—11 am
- HOUSTON
Time Warner Ch.17
Saturdays—9 am
Mon, 12/29: 4 pm
Wed, 12/31: 4 pm
Tue, 1/6: 4 pm
Wed, 1/14: 8 pm
- KINGWOOD Ch.98
Kingwood Cablevision
Saturdays—9 am
Mon, 12/29: 4 pm
Wed, 12/31: 4 pm
Tue, 1/6: 4 pm
Wed, 1/14: 8 pm
- RICHARDSON
AT&T Ch.10-A
Thursdays—6 pm

- UTAH
• E.MILLARD
Precis Ch.10
Tuesdays—5 pm
- SEVERE/SAN PETE
Precis Ch.10
Sundays & Mondays
6 pm & 9 pm

VERMONT

- GREATER FALLS
Adelphia Ch.8
Tuesdays—1 pm

VIRGINIA

- ALBERMARLE
Adelphia Ch.13
Fridays—3 pm
- ARLINGTON
ACT Ch.33
Mondays—4 pm
Tuesdays—9 am
- BLACKSBURG
WTOB Ch.2
Mondays—6 pm
- CHESTERFIELD
Comcast Ch.6
Tuesdays—5 pm
- FAIRFAX—Ch.10
Tuesdays—12 Noon
- LOUDBORO
Adelphia Ch. 23/24
Fridays—7 pm
- ROANOKE—Ch.19
Tuesdays—7 pm
Thursdays—2 pm

WASHINGTON

- KING COUNTY
AT&T Ch.29/77
Mondays—7 pm
- KENNEWICK
Charter Ch.12
Mondays—12 Noon
Thursdays—8:30 pm
- PASCO
Charter Ch.12
Mondays—12 Noon
Thursdays—8:30 pm
- RICHLAND
Charter Ch.12
Mondays—12 Noon
Thursdays—8:30 pm
- SPOKANE—Ch.14
Wednesdays—6 pm
- WENATCHEE
Charter Ch.98
Thu: 10 am & 5 pm

WISCONSIN

- MADISON—Ch.4
Tuesdays—3 PM
Wednesdays—12 Noon
- MARATHON COUNTY
Charter Ch.10
Thursdays—9:30 pm
Fridays—12 Noon
- SUPERIOR
Charter Ch.20
Mondays—7:30 pm
Wednesdays—11 pm
Fridays 1 pm

- UTAH
• E.MILLARD
Precis Ch.10
Tuesdays—5 pm
- SEVERE/SAN PETE
Precis Ch.10
Sundays & Mondays
6 pm & 9 pm

- GREATER FALLS
Adelphia Ch.8
Tuesdays—1 pm

- ALBERMARLE
Adelphia Ch.13
Fridays—3 pm
- ARLINGTON
ACT Ch.33
Mondays—4 pm
Tuesdays—9 am
- BLACKSBURG
WTOB Ch.2
Mondays—6 pm
- CHESTERFIELD
Comcast Ch.6
Tuesdays—5 pm
- FAIRFAX—Ch.10
Tuesdays—12 Noon
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Fridays—7 pm
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Tuesdays—7 pm
Thursdays—2 pm

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Thursdays—8:30 pm
- PASCO
Charter Ch.12
Mondays—12 Noon
Thursdays—8:30 pm
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Charter Ch.12
Mondays—12 Noon
Thursdays—8:30 pm
- SPOKANE—Ch.14
Wednesdays—6 pm
- WENATCHEE
Charter Ch.98
Thu: 10 am & 5 pm

- MADISON—Ch.4
Tuesdays—3 PM
Wednesdays—12 Noon
- MARATHON COUNTY
Charter Ch.10
Thursdays—9:30 pm
Fridays—12 Noon
- SUPERIOR
Charter Ch.20
Mondays—7:30 pm
Wednesdays—11 pm
Fridays 1 pm

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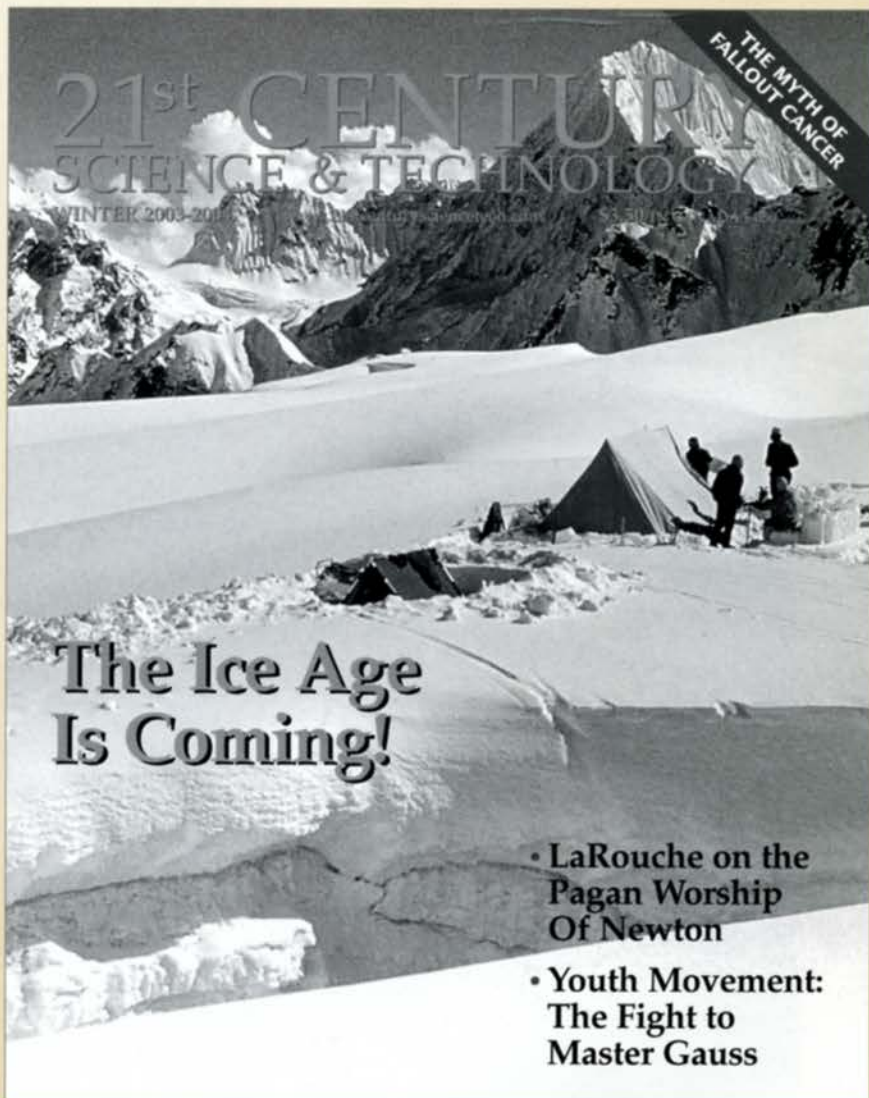
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