

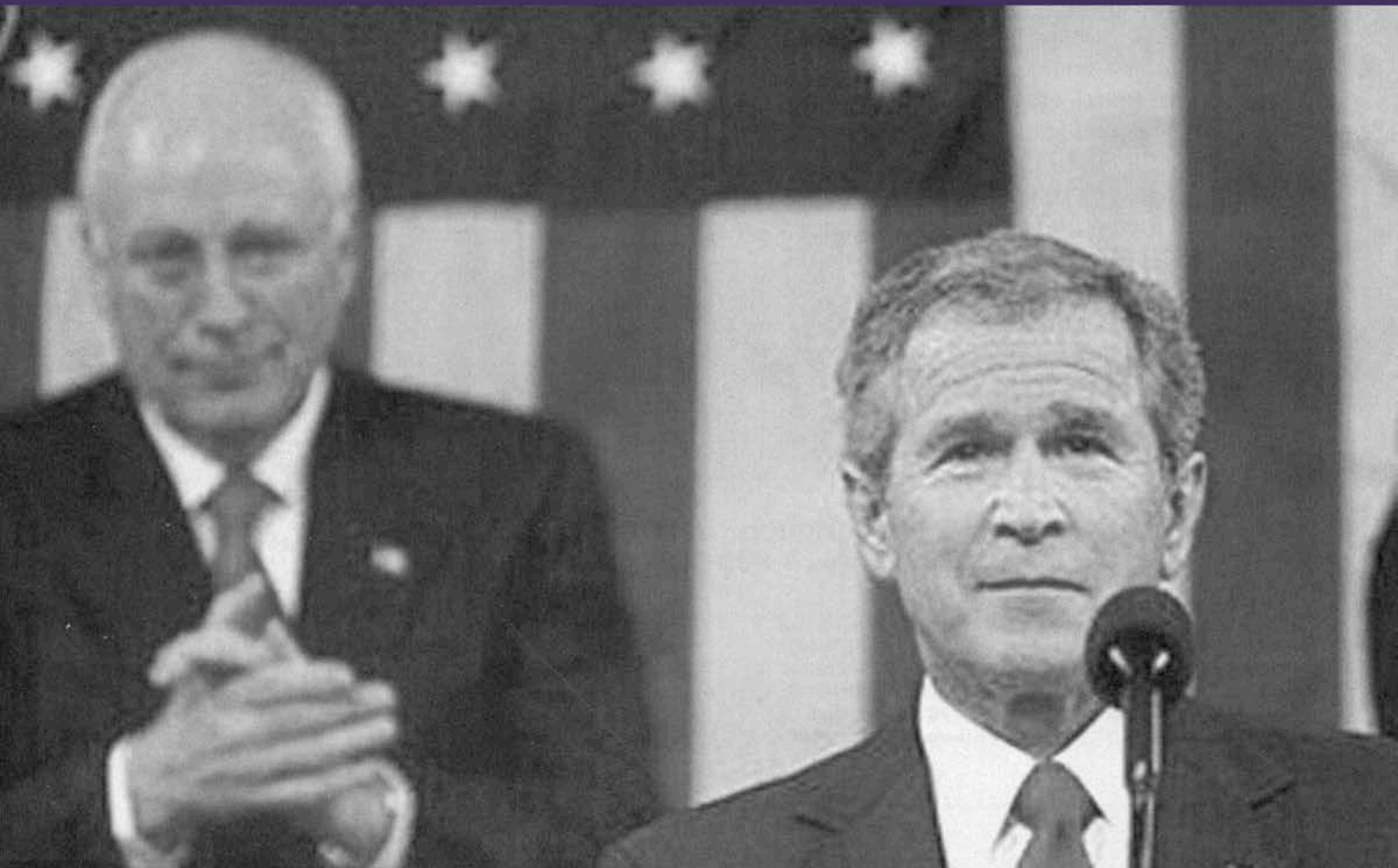
# EIR

Executive Intelligence Review

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Debt Explosion Will Kill, Not Save, U.S. Economy  
LaRouche Turns the Democrats' Sights on Cheney  
Iran's Election Crisis Flanks the One in Iraq

**Out From the Shadows:  
Impeach 'Bush's Boss'**



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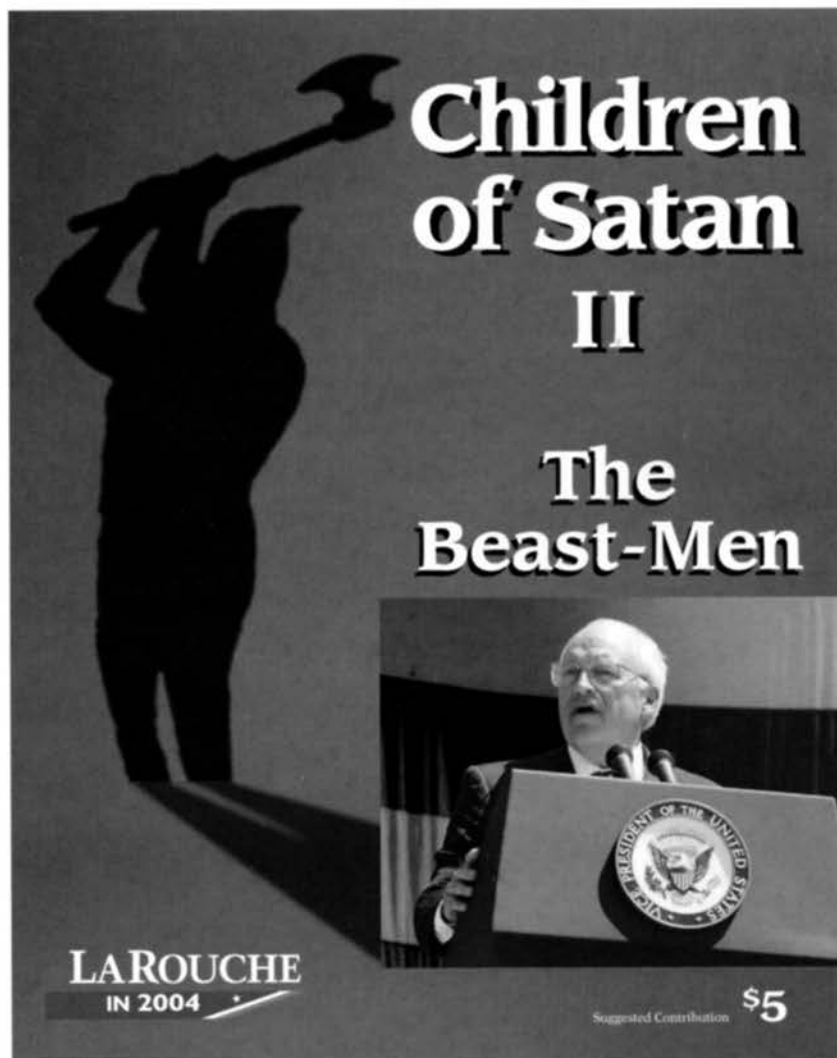
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## From the Associate Editor

**I**n a widely quoted statement, Lyndon LaRouche warned the Democratic Party, in a Dec. 12 webcast, that they would soon be “dead meat” if they didn’t include him in the electoral process. “Reality is going to strike,” he told them. “Any part of the Democratic Party that doesn’t get with reality, is doomed—not by my hand, but by their own.”

Why so? Ask Howard Dean. Or Joe Lieberman.

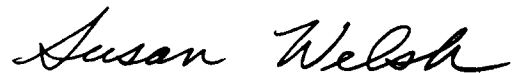
When a longtime enemy of LaRouche, who has worked within the Democratic Party to defeat his FDR-style appeal to the lower 80% of family income-brackets, comes up to LaRouche on the campaign trail in New Hampshire on election day, to congratulate him on his work against Dick Cheney, you know that times are changing!

This week’s *EIR* develops the two critical issues on which LaRouche is catalyzing a shift within the Democratic Party: taking on “beast-man” Cheney, and dealing with the financial-economic crisis.

Our *Feature* provides a complete dossier on Cheney: a bill of indictment for his crimes, and reports on the growing international momentum against him. Included is an interview with Scott Ritter, the outspoken former weapons inspector in Iraq, who demolishes the idea (which Cheney is desperately peddling on Capitol Hill), that the only issue to be investigated is “botched intelligence” about Iraq’s WMD. In other words, that the intelligence community should be scapegoated for the *policy judgments* made by the Administration—ideologically-driven judgments which, as Ritter shows, had nothing to do with intelligence.

LaRouche’s campaign speech in Manchester, New Hampshire on Jan. 25 (see *National*), just before the state’s Democratic primary, gave his up-to-date evaluation of the political situation, underlining that “we have not yet begun to see the decisive developments in this campaign,” and concluding, “It will come down to Kerry and me.”

Once the flakes and fakes fall out of the race, then the real discussion will begin, of the need to reorient the party toward what FDR called “the forgotten man.” To further that debate, *EIR* is releasing our first DVD: LaRouche’s speech on Martin Luther King’s birthday in Talladega, Alabama (printed in last week’s issue).



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## Debt Explosion Will Kill, Not Save, the U.S. Economy

by Richard Freeman

During the past three years, the U.S. economy has apparently been prevented from sinking into unfathomable collapse, by incurring immense volumes of new debt. The Bush-Cheney Administration is wholly dependent on the debt-generation process, like an addict upon his cocaine; the debt bubble is the principal force holding up the American economy from far greater destruction.

Yet, the immense volume of this debt, swelled by compounding debt service payments, is unsustainable. Its imminent rupture would trigger the breakdown of the world financial system.

By the end of the third quarter of 2003, total U.S. debt had soared to \$36.1 trillion, according to data recently released by the Federal Reserve Board of Governors (the “Flow of Funds Accounts”) and other U.S. government agencies. **Table 1** documents that between the third quarter of 2002 and the third quarter of 2003, total U.S. debt outstanding grew by \$3.09 trillion. That is, it grew in just one year, by an increment that exceeds the total value of all the foreign debt owed by all developing-sector nations.

### Debt of Households Is the Driver

Table 1 further shows that, between the third quarter of 2002 and the third quarter of 2003, the driving force of this process, was the growth of household debt by 11.2% per year. Within this household debt, the category of “household mortgage debt” grew at the staggering rate of 13.7% per year. This represents households borrowing mainly against *their existing homes*; that is, home refinancings, to extract cash to

TABLE 1  
**Total U.S. Debt Outstanding**  
(\$ Trillions)

	3rd Q, 2002	3rd Q, 2003	Rate of Change
Household debt	8.260	9.185	+11.2%
of which mortgage debt	5.847	6.646	+13.7%
Total government debt*	7.653	8.445	+10.3%
Business debt**	17.045	18.421	+8.1%
Total U.S. Debt	32.958	36.050	+9.4%

\*Federal, state, and local government debt

\*\*U.S. business debt of both non-financial and financial companies

Sources: U.S. Federal Reserve Board of Governors, “Flow of Funds”; U.S. Treasury Department; *EIR*.

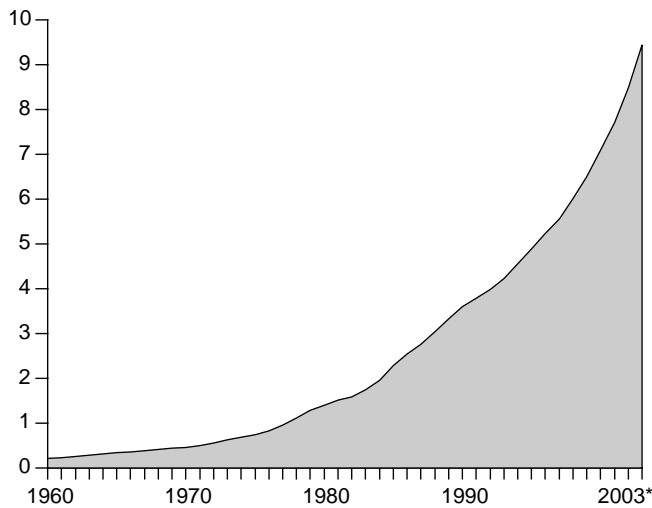
make some “conspicuous consumption” purchases, but mostly to buy the bare necessities, pay medical bills, and pay off existing debt.

It is evident that the debt bubble contains the seeds of its own destruction, as it hits up against its physical limits. The three principal sectors of the economy—households, businesses, and government—have taken on gigantic levels of new debt. This debt is a cancer which, by shrinking the U.S. physical economy, especially household living standards, renders the economy less and less able to repay the debt, and thus to hold up the growing bubble.

Consider the common instance of a family that borrows to offset the decline in living standards: When the next cycle

FIGURE 1  
**U.S. Household Debt Surges to \$9.44 Trillion**

(\$ Trillions)

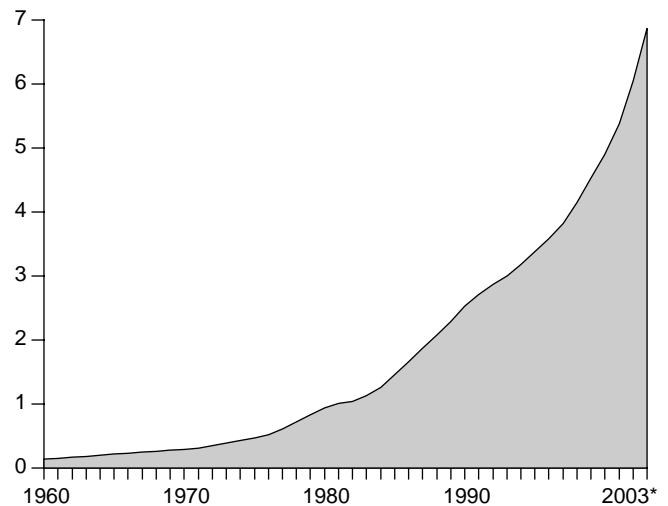


\*Projection, based on first nine months

Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors "Flow of Funds Accounts"; *EIR*.

FIGURE 2  
**U.S. Home Mortgage Debt Rises to Nearly \$7 Trillion**

(\$ Trillions)



\*Projection, based on first nine months

Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors "Flow of Funds Accounts"; *EIR*.

of debt payments comes due, they will be augmented by the expanded interest. To make those payments, the family will have to reduce its living standard to below where it was before it took on the new borrowings. The loss of a job, and the whole process blows out. The same principle applies to manufacturing firms, which to avoid going under, borrowed to pay for new equipment, raw materials supplies, and even to pay payroll. This process has been going on for three and one half decades, but intensified during the past three years, as financial and monetary aggregates have overwhelmed the productive base of the economy.

### Post-Industrial Society Policy

The U.S. debt bubble stems from the City of London and Wall Street financiers' imposition of a post-industrial society policy upon the United States beginning the mid-1960s. This policy collapsed production in manufacturing, agriculture, and infrastructure, and fostered speculation, which built up a gigantic speculative bubble. This bubble sucked the physical economy dry, contracting it and real living standards, by 1-2% per annum.

Three nodal policy changes of the post-industrial society policy are noteworthy.

First, President Richard Nixon severed the dollar from the gold-reserve standard on Aug. 15, 1971, which separated financial flows from physical goods flows.

Second, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul Volcker moved in October 1979 to apply the New York Council on

Foreign Relations' explicit policy of "controlled disintegration" of the economy. Volcker sent interest rates into the stratosphere, so that the prime lending rate charged by commercial banks reached 21.5% by December 1980, which razed basic manufacturing and agriculture to the ground.

Third, Wall Street steered the leveraged-buy-out mania, starting in the 1970s, with heavy doses of laundered drug money, to take over and then asset-strip companies.

Taken as a sweep, the more than three-decade post-industrial process fostered the leap in debt.

The debt grew for two opposite purposes: first, for non-productive/speculative purposes—borrowings by companies to make leveraged buy-outs of one another, and for individuals to buy expensive cars and other luxury items; and second, for productive purposes, such as factories and farms buying equipment and materials to keep themselves open, or families buying the goods necessary for their survival.

The two types of debts, contracted for different purposes, merged, sending total debt spiralling upwards.

### Economy's 'Savior,' Households' Destroyer

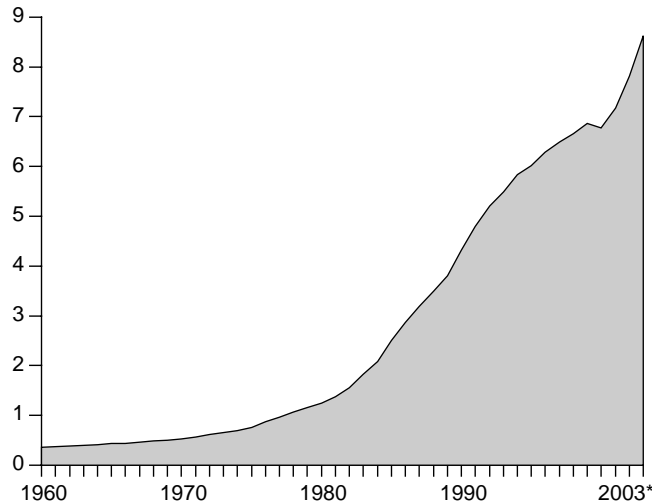
The total U.S. debt consists of three parts: 1) household debt, which includes home mortgage debt, credit card debt, and installment debt (to purchase cars, refrigerators, etc. on installment plans); 2) business debt; and 3) total government debt, embracing Federal, state, and local government debt.

(To make comparisons of debt over varying years, we

FIGURE 3

**Total U.S. Government Debt (Federal, State, and Local Gov't Debt)**

(\$ Trillions)



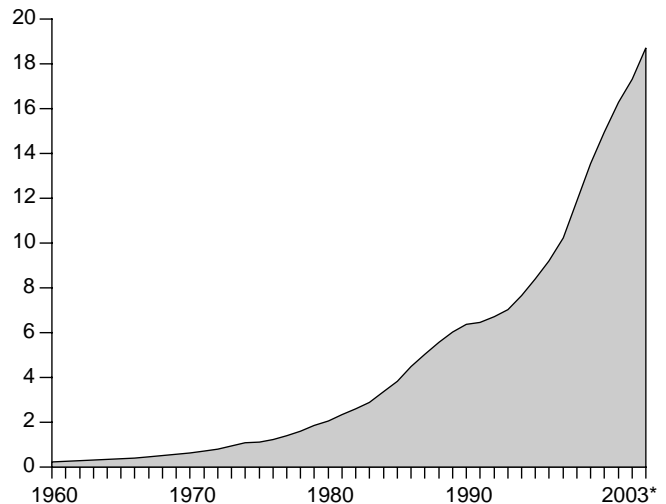
\*Projection, based on first nine months of 2003

Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors "Flow of Funds Accounts"; U.S. Department of Treasury; U.S. Office of Management and Budget; *EIR*.

FIGURE 4

**U.S. Business Debt (Non-Financial and Financial Businesses)**

(\$ Trillions)



\*Projection, based on first nine months

Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors "Flow of Funds Accounts"; *EIR*.

took the first nine months data for 2003, and projected it on an annual basis.)

**Figure 1** shows that household debt was less than \$1 trillion until 1978. Under the impetus of Volcker's high-interest regime, household debt rose steeply. By 1990, it was \$3.60 trillion; by the end of 2003, it had risen to \$9.44 trillion, a 2.6-fold increase in only 13 years.

Most especially, look at the period since 2000: debt of households rose from \$7.08 trillion in 2000 to its current level in 2003, an increase of \$2.36 trillion, in only three years. The dates are especially important. The Federal Reserve Board's "Flow of Funds" reports its debt figures for the last day of the year named, so that the debt figure for 2000 is for Dec. 31, 2000. The Bush-Cheney Administration took office on Jan. 21, 2001, a mere 21 days after the start of the year. Accordingly, the debt figures for the period 2000 to 2003, cover the entirety of the Bush-Cheney Administration, minus 21 days.

The Bush-Cheney Administration has falsely trumpeted its package of tax cuts as the "savior" of the economy. Consider that the total tax cuts during the interval 2000-03, did not equal one-tenth of the total amount of debt expansion (household, business, and government) that was pumped into the economy during the same period. As the broad outline will make clearer, the wild debt explosion is the governing characteristic of action of the Bush-Cheney Administration, in conjunction with the wild money printing policies of Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan.

**Figure 2** shows that between 2000 and 2003, home mortgage debt grew by \$1.98 trillion. During the period 2000-2003, out of the growth in household debt by \$2.36 trillion, home mortgage debt's growth accounted for a striking 84%. However, only approximately half of the increment of new home mortgage debt during the period 2000-2003 actually was used to purchase homes. The other half went to refinance homes: In many cases, the homeowner extracted cash for consumer spending.

**Figure 3** depicts the rising trajectory of total government spending (inclusive of Federal, state, and local), which has resumed its upward thrust with a vengeance. The Congressional Budget Office has just released its projection that the U.S. budget deficit for Fiscal Year 2004 will be \$477 billion (actually, it will be \$631 billion). Deficits of that magnitude will ensure that government debt will rise steeply.

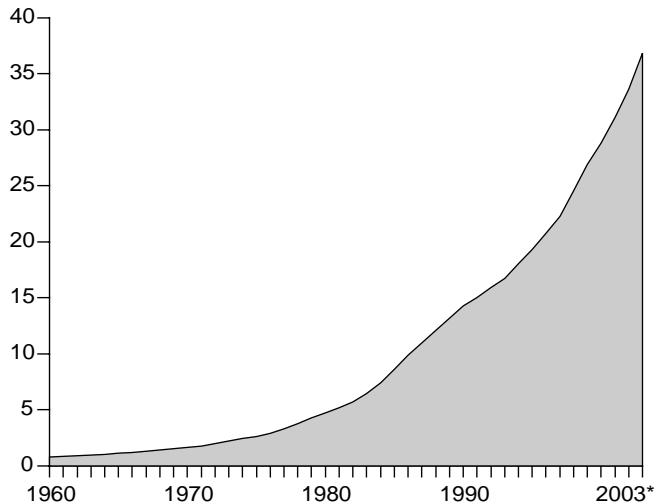
**Figure 4** shows that non-financial and financial business debt leapt to \$18.72 trillion by 2003.

**Figure 5** documents that total U.S. debt (household, government, and business combined) has followed a hyperbolic trajectory from \$1.63 trillion in 1970, to a projected \$36.85 trillion by the end of 2003, a 23-fold increase. In 2000, total debt stood at \$28.80 trillion. Between 2000 and 2003, total debt increased by more than \$8 trillion, which has facilitated the minimal level of purchases to provide minimal life-signs to the battered economy. Never before in the history of the world has any nation's debt increased by \$8 trillion during



FIGURE 5  
**Total U.S. Debt**

(\$ Trillions)



\*Projection, based on first nine months

Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors "Flow of Funds Accounts"; U.S. Department of Treasury; Office of Management and Budget; *EIR*.

three years.

The debt bubble may seem to produce positive short-term effects; and without conceding that such a bubble exists, the Bush-Cheney Administration has duplicitously ridden the crest of this debt wave. But the explosion of debt contains the germs of a destruction two orders of magnitude greater than what happened in the 1929-32 crash and the Great Depression. (The preconditions for the debt bomb's detonation will be discussed in a forthcoming article.)

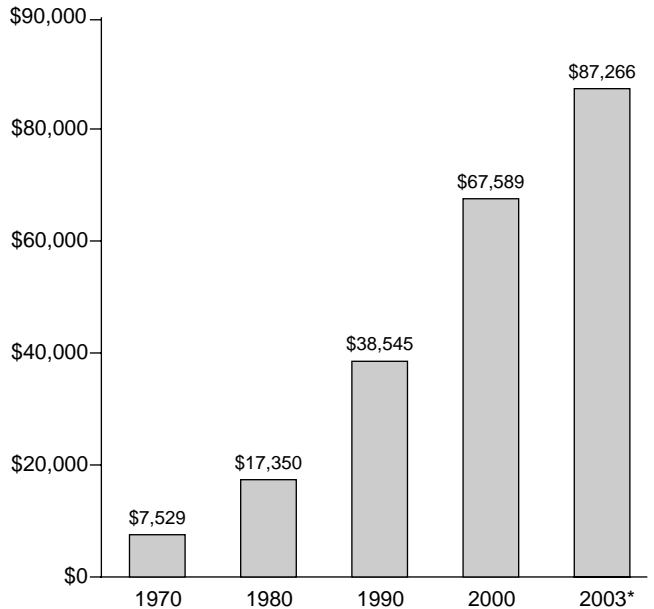
**Figure 6** shows that in 2003, each U.S. household is crushed under the burden of \$87,266 of debt (this is the amount of U.S. household debt, divided by the number of households). Two parameters must be kept in mind. First, that the leading element of household debt is home mortgage debt, as referenced above. Second, some wealthy families and some elderly families have little or no debt burden, which means that numerous other families have staggering household debts of \$150,000, or \$300,000 or more.

It is dramatically revealing that between the end of 2000 and the end of 2003, the volume of household debt per household climbed by \$20,000. During the Cheney-Bush collapse process, households piled on the debt, in order barely to persevere.

**Figure 7** shows that between 2000 and 2003, total U.S. debt, borne per household, rose from \$274,930 to \$340,650, a stunning increase of more than \$65,000 in three years. It is a pipe dream to believe that households can survive.

FIGURE 6  
**U.S. Household Debt, Per Household**

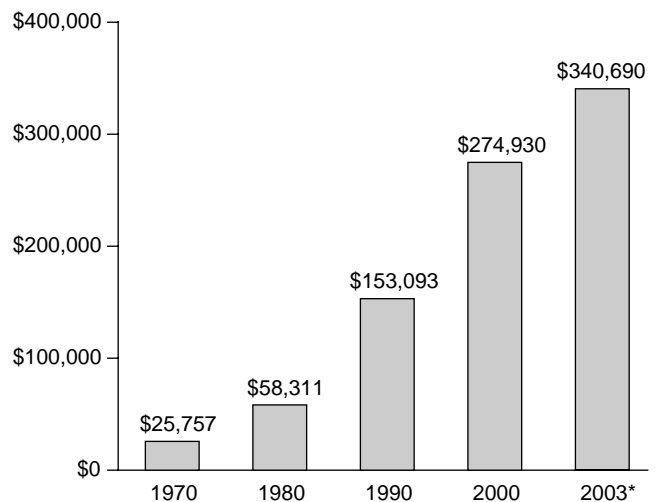
(\$ Trillions)



\*Projection, based on first nine months of 2003

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

FIGURE 7  
**U.S. Total Debt, Per Household**



\*Projection, based on first nine months

Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors "Flow of Funds Accounts"; U.S. Department of Treasury; U.S. Office of Management and Budget; U.S. Department of Commerce; *EIR*.

# U.S. States Have No Way Out But ‘Super TVA’

by Paul Gallagher

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office’s Jan. 26 report of a \$477 billion “unified” Federal budget deficit in the now-ongoing Fiscal Year 2004—while only part of the terrible story—is in itself a \$100 billion jump in the deficit over that of FY 2003. When more Iraq spending is demanded later this year, that deficit should go over \$500 billion; and when the “unified” ploy is taken away—that is, not counting the “borrowing” from the Social Security and Medicare Trust Fund surpluses—it’s headed for more than \$600 billion. That will put the Federal deficit in the range of 30% of the Federal budget. It indicates the White House’s and Republican Congressional leaders’ continuing desperation to try to resuscitate the economy by feeding middle- and upper-class households’ spending, and corporations’ profits—with tax cuts of unprecedented size and feverish increases in outlays on defense and “security”—all this creating no more employment than did Herbert Hoover.

But this ability of the Federal government to issue debt as currency through the Federal Reserve and private banks—were it used, instead, as *credit creation* for projects through the U.S. Treasury according to national banking principles—could be creating hundreds of thousands of new jobs in infrastructure partnership with the states and regulated public corporations. It could be building new high-speed rail service, new energy grids, new water management capabilities for North America’s western desert areas, modern public hospital facilities—and providing desperate states like California with new springs of tax revenue. New figures on the states’ fiscal plight show that that dramatic national policy shift is their only hope.

Without Presidential candidate LaRouche’s Super-TVA approach, all the Federal states, and cities as well, are continuing to head toward bankruptcy in the general collapse of the country’s real economy since 2000. As LaRouche emphasized in a Jan. 10 Internet webcast, the states are now making their bankrupt fiscal situations worse whether they try to increase tax rates to get more revenue, or lower them to get more “business.”

## Raising Taxes, Losing Revenue

The late-2003 claims by the consultants of the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL), that state fiscal

situations were “showing improvement” after three years of extreme distress, are disproven simply by looking at the states’ revenue collections, as reported every quarter by the Census Bureau. For the combined first three quarters of the calendar year 2000, all of the 50 Federal states had collected \$424 billion in total tax revenues. But for the first three quarters of calendar 2003, the 50 states’ total tax revenues were 2.5% less, at \$414 billion—despite roughly 4% population growth, inflation, and a 35% fall in the value of a dollar over those three years. Furthermore, the January-September 2003 total shows no improvement over the same period of 2002.

Over the three fiscal years (July-June) 2001 to 2003, states’ revenues fell by about \$22 billion—almost \$60 billion when adjusted for population growth and inflation—so that there was a 5% drop in state spending per capita during that time. And the decline has not ended.

There can be debate over the Federal deficits, as to what part of them is caused by the Bush Administration’s tax cuts, and what part by economic collapse: *EIR* has estimated 70% of the drops come from economic decline; one other independent estimate has been about 60%. But there can be no such argument about the states’ falling revenues: *30 of the 50 states have raised their taxes since 2000*, according to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) in Washington which tracks their fiscal situations. The states’ and localities’ *share* of national tax collections is the highest it has ever been in United States history, due to the severe drops in Federal tax revenues over those same three years. Yet, the state governments have raised their tax rates, but clearly failed to stop the decline in their revenues thereby—just as LaRouche stressed on Jan. 10.

A CBPP report released on Jan. 24 emphasized that the states’ tax increases, like the Federal government’s tax cuts, have been regressive: The Federal cuts have given money back largely to high-income households; and the states’ emergency tax increases, mainly a variety of sales tax increases and new fees, have hit lower-income households disproportionately. Much more than raising taxes, however, states have cut their spending—it is 2.9% less, nationally, in calendar 2003 than in 2000. The loss of state-subsidized health insurance by 1.6 million poor Americans is only the sorest of those cuts; national increases have been measured in homelessness, in official poverty, and in the incidence of hunger. Nearly all states have cut their higher education budgets; eleven, thus far, have cut their “sacrosanct” kindergarten-to-12th-grade education budgets. Jobs have of course been lost, not created, as the states thus tried to *prevent* their tax rates from rising.

And the taxes and spending cuts have *not* improved the states’ fiscal gaps. The hopeful claims which NCSL or the National Governors’ Association make near the beginning of each state fiscal year (for most states, that starts in July)—banking on the past year’s cuts and tax/fee increases having

been “enough”—are dashed as that fiscal year goes on. Over the past three fiscal years, 2002-2004, the 50 Federal states will have had to make up budget shortfalls of \$190-200 billion; of that, \$78 billion in revenue gaps will have appeared in this fiscal year, 2004, showing that the situation is not improving. And already, based on Fiscal 2005 estimates by just 21 states which have made them thus far, the shortfalls for the next fiscal year apparently total another \$40 billion, reports the CBPP; that indicates the fiscal gaps next year will be at least as bad, nationwide, as they have been for the past three years. This is fresh bleeding from the limbs that had already been repeatedly bled hoping to bring on, or survive until, a “recovery.”

### Cut, or Tax?

Any sampling of important states shows each one caught in the vise LaRouche pointed to, without a decisive national “bankruptcy protection” action aimed to provide them with credits for revenue- and job-creating investments. Arkansas, for example—although its native Presidential candidate Gen. Wesley Clark (ret.) has not treated the national fiscal crisis as an important issue—is currently in its second emergency special legislative session of the past year. The legislature is considering enacting an “education tax”—probably a regressive new sales tax—or, a significant increase in the state income tax, to try to increase revenues by \$800 million for education costs. But the other 30 states which have already raised taxes, show the futility of that attempt.

In Alabama, candidate LaRouche has just made a campaign swing, giving public presentations and meeting with the state’s legislative Black Caucus, on the way the coming financial crack is going to shape the Presidential race, and what to do about it economically. A political effort by Alabama Gov. Bob Riley—a Republican—to raise state taxes by an estimated \$1.5 billion annually, just failed in a state referendum in 2003. The resulting austerity budget effectively has ended the state’s children’s health insurance program; cut off nursing home care for 3,000 senior citizens; slated layoffs of non-public safety state employees; scheduled 5,500 public school employees, including teachers, for layoffs in Fiscal 2005; slated reductions in state prisons employment; and so forth. The result will be lower state revenues still, forcing further cuts. Yet some Alabama legislators were asking LaRouche, “just when is this collapse going to hit”!

Virginia, whose semi-annual budget is about \$29 billion, is in the same vise. In the past two budgets, multi-billion dollar budget holes have opened up, requiring severe cuts against higher education, state layoffs, closure of some state offices, etc. But the budget shortfall has returned; state revenues are lower than three years ago. Gov. Mark Warner (D) is now asking for a tax increase of \$500 million, as part of a reworking of the tax code. But surprisingly, some of the state’s Republican leaders, until now strong anti-taxers, real-

ize the state is now unable to fund even the smallest transport improvements, for example, and have proposed a \$1.5 billion tax increase, on the scale of the one that failed in Alabama. They point to the vise: Without such an increase, another \$800 million in cuts may be needed in the new budget, hitting the bone of economic activity in the state.

LaRouche planned a television campaign in the state before its Feb. 3 primary, driving home his message to the whole nation: The only Presidential candidate qualified to run for the office, is the one prepared to deal with “Erinyes”—the economic Furies hitting the United States during 2004—and the one capable of getting Vice President Cheney out of office in that same time.

The most extreme case remains California, where the last two-year budget *deficit* reached \$38 billion. The right-wing populist “beast-man,” muscle actor Arnold Schwarzenegger, was forced into office by Cheney’s faction of the Republican Party, in order to slash the state’s government to pieces with cuts, while refusing to discuss any tax increases. California desperately needs an infusion of infrastructure credits—particularly for rapid increases in electrical power generation and for new rail corridors and water projects—in order to stop a “death spiral” of state revenues.

But since his Recall election, Schwarzenegger has put forward fiscal and budgetary proposals which confirm LaRouche’s warnings: these drastic cuts now, and/or even worse cuts to come. His first measure, to repeal the increased car license fee just passed by the legislature, added \$4 billion to the deficit. His second, was to bully the legislature to place a \$15 billion bond measure on the March 2 ballot, despite the state’s downgraded credit rating, to use new debt for operating revenue instead of infrastructure investment. 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.

Schwarzenegger’s 2004-05 budget includes \$2 billion in cuts 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 wants \$1.3 billion in property tax revenue from cities and counties to be taken by the state, reducing municipal police and fire departments.

And still, these cuts leave a projected deficit of more than \$6 billion in 2004-05; play-money compared to the size the deficit will actually assume as the latest looting further wrecks the state’s economy.

In California, it was not all surprising, then, that 100 LaRouche Youth Movement activists had such a great impact on the State Democratic Convention in mid-January. Their leader’s Presidential policies represented the only optimism and the only hope.

# Dollar Collapse Begins A Drama for Eurasia

by Paul Gallagher

At one of his final town meetings in New Hampshire's Presidential primary, Sen. John Kerry gave a smile of acknowledgement when LaRouche Youth Movement leader Mike Reeves told him that the collapse of the U.S. dollar will bring down the world financial system and "cut out the baby talk in this campaign." Reeves was citing the repeated public alarms to this effect by former Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin in mid-January. Rubin had followed the clear warnings of Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, that the dollar's fall was going to accelerate, go to a loss of 50% or more of its value, and become uncontrollable, triggering a collapse. LaRouche's assessment is echoed in many informed quarters now, including by the sleazy mega-speculator George Soros—funder and would-be buyer of Democratic Party candidates—on Jan. 26.

But in Asia, the dollar's collapse is becoming a pressure for action to change the world's monetary arrangements; a pressure that will soon become unpostponeable. The major Asian powers' levels of direct and indirect support for a plummeting dollar cannot continue much longer.

Consider the case of loyal U.S. ally Japan. During the month of January, Japanese currency-market interventions to try to stop or slow the fall of the dollar, already huge throughout the previous year, "went ballistic." They now constitute a spectacle never before seen in monetary relations between sovereign nations.

During 2003, the Bank of Japan, authorized by the Japanese Finance Ministry, officially spent 20.1 trillion yen (now worth about \$188 billion) for interventions on foreign exchange markets, desperately trying to keep the yen from rising too fast against the dollar. This amount was not only a historic high, but it was actually triple the amount of the previous all-time record. But all of the 2003 interventions are nothing against what's going on now. According to a report in the Japanese daily *Yomiuri* on Jan. 24—official data will be presented much later—Japan had already spent another \$56 billion on currency interventions during the first 18 days of the new year!

The Japanese Finance Ministry has to borrow money for these interventions, and has already used up its entire 79 trillion yen borrowing limit for currency interventions for Fiscal Year 2004, which doesn't end until March 31. In the new fiscal year, the limit will be almost doubled to 140 trillion yen (about \$1.3 trillion). In the meantime, the government relies

on short-term credits from the Bank of Japan for the currency operations. On Jan. 14, the Bank of Japan granted the government a first injection of 5 trillion yen (almost \$50 billion). As a by-product of these operations, the interest rate on short-term interbank borrowings on the same day plunged to minus (!) 0.30%. Japanese Finance Minister Sadakazu reported on Jan. 20 that by the end of the fiscal year, Japan will have about 8 trillion yen (\$74 billion) in unrealized losses on its foreign exchange holdings. Another consequence is that Japan has now by far the biggest holdings of U.S. Treasuries—\$525 billion—of any country outside the United States.

Chinese President Hu Jintao's current visit to France has shown that "the convergences between France and China have never been so strong," to quote French Foreign Ministry spokesman Hervé Ladsous. But will this mean Europe would support Chinese moves away from the dollar?—something that China, with its highly unbalanced economy and 800 million peasants, will urgently need.

At the end of December 2003, Francois Heisbourg, former head of London's International Institute of Strategic Studies and now director of the Paris Foundation for Strategic Research, wrote a commentary in the *International Herald Tribune* asserting that "China will limit U.S. power" by using its "economic weapon." Heisbourg warned of "impending tectonic shifts between China and the United States. It is no exaggeration to suggest that their consequences will dominate the next U.S. Presidential term."

The compliance of the Bush Administration with Chinese policy on Taiwan, Heisbourg asserted, is due to "America's dependence on China in the monetary arena. If China were to cease to accumulate dollars, the result would be an uncontrolled free-fall of the U.S. currency, inducing a systemic shock for the global economy. "In other words, China holds the fate of America's economic recovery in its hands." But, "China would no doubt be hurt as much as, if not more than, the United States if it were to turn its back on the dollar." That would destroy China's trade surplus with America, the "engine" of its growth, and cause "dire social consequences in China . . . the functional equivalent of using a nuclear weapon, something neither rational nor likely."

The necessity to measure trade and investment agreements in something other than the dollar system is pressing on the nations of Eurasia. Speaking at an economic conference in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on Jan. 19, Malaysia's former Prime Minister Mahathir proposed to switch the oil trade among nations to the "gold dinar" from the dollar. He proposes that groups of countries tally their total annual imports and exports and then settle the difference at the end of the year in gold dinars. A gold-reserve currency system is a necessary basis for the overhaul of the bankrupt floating-exchange-rate dollar system. But the valuation of currencies will have to be based, as Lyndon LaRouche has outlined, on a basket of those commodities which those nations require for infrastructural and economic development.

# Israeli-Palestinian Team Releases 'Economic Road Map'

by Dean Andromidas

A team of Israeli and Palestinian experts released in January an "Economic Road Map,"\* aimed at correcting the major failing in the Road Map for Mideast Peace. This unofficial effort complements the Geneva Accord Peace Initiative, which was drafted by a team of negotiators led by former Israeli Justice Minister Yossi Beilin and former Minister of the Palestinian National Authority Yasser Abed Rabbo. Both documents demonstrate that, despite decades of bloodshed, there are people on both sides who can negotiate positive agreements. But peace is being blocked by the hardline policies of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his backers in Washington, the neo-conservatives led by Vice President Dick Cheney.

Explicitly seeking to correct one of the fatal flaws of the Road Map (the plan endorsed by the United Nations, United States, European Union, and Russia), the new plan states: "In the belief that a sound economic context is essential to building sustainable peace . . . and that economics of peace-building have not been given sufficient importance by policy-makers," the group sought to "establish an economic counterpart to the Road Map for Peace."

This plan is not the grand design for Mideast economic development which Lyndon LaRouche has insisted is necessary for a durable Mideast peace (see below). But it does aim at defining the parameters of Israeli-Palestinian economic and financial cooperation, once the three years of the latest round of bloody conflict can be brought to a close, and a final status agreement can be implemented, along the lines of the Geneva Accord.

It also forms the basis for an economic emergency plan. The Palestinian economy has been almost totally destroyed by three years of brutal occupation policies, while Israel's economy has been collapsing at a pace unprecedented in the country's history.

The Economic Road Map was drafted by the "Aix Group," which comprises Israeli, Palestinian, and other international experts. The effort was initiated by Prof. Gilbert Benhayoun, of the University of Law, Economics, and Sciences of Aix Marseilles III, France, in cooperation with the Peres Center for Peace, in Israel, and the Palestinian Ministry of

National Economy. The group held its first seminar in Aix-en-Provence, France on July 22, 2002.

Professor Benhayoun told Reuters, "The plan helps fill a vacuum, and the ideas put forward can contribute to bringing the parties together."

Among the Israelis who played leading roles in drafting the plan were Prof. Arie Arnon of Ben Gurion University and Dr. Ron Pundak, director general of the Peres Center for Peace. Both are signatories to the Geneva Accord. The Israeli team also included government officials, from the Ministry of Industry and the Ministry of Finance, who participated in a private capacity. The Palestinian side was led by Saeb Bamyia, an economist and former high-level official of the Palestinian National Authority (P.N.A.). His team included economists from various universities, as well as P.N.A. officials such as Dr. Samih el-Abid, Deputy Minister of Planning; and Ismail Abu Shehada, director general of the Palestinian Industrial Estates and Free Zone Authority. International economists, including representatives from the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the European Commission participated as observers.

The effort was supported by three French provincial authorities, the European Commission, the representative office of Norway to the P.N.A., and the Peres Center for Peace.

## Common Interests

The plan has three phases, and, unlike the Oslo Accords or the Road Map, it strives to define in relatively precise terms the third and final phase, which deals with the economic relations between Israel and a fully sovereign Palestinian state within permanent borders. The plan recognizes that peace is impossible when one relatively wealthy state is living side by side with an impoverished state, especially when the two have been in a state of war and occupation for nearly five decades.

The report's economic vision is based on "mutual respect and cooperation based on common interests," which seek to "promote independence in defining economic objectives and strategies, growth in both economies, the pursuit of policies that acknowledge economic interdependences. . . ." The authors seek a "convergence of Palestinian living standards with those of Israel"—no modest task, since the current standard of living of Palestinians is *one-fifth* that of Israelis.

The plan seeks to reverse the economy of occupation

\* *Economic Road Map: An Israeli-Palestinian Perspective on Permanent Status*, www.aixgroup.u-3mrs.fr.



*Development of water infrastructure is the most urgent priority, to underwrite Mideast peace. The “Economic Road Map” offers a first step toward cooperation. Here, Palestinians wait in line to get water.*

whereby the West Bank and Gaza Strip serve merely as a source of cheap labor for the Israeli economy, much the way the bantustans served apartheid South Africa. While recognizing the fact that many Palestinians will initially still be working in Israel, the objective is to develop the Palestinian state’s own manufacturing and other industries.

The drafters of the report define how these goals can be accomplished through establishing institutions that promote cooperation, such as a Joint Israeli-Palestinian Economic Committee, which can oversee all aspects of economic cooperation including trade, tax and fiscal policies, and joint infrastructure and other projects. They also call for the formation of an Israeli-Palestinian Development Fund, to play a major role in financing joint projects, including industrial estates, business ventures for domestic and external markets, and joint public/private infrastructure projects in the fields of energy, transportation, and agriculture.

The key question of trade relations is discussed extensively in the report. The idea of a modified free-trade agreement or customs union between the two countries is a major focus of discussion. It takes into consideration the need for the Palestinian state to take appropriate measures to protect its economy.

The report also seeks to improve upon the “Paris Protocol” of 1994, on economic relations between Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Among the most important recommendations is for the Palestinian state to have its own central bank and currency.

The plan also calls for regional economic development projects in transportation—including railways, ports, civil aviation, and highways—as well as in the energy sector, industry, agriculture, and in scientific and technical research.

Before any of this can be implemented, the first two

phases, including a “rescue” phase and a transitional phase, must be completed. The former would oblige Israel to lift all travel and other restrictions in the territories, allowing for a free flow of goods between the two states and entry into Israel of Palestinian workers. In the second phase, Palestinians would assume economic control over the borders of a provisional state and the reconstruction of its destroyed infrastructure and weakened institutions.

### **What’s Missing**

While the report represents a positive beginning, it is by no means sufficient. The only hope for peace between Israel and Palestine is in the context of a regionwide economic development plan, as defined by Lyndon LaRouche’s “Oasis Plan” for Middle East peace through economic development. At the center of the plan is the development and expansion of the region’s water resources, through the massive construction of desalination facilities on a regional basis, as well as building up the transportation infrastructure which would intergrate the region into the greater Eurasian infrastructure network.

Already in July 1990, LaRouche stated almost prophetically: “To avoid a conflict which would be ruinous for all peoples and nations of the Middle East, an effective series of common interest proposals must be made, in accord with the rights of all parties. Debate around such proposals is inherently healthy and confidence-building. Although to some, an Oasis Plan seems an unlikely proposition under the present circumstances, the price of failing to implement such a program will be staggering. Therefore, there is no obstacle so great, nor so difficult, that we should not seek to overcome it in order to further economic cooperation.”

One of the most remarkable parts of the Oslo Accords was its “Protocol on Israeli-Palestinian Cooperation Concerning Regional Development Programs.” These “economic annexes”—which, tragically, were never implemented—defined very specific projects along the lines of LaRouche’s Oasis Plan, including the establishment of a Middle East Development Bank; an Israeli-Palestinian-Jordanian plan for construction of a Mediterranean Sea-Dead Sea Canal; regional desalination and other water development projects; agricultural development projects, including a regional effort for the prevention of desertification; and regional projects in the field of energy, transportation, and telecommunications.

Sharon’s government and its supporters in Washington led by Cheney continue to sabotage any efforts for peace. Yet the efforts such as the Economic Road Map and the Geneva Accord Peace Initiative, along with the peace initiative of Saudi Arabia and the Arab League, demonstrate that there is clearly support for a peace initiative based on economic cooperation, as defined by the Oasis Plan and the Oslo economic protocols.

# Building Bridges Across The Mediterranean

by Gail G. Billington

Five Muslim and five European nations, representing a combined population of 238 million people, held a first-of-its-kind summit in Tunisia in the first week of December 2003, to map out a strategy for overcoming differences in political and economic areas with the intent of turning the Mediterranean into “a sea of peace.” The summit, hosted by Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, may be the first of its kind, but it has been in the making for over 20 years.

Summit participants included Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, and the island nation of Malta from the European Union (EU); and Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania from the North African Arab *Maghreb* Union.

The “5+5” configuration was first envisioned during a foreign ministers’ meeting of the ten nations in Rome nearly 15 years ago. That Oct. 10, 1990 meeting issued what has become known as the Rome Constitutive Declaration; and the “5+5” have continued to meet annually ever since to deal with three areas: political and security issues; social and cultural issues; and economics, the most advanced of the three.

In 1995, the grouping was augmented to 27 members at the summit held in Spain, in what has become known as the Barcelona Process—or, more generally, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. This broadening was to include Egypt, Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, and Cyprus; Libya’s status is limited to “observer,” pending resolution of issues related to its role in the downing of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

With the Pan Am 103 case settled, and the Libyan agreement to dismantle their primitive nuclear program, the ending of Libya’s isolation is giving new life to the development of the Mediterranean region through the “5+5.” On New Year’s Eve, Libya’s head of state Col. Muammar Qaddafi called EU President Romano Prodi, who has played a central role in bringing Libya back into cooperation with the world community. According to europa.eu.int, Qaddafi “underlined the importance over the years to be able to count on the permanent dialogue offered by President Prodi, proving this dialogue-strategy to be the only winning one. (This contrasts to Bush Administration claims that Libya only opened up to the West out of fear, after the U.S. invasion of Iraq.)

Prodi emphasized to Qaddafi that “concrete projects could be considered quickly for promoting improvements of the regional infrastructure networks, water supplies, education,

and culture. He invited Qaddafi to Brussels to “seal this process officially as early as possible.”

The Barcelona Declaration of 1995 spelled out the intentions of the member states as follows: 1) Establish a common Euro-Mediterranean area of peace and stability based on fundamental principles including respect for human rights and democracy; 2) Create an area of shared prosperity through the progressive establishment of a free trade area between the EU and its partners, and among the Mediterranean partners themselves, accompanied by substantial EU financial support for economic transition in the partners and for the social and economic consequences of this reform process; and 3) Develop human resources, promote understanding between cultures, and rapprochement of the peoples in the Euro-Mediterranean region; develop free and flourishing civil societies.

## Tunisia Seizes Initiative

Host country Tunisia was the first *Maghreb* state to seek a partnership by signing an Association Agreement with the European Union (AAEU) eight years ago; and although it represents only about 4% of the region’s population, Tunisia has received 14% of the financial support allocated to countries in the region.

The “5+5” consists of 166 million people on the European side and 72 million in the five *Maghreb* nations. But per capita gross domestic product varies from \$25,000 in some European member states, to \$530 in the desert republic of Mauritania. The North African members of the group regard the “Tunis Charter” emerging from the December 2003 summit as a step toward closer ties with the EU, and would like the EU to further open its markets both to produce and immigrants.

Europe’s response has been to urge greater cooperation among the *Maghreb* members. As one delegate said, “Europe will not invest more in an area divided by quarrels.” However, one initiative that emerged from the talks was President Ben Ali’s proposal for the creation of a European-Mediterranean bank, to enhance economic links and commercial development.

Nor, in this regard, were security concerns and terrorism left out of the mix. Tunisia’s representatives, who have submitted proposals for consideration under the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, have stressed the importance of adopting a comprehensive and multifaceted approach, repeatedly stressing the need not only to discuss “security” *per se*, but also to tackle root causes, including poverty and marginalization of populations.

In the end, the summit in Tunis was hailed as “historic” by French President Jacques Chirac; while Italian President Silvio Berlusconi described it as opening the door to “permanent dialogue between Europe and Islam.” President Ben Ali, who guided the proceedings, hailed the results as the beginning of a new process of cooperation and solidarity.

# Synarchists Explode Bolivian Powderkeg

by Cynthia R. Rush

When Bolivia plunged into violent chaos last September and October, setting off a process that led to the ouster of oligarchical President Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada, international media attributed the upheaval to popular anger over a government proposal to export the country's natural gas abroad through Chilean ports. The plan hit a raw nerve over Bolivia's loss of its Pacific coast to Chile in the 1879-81 War of the Pacific, the media asserted, and sparked the nationwide violence which ousted "Goni," as Sánchez de Lozada is known, sending him fleeing to Miami.

In fact, in recent weeks, the government of "Goni's" successor, Carlos Mesa Gisbert, has insisted that Bolivia's access to the sea is *the* central issue on which the nation's future hinges, and has launched an international campaign demanding that the Chilean government start negotiations to return the territory seized in 1881. The governments of Mexico, Peru, and Argentina, as well as the European Parliament and the Andean Parliament, have all become involved in the issue, urging Chile to commence negotiations.

There is no disputing the fact that Bolivia's loss of its Pacific coast territory to Chile, made permanent in a 1904 treaty, is an important and very politically sensitive issue for Bolivia. It is also true that Chile, which has functioned historically in Ibero-America on behalf of British financial and geopolitical interests, has victimized Bolivia with repeated economic and military aggression. But this is not the reason why Bolivia exploded in September, nor why it is today Ibero-America's most impoverished nation despite possessing an extraordinary wealth of natural resources.

## A Neo-Liberal Laboratory

For at least 20 years, Bolivia has been a laboratory for the murderous free-market policies demanded by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and its synarchist banking allies, which have driven the large indigenous population into a sub-human existence of poverty and unemployment. It was the same Sánchez de Lozada who, as Planning Minister in 1985, worked with Harvard economist Jeffrey Sachs to impose the IMF-dictated "reforms" that privatized much of the state sector, including handing over natural resources to foreign interests, and forced tens of thousands of miners and other state-sector employees to seek a livelihood in coca production or other sectors of the "informal" economy.

It is estimated that 30% of state-sector employees were

fired as a result of the Sachs-Sánchez de Lozada onslaught, which shut down the Bolivian Development Corporation and Municipal Transport Company (EMTA), and privatized the Bolivian Mining Corporation (Comibol). Social security was privatized, wages and social expenditures frozen, and a free-trade policy imposed which opened the country to a flood of cheap imports with which local producers could not compete.

It was rage over these policies, which "Goni" imposed when he became President in 1993, and again in 2002, and *not* access to the sea, that was at the heart of the September-October events. What occurred in Bolivia was a mass strike of enormous proportions, which threatens to erupt again at any moment, given the weakness of the Mesa government, and the pressures from the IMF to continue with harsh austerity. A first-hand report made available to *EIR* by a group of trade union-linked Bolivian patriots (see *Documentation*) details the depth of this mass strike process, and the desperate nature of the crisis.

In the midst of global economic breakdown, insistence that access to the sea is the most crucial issue facing Bolivia today, is utter folly. It leaves the country open to the manipulations of coca-producers' leader and Presidential aspirant Evo Morales, an agent of global speculator George Soros's drug-legalization offensive, and his "Bolivarian" ally, Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez. Their current agitation around this issue is creating a situation that Bolivian military sources warn is extremely dangerous. These sources don't rule out that Morales and Chávez's high-profile and provocative campaigning for a "Bolivian beach" on the Pacific—i.e., on territory now controlled by Chile—and a trade embargo against the latter country, could even lead to some kind of military conflict in an already very unstable region.

The country is a powderkeg. Trade union, peasant and other sectors are already mobilizing against the austerity program that President Mesa is expected to announce on Jan. 31. Desperate to reduce a \$700 million fiscal deficit—8.5% of Gross Domestic Product—Mesa is preparing to increase the gasoline price, eliminate the state subsidy for widely-used liquefied natural gas, and cut the budget for the government bureaucracy, among other things. The COB labor confederation and the National Transport Workers Federation are preparing for a general strike and highway blockades in anticipation of new austerity measures. Calling continued austerity an assault on already depressed living standards, on Jan. 27, COB leader Jaime Solares gave Mesa 20 days to meet worker demands and reverse neo-liberal policies. Otherwise, he warned, the population would take to the streets, blockade highways, and paralyze the country. He added that renewed protest could include an attempt to shut down the Congress, which he characterized as a gaggle of useless fools.

## 'Ungoverned Territory?'

These developments underscore the urgency of putting Lyndon LaRouche in the White House, and making his pro-



grammatic proposals for a New Bretton Woods and Eurasian Land-Bridge known throughout the region. Patriots who know that Morales and Chávez offer no solutions, are examining and debating LaRouche's writings. Absent this development perspective, and the positive change in U.S. foreign policy that LaRouche's Presidency would bring about, Bolivia will continue to be a target of Vice President Dick Cheney and his synarchist cohorts, who envision plunging all of Ibero-America into unending left-right warfare.

How such warfare would unfold is seen in the fact that left-wing synarchists Chávez and Morales have already provoked neo-conservative charges that Chávez financed the September-October upsurge, and that should Morales become President, he would push Bolivia into a new "axis of evil" being formed in Ibero-America by Cuba, Venezuela, and Brazil. Pointing to evidence of narco-terrorist presence in Bolivia, U.S. syndicated columnist Robert Novak reported in early January that circles in the Pentagon were already viewing the country as one of the "ungoverned areas" in Ibero-America that Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld spoke of in 2003, as a potential target for invasion by multinational military forces. Reports are circulating among diplomatic circles in Washington that President Bush recently phoned the Presidents of Brazil, Argentina, and Chile to request that the three nations intervene together, should Bolivia "go out of control." And the head of Argentina's Army, Gen. Roberto Bendini, reportedly had to deny that he had spoken with his Chilean and Brazilian counterparts, about a possible intervention into Bolivia.

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## Documentation

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### Misery 'Has Reached Intolerable Limits'

*Here are excerpts from a report made available to EIR by a source close to Bolivia's trade unions, about the events that occurred in late September and October of 2003, which ousted President Sánchez de Lozada. This individual's eyewitness report offers important insight into what sparked these events, and how precarious the current situation remains.*

The drama suffered by my people has reached intolerable limits. Poverty has intensified at an accelerated rate. Unemployment is our daily fare. . . . The productive apparatus is paralyzed; factories produce well below their capacity, causing worker layoffs, which exacerbate unemployment. All the governments which have held office since 1985 have had the

same policies . . . and this all occurs with the blatant interference of the U.S. embassy. And, on top of our subjugation and submission, there are the demands of the IMF and World Bank. No policy or law can be adopted without the approval of these agencies.

The accumulated rage at more than 18 years of a model that offers no solutions to miserable economic [conditions], exploded in the month of October, in which people demanded that the government not sell gas, much less to Chile. . . . This was also a repeat of the history of handing over our natural resources to the multinationals, with no benefit to the country. . . . In this recent period, our people demanded independence as a sovereign nation.

When peasants announced highway blockades, at first there was little support, and the government ridiculed them, showing their total disdain for people. This arrogant attitude enraged many sectors, such as the COB [Bolivian Workers' Confederation] in El Alto [city adjacent to La Paz—ed.], which, together with neighborhood committees, declared a general strike. . . . In the rural areas, more and more people joined the highway blockades. This was the case in the *altiplano* . . . and the situation became radicalized. Faced with an escalating conflict, the government insanely launched armed intervention in Sorata—a criminal action which resulted in several deaths. . . . People had no weapons. Rage and resentment grew.

From Oruro province, another march began led by the Huanuni miners, joined by other trade union organizations, and it was now evident that the protest had become generalized . . . a nationwide protest. . . .

In one of the last mobilizations called by the COB, large contingents of marchers arrived constantly [to El Alto]. San Francisco Plaza was filled from end to end—the most multitudinous gathering seen in a very long time.

Throughout this whole time, people were demanding a change in the neo-liberal model. In all its years of application, it has only brought disaster, misery, unemployment, and great corruption. . . . The state is bankrupt. . . . There is no money, or budget with which to pay the year-end bonuses in December. There is no budget for universities. . . . There are conflicts in all our educational institutions. Our youth are angry. The only future they see is to emigrate. This is very worrisome, because a country without youth, is a country without a future.

As for other sectors, such as factory workers, the situation is extremely difficult, as we haven't seen a wage increase in years, . . . firings are the order of the day. The peasants live in misery and hunger. Their products are sold at such low prices, they can't be compensated for their hard work. . . . Nor is there money. Monthly salaries only last for 15 days, and you borrow for the rest of the month. . . . There has been a brutal growth in the informal economy, in which more than 50% of the population is employed. There are always more sellers than buyers. . . .

## Cheney's Crimes: Case for Impeachment Builds Momentum

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Dick Cheney's days as Vice President appear to be numbered, even as, on his tour of Western Europe, he tried to "soften his image" as the Bush Administration's leading war hawk, and the architect of the Big Lie campaign that led to the disastrous and needless Iraq invasion. An entire brigade of American soldiers have already been killed or wounded in Iraq, in a war fought over non-existent weapons of mass destruction and fabricated links between Saddam Hussein and al-Qaeda. Cheney, beyond all other Administration officials, was the Joseph Goebbels of the Iraq war. As recently as his media interviews in Switzerland and Italy in late January, he continued to lie about Iraq's weapons, claiming that several trailers seized by American inspectors, following the March 2003 invasion, were mobile bio-weapons labs.

David Kay, the CIA's chief weapons inspector in Iraq until his hasty mid-January resignation, made clear in interviews and in testimony at the Senate Armed Services Committee on Jan. 28, that these trailers had nothing to do with WMD. Former CIA chief of counterterrorism Vincent Cannistraro told *Salon* magazine on Jan. 29, "It's disgusting. I just can't find words to describe how horrible it is. . . . It just illustrates the peculiar worldview Cheney has and how distorted it is. And it shows there's a real contempt for the professional intelligence community."

And Cheney is coming under mounting fire for his recent interview with the *Rocky Mountain News* in Colorado, in which he violated a Bush Administration Executive Order on classified material, by confirming that a Pentagon memo, leaked illegally to *The Weekly Standard*, was the "best source" of proof of Saddam Hussein's ties to al-Qaeda before the 9/11 attacks.

Just moments after Air Force Two had landed back in Washington, returning Cheney from his failed European charm offensive, the Vice President made a bee-line for Capitol Hill. He launched a one-man damage-control offensive against the Kay revelations, and growing Congressional demands for an independent commis-



*For three years the éminence grise behind the war and economic policies of the most limited of Presidents, Dick Cheney has now come out of the bunker and is seen and heard everywhere, defending himself—because LaRouche and his movement have succeeded in making Cheney the issue, and he could remain behind the scenes no longer.*

sion to probe the Cheney-led disinformation campaign which led to the Iraq invasion. According to Capitol Hill sources, Cheney arm-twisted House Select Committee on Intelligence chairman Porter Goss (R-Fla.), and Senate panel chair Pat Roberts (R-Ka.), to ram through plans to close out their investigations of the pre-war intelligence lapses, without any probe of White House manipulation and abuse of the intelligence process. Cheney's instructions: Blame the CIA and close the books on the probe.

What is new in this latest flurry of Cheney displays of beast-man arrogance, is that the Vice President is no longer being given a free ride.

### **Exit Scenarios**

In the reports that follow, you will be presented with some of the most damning evidence against the Vice President—evidence that should lead to his impeachment from office, or his voluntary or involuntary retirement. It was all the way back in September 2002, six months prior to the Iraq invasion, that Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche demanded Cheney's ouster from the Bush Administration. The evidence for Cheney's removal from Office has grown by leaps and bounds since then. And now, as the result of the persistence of LaRouche and his associates, a growing chorus of Democrats, and even some Republicans, are demanding Cheney's departure.

There are a number of scenarios in play, any one of which could lead to Cheney's resignation or, at minimum, his early

removal from President George W. Bush's re-election ticket. LaRouche summed up President Bush and Karl Rove's dilemma in a recent discussion: If George Bush dumps Dick Cheney from the ticket, he loses. If he keeps Cheney on the ticket, he loses.

According to sources close to the Bush campaign, polls show that Vice President Cheney is increasingly becoming a drag on the re-election effort, with many moderate Republicans preparing to jump ship, if the Administration continues to buy into the paranoid wanna-be imperial policies associated with the Vice President and his neo-conservative allies. Leading Republicans, like former Secretary of State James Baker III and even former President George H.W. Bush, had quietly been assuring Establishment colleagues—both Republican and Democrat—that G.W.'s State of the Union address would signal a clear return to the non-abrasive, "coalition-building" politics of "Bush 41." When the President, instead, delivered a no-holds-barred defense of the Cheney doctrine of unilateralism and preventive war, Baker et al. came away with egg on their faces.

The same sources report that the just-published memoir by former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill and Ron Suskind, which exposed Cheney's role as the driver of the Iraq war and the agenda of massive tax cuts for the rich, was no mere "kiss and tell" gripe-fest. O'Neill's criticisms reflect the growing disgust, among "Main Street" Republicans, with Cheney in particular, and the Bush Administration in general.

If this was the only consideration, it is likely that Dick

Cheney would have already been removed from the 2004 ticket, and, perhaps, he would have even stepped down as Vice President. But campaign Svengali Karl Rove is also painfully aware that the Republican Party's strange-bedfellow election coalition includes at least a 5-10% factor of crazies—neo-cons, Bible Belt Christian Zionists, and other radical rightists—who would possibly sit home on election day, were Cheney to be off the ticket.

As one Washington insider put it, for a sitting Republican President, running unopposed for his party's nomination, to be running neck-and-neck with an as-yet-unchosen Democratic rival, is unprecedented. Another former Cabinet-level official, familiar with the Veep's hooligan style, warned that a desperate Dick Cheney could resort to desperate measures to keep his job. He made explicit reference to another 9/11.

## No Free Ride in November

What makes Rove's position so damning is the dramatic transformation of the Democratic Party, in the immediate aftermath of the Iowa caucuses, President Bush's disastrous Jan. 20 State of the Union address, and the Jan. 27 New Hampshire Democratic primary vote. Suddenly, leading Democratic Party "institutional" players—from Senators Edward Kennedy (Mass.), John D. Rockefeller (W.Va.), Carl Levin (Mich.), Tom Daschle (S.D.), and Representatives Henry Waxman (Calif.), John Conyers (Mich.), and Nancy Pelosi (Calif.), to party operatives like Center for American Progress head John Podesta—have awakened to the reality, long promoted by LaRouche, that Dick Cheney is the Achilles' heel of the Bush re-election effort, and that Bush can and must be defeated in November.

No longer does organized-crime-tainted Democratic National Committee chairman Terry McAuliffe have the political muscle to wreck the party's chances to wage a genuine campaign to take back the White House. As one well-known Democratic campaign strategist put it, "The DNC is irrelevant."

The avalanche of attacks on Cheney constitute a virtual bill of indictment against the Vice President for a string of crimes touching on the national security of the United States, and on issues of corruption that reach the highest echelons of the Administration. Many of these crimes are the subject of ongoing investigations or of calls for new probes:

- As first reported in *EIR* on Jan. 9, 2004, a French criminal probe is underway, into \$180 million in bribes, purportedly paid to Nigerian government officials by a consortium of companies led by Halliburton—during Cheney's tenure as CEO. French Judge Renaud Van Ruymbeke is heading the probe, and told French and American journalists in mid-January, that he is considering "misuse of corporate assets" charges against Cheney personally.

- On Jan. 25, CBS-TV's "Sixty Minutes" broadcast a story charging that Halliburton engaged in "trading with the enemy" while Cheney headed the company. Through a Cay-

man Islands subsidiary, Halliburton Products and Services, Ltd., the company built up a \$40-million-a-year business in Iran, in what New York City Comptroller William Thompson told CBS was a violation of "the spirit of the law." Thompson charged that Halliburton's offshore dealing "benefits terrorism."

- Cheney is already a prime subject of the Justice Department probe into the leak of the identity of CIA undercover officer Valerie Plame, the wife of former Ambassador Joseph Wilson. On Jan. 26, six leading Congressional Democrats wrote to the Comptroller General, demanding a separate General Accounting Office probe of White House violations of security procedures for preventing national security leaks. The procedures violated by Cheney and others are spelled out in Executive Order 12958, signed by President George W. Bush shortly after he was inaugurated.

In their letter to David Walker, Senators Daschle, Lieberman and Rockefeller, and Representatives Pelosi, Waxman and Conyers concluded: "Protecting our nation's secrets is essential to protecting our nation's security. Safeguarding the identities of covert intelligence officers is especially critical to protecting their lives and the lives of everyone they come in contact with. . . . The disclosure of Valerie Plame's covert CIA identity calls into doubt the adequacy of the procedures that the White House has followed to safeguard these vital national secrets. GAO's thorough and prompt investigation into this matter is necessary so that the deficiencies in the White House procedures can be identified and corrected. This is an essential step in restoring public confidence in how the White House handles national security secrets."

On Jan. 26, even Gen. Wesley Clark, a faltering candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination, lambasted Cheney for endorsing a *Weekly Standard* article on Saddam's links to al-Qaeda that was exclusively drawn from a leaked Pentagon document. It is a violation, under E.O. 12958, even to give after-the-fact corroboration of an illegally leaked classified document. Worse, the document in question, prepared by Pentagon neo-con Under Secretary of Defense Doug Feith, was a patchwork of raw intelligence leads and outright lies and distortions, attempting to make a credible case of Saddam ties to the 9/11 attackers, when no such case exists.

- Cheney has come under escalating attack for his role in the disinformation campaign to win Congressional and public support for the Iraq war. In appearances this week, Sens. Levin, Rockefeller, and Daschle all singled out the Vice President for using fake intelligence to launch a predetermined war—and for continuing to use the same now officially disproven lies, to justify the war. The Senators cited Cheney's repeated references, during his European tour, to the discovery of the mobile trailers—the ones Kay had confirmed were not weapons-related—as "bio-weapons labs."

"I find it incredible, utterly incredible," Sen. Rockefeller told reporters, "that the Vice President of the United States



*Striding the stage at Davos: After Vice President Dick Cheney's failed charm offensive to Europe—where he kept repeating the discredited assertion that Saddam Hussein had WMD—he went straight to Capitol Hill, hoping to contain Congressional demands to probe the Cheney-led disinformation campaign which had paved the way for the Iraq invasion.*

could, a few days ago, say that two semi-trailers, which were found, were 'conclusive evidence' that Saddam had programs for weapons of mass destruction when his own intelligence community, according to David Kay, has reached a consensus that they had nothing to do with weapons of mass destruction. There are many other examples of exaggerations that continue to this day, by the Vice President of the United States and others in this Administration, and it is intolerable. It is incredible."

Senator Rockefeller zeroed in on another Cheney crime—the use of unvetted intelligence to make the case for war. Through former Cheney staffer William Luti, the normally nondescript Near East and South Asia (NESA) policy shop at the Pentagon was turned into "Neo-con Central," housing the Office of Special Plans (OSP), a clearinghouse for disinformation and illegal covert operations, which reported directly to Cheney's chief of staff, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby.

Rockefeller told reporters, "It's now a question, which we are looking at, whether or not there were other sources of intelligence which uniquely went around the intelligence community as a whole, went directly through a particular department of the Defense Department and then directly—often unvetted, often single-sourced, often raw material—directly to the vice president, to policymakers, from which they began to make decisions.

"If that were to be the case," he continued, "it brings into sharp definition the whole question of pre-emption as a national policy . . . Which leads to a further point, that was this a predetermined war or not? And I think that remains an overwhelming question."

Senators Levin, Rockefeller, and Daschle all endorsed a call by a group of ten former CIA officers for an independent bipartisan House probe of the intelligence fakery (See *EIR*, Jan. 30, 2004). The Senators also mooted they may be forced to press for an independent commission, to get to the bottom of White House manipulation of pre-war intelligence. Following David Kay's Jan. 28 testimony at the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) announced he'd be introducing legislation to create an independent commission to probe the pre-war intelligence, bolstering an earlier call by Sen. John Corzine (D-N.J.).

### **More Public Roasting of Cheney**

The *New York Times* on Jan. 27 weighed in with yet another direct hit at the Vice President, in a lead editorial headlined, "Mr. Cheney, Meet Mr.

Kay." The editorial, citing recent Cheney statements about Iraq's WMD schemes, declared, "The Vice President's myopia suggests a breathtaking unwillingness to accept a reality that conflicts with the Administration's preconceived notions. This kind of rigid thinking helped propel us into an invasion without broad international support, and, if Mr. Cheney is as influential as many say, could propel us into further misadventures down the road."

Jan. 29, *New York Times* columnist Maureen Dowd summarized the case against Dick Cheney as spinmeister-in-chief of the Bush Administration's war party: "Dick Cheney, who declared that Saddam had a nuclear capability and who visited CIA headquarters in the Summer of 2002 to make sure the raw intelligence was properly interpreted, is sticking to his deluded guns. . . . The vice president pushed to slough off the allies and the UN and go to war partly because he thought that slapping a weakened bully like Saddam would scare other dictators. He must have reckoned there would be no day of reckoning on weapons once Saddam was gone. So it had to be some new definition of *chutzpah* on Tuesday, when Mr. Cheney, exuding more infallibility than the Pope, presented him with a crystal dove."

While dumping Cheney from the ticket might not salvage George Bush's re-election, it would, as LaRouche has argued for the past 18 months, partly salvage his Presidential legacy, and offer an opportunity to avert future disasters, which neither the United States nor the rest of the world can afford. The President's men would do well to study the documentation of Dick Cheney's crimes that follows, before making their fateful decision.

# Investigations of Cheney Crimes Are Multiplying

*The following is a report, compiled by Edward Spannaus for EIR, of the status of probes under way, or pending, of the actions of Vice President Cheney and his immediate faction in government.*

## United States Congress

### • Under Way:

*Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (Iraq intelligence):* In June 2003, the committee began an inquiry into Iraq pre-war intelligence. In October, the probe was broadened to include the White House; but in November, under pressure from Vice President Cheney, the investigation was all but shut down, and the Republicans have, so far, put the blame on the CIA, not the Administration. However, Senate Democrats are fighting to broaden the investigation, and have threatened to conduct their own investigation, which would implicate Cheney.

The Senate inquiry reportedly includes an examination of the Pentagon's Office of Special Plans (OSP), a rogue intelligence unit operating in the office of Undersecretary of Defense for Policy Douglas Feith, which "cherry-picked" intelligence from Iraqi defectors and others, and then sent it directly to the Office of the Vice President, by-passing normal intelligence channels and procedures.

In October, a group of former CIA officers asked the Committee to investigate the Valerie Plame leak (see DOJ, below)

*House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (Iraq intelligence):* A review of Iraq pre-war intelligence also began in June 2003, and is still apparently under way, but little if anything has been said publicly, and no public hearings or public report are known to be planned.

On July 15, 2003, Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) asked the Permanent Select Committee to investigate the President's use of the bogus Niger uranium claim in his 2003 State of the Union address.

### • Pending requests for investigations blocked by Republican stonewalling

*Senate Government Affairs Committee:* Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) and others have called for an investigation of Cheney's ongoing financial ties to Halliburton.

*House Government Reform Committee (Valerie Plame):* Committee Chairman Tom Davis (R-Va.) said on Jan. 23, 2004 that he would only investigate the Plame leak if the

Justice Department fails in its current investigation. "If they don't find it, we will," he said. "It's a troubling and serious violation." Representative Waxman asked on Sept. 29 and Dec. 11, 2003 for the committee to investigate the disclosure.

*House (Valerie Plame):* Ten retired CIA officers sent a letter to House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) and other House leaders on Jan. 23, 2004, requesting an immediate, bipartisan investigation into who leaked the identity of Valerie Plame (see below) to the media, and describing the leak as "an unprecedented and shameful event" that has "damaged U.S. national security."

*House Government Reform Committee (Halliburton/KBR):* Waxman has formally requested that the committee investigate "waste, fraud and abuse in Iraq reconstruction contracts," including the Kuwait fuel contract. Waxman has previously asked for investigations of many aspects of the Iraq contracting process, and has submitted numerous requests for information to the Defense Department, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Office of Management and Budget.

*House Appropriations Committee (OSP):* Rep. David Obey (D-Wisc.) in July 2003 made a "survey and investigation (S&I) request," for an investigation of how appropriated funds were used by the Pentagon's Office of Special Plans.

*House Resolution of Inquiry (Plame):* A group of Democratic Congressmen initiated procedures on Jan. 21, 2004 to attempt to force the House leadership to request documents from the White House pertaining to the Plame leak.

*Independent Commission (Iraq intelligence):* Bills to create a new commission, like that now investigating pre-9/11 intelligence, are pending in both House and Senate: S.1946, introduced on Nov. 24 by Sen. John Corzine (D-N.J.) and others; a parallel bill has been introduced in the House.

### • General Accounting Office (investigative arm of Congress)

*Halliburton:* Reps. Waxman and John Dingell (D-Mich.), on April 8, 2003, asked the GAO to investigate contracts awarded to Halliburton over the previous two years.

*Plame:* Democratic Congressional leaders sent a Jan. 26, 2004 letter to the GAO, requesting investigation as to whether required administrative procedures were followed by the White House in connection with the unauthorized disclosure of classified information in the Plame case.

## Executive Branch

*Department of Justice/Criminal (Plame):* In late September 2003, the CIA requested a Department of Justice (DOJ) investigation into the July 2003 disclosure of the identity of CIA covert operative Valerie Plame, wife of former Ambassador Joseph Wilson who blew the whistle on the Niger yellow-cake fraud. On Dec. 30, Attorney General John Ashcroft recused himself from the investigation, and the DOJ appointed a



*The investigation which has now reached the sharpest and most dangerous point for Cheney is the one he has ordered stopped, in the Senate Intelligence Committee. Senators Carl Levin (D-Mich., left) and Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.) have counterattacked with a frontal criticism of Cheney's control in the White House, and demanded an independent commission of inquiry.*

special counsel to conduct the investigation. A Federal grand jury reportedly began taking testimony on Jan. 21.

Cheney's office is at the top of the list of suspects, in particular his chief of staff Lewis Libby, and Libby's deputy John Hannah.

*Department of Justice/Criminal (OSP):* There have been persistent reports of an FBI investigation, centering around OSP staffer Michael Maloof, concerning the unlawful transfer to Israel of classified information on U.S. Iraq war plans. Maloof was suspended from OSP in the Spring of 2003, and his security clearance was lifted.

*Central Intelligence Agency (Iraq intelligence, Niger yellowcake):* An internal CIA investigation was launched in late Spring 2003, headed by former CIA Deputy Director Richard Kerr. In November 2003, the probe was expanded, and as of late January, Kerr was reportedly awaiting materials from the Iraq Survey Group—still headed by David Kay at that time.

*Department of Defense (Halliburton/KBR):* A DCAA audit of food-service contracts reported finding dirty facilities and rotten food in four mess halls run by Halliburton/KBR in Iraq. The DOD Inspector General was asked by DCAA on Jan. 15, 2004, to open a formal investigation into "suspected irregularities" in operation of fuel contracts, in which DCAA had determined that Halliburton had overcharged the government by at least \$61 million through September 2003. The DOD Inspector General has referred the Halliburton fuel contract to the Defense Criminal Investigative Service for investigation of possible criminal violations.

*President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (Niger yellowcake):* PFIAB began an inquiry in May at the request

of the President. Its reports are secret, and nothing official has been made public. In December, press reports cited sources saying that PFIAB had blamed the inclusion of the uranium yellowcake claim in the 2003 State of the Union address, on White House desperation "to grab onto something" which would support claims about Iraq's nuclear program—claims which were being made most prominently by Dick Cheney.

*Securities and Exchange Commission (Halliburton):* Halliburton has disclosed \$2.4 million in "improper payments" (i.e., bribes) in connection with the Nigerian contract (see below, under France). The SEC is conducting a review, with which Halliburton says it is cooperating.

*White House:* A citizens group, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, sent a letter to President Bush on Jan. 28, 2004, requesting that he direct the White House Counsel to investigate Cheney's confirmation

of leaked classified information. This referred to a classified memorandum from Undersecretary of Defense Douglas Feith, sent to the Senate Intelligence Committee, containing raw and unevaluated intelligence purporting to demonstrate links between Saddam Hussein and al-Qaeda. In an interview with the *Rocky Mountain News* on Jan. 9, Cheney praised and recommended the Feith memo. In doing so, he committed a serious violation of Executive Branch regulations concerning classified information.

## Courts

- An appeal by Cheney is pending before the U.S. Supreme Court, of a ruling of the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals, which ordered the disclosure of documents and information concerning Cheney's Energy Task Force in 2001; this is in a civil suit brought by Judicial Watch and others. Cheney and the White House have stonewalled on the release of information to the public concerning the secretive operations of the Energy Task Force, which produced the Administration's energy policy. Judicial Watch has already obtained some Task Force documents, which included plans for the Middle East and a map of Iraqi oil fields.

## Other

- CBS "60 Minutes" on Jan. 25 reported how Halliburton and other U.S. companies have used foreign subsidiaries to do business with "rogue states" such as Iran and Syria; such trading is banned for U.S. companies. New York City Comptroller William Thompson was quoted as saying that Halliburton and other companies "appear to have violated the spirit of the law" through such commercial activities.



*Former UN and then CIA chief inspector in Iraq, Dr. David Kay, has added to the calls for an independent commission of inquiry into the misuse of Iraq intelligence, after failing to find any WMD in Iraq.*

## The Case for Impeachment Of Vice President Cheney

*The argument for the impeachment of Vice President Cheney was first published in EIR on Aug. 1, 2003. The following includes substantial excerpts of that document; a historical section on the impeachments of Presidents Nixon and Clinton has been omitted here for space reasons, but may be found in the original article.*

In the face of the gathering storm against the George W. Bush Administration, for engaging in a pattern of lies to justify a pre-determined course of launching illegal war against Iraq, there is a sore temptation on the part of both the uninformed, and the opportunistic, to train their guns on President George W. Bush, and to call for his impeachment. Such an impeachment proceeding against the President would be a strategic and legal error which, if successful, would put the chief culprit, Vice President Dick Cheney, into the Presidency, and effectively consolidate the coup which he and his chicken-hawks' coterie have carried out.

On the contrary, as Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche has set forth in his leaflet now circulating nationally in 1 million copies, the appropriate target of any impeachment proceeding would be the Vice President himself. Unlike those in the Democratic National Committee who are calling for impeachment of Bush—for the sake of their election prospects in 2004—LaRouche is seeking the action that will save the American republic now.

The grounds for the impeachment of Vice President Cheney are not technical legal statutes. They proceed from the reality that the Vice President utilized and exploited the vulnerabilities and susceptibilities of President Bush, in order to induce him to do great damage to the nation. Simply put, Cheney, and his underlings, perpetrated a fraud upon the government, and upon the President as head of government. Thus it is Cheney who is liable for impeachment for "high Crimes and Misdemeanors" against these United States.

### Cheney, the Svengali and Puppeteer

Let us speak bluntly: The present crisis requires it. President Bush is known to be, on public performance, patently suggestible, intellectually aberrant, to the point of incompetence, and mean-spirited. These defects and weaknesses were, and are, well-known to the President's associates, especially Vice President Cheney. In effect, this is a President who has to be guided, as if by a Trustee, in order to carry out his Constitutional functions in support of the nation.

### Foreign

*France (Halliburton):* A French magistrate is investigating \$180 million in alleged bribes paid by Halliburton and others in connection with a gas project in Nigeria, undertaken while Cheney headed Halliburton in the 1990s. Reports in the European press say that Cheney is a target of the investigation, and that he could be indicted for misuse of corporate assets.

*United Kingdom (Halliburton):* The Department of Trade and Industry is investigating the Nigeria bribery allegations involving Halliburton and Cheney.

*United Kingdom (Iraq intelligence):* In June 2003, senior Labor MP Tam Dalyell raised the question in the House of Commons concerning "Operation Rockingham," and demanded an explanation of its operations from the British government. Operation Rockingham is a special intelligence unit within the Ministry of Defence which reportedly operates in parallel with the Pentagon's Office of Special Plans.

*Israel (Iraq intelligence):* A select Knesset (parliament) committee, the Investigative Committee for the Intelligence Picture Prior to the War in Iraq, has been investigating Israel's pre-war Iraq intelligence. Yossi Sarid, a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, filed a request for a broader investigation in early December 2003, after the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies issued a report stating that "Israeli intelligence was a full partner with the U.S and Britain in developing a false picture of Saddam Hussein's (WMD) capability." Sources have reported that elements of Israeli intelligence had significant input into the Pentagon's OSP. In particular, there was a unit created in the office of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, which by-passed the official Israeli intelligence agencies and functioned in tandem with the Pentagon's OSP, which in turn by-passed regular U.S. intelligence channels and fed information directly into the office of Vice President Cheney.





*“The puppeteer is the responsible agent. . . . Cheney and his gang decided to exploit the President’s weaknesses, in the manner of a ‘Svengali’ controlling his ‘Trilby,’ or the ventriloquist Edgar Bergen putting words in the mouth of his stupid puppet, Mortimer Snerd.”*

But, instead, Cheney and his gang decided to exploit the President’s weaknesses, in the manner of a “Svengali” controlling his “Trilby,” or the ventriloquist Edgar Bergen putting words in the mouth of his stupid puppet, Mortimer Snerd. The result resembles the case of a person being induced, under hypnosis, to commit acts which, while not morally repugnant to that subject when he’s not under hypnosis, amount to crimes against the Constitutional order of the republic.

In effect, the relationship between the calculating empire-seeker Cheney, and President Bush, is like that of an adult inducing a child, or another person lacking the mental and moral qualifications for assuming adult responsibility, to act in an irresponsible manner, by utilizing that child’s mental and moral defects as if they were puppet strings. Who could find Edgar Bergen’s puppet Mortimer Snerd responsible for his acts? The puppeteer is the responsible agent.

There is ample evidence available to support this representation of the relationship between Vice President Cheney and President Bush. Cheney is known to be the individual upon whom the President most strongly relies, and Cheney’s intentions to promote a U.S. imperial posture, including through war against Iraq, are documented going back for more than a decade.

On the contrary, the President has vacillated back and forth on policy matters, while seemingly sincere in advocating contrary policies from one moment to the other. Cheney, at the same time, is shown (see Chronology below) to have had both interest and access to the pile of disinformation which was fed into President Bush, for his State of the Union address and other policymaking.

Thus it is Cheney, not Bush, who must be the object of impeachment proceedings, because he was the responsible party in perpetrating a fraud on the President, and on the country. The President, by character, was incompetent to re-

sist the temptations put in front of him. That makes Cheney all the more guilty.

### **The Standard of Impeachment**

Under the U.S. Constitutional system, the purpose of impeachment is the protection of the nation, by removing from high office an official who is causing grave injury to the nation, its people, and its Constitution. Impeachment is not a criminal proceeding; its purpose is not to punish a wrongdoer, but to prevent him or her from doing further harm to the country. The question of prosecution, or imprisonment, comes later—if at all.

From that standpoint, it is noteworthy to look at the discussions which occurred in the Constitutional Convention on the matter of impeachment. Originally, the article read as follows: “The President, the Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors against the United States.” For reasons unknown, the phrase “against the United States” was removed from the document by the Committee on Style—which was not supposed to make any substantive changes—but the *intent* is well known and clear.

The distinction between ordinary crimes, and crimes against the state and the Constitution, has been a leading element in all discussions of impeachment, up to and including that of President Clinton. This fact was reflected in the articles of impeachment which were drawn up against President Nixon, each of which was followed by the following statement: “In all of this, Richard M. Nixon has acted in a manner contrary to his trust as President and subversive of constitutional government, in the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice and to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.”

Now, there is no question but that the lies which were used by the Bush Administration, to induce the Congress to acquiesce in its drive for war against Iraq, and to build support in the American population, amounted to a *fraud* perpetrated on the state. As no less an “expert” than former Nixon White House counsel John W. Dean wrote recently, “manipulation or deliberate misuse of national security intelligence data, if proven, could be ‘a high crime’ under the Constitution’s impeachment clause. It would also be a violation of Federal criminal law, including the broad Federal anti-conspiracy statute, which renders it a felony ‘to defraud the United States, or any agency thereof in any manner or for any purpose.’ ”

The crucial issue is *who* committed the fraud. In the present case, the President was the victim of a fraud, perpetrated by the Vice President, who lied to him, misled him, and virtually put words in his mouth, in order to get the war which he wanted. In so doing, the Vice President induced the President to do something that was



wrong, against the interests of the nation, and in violation of the laws of war and international law. It is the Vice President who is a candidate for impeachment, not the President. . . .



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### The People’s Choice

While Vice President Cheney must be the target of any Constitutional impeachment proceeding, because he manipulated the dupe, President Bush, there is another party whose guilt has to be taken into account. That party is the American voter.

The year 2000 elections were characterized by the fact that neither major party candidate was qualified to become President of the United States. To a large extent, this fact was due to the corruption and virtual takeover by Wall Street synarchist interests of the Democratic and Republican parties. But there is no way of exculpating the American population itself. The voters were the accomplices of Cheney et al., in putting a fool into office, who could be manipulated into doing Cheney’s bidding.

Now, therefore, it is up to the *people* to undo the damage. Some Democratic Party figures, such as Congressmen Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio), Edward Markey (D-Mass.), and others have stood up to point the finger at the Vice President, as the key culprit in the fraudulent intelligence caper. These Congressmen, and, most importantly, Presidential candidate LaRouche, deserve deep public support for the only truthful, and efficient, approach toward cleaning out the Bush Administration of those war-mongers who are threatening to go beyond Iraq and bring on new disasters.

Vice President Richard Cheney must resign—or face impeachment.

# Iraq Is a Fuse, but Cheney Built the Bomb

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

*This statement by LaRouche demanding Cheney's resignation was issued on Sept. 20, 2002 (EIR, Oct. 4, 2002).*

As said two days ago, in a first-impression reading, the two relevant documents issued by the George W. "43" Bush White House as draft U.S. policies, echo the fabled King Canute's wild, and useless ranting against the wind and the waves. The first document is a fraudulent blank check payable to Infamous Folly; an unconstitutional, proposed draft U.S. Declaration of War against Iraq. The second, is a meandering, incoherent, but deadly potpourri of White House Presidential utterances, pasted, after the style of Georges Braque, on a sheaf of paper, "The National Security Strategy of the United States."

The following three, crucial sets of facts concerning these two wretched documents are most notable.

**Fact #1:** The existing proof is, that neither of these two documents has been prompted in any way by factually defined, recent developments within the Iraq-controlled portions of the area within that nation's borders, nor the fraudulent claim by the Administration, that the U.S. "war on terrorism" is a reaction to the attacks on the U.S.A. by any of the nations or organizations fingered as "rogue states," since Sept. 20, 2001.

The fact is, that the policies contained within those two fraudulent documents were first surfaced during Spring 1990, as emissions of a task force directed by then-Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney, a task force then headed by Paul Wolfowitz, Lewis Libby, and Eric Edelman. Although unsuccessful—until now—they represent the persisting, mad obsession of Dick Cheney and his Chickenhawk accomplices over the course of no less than the past dozen years.

**Fact #2:** The evidence since 1992 is, that the policy uttered in those documents, is not a reflection of 2001-2002 developments, but is merely another of many re-warmings of the previously failed work product embodied in a September 2000 revival of the previously suppressed Cheney doctrine of 1990. This was a policy of Vice Presidential candidate Dick Cheney, designed as a global strategic doctrine intended to govern the foreign policy of a 2001-2005 Bush Administration.

**Fact #3:** This doctrine, pushed repeatedly by Cheney and his Chickenhawk accomplices since 1990, had no notable success in securing adoption until the events of Sept. 11, 2001. Although no actual proof of the authorship of the Sept. 11, 2001 physical attacks on New York City and Washington,

D.C., has been presented by any government, without those attacks the previously unsuccessful policies of Cheney and his Sharon-allied Chickenhawks could not have been brought forth as the two new Bush Administration doctrines now. Solely as a result of the psychological impact of Sept. 11, 2001, Cheney, his Chickenhawks, and Ariel Sharon are now being given the war they have desired so passionately, so obsessively, over a dozen years to date.

## Demand Cheney's Resignation

What a remarkable set of coincidences!

I have merely summarized three sets of facts which are each and all heavily documented, and undeniable.

If the U.S.A. is foolish enough to adopt the policies proposed in these two documents, the consequences for both the world, and the United States itself, will be early, often, and awful. As I emphasized two days ago, it must be acknowledged that, for all the rags and tatters of its ruined and collapsing economy, the now virtually bankrupt U.S. Government still has the kill-power to ruin any Middle East targets on which it is willing to spend between \$2-3 trillions during the remainder of the George "Belshazzar" W. Bush's quixotic term as President. In other words, it has the power to destroy, even perhaps obliterate the fuse, but it could not conquer the bomb of perpetual warfare which the burning of that fuse would set off.

Such a war, once launched by the U.S.A., will degenerate quickly into an echo of Europe's 1618-1648 Thirty Years War. That war, like all religious wars known to Europe since the beginning of the Crusades, is the type of war which ends, not with peace, but with a burning-out of the territories and peoples of all those nations drawn into its maw. Then and now, those heathen packs of right-wing, nominally Christian gnostics, or pro-fascist Jews of a similar bent, which launch such wars—like Adolf Hitler more recently—unleash the kinds of destructive force which, like the United States' 1964-1972 war in Indo-China, ultimately ruin the perpetrator and his allies alike.

Let the cowardly slaves of the mass media be warned. It were better to defeat such follies as those of Cheney and his Chickenhawks—as did El Cid, even in death—than to bequeath such nightmares as these fraudulent policies to present and future generations. Shall the future measure the honor and courage of the American people, by our Congressional and other cowards' flight from an apparition of Chickenhawks? Or, will men and women of honor cease their cowardly quaking, and rally around me in saving our nation and its sacred Constitution from these wretched and Hellish creatures?

In summary, Vice President Dick Cheney's recurring wet dreams of a U.S. worldwide Roman Empire are, in and of themselves, the world's greatest single threat to the continuation of civilization in any part of this planet today. These facts demand that Cheney's prompt resignation be sought, and accepted.

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## Book Review

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# Government ‘The Way Dick Likes It’

by Michele Steinberg

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### **The Price of Loyalty: George W. Bush, the White House, and the Education of Paul O’Neill**

by Ron Suskind

New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004

348 pp. with Index, hard cover, \$26.00

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This is a scary book, which tells us from the inside, through the reminiscences of former Treasury Secretary Paul O’Neill—backed up with original documents—that “something’s rotten” on the Potomac. It centers around Dick Cheney’s Rasputin control over an incompetent President, who can be “revved up” to give orders based on pure fabrications.

A word of caution to readers is appropriate: You don’t know *a thing* about this book from the carefully crafted press reviews, interview shows, and talk-fests that have concentrated on a couple of its anecdotes. One gets the impression that either the reviewers didn’t read the book, or they were working off of a “Fact Sheet” prepared by Cheney’s office. That’s the kind of low-life tactic from the White House that author Ron Suskind describes time and again, as told to him by O’Neill.

We have heard Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld say he called O’Neill to tell him not to write the book; we do know that the Administration immediately announced that an investigation has been opened up against O’Neill for the crime of leaking classified documents. We do know that Cheney told the world, “Do not believe O’Neill’s book,” as he left for his trip to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland in January. Maybe O’Neill should compare notes with Ambassador Joe Wilson about what happens to people when they cross Dick Cheney.

Paul O’Neill knows his Republicans, and he is warning them about a nest of fanatics who have seized the Presidency. And, O’Neill knows his Presidents—he served in top positions under Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, and George H.W. Bush. O’Neill and his wife have been close friends with Don-

ald Rumsfeld and his wife, and with Dick Cheney and his wife. O’Neill worked closely with Alan Greenspan, whom he sought out as an ally against a bunch of American Enterprise Institute ideologues who didn’t care a damn about reality. And it must be said, that O’Neill is rather charitable to Bush, who is obviously in over his head.

O’Neill thought he was walking into a situation where experienced, accomplished veterans would provide leadership to a bunch of “kids rolling around on the lawn.” Instead, he walked into a snakepit. One thing is clear—Dick Cheney was in charge.

Describing conversations between Cheney and O’Neill in late 2002—when O’Neill tried to enlist Cheney in a fight to end the propaganda that was being aired at NSC meetings and come up with serious briefings—Suskind writes: “They talked about everything that was apparent. The President was caught in an echo chamber of his own making, cut off from everyone other than a circle around him that’s tiny and getting smaller and in concert on everything—a circle that conceals him from public view and keeps him away from the one thing he needs most: honest, disinterested perspectives about what’s real and what the hell he might do about it. But then ‘I realized why Dick just nodded along when I said all this, over and over, and nothing ever changed . . . *because this is the way Dick likes it.*’

“But O’Neill had stopped trying to discern where Cheney ended and the President began. Not only was it not clear—it might not be pertinent. . . . It was clear to O’Neill that Cheney and a handful of others had become ‘a praetorian guard’ that encircled the President. In terms of bringing new, transforming ideas to the Oval Office, ‘that store is closed.’”

### **The Iraq War**

The book confirms the central role of Dick Cheney in devastating detail, and confirms the “government within a government” structure about which *EIR* readers were educated in the LaRouche in 2004 pamphlet, *Children of Satan: The Ignoble Liars Behind Bush’s No-Exit War*.

For example: Jan. 30, 2001, the first National Security Council meeting. Bush gathered “the principals” for the first time, to discuss the Middle East, and the agenda was regime change in Iraq. Each Cabinet member brought his or her deputy—and Cheney had more chips than anyone, since the deputies were stacked with his own, anti-Saddam Hussein underlings: his National Security Advisor, Lewis Libby; and Paul Wolfowitz, who was ostensibly Rumsfeld’s deputy.

Suskind writes, “Was there already an ‘in’ group and an ‘out’ group?”

“The meeting had seemed scripted. Rumsfeld had said little, Cheney nothing at all.” But O’Neill and author Suskind, both old hands in watching the Washington scene, are well aware of “the invisible hand” that can operate, especially when it comes to neo-conservatives.

It opened with a complete policy change, with Bush an-

nouncing, tersely: “We’re going to tilt back to Israel. . . . Clinton overreached [in the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks] . . . that’s why we’re in trouble.”

The U.S. will “disengage,” he said.

Suddenly, Bush asked, “has anyone met Ariel Sharon?” Bush praised Sharon, and told the Cabinet how he had taken a helicopter ride with Sharon over the Palestinian territories, noting “it looked bad.” Powell, who seemed surprised to be told to “disengage” from the peace process, protested that “The consequences would be dire, especially for the Palestinians,” but Bush waved this off, saying, “maybe . . . that’s the best way. . . . Sometimes a show of strength by one side can really clarify things.”

Then it was on to Iraq. CIA Director George Tenet was called forward, to produce his tabletop-sized, blueprint-like aerial maps of Iraqi factories—claiming these were evidence of chemical weapon production. Cheney broke his silence, and excitedly called the deputies to come to the table and look.

O’Neill’s questioning of the interpretation of the aerial photos was brushed off. Bush handed out assignments for the *hows* to “get Saddam”—financial warfare from O’Neill, new sanctions with teeth from Powell, and military plans from the Defense Department.

O’Neill “wondered when, exactly, the *whys*—why Saddam, why now—were to be discussed.”

It was on return to his office that O’Neill understood what had really happened at the meeting, when he opened a Rumsfeld memorandum that was waiting for him, titled, “Talking Points, FY01 and FY02-07 Budget Issues.” Suskind notes, “It was not a traditional budget document”; rather, Rumsfeld detailed “why the military budget was due for a dramatic increase” by using “a five-point illustration of a dire global landscape, the underlying ideas that were now guiding foreign policy.”

Suskind’s inclusion of the full text of this section of the Rumsfeld memo is one of the most enjoyable parts of this book. It allows current historians, concerned citizens, and legislators to see what really went on.

O’Neill recognized the memo as a rework of the 1992 Defense Policy Guidance, which was “the plan written by Paul Wolfowitz, then the undersecretary for policy under Defense Secretary Dick Cheney.”

Rumsfeld’s January 2001 memo warned that after the breakup of the U.S.S.R., it was possible for “the poorest countries” to obtain the “most destructive military technology ever devised”; and “We cannot prevent them from doing so. The threats can emerge very rapidly and with little or no warning.” Suskind also notes that Rumsfeld had already brought in deputies like Wolfowitz and Doug Feith, who had believed as “Rummy” did, in 1991, that it had been wrong to leave Saddam Hussein in power.

The Cheney/Wolfowitz plan was also linked to the “Revolution in Military Affairs” ideas of Andy Marshall, who ran the Pentagon’s Office of Net Assessments for nearly 30 years.

This revolution would mean “smaller, swifter” wars that would depend a great deal on “sophisticated, intelligence-driven air attack.” This network and their plans had been on the outs during the Clinton years, and “military traditionalists [had] plenty of ammunition to halt initiatives by Marshall” and his supporters. Rummy, Cheney and company were out to change that, immediately.

Suskind reveals that the group-think that O’Neill observed had been in the making since 1998, when a team of Condi Rice and Wolfowitz was put together and began hammering the dumb governor of Texas into shape, briefing him intensely every week.

Suskind leaves out some of the important details that are known to *EIR* readers—that these trainers called themselves, “the Vulcans”; that they were mainly followers of the fascist philosopher Leo Strauss; and that their godfathers were Cheney and George Shultz, President Reagan’s Secretary of State. Details of these Vulcan training experiences are sketchy, writes Suskind, with the exception of the “loquacious” Richard Perle, who is quoted boasting, “The first time I met Bush 43, I knew he was different. . . . he *didn’t know very much*.”

And so, the “praetorian guard” about which O’Neill worries, is defined. Suskind writes that “those who had presided over the inception” of these ideas “would preside over their execution. Cheney would offer oversight and protection; Rumsfeld would be the point man.” Wolfowitz backed Rummy up “from the inside,” while Richard Perle would back him up “from the outside” through the Defense Policy Advisory Group, which “would counsel the Pentagon, the White House, and the CIA.”

## The Post-9/11 Anomaly

There is more to this book than Iraq.

O’Neill warned about a disaster coming down on the U.S. economy. He questioned the existence of the so-called budget surplus, and warned that job loss and the slowing down of the economy would erase the surplus completely. To curtail the tax-cut mania, he sought out lengthy private meetings with Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, before O’Neill had even been sworn in to office. A big surplus number—say \$5 trillion over ten years—was like “pumping ether” into the executive branch. “O’Neill said, do the numbers. Take out the trust funds, the untouchables: Nearly half of the total surplus would go to obligations for Social Security and Medicare. What was left?—\$2 trillion plus.” It wasn’t a surplus if you took out Bush’s desired \$1.6 trillion tax cut. Lawency Lindsey and others went to war against O’Neill over this opposition.

That was January 2001. In January 2002, O’Neill started more trouble, after Enron declared bankruptcy. Enron’s CEO Kenneth Lay had called both O’Neill and Commerce Secretary Don Evans, begging for government intervention to prevent the rating agencies from downgrading Enron. O’Neill

said “No,” and began a campaign to force new laws and regulations to make CEOs bear the entire responsibility for wrongdoing by their companies. CEOs began badgering the White House to shut O’Neill up; “the scandals were hurting the President.” Karl Rove was worried that “anger about Enron . . . tapped into submerged doubts about Bush and Harken Energy, Cheney and Halliburton.”

By the end of 2002, O’Neill was out. The last third of the book is a rapidly paced description of a brittle Administration, which O’Neill at one point compares to “the last days of Nixon.”

With the demise of Enron, Global Crossing, and dozens of other firms, even the usually unflappable Alan Greenspan, is, by page 226, “lifting his voice like Lear, railing at heaven’s gate,” telling the nation’s top financial officials, “There’s been too much gaming of the system, until it is broke. Capitalism is not working! There has been a corrupting of the system of capitalism.”

Is it accidental, suggests O’Neill to author Suskind, that at the point of this domestic mess, the “in” group again turned to foreign affairs and war. O’Neill notes the importance of Cheney’s Aug. 26, 2002 speech to the Veterans of Foreign Wars convention, “where he raised the specter of Pearl Harbor and said the United States could find itself at the mercy of a nuclear-armed Saddam if it failed to act soon.” Neo-con insider William Kristol gloated, “When Cheney talks, it’s Bush.”

O’Neill says that as Treasury Secretary, he saw two “ideological” disasters—the Iraq war, and the tax cuts obsession. He says that he decided to concentrate on the one about which he could actually do something—tax cuts. Perhaps that was a mistake, but it was the choice that O’Neill made.

But there is the anomaly of the Sept. 11 counter-measures. When the attack occurred, O’Neill was in Tokyo, but he rushed back and was immediately included in “war cabinet” meetings, including the well-known weekend at Camp David.

Suskind and O’Neill name a few—but not all—who were at the weekend session where Bush decided the counter-measures: Bush, Cheney, Rice, Powell, Rumsfeld, O’Neill, Ashcroft, Tenet. Their spouses were invited; Mrs. Powell declined to attend. Wolfowitz made an intense pitch for war against Iraq, portraying the “weak” Saddam Hussein regime as low-hanging fruit, that could give the United States a quick victory and an example for all the world—just as it had been laid out, Suskind reminds us, in both the Cheney/Wolfowitz Defense Policy Guidance plan of 1992, and the Rumsfeld budget memo of January 2001.

Yet, Wolfowitz was apparently cut down by a single response from White House Chief of Staff Andy Card, who said, there’s “nothing new” here.

Many wanted to jump on reports about this book as “proof” that the Bush Administration planned the Iraq war from the “git-go”; and maybe that is what O’Neill and Suskind believe. Why, then, was Wolfowitz rebuffed? There is still more to the story.

## Cheney’s Pre-War Fakery

*This outline was published in EIR, Aug. 1, 2003.*

- In 1990, while he was Secretary of Defense, Cheney set up a project to “rethink” U.S. foreign policy after the fall of the Berlin Wall. One group included Paul Wolfowitz (now Deputy Secretary of Defense), and Lewis Libby (now Cheney’s Chief of Staff). A competing, more moderate group, was headed by Colin Powell, then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Cheney seized on the work of the first group, ignoring the work of the Powell group.

- In the Summer of 1990, according to the *Jerusalem Post*, an Israeli delegation, including a senior Mossad representative, met with Defense Secretary Cheney in Washington, to brief him on “clear proof” that Saddam Hussein was again attempting to acquire nuclear weapons—for the first time since Israel bombed Iraq’s Osirak nuclear reactor in 1981.

- In February 1992, a draft “Defense Planning Guidance” reflecting the Wolfowitz-Libby group’s work, was leaked to the press, creating an international uproar. The document proposed that the United States should “prevent any other nation or alliance from becoming a great power,” and advocated use of U.S. military, even nuclear, force to accomplish this, as well as pre-emptive strikes against states suspected of developing weapons of mass destruction. The Cheney-Wolfowitz-Libby draft met violent opposition from within the Bush “41” Administration, and was toned down beyond recognition.

- In January 1993, in his last days as Secretary of Defense, Dick Cheney issued his final policy statement, which advocated the development of a new generation of tactical nuclear weapons. His “Defense Strategy for the 1990s” stated: “In the decade ahead, we must adopt the right combination of deterrent forces, tactical and strategic . . . to mitigate risk from weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, whatever the source. For now, this requires retaining ready forces for a survivable nuclear deterrent, including tactical forces. In addition, we must complete needed force modernization and upgrades.” Already by October 1991, the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command had commissioned a study on the future uses of mini-nuclear weapons.

- In September 2000, the Project for a New American Century released a document entitled “Rebuilding America’s Defenses: Strategy, Forces and Resources For a New Century,” which openly resurrected the “defense strategy outlined by the Cheney Defense Department in the waning days of the Bush Administration.” It called for “maintaining U.S. pre-eminence, precluding the rise of a great power rival,” and argued “the need for a substantial American force presence in the Gulf” which, it said, “transcends the issue of the regime

of Saddam Hussein.”

- In September 2001, within days of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, the decision was made by the war-party faction within the Bush Administration—Dick Cheney, Paul Wolfowitz, and others—to launch a war against Iraq at the earliest possible date.

- In October 2001, Rumsfeld and Wolfowitz established a special unit in the office of the Deputy Secretary of Defense for Policy Doug Feith, to cook up intelligence to provide a pretext for war on Iraq, bypassing the CIA and the DIA (Defense Intelligence Agency). The unit, called the Office of Special Plans (OSP), was headed by Straussian Abram Shulsky and former Cheney aide William Luti. According to the London *Guardian*, Cheney “was at the shadow network’s sharp end,” and he was the primary customer for OSP “product.”

- Around the same time, a parallel unit was set up in the office of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, for the purpose of bypassing the Israeli Mossad intelligence agency, and feeding information into the Pentagon’s OSP.

- In late 2001, stories began circulating about an alleged attempt by Iraq to purchase uranium yellowcake from Niger, and Cheney and his National Security Adviser Lewis “Scooter” Libby, were believed to have made at least one visit to CIA headquarters, to press the CIA to get more information on the story; according to one source, Cheney and Libby had gotten the information from the OSP.

- On Jan. 1-2, 2002, a break-in occurred at the Niger Embassy in Rome.

- In February 2002, as a result of Cheney’s pressure, the CIA dispatched former Ambassador Joseph Wilson to Niger, to check out the Iraq/yellowcake story. The U.S. Ambassador in Niamey told Wilson that she had already sent reports to Washington debunking the yellowcake story. Wilson interviewed numerous current and former Niger officials; when he returned, he told the CIA that the story was almost certainly bogus, and the CIA informed various government agencies and offices, including the Office of the Vice President.

- On Feb. 24, 2002, a second U.S. official, Gen. Carlton Fulford, was sent to Niger to determine the status of Niger’s uranium supply. He reported back to the Defense and State Departments, that Niger’s uranium stocks are kept under tight control by a French consortium.

- Meanwhile, in January 2002, the Bush Administration issued its Nuclear Posture Review, a Congressionally mandated report on the U.S. nuclear weapons program. For the first time, the 2002 report openly discussed the possible use of nuclear weapons, naming seven countries that could be targets of the American nuclear arsenal: Russia, China, Iraq, Iran, North Korea, Libya, and Syria.

- On Feb. 22, 2002, John Bolton, a leading Administration chicken-hawk, who ran the arms control and disarmament office at the State Department, gave an interview to the *Washington Times*, boasting about the Bush Administration’s intent to use nuclear weapons, under certain circumstances.



*The LaRouche Youth Movement, in a July 2003 demonstration, demands Congress act to investigate and impeach Vice President Cheney for Iraq “WMD” intelligence frauds and lying.*

He candidly told the *Times* that the world had changed so dramatically on Sept. 11, 2001, that it was no longer unthinkable to use nuclear arms against rogue states thought to possess weapons of mass destruction.

- On March 24, 2002, Cheney appeared on Sunday talk shows to sound the alarm about Saddam, having just returned from a trip to the Middle East. On CNN he said: “The issue is that he’s developing and has biological weapons. The issue is that he’s pursuing nuclear weapons.” On NBC, Cheney said: “I think it would be a great tragedy if Saddam Hussein were allowed to acquire nuclear weapons. . . . Our friends and allies in the region know we’re deadly serious and that we do need to find a way to address this problem.”

- Some time in mid-2002, the Italian intelligence agency SISMI obtained a set of documents purporting to show that Iraq was trying to purchase some 500 tons of yellowcake from Niger. The Italian government notified the United States, Britain, and, by some accounts, Israel.

- During 2002, Cheney, Libby, and Newt Gingrich (of Richard Perle’s Defense Policy Board) all paid numerous visits to CIA headquarters, to press CIA analysts to come up with incriminating evidence against Iraq. During this time, a senior Administration official told *U.S. News & World Report*, “Nearly every day, Cheney and Scooter hammered the Agency on Iraq or terrorism. Over time, the Agency got tired of fighting.”

- On Aug. 7, 2002, Cheney, speaking in California, said Saddam Hussein could obtain nuclear weapons in the not too distant future. “Left to his own devices, it’s the judgment of many of us that in the not-too-distant future he will acquire nuclear weapons. . . . And a nuclear-armed Saddam Hussein is not a pleasant prospect for anyone in the region or for anyone in the world, for that matter.”

- On Aug. 26, 2002, Cheney, in a speech to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, declared that Saddam Hussein “has resumed his efforts to acquire nuclear weapons,” and announced, “Many of us are convinced that Saddam will acquire nuclear

weapons fairly soon.” This speech was widely seen as launching the campaign by the Bush Administration to portray Saddam Hussein as being on the verge of acquiring nuclear weapons—despite the complete lack of any current, reliable intelligence to this effect.

- On Sept. 8, 2002, Cheney appeared on a Sunday talk show to strongly defend the new pre-emptive war doctrine. Cheney insisted that Saddam Hussein had accelerated his biological weapons programs and was actively and aggressively seeking a nuclear bomb, based upon unspecified intelligence gathered over the past 12-14 months. “And increasingly, we believe the United States will become the target of those activities,” Cheney declared.

- On Sept. 14, 2002, President Bush signed a secret National Security Presidential Directive 17, which stated, in part: “The United States will continue to make clear that it reserves the right to respond with overwhelming force—including potentially nuclear weapons—to the use of [weapons of mass destruction] against the United States, our forces abroad, and friends and allies.” Later, on Dec. 11, 2002, the Bush Administration released a declassified version of NSPD-17, under the title “National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction.” The reference to the use of nuclear weapons was not included in the declassified version, which instead said that the government would “resort to all of our options”—an only slightly camouflaged version of the same idea.

- On Sept. 24, 2002, the government of British Prime Minister Tony Blair released a dossier stating that “Iraq has sought the supply of significant quantities of uranium from Africa.” Shortly after this, the CIA advised the British government of its doubts on the matter.

- On Oct. 7, 2002, President Bush delivered a major speech in Cincinnati. In the days preceding the speech, CIA Director George Tenet personally intervened and persuaded Deputy National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley to delete not only any claim regarding Niger, but all references to Iraq attempting to obtain uranium from Africa.

- On Oct. 11, 2002, Italian journalist Elisabetta Burba obtained the bogus Niger documents. She provided them to the U.S. Embassy in Rome, which sent them on to Washington. State Department intelligence (INR) provided them to other agencies (but apparently not to the CIA), with the *caveat* that they are “highly dubious.” Meanwhile, the CIA station in Rome, knowing that the yellowcake story had already been discredited, didn’t even bother to send them to headquarters.

- A December 2002 State Department “Fact Sheet” said that Iraq failed to disclose attempts to purchase uranium oxide from Niger. The Fact Sheet was not cleared by State Department’s INR. The CIA objected. In cabling the Fact Sheet around the world, the Niger reference was dropped.

- On Jan. 10, 2003, a group of senior nuclear weapons managers met at the Pentagon to plan a conference set for August 2003 in Omaha, Nebraska, to discuss the production and deployment of a new generation of “mini”-nuclear

weapons

- On Jan. 25, 2003, Cheney’s Chief of Staff Lewis Libby made a presentation outlining the case for war against Saddam Hussein, to a group of senior officials gathered in the White House situation room. Later, Libby summarized the results of the discussion in a written document, which became the first draft of the script for Secretary of State Colin Powell’s presentation to the UN Security Council on Feb. 5. Although reports of the timing differ, it is reliably reported that the Niger claim was originally in Libby’s presentation, but was taken out at the insistence of Powell and the CIA.

- Jan. 27: In the days preceding the President’s State of the Union address, CIA proliferation expert Alan Foley discovered that the White House is attempting to revive the Niger yellowcake claim, and objects. National Security Council aide Robert Joseph, a long-time crony of Richard Perle and neo-con Center for Security Policy head Frank Gaffney, insisted that the claim must go in. After negotiations, a compromise was reached, by which the claim would be attributed to the British government.

- On Jan. 28, President Bush delivered the State of the Union address, stating: “The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa. . . . Saddam Hussein has not credibly explained these activities. He clearly has much to hide.”

- On Jan. 30, Dick Cheney reiterated that the United States had the right to act unilaterally against Iraq, because it could affect the “survival of civilization itself.” He said that within the next week, Secretary of State Powell would present “information and intelligence” to the UN to this effect, and insisted, “Saddam has never accounted for, nor destroyed, these instruments of terror, and his desire for nuclear weapons remains undiminished.”

- Within days of the State of the Union address, the CIA obtained copies of the original Niger documents, by some accounts, having sent a representative to Rome to get them.

- On Feb. 5, Secretary of State Powell delivered a presentation to the UN Security Council on Iraq’s WMD programs. He omitted any reference to the Niger yellowcake claim.

- On Feb. 5, the State Department gave copies of the Niger documents to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), with the warning that the documents were likely fraudulent. Within one to two hours, the IAEA easily determined that the documents were forgeries.

- On March 7, in a presentation to the UN Security Council, IAEA Director General Mohammed ElBaradei announced to the world that the Niger documents were forgeries.

- On March 16, on NBC’s Sunday broadcast, “Meet the Press,” Dick Cheney stated, when asked about ElBaradei’s statement: “I disagree . . . we know that he [Saddam Hussein] has been absolutely devoted to trying to acquire nuclear weapons. And we believe he has, in fact, reconstituted nuclear weapons. I think Mr. ElBaradei frankly is wrong.”

- On March 19, the U.S. launched the war on Iraq.



## One Inspector Knew the Truth About Iraq ‘WMD’

*A former U.S. Marine, Gulf War veteran, and UN Inspector in Iraq from 1991-97, Scott Ritter has been the most bold—and the most truthful—of all the former UN inspectors, insisting throughout the Iraq invasion buildup that under the harsh and rigorous inspections from 1991 to 1998 in Iraq, the Iraqi stockpiles of WMD had been destroyed, and its nuclear weapons program dismantled. During 2002, he strongly opposed the invasion; spoke to both the British House of Commons and the Iraqi National Congress seeking to avoid war; wrote with William Rivers Pitt War on Iraq: What Team Bush Don’t Want You To Know; and came under loud attack by neo-cons and by other former inspectors, who now must acknowledge that he was right.*

*Ritter was interviewed by Michele Steinberg on Jan. 27; he insisted that Vice President Dick Cheney “knew that Iraq did not have the capabilities that he was alluding to, but he also knew that the only way you were going to mobilize public support for a war is to intimidate the American public through fear, fear which exploits their ignorance . . . on the issue of weapons of mass destruction.”*

**EIR:** The first question goes to the heart of the assessments that you made. There have been a lot of statements that “no intelligence service, no team could possibly have known that there were not weapons of mass destruction” in Iraq. But everything that you’ve been saying since pretty much—you know, 2000 or whatever—that you *did* know it, and knew that inspections could confirm the unanswered questions. What was the basis of your assessment?

**Ritter:** Seven years work in Iraq, liaisoning with the intelligence agencies of every major interested party in the world, and knowing what they knew. I find it laughable that anybody would think that the CIA didn’t know, that Iraq did not possess significant stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction. Of course the CIA knew this. That was the basis of every CIA assessment made from 1996 on.

There should be no surprise, why Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice, in 2001, were saying—every chance they had—that Iraq did not pose a threat, that Iraq was containable, that Iraq did not have a significant military, or significant WMD capabilities. . . . That is exactly what the CIA assessments were: That we couldn’t account for everything; and that there was concern that Iraq could have the potential for *reconstituting* a WMD capability, especially now that weap-



*American UN inspector Ritter was ostracized and attacked for explaining during the Iraq invasion buildup in 2002, that Iraq’s WMD programs had been destroyed during the 1990s inspection regime.*

ons inspectors were removed from Iraq. But there was no hard evidence to sustain this. Everybody knew this; this is not a surprise. The Congress knew this, every single one of these Senators who are running for office right now, that were present in the U.S. Congress during that debate, they know that no substantive fact was ever provided, to sustain the assertion that Iraq reconstituted, or was possessing WMD capability.

Everything that the President acted on was speculative in nature, a hypothesis, or a total fabrication.

What I’m saying is, here we had the Bush Administration screaming fire, and Congress was sitting there, throwing fire-trucks, without ever saying: “Where’s the smoke, where’s the flame?”

**EIR:** That’s a very good analogy because—O.K., there were suspicions, unanswered questions, and then beginning, I guess, in November 2002, a team of the UN—the UNMOVIC group, and the International Atomic Energy Agency—went into Iraq. Could they have succeeded?

**Ritter:** Well, define success. Could they have succeeded in what? Disarming Iraq? Of course. But that’s not what the policy of the United States was. That’s what people have to understand. This has never been about disarming Iraq. If it was, this tragedy would have been done years ago. This has always been about sustaining an American policy of regime change. That’s the policy goal and objective of every administration since George Herbert Walker Bush in 1991. Regime change. And because that’s the policy of the United States, there’s no way Hans Blix, or Rolf Ekeus, or Richard [Butler] prior to that, could ever have done anything that would have satisfied the U.S. government, because the U.S. government did not care about disarming Iraq.

This has always been a charade. The U.S. government’s policies have always been, from day one, to remove Saddam Hussein from power.

**EIR:** I had the impression after your trip [to Baghdad in September 2002], after the trip of some of the really honorable congressmen like Nick Rahall, etc., that the neo-conservatives and the group in Washington never believed that Saddam Hussein was going to allow inspectors in. Do you concur with that?

**Ritter:** Yes, I think that they had made an assessment that they're going to set an unattainable objective, and then condemn Saddam for failing to comply. So when Saddam allowed inspectors back in, they had no appropriate response because now, what do you do? OK, so you send the inspectors in, and you can't allow them to do their job. Because if you allow them to do their job, they're going to find that there is a way to deal with Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction other than going to war.

Why do you think I went to Iraq in September of 2002? It wasn't because I'm sympathetic to the regime, and I wanted good things to happen to Saddam. It's because I'm sympathetic to the rule of law, and the concept of disarmament. And what I told the Iraqi National Assembly—and, in effect, I told the Iraqi government indirectly at that occasion, then directly the next day as I met with the highest officials of the land—I said you have no choice but to let inspectors back in, and fully comply, without precondition, to the demands of the Security Council. You have no choice, or you face imminent destruction. And they concurred. They said: "You're right." And that's why they allowed inspectors in.

That threw the Bush Administration for a loop because that's the last thing they expected the Iraqis to do. . . . They had to go and carefully construct a chain of events that made inspections irrelevant. They created a new resolution, 1441, that put harsh conditions on Iraq, and hoped that Iraq wouldn't comply. But even if Iraq did comply, provided a loop-hole that allowed the United States to unilaterally declare Iraq to be in non-compliance. . . . The rest of the world thought there had to be a second resolution, but the United States said no, that this resolution contained all that is necessary to initiate military action. . . .

**EIR:** Let's fast-forward to March 2003. I read your pieces. I read all three books: *End Game*; the Rivers Pitt piece [*War On Iraq*]; And *Frontier Justice*, which has just come out. In March 2003: It comes to a point where they were working on a second resolution. Dr. ElBaradei's staff comes up with the finding that the Niger yellowcake uranium documents are a fraud. The case appears to be falling apart very quickly. Vice President Cheney goes on television March 16, 2003, and repeats a lot of the discredited information with even more fervor than before. What do you think that was all about?

**Ritter:** It was about Dick Cheney lying to the American people, and lying to Congress. If Dick Cheney is not held liable for what he has done here, it's pretty much the end of American democracy as we know it. You can't have representative government if the people don't hold their elected representa-

tives accountable for actions that are done in their name. Here we have a clear-cut situation, of the Vice-President lying to the American people about something, that he knew the reality was the exact opposite.

This isn't as though he made a mistake. It's not as though he was sitting on a body of data that sustained his concerns. It's the exact opposite. He knew that Iraq did not have the capabilities that he was alluding to; but he also knew that the only way you were going to mobilize public support for a war is to intimidate the American public through fear—fear which exploits their ignorance. Their ignorance was on the issue of weapons of mass destruction. "We don't want the smoking gun to be a mushroom cloud." So you have to create the perception of a nuclear threat, and that's what Dick Cheney was doing. He was lying to the American people. And I hope people would recognize and respect that when a government official tells a lie, in the course of his or her official duties, that is a felony. That's a high crime and a misdemeanor—that's an impeachable offense.

**EIR:** *EIR*, founded by Lyndon LaRouche, has insisted since September 2002, that Cheney was the leader of the misleaders, and LaRouche has called for his resignation or impeachment. Do you think that there are other forces seriously looking at that type of thing these days?

**Ritter:** No. And I'll tell you why. Because while Cheney may have been the ring-leader, he is not alone. There is culpability all around. The media is culpable in this; they are to blame for what has occurred by failing to demand answers to obvious questions, such as: "If you say there are weapons of mass destruction, where are they? Give us evidence." Congress is culpable—the kangaroo court Senator Biden and Senator Lugar presided over in late July, early August of 2002—the total abrogation of constitutional responsibilities by the United States Congress in October 2003. Giving the President their constitutional authority regarding the declaration of war, without the President actually saying he is going to war. We all know now, that the President made his decision long before, that he was going to go to war with Iraq.

But in late September, early October [2002], Colin Powell, Donald Rumsfeld, Condoleezza Rice were testifying before Congress that the President had not made such a decision. So they lied. The Congress isn't holding them accountable. Why? Because Congress would then have to hold itself accountable, and nobody in Congress is willing to acknowledge that they are culpable for this war, that they are somehow to blame.

That is just not going to happen, unless the American people, of course, make it happen, and I don't see any indication that the American people are cogniscent of their responsibilities to the Constitution. . . .

**EIR:** What is your assessment of the impact of David Kay's resignation, and his recent remarks. I know that his testimony in 2002 at the Biden hearings was "gung ho, let's go, Saddam

has those weapons,” etc. Has he had a change of heart? What is your assessment?

**Ritter:** Well, it’s not a change of heart. David Kay has come to the only conclusion the facts will sustain. He has no choice now, but to tell the truth. But notice, he’s put some interesting spin on this. His conclusions are correct, but then he starts to hypothesize and say some things that are a) wrong; or b) inconsistent.

First of all, he says that this is an intelligence failure; that it is the CIA which owes the President an apology—not the President owing the American people an apology. This is wrong. As I already said, the CIA knew in 1998 that Iraq had been fundamentally disarmed. The CIA knew that Iraq had 90-95% of its weapons capabilities destroyed by UN weapons inspectors, verifiably so, and that 100% of the industrial capacity of Iraq was monitored by U.N. inspection teams, and that Iraq was not reconstituting or continuing to produce weapons of mass destruction capabilities. The CIA knew this. . . .

Everything Colin Powell presented to the Security Council, February 2003, has turned out to have been wrong. And Colin Powell and the CIA knew it was wrong when he presented it. He knew that he could not state with the certainty that he did, that this represented *de facto* proof that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. So it is not an intelligence failure, it’s a policy-maker failure. . . . The President had made a decision that he was going to invade Iraq, and he was constructing a case for this invasion based upon the misrepresentation and fabrication of data to the Congress and to the American people, to sustain this contention that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction, when the reality was the facts pointed in a completely opposite direction.

Look, I published an article in *Arms Control Today* in June 2000, that documented the case for the qualitative disarmament of Iraq. We knew in 2000 that Iraq did not possess the stockpiles that the President said they possessed. It was known by everyone, from the inspectors on down, to the intelligence community, [and] to the policy-makers. . . . Paul Wolfowitz has acknowledged that this issue was picked, because it was one that could be sold to the American public with relative ease, exploiting the ignorance and the fear that is derived from ignorance regarding Iraq and weapons of mass destruction, especially post-9/11.

**EIR:** That was the *Vanity Fair* piece, right?

**Ritter:** Well, Paul Wolfowitz made the assertion before the *Vanity Fair* piece, but yes.

**EIR:** In your book, *Frontier Justice*, you mention the “PNAC posse,” the ‘New American Century,’ which Wolfowitz is connected to. Do you think they were really the driving force behind the whole prevarication, and this preemptive war doctrine?

**Ritter:** Well, they wrote it. So I think you can come up with no other answer besides “Yes.” These people we call the

“PNAC posse”—I call the PNAC posse—are the same people who are in government today. They run the government. There is no differentiating between the Project for a New American Century (PNAC), and the Bush Administration. They are one and the same.

**EIR:** Well, there was some backlash against Cheney quoting *The Weekly Standard*—which is sort of an outgrowth of PNAC—when they received a memo from the Pentagon about Saddam Hussein’s connection to al-Qaeda, way after the fact. Have you had a chance to look at that article? What’s your view on the Iraq/al-Qaeda so-called connection?

**Ritter:** Well, I don’t view *The Weekly Standard* as any more than a propaganda rag, so I don’t read it unless there is something of particular—maybe I should go read that particular article—but Dick Cheney has not only lied about the nuclear connection, but he’s lied about the al-Qaeda connection.

There has never been a link between Saddam Hussein and al-Qaeda. In fact, again the CIA knows—this isn’t guess work—they know that Saddam Hussein would never have connections to al-Qaeda, that Saddam Hussein was working against al-Qaeda, and that al-Qaeda was plotting against Saddam Hussein—that the two were mortal enemies. So the concept of somehow Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden coming together under common cause is, first of all, an analytical improbability that was not sustained with any factual data. It was purely hypothetical. There was no reality behind that charge.

**EIR:** Well, now let’s try and deal with the future. Before the invasion itself, you denounced the idea of military action as unnecessary and unjustified. Do you think the occupying forces should get out?

**Ritter:** Well, again, let’s use the fire analogy. Iraq is on fire, and the fuel that sustains that fire is the presence of American troops. You’ve got to remove the fuel from the fire; and therefore, the only way to do that is to get the American troops out. I think that any solution that we talk about regarding Iraq, that doesn’t incorporate the removal of an illegitimate American occupying power, is a solution that’s doomed to fail.

**EIR:** You have a lot of military experience, especially compared to the chicken-hawks. And I’ve heard some very distinguished former military people draw an analogy to the Vietnam insurgency. What’s your view of the resistance to the occupation: Is it just a bunch of disgruntled people, as GW would say, or is there a real insurgency? Can Iraq be unified?

**Ritter:** There is definitely a real insurgency. Look, just this month we’ve lost 38 people, dead. When you go through what killed them, they were killed either by having their helicopter shot down; by improvised explosive devices, tearing their trucks and bodies apart; by mortar attacks; or by rocket-propelled grenade ambushes. The reason I’m bringing this up: Our troops are not being killed closing with and destroying the enemy through firepower maneuver. We’re not taking the

battle to the enemy. The enemy is taking the battle to us. They are picking us off one by one. And this is widespread. Right now it seems to be concentrated in the Sunni triangle, but that's only because the Shi'a are looking for political advantage, so they don't want to alienate the Coalition Provisional Authority at this point in time.

But the Shi'a are on the verge of exploding if we don't give them "one man, one vote," if we tinker with this transition of power that is taking place. This is a popular-based resistance that's not linked to Saddam Hussein, it's linked to the American presence in Iraq, the illegitimate American presence in Iraq.

What we need to realize is, that we can't win this war. In fact, we have already lost this war, because war is an extension of politics, and the political reasons for going to war in Iraq have yet to be met and cannot be met. We will not be greeted as liberators by the Iraqis, that's too late. We are now seen by everyone as occupiers, and for the most part, as illegitimate occupiers. We will not bring the American-style democracy that we wanted. If democracy comes to Iraq, it will come in the form of an Islamic republic which is brought about by democratic processes. But if you give Iraq "one man, one vote," Iraq will be an Islamic republic. That is an inherently different, and vastly more dangerous situation than anything we faced under Saddam Hussein's dictatorship.

So we are not going to prevail. What we're probably going to have—because we won't let an Islamic republic come to power—is, we're going to have a civil war in Iraq with American troops stuck in the middle. The last time the United States intervened in a civil war of any note was in Lebanon in the 1980s, and we know what happened. Our marines got slaughtered in their barracks—it was a lose-lose proposition that resulted in the withdrawal of American troops. That's the future of our involvement in Iraq if we don't break from the failed policy objectives of George W. Bush. I think we need to acknowledge that we made a mistake, I think we need to acknowledge that there is a role, the only role that can be played to resolve this is by the United Nations, and we need to transfer political and military control of Iraq to a United Nations authority which then seeks to rapidly transition that power to the Iraqi people. . . .

It is not in our national interest to stay in Iraq. We are in a much worse situation today than we were at any time under Saddam Hussein's government.

**EIR:** You've spoken at least twice to members of the British House of Commons, before the invasion, and I understand you were there recently, although I didn't see anything in the press—not surprisingly. How do you see the situation in Britain now? Are there going to be inquiries, the David Kelly reports, the Hutton Report is due out tomorrow, any views?

**Ritter:** We have yet to see what is going to happen. First of all, we don't know what the Hutton Report is. I think that Tony Blair is in probably the most dangerous position he's



*One of the photos placed on the White House website in January 2003, then used by Secretary Powell at the UN on Feb. 5, 2003, as "indisputable proof" of Iraqi ABC weapons production. They proved nothing. "Dick Cheney was lying to the American people, and lying to Congress," says Ritter. "If Dick Cheney is not held liable for what he has done here, it's pretty much the end of American democracy as we know it."*

been politically, ever. There is a real chance that Tony Blair's government will fall. But let's see what the Hutton Report says, and also see what it doesn't say. I think it is important to note that if the Hutton Report comes off as a white-wash, that that is an issue that is going to be a problem for the Blair government, and the Hutton inquiry.

So let's not try to get too cute with predicting the future, but let's know this: that Tony Blair is in a lot of hot water for his statements about Iraq. He is widely seen as, at a minimum, exaggerating—and by many, as lying—about the threat Iraq posed. And the people of Great Britain, and the British Parliament, seem to take to heart, more than their American counterparts, the concept of any elected official lying. They also take to heart international law. And the fact is, that if Saddam Hussein doesn't have weapons of mass destruction, that makes the British invasion of Iraq illegal in the eyes of interna-

tional law. . . . So the fallout of not only the Hutton Report, but in combination with David Kay's recent conclusions, puts Tony Blair at great risk, politically.

**EIR:** Do you think that it also puts George W. Bush at great risk?

**Ritter:** It should. One would think that the same democratic processes that are in place in Great Britain would apply here in the largest democracy in the world. This is a fundamental test for the American people. If we allow the President to get away with misrepresentation of fact, with lying to the American people, and we don't hold him accountable, then we no longer function as a representative democracy, because a key element of a representative democracy is the concept of accountability. . . . So here we have a clear-cut case where the President either was incompetent, or lied, or a combination of the two, about the most sacred issue of trust between an Executive and the people, and that is war and peace. The President has us engaged in a war that is illegitimate—based on a lie—and what are we going to do about it?

**EIR:** Good point. I'm concerned that something has turned up again recently, just this past week—including from David Kay—that Syria is where the missing WMD might be.

**Ritter:** An outright fabrication on the part of David Kay.

Again, let's use the fire analogy. He's just yelled "smoke and fire," but he's provided no proof. . . . It simply is yet another politically motivated smoke screen conducted by David Kay to protect the President. The first, of course, is that this is an intelligence failure, and that it is the CIA's fault, not the President's fault. And now the second one is to provide not only an excuse for the President—by saying "Maybe this stuff went to Syria, and that's why we didn't find it"—but to provide an opening for the President and PNAC posse to take on Syria, which of course is the next nation in their nation-building sights.

And so, David Kay is once again is operating with the most wanton level of irresponsibility one could imagine. Compare his statements to the U.S. Congress in the decade of the '90s, and early 2000 in the build-up to the war, and you'll see that David Kay in his most recent statement, not only contradicted everything he said, but discredited his own self. Because he sat before Congress, and said, "There can be no doubt these weapons exist"; that he knows personally these weapons exist. So this says a lot about his ability to ascertain the truth and reality.

**EIR:** The various defectors—Ahmed Chalabi, exiles, [Khidir] Hamza—a lot of stock was put in what they had to say, including, I think, this on Syria; although the specific exiles might be different ones. You've had personal experience, and you've found them really wanting on credibility.

**Ritter:** Well, first of all, since 1995, there's been no significant defector out of Iraq. The last significant defector to leave

Iraq was Hussein Kamal, Saddam Hussein's son-in-law; and he told us that all the weapons had been destroyed—something Dick Cheney misrepresented again before the Veterans of Foreign Wars Convention in August 2002. Dick Cheney said just the opposite, that Hussein Kamal led us to biological weapons and claimed there was an active nuclear program. An outright lie, and again Dick Cheney was Vice President, with total access to intelligence information.

Ahmed Chalabi has made a career out of selling himself by selling defectors. It is curious, the process that takes place. It started with UNSCOM, where he came in and talked to us about what our requirements were. "What did we need, information-wise?" And we talked about the things we were interested in; and magically, Chalabi produced defectors that provided information that allegedly filled out information gaps. On the surface, it seemed great. I mean, this was manna from heaven. But the reality was—once we dug into it—every single one of the information reports that he provided turned out to be fabricated, or grossly exaggerated.

So UNSCOM dropped him like a bad habit; but then the PNAC posse picked him up. He became the darling of Dick Cheney, Paul Wolfowitz, Don Rumsfeld—they loved his reports. He became the darling of the media. Judy Miller made a career at the *New York Times* peddling the lies of Ahmed Chalabi. Jeff Stein wrote a book with another liar, named [Khidir] Hamza, who we knew was a liar—Hussein Kamal identified him as a liar and a peddler of false documents and false information. The CIA knew for certain that Hamza was not who he said he was; and yet, because Hamza fit well politically with what we were trying to achieve—i.e. exploiting the ignorance of the American people and the fear that is generated by that ignorance, by speaking of a nuclear capability—suddenly Hamza is the darling. A liar, that the CIA knows is a liar, is permitted to testify before the highest committees of the United States Senate, on an issue pertaining to war.

Hamza testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in late July, early August 2002. . . . The CIA knew he was a liar; the Senators knew he was a liar; and yet, they allowed him to sit there before the American people and peddle lies. . . .

**EIR:** And yet we went to war, and that war is costing at least \$1 billion per week, not to mention the lives.

**Ritter:** I'm not as worried about the money, as the lives. The money is a big deal; as a former Marine officer, I care a hell of a lot about the young men and women who wear the uniform of the United States of America, and who have sworn to give their lives in defense of their country. It is our responsibility as American citizens to make sure that before we ask them to make that ultimate sacrifice, that we ensure that it is a cause *worthy* of that sacrifice. And we have failed egregiously on that issue. These brave men and women are in Iraq, dying right now on the basis of a lie.

# Cheney Invented Today's 'Bush Doctrine' in 1990

by Edward Spannaus and Jeff Steinberg

On Sept. 22, 2002, Lyndon LaRouche issued his first call for Vice President Dick Cheney to resign. What triggered LaRouche's dramatic call for Cheney to step down, was the accumulated evidence that Cheney and a small group of his long-time collaborators, centered around Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, and Cheney's Chief of Staff Lewis Libby, have willfully lied to the American public, to Congress, and to the President himself, about the circumstances under which they have promoted the so-called "war on terrorism," the drive for a new war against Iraq, and the fraudulent and dangerous new National Security Strategy.

## The 1990 Cheney Task Force

Both the proposed Congressional use-of-force resolution on Iraq, issued by the White House on Sept. 19, 2002; and "The National Security Strategy of the United States of America," issued under the signature of President George W. Bush the next day, were presented as a "new" national security doctrine, made necessary by the events of Sept. 11, 2001. The common feature of the draft war powers resolution, and the new National Security Strategy, is that they promote a doctrine of unilateral pre-emptive military action by the United States.

This is what Lyndon LaRouche said, in his Sept. 22, 2002 statement: "The existing proof is, that neither of these two documents has been prompted in any way by factually defined, recent developments within the Iraq-controlled portions of the area within that nation's borders, nor the fraudulent claim by the Administration, that the U.S. 'war on terrorism' is a reaction to the attacks on the U.S.A. by any of the nations or organizations fingered as 'rogue states' since Sept. 20, 2001.

"The fact is," LaRouche continued, "that the policies contained within those two fraudulent documents, were first surfaced during Spring 1990, as emissions of a task force directed by then-Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney—a task force then headed by Paul Wolfowitz, Lewis Libby, and Eric Edelman. Although unsuccessful until now, they represent the persisting, mad obsession of Dick Cheney and his Chicken-hawk accomplices over the course of no less than the past dozen years."

The origins of the Cheney task force were described as follows, in an April 1, 2002 *New Yorker* magazine article by

Nicholas Lemann, entitled "The Next World Order": "After the fall of the Berlin Wall, Dick Cheney, then the Secretary of Defense, set up a 'shop,' as they say, to think about American foreign policy after the Cold War, at the grand strategic level. The project, whose existence was kept quiet, included people who are now back in the game, at a higher level: among them, Paul Wolfowitz, the Deputy Secretary of Defense; Lewis Libby, Cheney's chief of staff; and Eric Edelman, a senior foreign-policy advisor to Cheney. . . . Colin Powell, then the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, mounted a competing, and presumably more ideologically moderate, effort to re-imagine American foreign policy and defense."

The plan was for each team to brief Cheney for an hour on May 21, 1990, after which Cheney would brief President George H.W. Bush ("41"), and then Bush would make a foreign-policy address unveiling the new grand strategy.

But, according to Lemann, when Wolfowitz and Powell arrived at Cheney's office for the May 21 briefing, Wolfowitz went first, and went far beyond the allotted hour—which Cheney permitted him to do, while Powell was left twiddling his thumbs. Powell wasn't even allowed to present his view until a couple of weeks later. Cheney's briefing to the President was based largely on Wolfowitz's material. Bush then prepared his foreign-policy address, but it was given on Aug. 2, 1990—the day that Iraq invaded Kuwait—without much attention paid to it.

## 1992 Defense Planning Guidance

The Cheney task force kept at it, and their next effort was the draft Defense Planning Guidance (DPG) for 1994-99, which was leaked to the press in February 1992. The current Bush Administration's National Security Strategy bears a remarkable resemblance to this draft.

Following are key sections of the leaked draft, as published in the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* at the time (1992):

This Defense Planning guidance addresses the fundamentally new situation which has been created by the collapse of the Soviet Union, the disintegration of the internal as well as the external empire, and the discrediting of communism as an ideology with global pretensions and influence. The new international environment has also been shaped by the victory of the United States and its coalition allies over Iraqi aggression—the first post-Cold War conflict and a defining event in U.S. global leadership. In addition to these two victories, there has been a less visible one, the integration of Germany and Japan into a U.S.-led system of collective security and the creation of a democratic "zone of peace."

Our first objective is to prevent the re-emergence of a new rival, either on the territory of the former Soviet Union or elsewhere, that poses a threat on the order

of that posed formerly by the Soviet Union. This is a dominant consideration underlying the new regional defense strategy and requires that we endeavor to prevent any hostile power from dominating a region whose resources would, under consolidated control, be sufficient to generate global power. These regions include Western Europe, East Asia, the territory of the former Soviet Union, and Southwest Asia.

There are three additional aspects to this objective: First, the U.S. must show the leadership necessary to establish and protect a new order that holds the promise of convincing potential competitors that they need not aspire to a greater role or pursue a more aggressive posture to protect their legitimate interests. Second, in the non-defense areas, we must account sufficiently for the interests of the advanced industrial nations to discourage them from challenging our leadership or seeking to overturn the established political and economic order. Finally, we must maintain the mechanisms for deterring potential competitors from even aspiring to a larger regional or global role. . . .

While the U.S. cannot become the world's "policeman" by assuming responsibility for righting every wrong, we will retain the pre-eminent responsibility for addressing selectively those wrongs which threaten not only our interests, but those of our allies or friends, or which could seriously unsettle international relations. Various types of U.S. interests may be involved in such instances: access to vital raw materials, primarily Persian Gulf oil.

### **'Preclude Any Future Global Competitor'**

The scenario blithely assumes that no matter what type of government evolves in post-Soviet Russia, even a resurgent imperial faction could not pose an immediate threat to Europe without the Warsaw Pact. The threat to the Bush Administration is perceived as coming from other quarters: "There are other potential nations or coalitions that could, in the further future, develop strategic aims and defense posture of region-wide or global domination. Our strategy must now refocus on precluding the emergence of any potential future global competitor."

Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams at the time insisted to reporters that this referred only to a "hostile power," an assertion which may provide small comfort to allies who are wondering exactly what that means. The Pentagon insists, for example, that the United States "must seek to prevent the emergence of European-only security arrangements which would undermine NATO." This posture produced a direct clash between Secretary of State James Baker and French officials at the 1992 Brussels meeting of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council.

The Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* editorialized at that time, on its front page, that the Pentagon document "is

shocking in many respects, starting from the frankness, to the brutality with which it theorizes the permanent subordination of allies-competitors and explains how to use military power and nuclear force to reiterate this subordination." U.S. correspondent Rudolfo Brancoli went on to call it a "foolish ambition" that pushes somebody "to design such ambitious plans while belonging to an administration which is every day forced to realize that it has no money to help the new democracies in the East, no means to help paying the costs of the UN peacekeeping missions, and is not even able to pay its own quota to the international financial organizations."

### **Looking Back**

The 1992 draft sparked a major controversy within the Bush "41" Administration, said author Jim Lobe in the Sept. 10, 2002 *Asia Times*, and several other online publications. Lobe wrote: "When excerpts of the document first appeared in the *New York Times* in the Spring of 1992, Sen. Joe Biden, now chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was particularly outraged, calling it a prescription for 'literally a Pax Americana,' an American empire. . . . The document argued that the core assumption guiding U.S. foreign policy in the 21st Century should be the need to establish permanent U.S. dominance over virtually all of Eurasia."

Among the strategies spelled out by Wolfowitz and Libby, as reported by Lobe: "Deterring potential competitors from even aspiring to a larger regional or global role," and taking pre-emptive action against states suspected of developing weapons of mass destruction.

Lobe reported, "The draft, leaked apparently by a high-ranking source in the military, sparked an intense but fleeting uproar. At the insistence of then-National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft and Secretary of State James Baker, the final DPG document was toned down beyond recognition."

Lobe then made the crucial link which Lyndon LaRouche had elaborated one day earlier during the Sept. 11, 2002 webcast (see *EIR*, Sept. 20) which preceded his call for Cheney's resignation: "Through the '90s the two authors and their boss, then-Pentagon chief Dick Cheney, continued to wait for the right opportunity to fulfill their imperial dreams. Their long wait came to an end on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, when two hijacked commercial airliners slammed into the World Trade Center towers in Manhattan and a third into the Pentagon outside Washington. And the timing could not have been more ideal. Dick Cheney had already become the most powerful Vice President in U.S. history, while the draft's two authors, Wolfowitz and Libby, were now Deputy Defense Secretary and Cheney's chief of staff and national security advisor, respectively."

Lobe noted, "Advocates of the new paradigm are part of a coalition of three major political forces, which include right-wing *Machtpolitikers* like Rumsfeld and Cheney; mainly Jewish neo-conservatives closely tied to the Likud Party in Israel; and leaders of the Christian and Catholic Right."

## Iran's Election Crisis Flanks the One in Iraq

by Muriel Mirak-Weissbach

Each Iranian election brings the simmering institutional conflict between the conservative Guardian Council (GC), and the reformist wing in Parliament with its supporters in the population, to the boiling point. With elections for the Majlis (Parliament) scheduled for Feb. 20, the crisis has assumed unprecedented contours, and could lead to significant changes in Iran's political landscape.

The crisis broke out on Jan. 11, when the GC announced that it had disqualified over 3,605 of the 8,200 candidates who wanted to run for office. According to the Islamic Republic's constitution, the GC has the authority to vet candidates, and to disqualify those who, in its view, are not working in the interests of Islam, or the nation. This time, the conservative, unelected body of 12 clerics and jurists went overboard. Their drastic slashing of names, which included 80 sitting members of Parliament, was seen rightly as a frontal attack on the reformists, and an open attempt to sew up the elections for the conservatives. So many reformists were purged from the lists, that in 190 of the 290 electoral districts, no reformist candidates would have made the ballot.

### Reformists Go On Counter-Offensive

The Interior Ministry issued a statement Jan. 12, expressing regret over the extensive disqualifications, and stressing that such moves must be backed by legality. According to the news agency IRNA's paraphrase, the ministry said that during the "highly sensitive" electoral period, "All responsible bodies and personalities should have focussed efforts on further raising public confidence in the system and attracting the highest possible number of voters." Indeed, the conservatives consider their best hope to defeat the reform majority in the Parliament at the upcoming elections, is to ensure low voter turnout. Their extreme provocation may have been intended

to demoralize the voters. The Interior Ministry also declared that it would defend the rights of voters and candidates.

Meanwhile, the reform members of Parliament staged a sit-in, demanding the GC approve all candidacies. On Jan. 13, President Mohammed Khatami met with the governors general of Iran's provinces, who opposed the disqualifications. It was reported that Khatami had threatened that he and his reformist colleagues would resign *en masse*, unless the GC rescinded its blacklist. "We will leave together [or] we will stay together," he was quoted saying. "We have to remain firm. If one day we are asked to leave, then we will all leave, together." He added, "At this stage, my historic mission is to prevent the illegal seizing of the levers of power." He later denied that he had threatened to resign.

On Jan. 14, the reformist speaker of the Majlis, Mahdi Karroubi, issued a harshly-worded attack on the GC, demanding it reverse its decision. "They have made it so that we know in advance who is elected and who is not. . . . They have moved their pawns to control the Majlis," Karroubi said. At the same time, the first reports circulated that several deputy ministers and provincial governors general had declared their intention to resign. Interior Minister Abdolvahed Musavi Lari wrote to the governors, insisting that all measures taken in the crisis must be peaceful. He also stated that no resignations would be accepted.

As it became clear that the reformists, including the President himself, would not sit back and accept the GC's attempted coup, the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, intervened. On Jan. 14, he—the ultimate arbiter in such cases—urged the Guardian Council to review the disqualifications of the prospective candidates. Meeting with the GC, Khamenei told them, "Since distinguishing the qualification has different stages, we



should not go far in confirming the qualification of the members of Parliament.” He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran believes in democratic elections, adding that high voter turnout has had a positive impact internationally. On the disqualifications of the 80 incumbent MPs, Khamenei said that if their qualifications had been approved in the last parliamentary elections, they should be approved now unless good reason were given for doing otherwise. Khamenei emphasized that the law should be observed in all stages of elections, adding that some people were seeking to resort to illegal and complicated procedures instead of legal and simple approaches.

Prior to Ayatollah Khamenei’s remarks, the secretary of the Guardian Council, Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, an arch-conservative, had presented a report on the different stages of the upcoming general election, adding that the body had received complaints against the disqualifications, and would re-examine them.

Khamenei’s intervention, in effect, acknowledged that the Guardian Council had overstepped its bounds, and committed a tactical error. Since he is literally the Supreme Leader, there is no way that the GC can dodge his directives. The question was: How would the Guardian Council “interpret” Khamenei’s words? The GC went back to the drawing board, and, step by step, started approving disqualified candidates; first 200, then 650. The reform front remained committed to its demand that *all* who wish to run for office, should be allowed to do so.

## The Tug of War

The crisis heated up again on Jan. 21, as reformists, frustrated by the slow pace of the GC, escalated their mobilization. Vice President Mohammad Ali Abtahi announced that several government officials had turned in their resignations in protest. To be binding, the resignations would have to be approved by President Khatami, who was in Davos, Switzerland at the World Economic Forum. Abtahi did not say how many, or who, the officials were. “A number of Cabinet ministers and a number of vice presidents have resigned. Naturally, they are waiting to see how things go,” Abtahi said after a Cabinet meeting. “The Cabinet ministers are very serious in their resignation.” He added, “Such disqualifications of prospective candidates is against democracy. The 1979 Islamic revolution was based on democracy, and such methods damage our Islamic democracy and turn elections into sham elections.” Interior Minister Lari reported to the Cabinet during the meeting, that he believed the hard-liners wanted to secure at least 180 seats in the 290-seat Parliament.

From Davos, President Khatami made known that he would not accept the resignations. On Jan. 26, the reformers upped the ante further. Government spokesman Abdollah Ramezanzadeh told the student news agency ISNA, that the government “cannot organize an election which is uncompetitive, unhealthy, and not free. This means that the government will only organize an election which is competitive, fair, and

healthy; meaning that in all constituencies there should be real competition, and not a staged one, of all the people who are willing to compete legally and within the framework of the constitution.” He called this the “only condition of the government.”

The following day, Parliament Speaker Karroubi predicted that by the evening on Jan. 29, the Guardian Council would reinstate many of the disqualified candidates. President Khatami told reporters he was “confident that such elections will be held on the appointed date.” The shift occurred, apparently, as a result of a long meeting held Jan. 26, among Khamenei, the chief of the judiciary Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahroudi, President Khatami, and Karroubi. Four ministers—Intelligence Minister Ali Yunessi, Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanzagheh, Commerce Minister Mohammed Shariatmadari, and Industry Minister Eshaq Jahangiri—had been tasked to examine the reformists’ protests and come up with answers by Jan. 29. Karroubi proclaimed, “We will witness a good understanding between the government and the Guardian Council in the next two days.”

Clearly, President Khatami had driven a hard bargain. On Jan. 28, he told the press, “In the end, it is not clear whether what they [the Guardian Council] approve will be acceptable for us. Even if one person is disqualified unfairly, I won’t accept it.”

And in fact, as of this writing, the crisis was continuing. The deadlock between the Guardian Council and the reformers was still unbroken on Jan. 30, after an announcement by the GC that it would approve at least 960 of the candidacies previously rejected. On that date, Interior Minister Mussavi-Alari proposed to the GC that the elections be postponed.

## How Flexible Is the Rubber Band?

Speaking to *EIR*, one high-ranking Iranian official characterized the electoral clinch as a big rubber band that can be stretched very wide in one direction, and then bounce back to the other. Only if it is forced, is there the danger that it will snap, he said.

What is at stake in Iran is the entire system which has reigned since the revolution of 1979. Since the 1997 Presidential elections, when reformer Khatami was swept into power with a landslide vote, the reformers have striven to put through changes in the democratic order as well as in management of the economy, but have been blocked at every turn by the conservatives. Each time the Majlis, with its reform majority, has attempted to introduce legislation, the Guardian Council, which also has the authority to vet bills, has intervened to shoot it down. This happened to two bills introduced by Khatami for greater powers for the Presidency; and to a bill to reform the election process, by members of Parliament. Although Khatami was re-elected with another landslide in 2001, his support has been waning, as he has appeared incapable of delivering on his reform agenda.

The question this raises is an institutional one: Given the

system as enshrined in the Islamic Republic's constitution, how can a government, backed by a majority in Parliament, implement fundamental changes in economic, social, and foreign policy? Some intellectuals in the reform camp, who could not be accused of mindless radicalism, have suggested that the rubber band be stretched to its limit. Their view is that the only way in which the informed will of the majority of the population, which has lawfully elected its President and legislators, can exert the power it is endowed with, is through direct mass action.

In short, promoters of this viewpoint would rather see Khatami and his reform colleagues take to the streets at the head of a popular movement, than accept the conservatives' blackmail. In the current crisis, some reformers are clearly bringing such pressure to bear on the President, as they estimate that the time for compromises has passed. They are also fully aware of the international prestige which Khatami enjoys.

Such a perspective of mass confrontation is fraught with dangers, as everyone—first and foremost, President Khatami—knows. The conservative faction controls not only the judiciary, but also the police, intelligence sectors, and the military and para-military units which could be deployed in a bloody confrontation no one wants.

### **The Neo-Con Factor**

No one, that is, except a clique of neo-conservatives perched in Washington, who are gambling precisely on this scenario to destabilize Iran, and open the way for their "opposition" figures, like the young Shah, to make a bid for power.

The Iranian crisis—both the ongoing electoral strife and the more fundamental institutional clinch—can be solved only by the Iranian institutions and people themselves. Any attempt to intervene from the outside will only exacerbate the tensions internally, and brand the reformers falsely as "agents of the West."

There is good reason to believe that the Iranian leadership will succeed in dealing with the crisis in such a way as to maintain social peace, while curbing the power of the conservatives. For all their reputed strength, the conservatives have limited maneuvering room, particularly considering the international context. Were the elections to be sabotaged, or so manipulated that the masses of voters boycotted them (as is being threatened), or that the government resigned *en masse*, then the credibility of the Islamic Republic would be undermined.

Not unrelated to this question, is the ongoing fight over elections in neighboring Iraq. It would be very difficult for the Iranian "establishment" to continue supporting free and fair elections in Iraq, as demanded there by Shi'ite religious leader Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani, against the dictate of U.S. proconsul Paul Bremer of the Coalition Provisional Authority, while elections in Iran were being sabotaged. Surely, this irony has not escaped the attention of the arch-conservatives in Iran.

## **Blair Won't Escape Nemesis on Iraq, Economy**

by Mark and Mary Burdman

The last week of January was one of the most politically fraught and dramatic weeks in modern British political history, and a decisive one for British Prime Minister Tony Blair. On Jan. 27, his government barely squeaked through a House of Commons vote on his pet project of having universities impose "top-up fees"—added tuition fees—on students. The next day, Law Lord Hutton gave his long-awaited report on the death, on July 17, 2003, of top British weapons scientist Dr. David Kelly. Hutton exonerated Blair's government of all blame for the circumstances leading to Kelly's death.

Hutton further exonerated the government of charges made last Spring by BBC defense correspondent Andrew Gilligan, that the government had intervened to "sex up" its September 2002 intelligence dossier on Iraqi "weapons of mass destruction," so as to make the "Iraqi threat" seem immediate and mortal to Britons. Hutton put the entire burden of guilt for Kelly's death, which he ruled a suicide, onto the BBC, for allowing Gilligan to broadcast. Within 24 hours after the report, BBC chairman Gavin Davies and Director General Greg Dyke had both resigned. By the afternoon of Jan. 28, Blair was going into overdrive, demanding apologies from all his opponents for any and all assertions that his government had engaged in deception.

### **The Word 'Whitewash' Is Heard**

But Blair's seeming victories are, at best, Pyrrhic. However smug 10 Downing Street might be for the moment, the Furies will have their way. There are two essential historical realities in Britain today, and they cannot long be ignored. One, is that the economy is hopelessly bankrupt, with the population massively in debt and a real estate bubble that could pop at any time. The second, is that Britain was brought into an unending war in Iraq on false premises: namely, that Saddam Hussein was an immediate and mortal threat to the British Isles, capable of deploying weapons of mass destruction, as the 2002 Iraq Dossier claimed, "within 45 minutes."

The WMD hoax is being exposed, day by day, also because of the exposure in the United States of the intelligence frauds perpetrated by Vice President Dick Cheney and his gang. Polls in Britain show that almost one-half the British population believe that Blair lied to get Britain into the war.

The day after the Hutton Report, headlines in almost every British paper, from the tabloids to the "establishment" press, focussed on the real issue: "We've had Hutton. Now, where are the weapons of mass destruction?" Lord Hutton's legalist

approach cannot change that reality. He went so far in defending the government from all blame, that his exoneration of Blair is backfiring. Most damaging to his credibility, is that he ignored evidence presented during his own inquiry, including from Blair's own Chief of Staff Jonathan Powell, that the government had, indeed, "sexed up" its September 2002 dossier. Hutton stretched the matter to such an extent, that he had to make the absurd admission: "The possibility cannot be completely ruled out, that the desire of the Prime Minister to have a dossier which . . . was as strong as possible in relation to the threat posed by Saddam Hussein's WMD, may have *subconsciously*" influenced the intelligence community to strengthen the wording of the dossier.

As London *Guardian* commentator Seamus Milne wrote Jan. 29, Hutton's "unqualified endorsement of the government's behavior is bound, in the current climate, to be widely regarded in the country as a cover-up." Indeed, the word "whitewash" is heard throughout the country. One leading strategist commented to *EIR* Jan. 29: "This report is beyond a whitewash. It is outrageous, I can barely contain my anger."

Lord Hutton had to admit that he took the "narrow" interpretation of his task. On the issue which got Britain into war, especially Saddam Hussein's supposed "WMD," he concluded that "a question of such wide import, which would involve the consideration of a wide range of evidence, is not one which falls within my terms of reference." In the raucous Parliament debate following his report, both Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy and Conservative Party leader Michael Howard called for a full, independent inquiry on whether Britain went to war on false grounds, with Howard calling the case for such an inquiry "overwhelming." Also, an initiative is being mooted for reviving the impeachment procedure in the House of Commons, against Blair.

### **British Economy Also a Wreck**

The vote on university top-up fees is bringing to the fore the reality of Britain's economic bankruptcy, and its vulnerability to the ongoing shocks in the international financial system. This is leaving Blair's "New Labour" project, to impose Thatcherite "privatization" measures across the board in Britain—including in vital areas like health and education—dead in the water.

The essence of the top-up fees legislation was to shift the burden of funding higher education away from the state, on to students, who would have to pay the additional money after graduation, when their income reaches £15,000 a year. The reason is, that Britain's universities and its government are hopelessly bankrupt. The Higher Education Bill, which featured this measure, produced ferocious opposition in the Labour Party as well as the opposition. In the end, Blair's margin of victory was only five votes, 316-311, despite the fact that Labour has a 161-vote majority in Parliament. The only reason Blair survived the vote at all, is that he made big concessions to the Labour opposition, and his rival, Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown, called on his followers to drop



*Blaming Cheney? British Prime Minister Tony Blair's government narrowly survived in Parliament on the economy on Jan. 27; but the Iraq war controversy is reaching the point where Blair's advisors are apparently intending to extricate Blair by pointing the blame at Vice President Dick Cheney.*

their opposition to the Bill. Brown, not Blair, was hailed as the "strong man" in the situation; the word "strong" should be tempered by the fact that Brown is presiding over an economy whose debt levels are the subject of regular danger warnings by the Bank of England.

Following the Jan. 27 top-up battle, a City of London insider told *EIR* that "Tony Blair is a dead man walking; he's in office, but he's not in power. The situation has become much too irksome. I think Blair will psychologically crack, and it is likely he will be out by Easter. I sense that his office is already preparing people for his departure." A leading British historian affirmed that "Blair is a wreck, I think soon we will see him pack it in. He looks exhausted, like he's had enough. He can no longer weave his spell, and his attempt to be in charge of everything is collapsing. There's a sense of disillusion with him in this country, and suddenly, the Parliamentary Labour Party has come alive, to have his majority shrink to five." This historian sees Blair going the way of the late Prime

Minister Anthony Eden, who unravelled psychologically after the 1956 Suez War debacle.

## No To Pre-emptive War

Meanwhile, the witches are stirring their cauldron. Each day, or almost each hour, witnesses new revelations and disclaimers about Iraqi WMD. Most damaging have been the near-daily statements by David Kay, who on Jan. 23 announced his resignation from his post as top weapons inspector in the American Iraq Survey Group. Long regarded as a “hardliner” on Iraqi WMD, Kay stated that there were no stockpiles of Iraqi WMD. He asserted: “I don’t think they existed. . . . I don’t think there was a large-scale production program in the 1990s.” On Jan. 28, just a few hours after Hutton’s public statement, Kay told the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee: “It turns out we were all wrong, probably, in my judgment, and that is most disturbing.” Kay’s words were widely covered in Britain the next day.

Former Labour Foreign Secretary Robin Cook reacted to Kay’s comments by pointing to the real issue behind the Iraq WMD hype. He insisted that Tony Blair must “concede there were mistakes made. . . . We have got to drop this very dangerous doctrine under which we went to war, of the pre-emptive strike. If there was no threat from Iraq, we obviously had no right to carry out a pre-emptive strike to remove that threat. . . . The reality is that Number 10 [Downing Street] was keen to get into the war.”

A similar evaluation came after a Jan. 22 BBC-Panorama 90-minute television feature, watched by millions in Britain, which elaborated the Blair government efforts to “spin” and skew intelligence in preparing the infamous September 2002 “doggy dossier.” Ironically, much of the material Panorama presented came from Hutton inquiry testimony—which his lordship chose to ignore. Among much else described, was former media czar Alastair Campbell’s involvement in “spinning” intelligence, and conniving with John Scarlett, head of the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) which coordinates intelligence in the Prime Minister’s office; and the late Dr. Kelly expressing the hope that the dossier would end up in the garbage can.

Panorama focussed on the “45 minutes” claim, which led to sensational headlines in tabloids like the *Sun*: “Brits 45 Minutes from Doom”; with the comment that “British servicemen and tourists in Cyprus could be annihilated.” MI6 had based this assessment on hearsay “evidence” from a single source. On Jan. 27, the *Guardian* quoted the source who had passed MI6 this evidence, as now saying it may well have been “a crock of shit.” Nick Theros, the Washington representative of the Iraqi National Alliance exile-group, and Iraqi Governing Council member Iyad Allawi, said: “Clearly, we have not found WMD.” They said the Iraqi officer who claims to have been the original source of the intelligence had, in fact, never seen the purported chemical weapons crates on which the “45 minutes” was based, and

is now said to be “in hiding.”

Panorama also featured comments with Sir Rodric Braithwaite, former British ambassador to Moscow and former head of the JIC, criticizing the behavior of the JIC, for failing its mission to be “objective.”

In a feature entitled “The Emperor Has Been Stripped Naked,” London *Guardian* security affairs editor Richard Norton-Taylor, one of the more reliable experts on such matters in the U.K., asserted on Jan. 24 that Panorama had revealed that “senior Whitehall officials and ministerial advisers are now saying” that British involvement in the invasion of Iraq was “the result of a *gigantic sham*.” The Blair government was intent on aligning itself with Washington’s doctrine of “pre-emptive military invasion,” and had to “rely on the WMD issue,” since “to declare regime change as the objective . . . would be seriously contrary to international law.” A scare over Iraqi WMD would be the only way to win Labour Party parliamentarians and the public for war. Even the *Financial Times* had to wobble on the matter, saying that, in future, pre-emptive wars would have to be “justified” by more than hoked-up intelligence.

These attacks on pre-emptive war are very important. The Blair dossier was released on Sept. 24, 2002, only a few days after the Dick Cheney-inspired doctrine authorizing pre-emptive war was declared to be official American foreign policy, in the new U.S. National Security Strategy.

## Blame It on Cheney?

In this charged atmosphere, an option being mooted in certain quarters in London, is that MPs might initiate a House of Commons impeachment proceeding against Blair. This was publicly floated in the *Guardian* on Jan. 28 by Dan Plesch, an outspoken critic of the Iraq war, now at Birkbeck College and formerly at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI). Plesch argued that impeachment “is an English tradition. . . . It was used for much of the 17th and 18th Centuries”—including against King Charles I, who eventually lost his head. According to Plesch, “Parliament could once again act as a court. . . . MP Peter Kilfoyle recently asked the House of Commons library for a briefing on whether impeachment was still part of the constitution, and was assured that it was. And senior Tory figures have let it be known that they would favour the impeachment of the Prime Minister.”

Normally, there are other methods of redress for grievances in Britain, Plesch wrote, but “in the case of Iraq, there may well be an argument for bringing back impeachment. . . . As many people have pointed out, there needs to be further inquiry into the way the war was sold to the British public, and to Members of Parliament, and into the uses and misuses of intelligence.”

It is an irony that Blair, in his desperation, may be trying one cute trick, in order to save his hide, which will redound in America. Even though his September 2002 Iraq WMD dossier supported Cheney’s pre-emptive war strategy, Blair’s

entourage is putting out the line that one key person to blame for Blair's problems, is none other than Dick Cheney! This comes in the form of a new biography of Blair, due out the week of Feb. 2, by London *Financial Times* political commentator Philip Stephens. An account was featured as the *Financial Times*'s lead front-page article, and in an accompanying full page on Jan. 26. These revealed that Blair holds Cheney and his Chief of Staff Lewis "Scooter" Libby responsible for sabotaging Blair's policy of getting the United Nations to approve the war on Iraq, so that it would not be solely an Anglo-American adventure.

The *FT* reported: "Mr. Stephens' book reveals how Dick Cheney . . . remained implacably opposed to the [UN-multilateral] strategy throughout. . . . 'He [Cheney] waged a guerrilla war against the process. . . . He's a visceral unilateralist,' one Blair aide remarked. 'Cheney fought it all the way—at every twist and turn, even after Bush's speech to the UN,' agreed another."

The book apparently further reveals that Cheney made a string of acid interventions in the course of critical talks between President Bush and the Prime Minister at Camp David, in September 2002. "At one stage, he directly rebuked Alastair Campbell, Mr Blair's director of communications. In occasional contacts with British officials, Scooter Libby, the Vice-President's chief of staff, made little secret of his boss' scorn for multilateralism. 'Oh dear, we'd better not do that,' he once jibed, 'or we might upset the Prime Minister.'"

Stephens wrote that Blair was surprised to find Cheney at Camp David. "Cheney had never disguised his impatience for war, and his scorn for the suggestion that the US needed the blessing of the UN to remove Saddam. 'Once we have victory in Baghdad, all the critics will look like fools,' Cheney told one high-ranking British official during the Summer of 2002. The Vice-President's vision was of a world in which America asserted its primacy through the muscular use of military force." After the Camp David meeting, "Cheney would be the constant disrupting force in the Anglo-American relationship. If Donald Rumsfeld, US Defence Secretary, discomfited Blair with his public disdain for multilateralism, Cheney sought to undermine the Prime Minister privately."

Undoubtedly, Blair's "Cheney flank" also reflects, as high-level British sources have told *EIR*, an attempt within the British establishment to neutralize the effects and activities of Cheney and the neo-conservatives in the United States, which are seen as undermining the "multilateral, UN-centered approach that is favored in Britain." But for Blair personally, this is unlikely to gain much mileage.

Such machinations will not help Blair much. It is an irony that, on the same July 17, 2003 on which Kelly died, Blair was in Washington, getting an ecstatic reception in the U.S. Congress. He declared then, that the Americans and British will be judged by history for the Iraq war, and "history will forgive us." All too soon for Blair, history is proving very unforgiving.

## Indonesia Rejects CNN 'Islamic Terror' Lies

by Mike Billington

U.S. media networks commonly portray nations in the Islamic world as breeding grounds for terrorism, asserting the most blatant lies without bothering to attempt proof or qualified sourcing. It was thus refreshing to see Indonesia respond to a recent CNN feature broadcast, "Seeds of Terror," narrated by Indonesia bureau chief Maria Ressa, under the direction of CNN documentation series host and news anchor, Aaron Brown.

Following multiple broadcasts of the CNN special during the week of Jan. 11, Mahendra Siregar, an expert on the staff of Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Dorodjatun Kuntjoro-Jakti, retorted, "The Indonesian Government herein wishes to officially respond and condemn this libelous, spurious, and slanderous" program. In his public letter to CNN Executive Vice President Sid Bedingfield, Mahendra wrote that Indonesia had, in a few short years, transformed itself from 30 years under an authoritarian regime, to a struggling but progressing democracy, while "placing individual freedom and constitutional democracy above all." Thus, he wrote, "to have our fledgling democracy pilloried on the world stage by a news organization that professes to expound and demand these very freedoms and rights, while simultaneously trampling on those of others, is appalling, to say the least."

Mahendra continued: "There should be no need to reiterate that the overwhelming sentiment among Indonesians is one of distrust for the American press. It is widely believed here in Indonesia, especially following the invasion of Iraq against the will of the United Nations, that this same press, especially CNN, had little interest, if any, in reporting this universal sentiment, and stop acting as the U.S. Government's official mouthpiece."

Mahendra documented the multiple fabrications in the broadcast, noting that narrator Ressa, who spent many years in Southeast Asia before becoming CNN bureau chief in Jakarta, could have interviewed government officials or leaders of the two mass Islamic movements in Indonesia on the quite successful Indonesian police effort, and public debate, regarding the threat of terrorism—but did not. Instead, Ressa slanted her report about Indonesia: "Here there are at least 300 ethnic groups, speaking nearly 600 languages and dialects. The uniting force: Islam. Home to 200 million Muslims, Indonesia has the largest Muslim population in the world, a population at the heart of a struggle that is the ideological battle of our

generation.” As Mahendra reported, this is about as contrary to the truth about Indonesia as one could possibly go. The essence of the state is the concept of *Pancasila*, first formulated by founding father President Sukarno, the father of the current President Megawati Sukarnoputri. *Pancasila* includes religious freedom under God, national unity, social justice, and democracy. As Mahendra argues: “Exploiting the religion card is beyond anything comprehensible to our people and government. We are a nation of diverse peoples and religions, and in contrast to the image your organization depicts, desires only peace.”

Ressa portrayed the Islamic school system as virtual terrorist training camps, implying that the government is afraid to challenge the supposedly terrorist-minded clerics. CNN turned for its “expert opinion” to Rohan Gunaratna, author of the best-seller *Inside al-Qaeda*, a pastiche of media rumors accusing every nation and institution remotely connected to Islam as a breeder of terrorists. As this author wrote, countering some of Gunaratna’s lies, in *EIR*, Jan. 17, 2003: “It would be wise to remember that the United States and Britain dispensed huge amounts of money around the world in the 1980s to recruit militant Muslims to join the U.S.-funded irregular warfare operations against the Soviet forces in Afghanistan. To now declare that this qualifies such individuals as international terrorists, subject to intervention in breach of national sovereignty, is the height of hypocrisy.”

Mahendra’s open letter concluded with a demand that “CNN provide the Indonesian Government with equal airtime during the same prime-time slot, to rebut this broadcast.” CNN’s Bedingfield responded immediately, defending the “Seeds of Terror” as “accurate, fair, and responsible reporting,” providing no more sources or proof for the multiple fabrications than had been presented on the broadcast. Mahendra responded to CNN that “this issue is not going to go away as a result of your rather unprofessional reaction, one which I would have found amusing under different circumstances.”

### Other Voices Speak Out

Mahendra was speaking for the government, but it is not only government spokesmen in Indonesia who are warning that the U.S. neo-conservative faction in power is doing more to *create* terrorism than to combat it.

On Jan. 22, at a conference sponsored by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation in Washington, D.C., Dr. Rizal Sukma, who is both the Director of Studies at Jakarta’s Center for Strategic and International Studies, and a national leader of Muhammadiyah, the second largest Islamic organization in Indonesia, and who is not shy about criticizing the government, pointed out that Indonesians are quite proud of their success at capturing and prosecuting the leading perpetrators of recent terrorist attacks, in fair and public trials (unlike the approach in the United States). Terrorism, he said, will not even be a major issue in the upcoming elections, while the

fact that there are still 40 million unemployed will be of far greater concern.

Radicalism, he insisted, is not to be confused with terrorism—the injustice in Palestine, Iraq, and elsewhere provokes radicalism, as people demand that they be heard, but this does not make them terrorists. Only by open debate and political action can such issues be resolved, said Dr. Sukma, and Indonesians are proud that such debate flourishes in their nation.

While Indonesia is dealing moderately well with the economic disaster brought on by the international speculative attack of 1997-98, the United States would do better, said Dr. Sukma, to provide economic and social aid, rather than dictating policies and conditions regarding the problem of terrorism. Regarding Gunaratna, Dr. Sukma told this reporter that he had once debated the reknowned “expert,” and after one too many assertions of “fact” which Dr. Sukma knew to be false, he challenged Gunaratna to identify his sources. The response—“confidential Indonesian intelligence sources”—made Dr. Sukma laugh out loud.

Another speaker at the conference, Daniel Benjamin, formerly a counter-terror specialist for the Clinton Administration’s National Security Council, added that the United States is making the same mistake now in regard to terrorism, as it did in the Cold War, when a preoccupation with fighting communism above all other considerations led into the quagmire of Vietnam.



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# Cheney's N. Korea Nuke Scandal Unravels

by Kathy Wolfe

Senator Richard Lugar's Foreign Affairs Committee on Jan. 20-21 heard testimony from Dr. Siegfried Hecker, former chief of Los Alamos nuclear laboratory—on his trip to North Korea Jan. 7-10—which questions Bush Administration assertions that North Korea has a clandestine uranium weapons program. In fact, one of the two key issues of the hearings was to determine “whether North Korea has a highly-enriched uranium (HEU) program,” or not, as Lugar put it in his opening statement. Hecker said he had no evidence of an “alleged” uranium program, and that North Korean officials instead offered extensive evidence of enriching spent fuel to plutonium. Hecker saw no evidence that the D.P.R.K. has “the ability to go from plutonium metal to a nuclear device.”

China, meanwhile, is about to recommend eliminating the uranium issue altogether from the Six-Power Talks on North Korea, diplomatic sources said. China's top negotiator, Ms. Fu Ying, told Japanese and South Korean counterparts on Dec. 29 in Seoul that “North Korea has denied having a uranium weapons program; China also did not believe that it had one; and the U.S. government briefing provided to China has not been sufficient to convince China.” Beijing has been Washington's major ally in the North Korea situation.

The U.S. is paying the price for bad intelligence on Iraq's nuclear weapons, Chas Freeman, former Republican assistant secretary of defense, told the *Washington Post* Jan. 7. “Post-Iraq, the credibility of U.S. intelligence is not very high” around the world, he said. Increasingly, “we've been the odd man out” among the five nations meeting with North Korea; the others are angry that “we offer all sticks and no carrots.”

*EIR* broke this story Aug. 8, 2003, reporting otherwise suppressed findings of U.S. Naval War College Research Chief Dr. Jonathan Pollack, that the CIA and other agencies believe evidence for a uranium program was “far from definitive”; that “North Korea had no operational enrichment facility”; and that “the intelligence community believed that North Korea confronted daunting obstacles. . . even to acquire the production capabilities that might ultimately permit such an option.”

U.S. diplomats say Vice President Dick Cheney ignored these reports, (as he did reports by Ambassador Joseph Wilson that there was no evidence Iraq imported uranium from Niger), and dictated a letter taken to Pyongyang by Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly in October 2002. It charged North Korea with a secret uranium weapons program violat-

ing the 1994 U.S.-D.P.R.K. Agreed Framework treaty. The Administration used the charge to rip up the treaty, touching off the current North Korea crisis.

## Damn the Torpedos

President Bush's 2004 State of the Union speech Jan. 20, and the Jan 15 firing of South Korean Foreign Minister Yoon Young-kwan, reflect Cheney's pig-headed attempt to press on with this “Bush Doctrine” approach of deliberate confrontation, despite its failure and the growing international anger against it. In the eyes of many Asian commentators, Bush nearly repeated his January 2002 “Axis of Evil” comments, by criticizing North Korea and adding: “America is committed to keeping the world's most dangerous weapons out of the hands of the world's most dangerous regimes.”

Mr. Yoon was the key mover in Seoul of the alliance with Russia, China, and Japan, to push the United States toward a reasonable solution at the Six-Power Talks. Despite reports to the contrary, *EIR* believes he was forced out for standing up too strongly to the neo-cons in demanding a Six-Power solution.

But it's far from clear whether Mr. Cheney will have his way.

The Administration is so upset about their scheme falling apart, that Kelly called his Japanese and South Korean counterparts to Washington Jan 21-22, to demand they sign an agreement “endorsing the U.S. evidence that the D.P.R.K. is manufacturing HEU for weaponization,” South Korean state radio reported Jan. 23. South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Lee Soo-hyuck told Washington press after the talks Jan. 22, that Seoul and Tokyo had agreed. “South Korea has no question about Washington's judgment and analysis of North Korea's HEU program,” Lee said, since “James Kelly confirmed North Korea's development of uranium-based nuclear weapons during his visit to Pyongyang” in October 2002.

Lee said that the three had adopted Washington's demand that North Korea follow Libya's recent action and unilaterally dismantle all WMD. This demand is a “deal breaker” for the Six Power Talks, as Pyongyang has already reiterated that they will not simply “come out with their hands up.” Lee had to admit that “there are no signs that the talks will be held next month.”

## Plenty of Plutonium

The real absurdity of the uranium charge, is that everyone agrees, *Pyongyang included*, that North Korea has significant stocks of plutonium which it is moving to weaponize. They may, as the CIA often states, already have one or two such bombs. But, as Dr. Pollack notes, there is no reason for the D.P.R.K., with enough plutonium in hand to make a half-dozen bombs, to embark on a much more costly highly-enriched uranium program, for which it lacks the complex equipment, and which would require many more years' construction and development.

Yet, to show North Korea was part of his “axis of evil,” Cheney sought to catch them in a violation of the U.S.-D.P.R.K. Agreed Framework treaty, so he could rip the treaty up. Pyongyang’s plutonium stocks were permitted under the treaty—thus, Cheney’s neo-cons had to cook up a violation on another account (i.e. the HEU issue) to deliberately manufacture the latest crisis with the D.P.R.K.

North Korea loudly publicized its “plutonium path to the bomb,” as their stated purpose for inviting Dr. Hecker of Los Alamos, Stanford University Asia expert John Lewis, former top U.S. government negotiator Charles “Jack” Pritchard, and several other experts to tour the large Yongbyon plutonium reactor complex Jan. 8-9. Hecker told the Senate at length, as he did major press afterwards, that the North Koreans showed them the entire complex; had emptied the spent fuel rods previously frozen under UN inspection during the Agreed Framework; and claimed to have reprocessed the rods into plutonium. Hecker demanded to hold some bomb-grade plutonium in his hand, and was duly given a radioactive canister to handle. “Now we’ve shown you our deterrent,” the North Koreans told Hecker repeatedly, meaning: “we’ve proven that we’re making plutonium weapons, so the United States should be deterred from attacking us, unlike with Iraq.”

### **But Where’s the Uranium?**

However, Dr. Hecker also told Lugar’s hearing that he found credible the Jan. 9 statements to his delegation by North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kye Gwan, that the D.P.R.K. “has no facilities, no equipment, and no scientists trained in uranium enrichment.” With all that plutonium, why should they bother?

“There is a controversy about whether the D.P.R.K. admitted to having such a program,” Hecker said. “The disagreement concerns a difference between what D.P.R.K. officials believe they said and what U.S. officials believe they heard” during Kelly’s October 2002 trip. The Bush Administration maintains that Kelly confronted Pyongyang with proof it has a uranium bomb program and that Vice Foreign Minister Kang Suk-ju surprised Kelly by confirming it. But Hecker said the North Koreans had provided his delegation with a transcript of that 2002 meeting, which quotes Kang to say only, “We are entitled to have a nuclear program.” This was a general statement of national sovereignty, not an admission to the charge, North Korea has repeatedly stated.

When former U.S. Ambassador to Korea Donald Gregg visited Pyongyang in November 2002, and asked Kang what he had told Kelly, Kang put it in exactly these terms, as Gregg reported in a Washington press briefing at the time.

Hecker told the Senate that after handing over the transcript, North Korean Vice Minister Kim Gye Gwan “stated that the D.P.R.K. had no HEU program . . . (and) had chosen the plutonium path to a deterrent. It had no facilities, equipment or scientists dedicated to an HEU program, adding, ‘We can be very serious when we talk about this. We are fully

open to technical talks.’ ”

During questioning, Hecker added that Professor John Lewis “tried to give the vice minister a chance to sort of weasel out of this, saying, ‘Well, look, we’re not sure what constitutes a program. You know, maybe you don’t have a program, but maybe you have equipment.’ But the vice minister said, ‘We have no program, we have no equipment, and we have no technical expertise for enriching uranium. We decided to go the plutonium route some time ago, and that’s where our expertise is.’ ”

### **London Weighs In**

Right on cue to bail out their Washington neo-con friends, London’s International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS) Jan. 21 issued a report on North Korea which includes the uranium charge. IISS author Gary Samore then went on tour in Seoul, where he frontally pushed the uranium thesis. IISS is known for its 1994 report on how to Balkanize and split up China, and its antipathy in general to national sovereignty in Asia. Speaking Jan. 26 at the Seoul International Forum, Samore said the North could create a highly enriched uranium facility within one or two years. France and Germany, he said, stopped a North Korean vessel in the Suez Canal in February 2003, and discovered that the boat was transporting 200 tons of superstrong aluminum tubing, which he said could have been used to produce 75 kilograms of HEU, enough to produce three nuclear weapons.

However, Mr. Samore neglected to mention that the tubes could also be for civilian nuclear power. Uranium enrichment facilities can also serve “an entirely legitimate civilian purpose,” as Jonathan Pollack points out: “fabricating the low-enriched uranium (fuel enriched to 4.4% U-235) to power light-water reactors. Numerous signatories to the NPT [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty] possess such reprocessing capabilities.” Pollack states that “the evidence was far from definitive” whether the D.P.R.K.’s plans were for legitimate 4.4% enrichment for fuel, or for the entirely different process of producing weapons-grade uranium highly enriched to 93% U-235.

Hecker, on the other hand, based on his on-the-ground inspections in North Korea, didn’t think he saw evidence the plutonium program could produce a detonating bomb or deliver it, let alone of a uranium program.

When senior North Korean official Li Gun approached Hecker at the end of his trip, to announce, “Well, we’ve shown you our deterrent.” Hecker replied: “No, you haven’t shown me a deterrent,” as reported in the press Jan. 21. “A nuclear deterrent has three elements: weapons-grade plutonium; a nuclear explosive device, and a delivery system. But this is like telling me, that just because you’ve got steel, you know how to build an automobile. . . . You showed me no facilities. You had me talk to no people that give me any indication as to whether you have the ability to go from plutonium metal to a nuclear device. I saw no such thing.”



# Mussolini To Lead New Fascist Alliance

by Claudio Celani

In the context of the current international regrouping of synarchist parties, four Italian neo-fascist groups have formed a new alliance for the upcoming European Parliament elections. The recognized leader of the new coalition is the granddaughter of Benito Mussolini (“Il Duce”), Alessandra Mussolini, and the four groups are Mussolini’s own movement called “Libertà d’Azione,” plus Forza Nuova, Fronte Nazionale, and Movimento Sociale-Fiamma Tricolore. Whereas the occasion for the alliance is apparently offered by Ms. Mussolini’s split from Alleanza Nazionale, a government party, the strategy behind it is broader and is exemplified by Mussolini’s current role as well as by the part played by the Forza Nuova component of the new alliance.

Forza Nuova is the most active and richest group in the Italian neo-fascist swamp, thanks to the fortune accumulated by its founder Roberto Fiore, during his long years as a fugitive in London. Thanks to Fiore’s money, a trip by representatives of the Argentina Reconstruction Party (PRA) to Italy was organized last year, to cement the new synarchist international. The leader of the PRA is Gustavo Obreid, brother of the editor of the *Maritornes* magazine which recently attacked Lyndon LaRouche (see *EIR*, Jan. 9, 2004).

Both Fiore and the leader of Fronte Nazionale, Adriano Tilgher, were sentenced for membership in terrorist organizations such as Terza Posizione and Avanguardia Nazionale, two formations which were legally disbanded in the 1980s. Luca Romagnoli, the leader of the third group (MS-FT), has no such background because he is too young. But the founder and secretary general of MS-FT, Pino Rauti, shares the same past with Fiore and Tilgher. Rauti, a volunteer in Benito Mussolini’s separatist and SS-controlled Salò Republic in 1944, was among the founders, along with Giorgio Almirante, Gen. Clemente Graziani, and synarchist philosopher Julius Evola, of the Italian neo-fascist party Movimento Sociale Italiano (MSI), and of a paramilitary fascist organization called FAR, in 1946. Rauti was indicted several times for terrorist crimes, but was always acquitted, with the aid of money for his legal defense paid by his comrade Fiore from London. In 1995, when the MSI became the Alleanza Nazionale, to be retooled as a neo-liberal, conservative party under the leadership of Gianfranco Fini, Rauti founded the MS-FT.

In order to emphasize the continuity with the original MSI, and therefore with historical Fascism, the new alliance has chosen the name of “Together for a Social Movement,”

and has put Il Duce’s granddaughter up front. Indeed, Alessandra Mussolini has already contributed to changing the Italian political scene even more than her grandfather did with the March on Rome in 1922. Her husband, Mauro Floriani, is a police officer who played a major role in the famous “Clean Hands” investigation that literally destroyed the constitutional party system in 1992-93, and created the vacuum which has been filled by the current constellation of center-right and center-left political blocs. Floriani was a close collaborator of Antonio Di Pietro, the leading prosecutor in the Clean Hands investigation, and a protégé of U.S. “universal fascist” Michael Ledeen.

However, Ms. Mussolini’s name, as well as her defense of her grandfather’s image, have so far been obstacles to her career, as her party, Alleanza Nazionale (AN), needed to whitewash everything belonging to Fascism in order to capture the “mainstream” conservative vote. But Ms. Mussolini’s appeal is not only based on her name. Her mother is Anna Maria Scicolone, the sister of actress Sophia Loren. Alessandra has definitely inherited more from her aunt, aptly described as “the symbol of Italy’s postwar erotic plentitude” by one of her biographers, than from her father, Romano, the only living son of Il Duce. She is a regular guest on TV talk shows, where she often combines “leftist” positions on women’s rights with temperamental outbursts borrowed from her aunt’s movies.

When AN leader and current Deputy Prime Minister Gianfranco Fini took the last step to cleanse his party of its Fascist past, and went to Israel last December, Il Duce’s granddaughter staged a walkout. While nobody seemed to pay attention to the fact that Fini had publicly supported Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon’s fascist “separation wall,” the attention was focussed on Fini’s solemn statements against Benito Mussolini’s anti-Semitic laws, characterized as “the ultimate evil.”

Despite the folkloristic aspects, the new fascist alliance should not be underestimated, as it is part of an international campaign. It was France’s Jean-Marie Le Pen who suggested that the new alliance be formed in Italy; and the leader of Rome’s “black nobility,” Princess Elvina Pallavicini, manifested her disaffection with Fini’s gesture, and signalled sympathy for the opposition. Princess Pallavicini plays both sides: In February 2003, she hosted a meeting in support of Dick Cheney’s war against Iraq, a meeting where the American Ambassadors to Italy and to the Vatican, as well as Andrew Erdman from the State Department, lectured the whole AN delegation in the government, including Fini, as well as Church selected officials, businessmen, and aristocrats. On Jan. 25, 2004, Ms. Mussolini’s new alliance held its first gathering in a theater in Milan, amidst slogans like “our fascist pride” and “we are the children of Mussolini,” and populist speeches against “Bush, Sharon, GMOs, and the Euro.” Ms. Mussolini presented the new anthem composed by her father, Romano, a famous jazz musician.

## LaRouche Turns Democrats' Sights on Cheney

by Nancy Spannaus

Perhaps the sharpest image of the phase-shift which has occurred in the Democratic Party since the California Recall election of October 2003, is the implosion of the Howard Dean campaign. A close second, is the manner in which all the "major" candidates—John Kerry and Dean included—and Democratic Senators have now begun to train their sights on Vice President Dick Cheney.

These developments can only be understood from the standpoint of the effective interventions by the LaRouche campaign, led by the LaRouche Youth Movement, over the course of the last few months. By reviewing LaRouche's principled, hard-hitting thrust against the Vice President, and on behalf of a paradigm shift back toward the general welfare policies of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, one can begin to understand the process which will lead to even more dramatic phase-shifts in the future—shifts that will result in the Democratic nomination fight coming down to LaRouche versus Kerry.

### California to New Hampshire

As LaRouche spokeswoman Debra Freeman pointed out in a release issued Jan. 29, "At the outset of this campaign, the Democratic Party simply refused to put up any serious fight against Bush and the Cheneyacs. When Dick Cheney and his friends put up the 'beast-man' Arnold Schwarzenegger to challenge the duly-elected Democratic Governor of California, Lyndon LaRouche and Bill Clinton were the only Democrats of national stature who were truly willing to enter the fray. In fact, the national party, under the guidance of the Democratic National Committee, actively worked to sabotage efforts to defeat Schwarzenegger, and seemed well on the way to throwing the national Presidential campaign to the GOP."

Under these conditions, the LaRouche campaign forged ahead against opposition from Democrats and Republicans

alike. The LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM) achieved a proof of principle by turning the California Recall vote against Schwarzenegger in those areas where it had the resources to deploy heavily—particularly Los Angeles County, and the Oakland area. As the news of this reality shook up the Democratic Party nationally, LaRouche was asked to send his Youth Movement into Philadelphia, to do battle against Attorney General John Ashcroft's assault on Democratic Mayor John Street, in the Nov. 5 elections. There, the youth achieved an even more stunning success—turning a close election into a landslide for Mayor Street.

Democratic Party officialdom, under the tight control of organized crime-tainted figures such as Terry McAuliffe, was not swayed, of course. The Democratic National Committee remained adamant against the inclusion of LaRouche in campaign events, and used its blackmail leverage to prevent others from doing so.

True to form, and principle, the LaRouche campaign escalated with a new in-depth exposé of synarchist beast-man Cheney, and a combined mass-action-in-the-streets and media campaign in the nation's capital. The several-week campaign, featuring marches and sound-cars, and a huge flatbed "freedom truck" full of youth singing civil rights songs, transformed Washington's population, as the necessity to remove Cheney became a ubiquitous point of discussion. Despite the official primary results being "fouled up beyond all recognition"—through, among other things, the use of unconstitutional electronic voting machines—the basis for an expanded fight was laid.

Following the Jan. 13 D.C. primary, the LaRouche Youth Movement redeployed to New Hampshire, while the candidate himself made a campaign tour of Alabama and Mississippi. The impact of these forays was reflected in short order. In New Hampshire, the LYM presence, with hard-hitting insistence upon the need to get rid of preventive nuclear war

champion Dick Cheney, soon began to create a running dialogue between the youth and the Kerry campaign, on the strategic requirements of a Democratic Presidential candidate in this crisis. Kerry's public attacks on the Vice President, on a number of Sunday talkshows on Jan. 25, visibly demonstrated that he had gotten the message. Kerry's shift, combined with Howard Dean's self-destruct reaction to his loss in Iowa, played a significant role in Kerry's stunning victory in the New Hampshire primary.

Meanwhile, LaRouche's tour through the Deep South, highlighted by his speech at the Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast in Talladega, Alabama on Jan. 19, struck a deep chord within the African-American constituency, which has long understood that LaRouche is the only figure in the Democratic Party who represents their interests, but has remained passive under the pressure from the DNC and related interests. For more than a decade, LaRouche has been clearly understood among a growing fraction of African-American leaders as the heir to the tradition of Martin Luther King. Now, numbers of leaders from that constituency have decided that they are willing to fight to put forward his candidacy.

As LaRouche spokeswoman Freeman put it, "Increasingly, however, there is a faction inside the Democratic Party that is finally bucking the DNC, and has realized that it must fight to win this election and defeat the Bush-Cheney axis. Increasingly, Democratic Party organizations, as well as what are traditionally Democratic Party-linked constituency groups, are acting in outright defiance of the DNC, and including LaRouche in candidates' events."

## Transformations To Come

LaRouche has made clear that his campaign will continue to be focussed on creating phase-shifts such as that on the Cheney question. The next big shift, he anticipates, will be around the reality of the economic collapse, and the FDR-styled measures which are required to deal with it. Until inevitable dramatic events on the economic and financial front make it impossible for the population—and the candidates—to ignore this reality, LaRouche does not expect to see a breakthrough in terms of getting his votes counted.

The immediate process will see the Democratic field winnow out, of course. Dean has compounded the damage he did to himself in exposing his flakiness, by bringing in a new campaign manager from the camp of Al "Loser" Gore. This is just a bump on the road to Dean leaving the race altogether. Also headed for the exits is Democratic Leadership Council maven Joe Lieberman, who responded to his 9% result in New Hampshire by holding a press conference declaring that rumors that he's leaving the race are totally untrue. This was read by the cognoscenti as an indication that he will soon be gone, probably followed by the flaky Wesley Clark, the general whom America's veterans have abandoned in favor of anti-Vietnam War veteran John Kerry.

The shifts have just begun. Look for surprises.

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## LaRouche in Manchester

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# What Leadership for A Time of Crisis?

*Here is the keynote of Lyndon LaRouche's Presidential web-cast campaign event in Manchester, New Hampshire, Jan. 25, 2004.*

Well, tomorrow night, after the blizzard has struck, under the snowdrifts at Dixville Notch, a couple of characters will come out and pronounce the fate of the nation, or presumably. Sort of like the groundhogs who are supposed to come out on Feb. 2.

But, actually, almost nothing of final significance will have happened on Tuesday. There will be a certain sorting out of the candidates. It will not be very long before the flake, Gen. Wesley Clark, disappears. Obviously, Dean has been buried; they're trying to find a place to put him. The others: Kucinich is not going to go much of any place. He will survive as a political figure, but he will not become a serious Presidential candidate in this process. Edwards will stay in for a while.

But, there are only two candidates for the Democratic side, who have any significance whatsoever, for the voters and citizens of the United States: I'm one of them; the other one is obviously Senator Kerry. You can forget the rest. They will not be around very long. Maybe Edwards will hang around to try for a Vice Presidential shot, or something like that.

But this thing is not—we have not yet begun to see the decisive developments in this campaign.

The most decisive developments are not the actions of the candidates, even though they play a part in the sorting-out process. The most important developments are yet to happen. And there are two major areas of developments which are going to be decisive. One, you have to realize that Dean is not the only lunatic on the landscape. There are others. The President is not a lunatic, he's mentally defective. He's just not there. But, two are Dean and Cheney: Watch them. They're significant.

Dean is a mental case. I knew that some years ago. I watched it, for example, this thing they had, where he'd start talking about guys with pickup trucks and Confederate flags on the back of their pickup trucks. That outburst and a few other things, watching him—this guy is not there. He's better a mental physician's case, than a physician. He's out.

But, the significant thing is, we have such candidates. We have such political figures who come to prominence, who should be discounted as mental cases, like Dean. Look at the

degree to which Dean has been boosted, to occupy a certain part of the spectrum. And he was nothing from the beginning, if anybody knew anything.

Then, you have the other one: Cheney, who is clinically insane, and extremely dangerous. He's the Vice President, and the controller of the President, so far, though other forces are struggling to get in the barn, and do something about it.

That's one problem—the insanity in government; corruption in government; incompetence of candidates. But, what's coming is this—at some point soon, we're going to have something that will put poor Senator Kerry to the test: This financial system is going to collapse.

The other side of it, on which Kerry takes a rather correct position, but not a very strong one, is on the question of what's going on in Iraq, on Cheney's war policy. And Kerry has said that he's running for President, but, it's a long time between now and November. A lot of things can happen. And with Cheney on the loose, you don't know what will happen. Something like Sept. 11, 2001 can happen. Cheney and that crowd have that mentality. Do you have a candidacy, on the Democratic side, which will not collapse under such a catastrophe?

Wars can break out, new wars. We have not seen the end of Iraq. We are still operating under this Presidency, under the Bush Presidency, under a policy of Cheney's, called "preventive nuclear warfare." The targets are not only Iraq and Afghanistan. They are Syria; they are Iran; they are North Korea; and they're ultimately China. And a lot of other nations. So, we can have new wars breaking out before November. They can break out, because of Cheney's initiative from here. He's a mental case. Don't say he shouldn't do it, because of this reason; he shouldn't do it because of that reason—he's a mental case! He's not going to be constrained by reality. He's going to be constrained by something *inside him*, which controls him, and compels him. He's a lunatic! And, he's loose on the streets of politics. He's dangerous.

And he represents a group of people around him, of a similar disposition: *They want a war!* They want a war, now! The general wisdom around the White House is, don't have a war before November. Wait until after November and have a war. Don't upset the American people with a new war. Postpone it, until after the election. Then unleash it.

That's what we're faced with.

## The System Is Bankrupt

But, in the meantime, while this danger of world war piles up, *we're on the edge of the greatest financial collapse in modern history. The United States is hopelessly bankrupt. This system is bankrupt.*

And you haven't had much discussion of that, in terms of these other candidates, have you? They don't discuss the bankruptcy of the United States. They discuss, "We have a problem." "I have plan!" Everyone has a plan! But, the plan has nothing to do with reality. You have a plan for moving

money around. Why are you going to move that money around, if it's gone? How are you going to improve the health-care system, if it is collapsed? Through bankruptcy?

*These guys are not yet in the real world.* And, until not only the candidates, are confronted by the real world, but until the voters get out of their foolishness, and start saying, "We need to save this nation. We need to save this situation. We don't need to know which candidate uses what toothpaste." We have to have a leadership, *now, to rally the nation, before November of this year*, to give some leadership from the side of the Democratic Party, which will protect this nation, against being stampeded by some lunacy, coming out of the desperate Bush Administration, or Cheney, in particular.

In other words, *we're fighting for the life of the nation and civilization.* We're not running a beauty contest. We're not running a competition. We're not running a pollster's racket. We're concerned with the continued existence of civilization.

Because this system is about to go down. Take the United States, for example: 48 of the 50 states of the United States are hopelessly, irremediably bankrupt. That is, they can not meet their current obligations, by raising taxes, because they would sink the economy, in such a way that they would cost the state more in lost tax revenues, than they would get by raising the tax rates. They can not increase the tax rates.

States are bankrupt: Take California. California, now, in the middle of this year, is facing a \$15 billion deficit in the state budget. It's facing, beyond that, for the coming year, an additional \$15 billion or more deficit. Over \$30 billion of deficit. We have similar conditions, sometimes not as radical, but similar conditions across the country.

You're on the verge of a collapse of power. In New England, for example, we're on the verge of a collapse of the generation and distribution of power, in New England. A few plants go, and you don't have power. West Coast—the same kind of thing.

The health-care system is collapsing.

The United States has a trillion-dollar-a-year current account deficit as a nation. We're bankrupt. In the most recent months, the value of the euro has risen from 83¢ to \$1.28. The United States dollar is collapsing! And, it's already much overvalued at those collapsed levels.

This is the situation.

All it takes, is a slight fluctuation—and the housing bubble collapses. The mortgage-based securities bubble, tied to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, collapses. Shacks which are sitting, especially over the area around Washington, D.C. for example: shacks that are going for \$400,000-\$600,000 in terms of mortgage value—they consist of shacks, with a shrink-wrap insulation, some plastic exterior, and a few fancy faucets, and they go for a half-million dollars. For people who can't afford them! Even on two incomes, but it's the only income available. Who are these people? They come from other parts of the country, such as Michigan, where the population has collapsed.



*LaRouche at Jan. 25  
Manchester town meeting:  
“There’s no blessing of Heaven  
on any of these candidates. . . .  
Kucinich is a useful person, in  
the Congress. Kerry is of  
leading potential, though he’s  
not up to the job, right now. It’s  
Kerry and I. And when it comes  
down to that, at the point that  
crisis breaks out, then we’ll  
have a real election  
campaign.”*

You have some of this reflection in New Hampshire. The population has collapsed, because they’re moving from areas that used to be agricultural-industrial areas. Those jobs are lost, the factories are lost, the transportation systems are lost, the infrastructure’s lost. And they crowd in, those that can, seeking jobs in these areas, around Washington, the West Coast, and elsewhere.

The shacks go up. They dump them on cow pastures, with very little infrastructure. And you see them going up: It’s a shack! It’s a tarpaper shack, modern-style! And you see the wrapping they put around it—it’s shrink-wrap! Then, they cover the thing over with some plastic exterior—and buddy, it’s a half-million dollars, for someone who couldn’t afford to really go into a mortgage for \$150,000. And two or three people in the families.

We’ve lost our industries. We depend upon sucking the blood of the world. NAFTA was a great catastrophe for the United States, because, what we did, is we shut down our jobs, in the United States, in order to employ cheap labor, at slave-labor rates, in other countries, such as Mexico. Globalization’s the same thing: China is producing for us, from its labor which is almost slave-labor, in terms of income, by our standards. We have shut down our character as a productive society.

So, we’re at the point, where, at any time, this thing collapses—a sudden, total, financial collapse; bigger than 1929; bigger than 1929-31, when the income of the average American, the total income of the United States, dropped by half, in several years. Now, think of what a drop of that magnitude means for the incomes and standard of living for people in the United States, today.

What’re they talking about? What’re these guys talking about? Nothing! They “have a plan”—for what? Plan on the war. Well, one says, “I’ll get you out of the war, gradually, in Iraq.” They have no commitment to reality. They’re running, in a sense, a beauty contest, like a bunch of starlets competing for a leading part in a movie someplace. But, they’re not addressing the issues, which define the life in the United States.

### **The Roosevelt Model**

So, let me just summarize what our problem is. In a mixed group of people, of various age groups—some of you were there then; some of you weren’t there then, and put it all together: What has happened to the United States in the past 40 years? We came out of the Depression under the leadership of Franklin Roosevelt, by policies of a type which should be a model for what the government should do now, today. Because we are actually *in* a depression. It may not have hit with full force, yet, and *it will*—but, the basic problem is there. The underlying rot is there, and it has to be fixed. The basic precedent, which most Americans either understand, or could understand, from history, is: We got out of the 1929-31 Depression. We got out, because of the policies used by Franklin Roosevelt. Therefore, there can be no reasonable argument, that we should not be considering the examples of what Roosevelt did, now, because we can now show people, this worked. It may have been imperfect, but it worked. It’s a starting point of reference, for saving this nation, and the world.

We went through that. We went through the period of recovery. We went through the war. Franklin Roosevelt al-

ready had a problem, when he came in. Shortly before he was inaugurated, Hermann Goering had set fire to the Reichstag in Berlin. And setting fire to the Reichstag, created the condition under which Hitler was made a dictator. So, at the time that Franklin Roosevelt was actually inaugurated, *World War II was already inevitable*. It didn't start later. It started right then: in February of 1933. And, Franklin Roosevelt was inaugurated in March.

We don't have that threat right now. But, that's what happened. We were led into a recovery, a difficult recovery, because the legacy of Coolidge and Hoover on the mentality of the population was such, that there was great resistance to the necessary measures of recovery. And Roosevelt did make revolutionary steps, institutionally: The protectionist system was developed around him, on the level of the states, the national government. Large-scale projects, like the TVA and so forth, changed the character of the nation, much for the better.

By the time we came out of World War II, *we were the most powerful economy in the world*, the most powerful nation in the world; practically the only world power. We had achieved levels of productivity, beyond anything previously. Then, unfortunately, Roosevelt died.

In the meantime, the same people in the United States who had put Hitler into power in Europe, together with the British—that is, Brown Brothers Harriman, which is an Anglo-American firm, were the transatlantic forces which financed Hitler's rise to power, in 1933, and which funded Hitler's coup d'état to become the Chancellor on Jan. 30, 1933. And then, toward the end of the next month, Hitler became a dictator.

These were the guys! Harriman, Morgan, and so forth: The same ones that planned to run a military coup, against the President of the United States, against Roosevelt, put Hitler into power. Morgan, Mellon, du Pont, Harriman, so forth. These guys didn't like Hitler for one reason—and Churchill didn't, for one reason: They had liked Hitler as an idea; they liked fascism as an idea. They funded it, they put it into power in Europe. *But, they didn't want it running the English-speaking world*. Winston Churchill did not want the Nazis running the British Empire. And the bankers in New York, who had supported Hitler, did not want Hitler running both the British Empire and the United States.

So, even though they had been Hitler-lovers, they joined Roosevelt and Churchill, in 1940, at the time that the German troops were about to wipe out the British Expeditionary Force, on the beaches at Dunkirk, at that point, we made a turn. At that point, Roosevelt and others stopped the possibility of a world conquest, by the fascists of continental Europe. But we still had to fight a long war, to bring it to an end.

## The Onset of Trumanism

From June of 1944 through early July 1944, we had essentially won the war, in Europe. The breakthrough in

Normandy, and the consolidation of that breakthrough, meant that the defeat of Hitler was a matter of a short time, but for fools like General Montgomery, who prolonged the war for at least six months more, by his nonsense. At that point, there was a change in the policy, inside the United States: The right wing, which had earlier supported Hitler, and then turned against him, together with Churchill, and joined Roosevelt to fight World War II, *now* decided they were going back to the old right-wing business. So, what they did is, they got a Vice President in, who was good at vice, sort of like Cheney's forebear: President Truman. Harry S Truman—there is no period after the S: His mother, when signing the birth certificate in the hospital, couldn't think of what middle name to put for her son. So she decided it would be something that would begin with the letter "S." So, she wrote "Harry S Truman," and she never got around to giving him an actual middle name. There is no period. And there's a lot of things about Harry Truman that fit that picture. There was a lot of things—"missing," shall we say?

Matter of fact, in 1947, I wrote a letter to Dwight Eisenhower, who was then president of Columbia University. A one-page letter, short one-page letter, stating that we had come out of a war, and those who had come out of the war represented a leading edge of the population, had expected that certain implicit promises, for the post-war period, would be kept. And that the Truman Administration had betrayed those promises. And therefore, I suggested that perhaps he, as a military figure who would be recognized by veterans, should run for the Presidential nomination of the Democratic Party, in order to get Truman out, and as a way of trying to rally veterans, and their families, to seize the future, through the choice of a President who was sympathetic to their cause, but not sympathetic to the far right wing.

Truman was evil. People talk about Joe McCarthy, and McCarthyism. Now, the evil was already there, but it was called "Trumanism." McCarthy was a parody, a cheap imitation of Harry Truman, who was the real killer. Harry Truman bluffed. A policy, then, under Truman, as exemplified by his bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki—for no good military reason, with the only two experimental nuclear weapons we had, was typical of Harry. Harry was a hard-core, right-wing war-monger, of the same genre as Vice President Cheney.

We didn't have nuclear weapons in stock at the time: The two weapons we dropped on Japan were experimental weapons—one a uranium bomb; the other, a plutonium bomb. We had no more. We had no production line, to produce a series of these kinds of weapons. We did not have the kind of capability of delivering these weapons against the Soviet Union. But, Harry and Company were bluffing! And they thought that they could bluff China and the Soviet Union. And they played games. And Harry got us into a war: Because one day, the Soviet Union sent the North Korean Army down the Korean Peninsula. And what was left of the Korean Army, which was very little, and what was left of the U.S. forces,



*LaRouche Youth Movement organizers in New Hampshire discussed Gauss, Schiller, and the mission of forcing Dick Cheney out before he starts another war, with everyone from college students to the other Presidential candidates—changing the course of the Presidential campaign.*

were sitting around Busan in the southern tip of Korea, until MacArthur made that flanking operation at Inchon, which some people didn't want to have happen.

And then, a little bit later, while we were in this prolonged war in Korea, as a result of Truman's efforts, the Soviet Union had tested a first thermonuclear weapon—deployable type of thermonuclear weapon. That meant that Harry Truman's dreams, of conquering the world with preventive nuclear warfare, were ended! Because you can not conduct nuclear fission warfare against a thermonuclear fusion power.

So, what we got into, was, we got into a new situation. The world strategic situation was now defined by a conflict, in between the level of so-called conventional warfare, and thermonuclear warfare. That nuclear weapons were simply something in-between conventional warfare and thermonuclear warfare.

And we evolved, over the course of the 1950s, a policy of Mutual and Assured Destruction. We were living under the threat of destruction, as the guarantor of peace, as the guarantor of no-war. So, people would then try to conduct wars, and other operations, at a level where they thought would not trigger the thermonuclear exchange. That's what they did to us.

Now, in this period, Truman was so bad, that the establishment of this country, a large part of it, decided to get rid of what Truman represented. He did not run for re-election. The Democratic Party was not going to be allowed to win the Presidency, because they were so polluted by Trumanism! So, we had eight years of peace, or relative peace, under Eisenhower, who got rid of Joe McCarthy, and cut him down—cut his legs off, of the crowd behind him.

But then, came 1961. Eisenhower was retiring. Kennedy was not ready to cope with the job. He didn't know what he needed to know. He did not have the basis in the U.S. military support, to neutralize the right wing: So we had the Bay of Pigs. And we had the 1962 Missile Crisis. Then, we had things like the assassination of President Kennedy.

And, a terrified Johnson pushed us into an Indo-China War. Again, the same foolishness as under Truman. The United States was convinced, that since the Chinese had indicated that they would not react strongly to a U.S. attack on North Vietnam, people in Washington thought they had a free ride in Indo-China—people like McNamara, who's still an idiot. He's still around, more idiotic than ever before.

### **Asymmetric Warfare**

Yes, China did not intervene—but, the Soviet Union did! The Soviet Union collaborated with the North Vietnamese, to unleash what is called "asymmetric warfare," in Indo-China, against the United States. China at that time, was more or less allied with the United States, against the Soviet Union, because they were opposed to Vietnam. They were afraid the Vietnamese power, would be too much of a power in Southeast Asia, therefore, the Chinese backed the horror-show in Indo-China, in Kampuchea, as a counter to the Vietnamese.

Now, what we're facing now, with the collapse of the Soviet Union: We've got a Russia which is still a nuclear power, a thermonuclear power; China is an emerging thermonuclear power; the United States, in the form of Cheney and Company, what he represents, is threatening China, Russia, and other countries, with a policy of preventive nuclear war,

which is Cheney's revival of the policies of Truman, from the late 1940s. What happened in Afghanistan, what happened, especially in Iraq, what is ongoing in Iraq, is the eruption of *global asymmetric warfare*, enriched by nuclear weapons, and other kinds of special weapons: deep-diving, fast, small submarines; special kinds of weapons; super-systems that will knock out the U.S. missile system, entirely, until they're launched; that sort of thing. So, you're in a period, in which you get, like Vietnam, the populations of the world, in "people's war," fighting against the United States' aggression, but the fight-back includes sophisticated, modern weapons: We're talking about the kind of war, in which several billion people would be wiped out!

*This* is what Cheney represents! This is what this legacy represents.

What's the other side? This is not necessary. If we stop Cheney, and stop what these guys represent, *that will not happen*. I can guarantee you, that if I am elected President of the United States, it will not happen. It will never happen. Because I have a number of friends in various countries around this world. They know me and my policies, very well. They know that if I'm President of the United States, certain policies on their part will come into play. And, as President of the United States, I would have *very few problems, of a strategic character*. Our problems would be largely, reorganizing this planet, around the economic crisis, and related crises we have, to rebuild the economies of this planet.

But, this is what we're up against. This is the reality: the reality of asymmetric war.

Not like the problem with poor Kerry. He says, "Elect me President, and after I've got rid of Bush, and I'm President, then I'll take on these problems, one at a time." That is not going to work! Because, what we're going to face *before then*, we're going to face many of these problems.

## The Role of a Presidential Candidate

Now, being a Presidential *candidate*, and even a major candidate, as I am at this time—in terms of support, in terms of impact and influence—is not irrelevant to this kind of problem. For, *if it's* apparent that there are leading candidates, in the United States, in the Democratic Party, who are addressing the population on these kinds of issues, the party not in power can suddenly get a lot of power, to block these kinds of problems. If the party coming into power, challenging power, has an economic policy to save the nation from a depression, when it has become apparent to the American people that we're in a depression, and they're screaming for salvation: I mean the day that people are about to be thrown out of their homes *en masse*; that whole towns are shut down; the essential services, like pensions and so forth, are shut down; hospitals are shut down; public services are shut down; because of bankruptcy—under those conditions, if a leading party of the United States, through leading candidates of that party, take a consolidated position on dealing with the crisis, *government*

*will respond*. The government of the United States will respond.

The problem we have now, is the mealy-mouthed character of the candidates! Including Kerry. He does *not* address these issues. He says, "I'm the good guy. I'm going to try to win things on points. I'm going to do this thing; I'm going to appeal to you on this issue. I'm going to appeal to you on this issue. I have a 'plan' for this. I have a 'plan' for that." It won't work! Because, the issue of the election has not yet been posed to the American people, in a way that they accept this. They do not recognize, that *generalized war*—including asymmetric war; that a *generalized* financial collapse of the system, is what the issue is—because, until the people are facing and discussing that issue, we do not have a real political discussion of these problems! That's where we are.

What's the alternative? Just to review it. I've said it before, but it should be said again: That what we have to do, is not merely go back to Franklin Roosevelt's methods. We have to use those methods, because they are a precedent. And, when we tell the American people, and the people of other countries, that we're going to reorganize the financial and monetary system of the world, you can't come up and say, "I came up with a 'plan.'" That will not win the confidence and support of other nations, or our own people. What you have to say, is: "*We did it before. And it worked*. We have to make some adjustments and changes over what we did before, but it will work." Now you have the authority of precedent. People can study the matter, they can say, "Yes, it *did* work. We *did* get out of the Depression. We're in another depression. We've got to think the same way, again."

## A Cultural Paradigm-Shift

Now, the other thing they have to face, is this: How did we get into this mess? Here we are going into the 1960s. We're the most powerful nation on the planet; the highest grade of productivity, of any nation on this planet; the greatest economic power, the greatest producer nation of this planet! We produce more, at a higher level of technology than anyone else! And in abundance. We're being held back, we're making mistakes, but nonetheless, we *are* a nation with that characteristic. We are a nation of farmers; we're a nation of industrial workers; we're a nation of specialists, of various kinds, of useful occupations; a nation that's studying science; a nation that is actually on the way to conquering space—as with the Kennedy space program, crash program on the Moon. We're a power! We're in good shape! We're being mismanaged to a large degree. We're making mistakes, but we are a power! And we can stand on our own feet, as a power.

What happened? Well, with the Missile Crisis, the assassination of Kennedy, the launching of the Indo-China War, we underwent what was called a cultural paradigm-shift.

Now, some of you, in this sampling of the American population, different generations, look at it from that standpoint: We came out of the Depression. We were bums, we were a



nation of bums, under Hoover and Coolidge. We were scared by the Depression. We were abused, terrified, humiliated, threatened, by the Depression. Roosevelt saved us, Roosevelt's leadership. We went on, with the war threat looming, we went on to deal with the danger of world conquest by Nazism. That's what we faced, actually, up until certain events in 1940. We still faced war, after that. We led, in saving the world from that horror-show! With all our weakness.

Then we began to turn in a new direction. But we were still a great power! We helped rebuild a lot of the world, with the Bretton Woods system. There was actual improvement. We can be proud of what we accomplished, despite all the nonsense we did.

But, we had this right-wing problem. Do you know how many people, of my generation, finked out at the word "FBI"? Under Truman? Don't wait till Joe McCarthy! This is under Truman! That was the witch-hunt—Truman's witch-hunt. *People turned against their friends, and relatives, and neighbors!* For fear, that if they didn't, the FBI would get them. They turned into stinking cowards. *And they told their children, what to do: "Don't say things that will get our family into trouble! The FBI is listening! It's everywhere!"*

And just for a touch of spice, you had the Rosenberg case: "We fried a couple of Jews!" And that's what they said. This was rubbed in! The American people were scared. Our suburban class were scared in the 1950s. The ones that had the defense-related contracts—they were scared. You worked in a shop, that had a defense-related contract—you were scared! Somebody would organize having you run out of your community! Your children would be hounded! We had a witch-hunt in this country! And it continued, even under Eisenhower, though it was much ameliorated, after Eisenhower got in.

Now, we're going along. Thermonuclear weapons, buildup of thermonuclear weapons. Then comes the Bay of Pigs. Eisenhower had already put its name on it: He called it the "military-industrial complex," on the way out. That's a funny name. It's Synarchism, the Synarchist International. A bunch of fascists, inside our system, of which Cheney is representative. And they launched, under the leadership of Allen Dulles, they launched the Bay of Pigs operation—a funny-funny operation, like Cheney runs. Which is supposed to get us into some real stuff. We got out of that.

Then, we had the Missile Crisis. Do you know how terrified people were by the Missile Crisis? For a number of days, when the tension was, that these Soviet missiles were going to come raining down on the United States? And the bunkers were not sufficient to protect you? You'd be cooked inside them, instead of being—otherwise. You'd escape radiation, but get cooked inside. This was on their mind!

Now, who were the people who were frightened? They were people of my generation, who had gone over to being cowards, because of the FBI. But, they were also their children—especially their children, whose parents had worked

in sensitive jobs, in defense-related and other high-security employment. They were terrified. They had lived under the nightmare. They'd been seeing movies, about things coming out of radioactivity, like great ants, coming to eat us all—this kind of Hollywood horror movies. They were terrified! This is what kiddie entertainment was! The so-called "science affliction" movies.

And along comes reality: A Missile Crisis! It's about to happen! Nevil Shute: We're *On the Beach*. It's about to happen! Somebody in Australia'll be the last man alive. This is the kind of ideology.

Then, Kennedy is shot. And, it's an obvious cover-up. But everybody's afraid to say it.

What happened? The young people, who had come from suburbia, the ones who were the most eligible for university positions were the most scared, because they were the most conditioned to this. And they went, and what they did they study? *LSD!* What you had, is a cultural paradigm-shift, of a change in the character of a generation, from being the children of the society which was the most productive on this planet, to being people trying to escape, from that society, into a refuge in LSD, and the rock-drug-sex counterculture. You bred a generation, entering the universities, who did not believe in technology. Technology must be destroyed! We must go back to the simple life! We must go back to nature! Go back to pre-human civilization.

The cultural paradigm-shift.

## Corruption of Both Parties

Now watch, step by step, this process: The Democratic Party is demoralized, it's shot. The Vietnam War has done it.

Biloxi, Mississippi, 1966: Richard Nixon, a burnt-out candidate, went down to have a meeting with the Ku Klux Klan leadership in Biloxi, Mississippi—and, the Southern Strategy was launched.

And later on, the Democratic Party went along with its own Southern Strategy. They didn't call themselves "racists," they called themselves "suburbanites." The upper 20% of the family-income brackets are concerned about what they get, and their security. The lower 80% will just have to take care of themselves. This was Newt Gingrich! This was Al Gore! Who pressured Bill Clinton to capitulate to Gingrich in 1996. So the Democratic Party was shot, too.

So, what we've gone into, is, over a period of 40 years, since the advent of the official entry of the United States into the Vietnam War, we've gone through 40 years of a cultural paradigm-shift, from a productive society, a producer society, into a society which is a bunch of predatory degenerates. That is, we live, not on our own production. We've shut down our industries—even U.S.-manufactured products, are not made in the U.S. They're made in other countries, or assembled in this country, but the parts are made in these other countries.

We've destroyed our infrastructure. We've destroyed our health-care system, by at least 40 to 50%. We've de-

stroyed our infrastructure. Our power generation and distribution network is ready to collapse in many parts of the country. We've destroyed—where are the railroads? We've destroyed it. We've built superhighways, which function as parking lots at commuter time. We are a junk heap; we're a waste heap!

And, we've gone into a pleasure society. What are the two big industries in the United States, today? Gambling! That includes Wall Street—gambling. People think that if Wall Street indexes are showing an uptick, that's good! The economy is improving! What *is* that economy? That is *not* the economy! The real economy, the factories, the farms, and so forth are disintegrating! So, where's the growth? The growth is in the gambling casino. What's the name of the gambling casino? It's called Wall Street: It's a gambling casino. Money is poured in, credit is poured in; a purely inflationary bubble is built up; the bubble grows, a parasite, sucking the blood of us all—and people say, “The economy's growing.”

What do people depend upon? Entertainment! This is like the Roman Empire in its decadent phase. This is the Roman Empire, under Nero; the Roman Empire under Caligula, under Claudius, and so forth. A society, which has gone from being a producer society, as Italy was earlier, into becoming a slave society. Or, becoming a predatory society, living on what it loots from nations it's conquered or subjugated. And keeping its own people quiet with “bread and circuses.” What are the circuses? The Coliseum. The Circus Maximus. Human beings being slaughtered, or slaughtering each other, for entertainment; or being slaughtered by lions, for entertainment. What do you have on television, today? What do you have in movies, today? What do you have in mass spectator sports, today? You have absolute decadence and degeneration! We have become a “bread and circuses” society!

Now, we come along—“we've got to protect our system.” What system? You mean this? The bread and circuses society? The animal acts? Done by people, like Dean?

No, we've come to a time, we have to admit that we've been in a long spin, of going from a society that did work—with all its flaws, with all its mistakes, it had a certain essential viability, a society that could be reformed. We've now gone to a society, which is no longer capable of passing reform school. This system will not work! This financial system will not work! This banking system will not work. Can we save the country? Can we save the nation? Of course, we can. By the kinds of methods, or the mentality, which Roosevelt brought to the problem.

But, we have to admit that *we made a mistake!* We made many mistakes. But the big mistake was, the mistake of the past 40 years: when we went from being a *producer* society, which was reformable in its errors, as the Civil Rights movement typified that; to a society which is not reformable, in its present form, which has to be replaced, by our going back to where we left off, 40 years ago.

If we understand that, we can survive.

If we *don't* understand that, if we *don't* do that: *We will not survive!*

## Time To Face Reality

There's nothing to be frightened about, about the inherent character of the situation. There's nothing to be fixed, that can't be fixed. It may take some patience and time. But if you think in terms of generations, if you think, “Can my grandchildren look forward to a future?” Yes, we can say, “yes.” We can make the changes, that ensure that the grandchildren will have a future. We can say, there may be some tough times of getting through the immediate years ahead, in reorganizing the system—but we can do it! We've done it before. We have precedents for it. We find precedents in other parts of the world. We can rebuild this nation. We can put the thing back to where it was, and probably with some improvements. We can ensure that our grandchildren will have a future. And their children after them.

So, there's nothing really to be afraid of, in that sense. There's no horrible thing to run away from. There's something to be *faced*. And what is to be faced, is to correct the error in ourselves, and in our institutions: by recognizing that what we're seeing, in the dwindling parade of Presidential candidates—what we're seeing is a *failed political process*. That none of these guys, even those who are better, none of them are capable of being a President of the United States, under these conditions. Normally, you would say, Kerry, under normal conditions—well, fine; he'd probably get us through. Probably no great catastrophe. Probably a kind-hearted guy, in some ways. Not bad. But, is he *willing* to provide the kind of leadership that crisis demands, the kind of leadership that Roosevelt represented? Is he willing to *think* that way? Is he willing to put himself *on the line*, that way?

## What Is Real Leadership?

You know, in leadership, as in war or great crisis, or other great crisis, to be a leader, you have to put your life at risk, you have to put everything at risk. Not because you like to put it at risk.

I just gave an address earlier this week, Monday, in Talladega, Alabama. I was invited to be the keynote speaker for a Martin Luther King event there. You will be able to see the event, as it occurred, at least my part in it, which will be out on a DVD this coming week. At which I presented the way I see Martin Luther King, and see him by comparing him to the case of Jeanne d'Arc, who, in a sense, had the same mission, to the conception of Christ, as Mel Gibson couldn't understand that. That the difference was, that Martin was a real leader. And we had very few people in this time, who were leaders. Most of the people around Martin, were not leaders, not real leaders. When he died, they ran. Jesse Jackson ran to Chicago, rubbed some blood on his shirt, got out, and gave a speech, “I just came from the side of Martin.” He hadn't even stopped to see Martin's body—he just fled out of there, from

the back rooms. The others, who had been leaders—what did they do? They ran off to various foundations, and kooky little this, and kooky that. One by one, they flaked off. No one was there, to pick up the mantle of the kind of leadership that Martin represented.

Why? Because, they were bad people? Well, they became corrupted, because they were frightened and weakened. But they weren't bad people, they were good people. What was wrong? The Hamlet problem: When faced with a question, of putting their life on the line—as a leader—and putting themselves at risk, in a necessary way, because the people needed a leader who was willing to put himself at risk: Martin did. And his "Mountaintop" speech exemplified that.

Take the case of Jeanne d'Arc, which I gave again, down there in Talladega. Jeanne d'Arc was an inspired young woman, who went to the Prince, who was the candidate for King, and said, "God wants you to be a King, to unite France and get the occupying forces out of this country." He said, "What do you want from me?" She said, "I don't want anything from you. God wants you to do this." She stayed on the mission. The Prince sent her out there to lead a battle, hoping that she'd get killed off, and his problem would go away. But, she won the battle. And then, he betrayed her, later. And she was betrayed into the hands of the invaders. And, she was given a chance to escape being burned alive, if she would "back off a bit"—the way a typical Presidential candidate, like Kerry, would back off, when it comes to these kinds of issues.

She didn't back off. And she didn't back off, knowing that the price of not backing off, would mean they were going to *burn her alive!* And they did.

But, her example, her courage, resulted in the creation of the first modern nation-state in France, under Louis XI. And led to the provocation of the second modern nation-state, England, under Henry VII.

So, modern civilization, as a whole, owes a great deal to Jeanne d'Arc. Without her leadership, under those conditions, we would not have modern civilization—never have it. As opposed to, say, a Hamlet-type, who says, "I'm going to go out and kill, and do all these kinds of things, but I'm not going to risk my agony about what my immortality will be. What happens after death."

And that's what *all* of these guys are! That's why they're not leaders. They're thinking about what they're going to *get* out of life. They're conditioned to believe, what they're going to "get," as their advantage, from following a certain policy. They're all trying to get the big cookie, while they're around to eat it. No one is willing to put themselves at risk, for the sake of their fellow man and future generations.

In a time of crisis, a leader *has* to be willing to take that risk. If he does *not*, he's a failure. And he will bring a disaster on his people. Martin was a person who did not bring a disaster on his people—a great achievement. But those who followed in his footsteps, who could *not* make the commitment he



*Hamlet, or another JFK? LaRouche Youth Movement organizers challenged Senator Kerry repeatedly in New Hampshire to do what the nation's welfare actually demanded: Make Cheney's impeachment the issue; and level with Americans about the grave crisis signalled by the dollar collapse. Kerry, other candidates, and the press began head-on attacks on Cheney.*

made—the ones who said, "Let's be smart. Let's not get killed," that weakness destroyed the Civil Rights movement—inch by inch by inch by inch, till it's disintegrating today. And I've been trying to revive it.

So, that's where we stand. We're now in a situation, where, as I say, the real test of this election campaign has not been begun. Edwards will probably stay around for a while. Obviously Kerry will. Dean is in the process of being dumped; they're trying to find a garbage heap that will suit his tastes. This flake, Wesley Clark, will be gone, very soon. He's an embarrassment to the U.S. military, among other things. And his speeches aren't helping him, one bit. The others will go by the wayside.

It will come down to Kerry and to me.

That would be good, in a sense, because that will pose the question, that I posed to you, today: How do we define the role of leadership, in the United States for a time of crisis, like the present one? What is required, of the people, in selecting a leader? To select a leader, for this kind of condition?

Once this hits, the financial crisis hits, it will become apparent not only to you, but to many people, that this whole election campaign, so far, by the Democratic Party, has been one, gigantic sham! There's no reality to it. There's no blessing of Heaven on any of these candidates, or the whole shebang. There might be some people coming out of this, who are useful people. Kucinich is a useful person, in the Congress. Kerry is of leading potential, though he's not up to the job, right now. It's Kerry and I. And when it comes down to that, at the point that crisis breaks out, then we'll have a real election campaign.

# How To Reverse the Infrastructure Breakdown, and Restore the Economy

The following is **Number 5** 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.) **Number 1**, in EIR Dec. 12, 2003, dealt with the Iraq War and the Cheney neo-conservative coup; **Number 2**, in EIR Dec. 26, 2003, was on economic policy; **Number 3**, in EIR Jan. 16, 2004, was on military policy; and **Number 4**, in EIR Jan. 30, 2004, surveyed the candidates on the threat of police-state and emergency rule in the United States.

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## Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

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### 1. The U.S. Infrastructure Breakdown

For decades, LaRouche has written and commissioned long-term recovery plans for many nations, whose key was great projects of modern economic infrastructure. He has called the failure to replace modern infrastructure the core of the long-term decline of the American

productive economy.

"We must shift from the Wal-Mart to reality. Reality means infrastructure building as the leading edge of a revival of durable foods production"—from a **Nov. 9, 2002** press release, "LaRouche Demands Super-TVA; Pushes Emergency Infrastructure Jobs."

On **Aug. 18, 2002**, at a speech to youth in San Pedro, California, LaRouche reviewed the decrepit state of U.S. infrastructure—shown in the Amtrak crisis—and announced a national emergency infrastructure-building drive, beginning with *re-regulating* and saving the national rail and air systems, and intervening throughout the crumbling U.S. infrastructure base. On **Aug. 23**, his policy document, "Science and Infrastructure," was issued, calling on citizens to demand that the President act, "in an FDR fashion"; followed in **September 2002** by a national pre-election campaign pamphlet

with a sector-by-sector survey and mapping of the infrastructure crisis: LaRouche's 'November Program' To Rebuild the Economy.

In the pamphlet, first released **Sept. 30, 2002**, LaRouche stressed, "First of all, we are losing our rail system, the last vestige of it. We are also in the process of crippling, and virtually destroying, our air-traffic system. . . . We must end deregulation of power. . . . We have crises in water and land management. . . . In addition to that, we have soft infrastructure. Public health: We have destroyed public health since 1973, the HMO. We no longer have a public health system. We are now faced with the increment of diseases, caused by economic conditions, caused by other conditions. We are not equipped for disease, epidemic disease. . . . Education: Today, in universities, the price of tuition is in inverse proportion to the value of the education delivered. This is a scandal."

### 2. Emergency Economic Infrastructure Proposals

In a speech to a California town meeting **Dec. 7, 2002**, LaRouche proposed creation of a Federal **Super TVA** with authority to issue up to **\$6 trillion** in credits over this decade—a vastly greater program than any other candidate has proposed—directly for national infrastructure reconstruction and to states and their regulated public corporations which build and operate infrastructure.

Note that the American Civil Engineers Society, whose annual "U.S. infrastructure report card" is referred to by several candidates, makes a relatively conservative assessment of the nation's "infrastructure repair bill"—i.e., not new great projects—and sets that repair bill at \$1.6 trillion in its latest report.

"What has to happen are two sets of legislation," LaRouche said. "First of all, As I've proposed, a national infrastructure program, which I've sometimes called a 'Super-TVA,' to remind people of the TVA development under Franklin Roosevelt. We need that. We need that on the Federal level and the state level. We must save our rail system, we must protect our air-traffic system from collapse—which is now in progress. We must protect our water-management system, keep those in place, and so forth; as well as our energy generating and distributing systems. And also our healthcare systems, and our educational systems, and so forth. These things must be fixed. We're disintegrating as a nation. We



Reverse the massive loss of public hospitals—LaRouche took the lead in the fight to save Washington's D.C. General Hospital, shown here. He would reopen it, and use the traditional Hill-Burton Act strategy to ensure quantity and types of hospital beds available in every location.

can't have this continue."

**Repeal Deregulation Laws:** "This means that the Federal government must create legislative authority, with the Executive and the Presidency, and the Congress, to repeal—temporarily at least—all of those changes in law, which were made over the past 35 years, approximately, changes in law which took us away from a fixed-exchange-rate international monetary system, to a floating-exchange-rate system; away from a protectionist policy to a free-trade policy; and into massive deregulation. So, all the legislation, which would mandate deregulation, cessation of construction of essential infrastructure, and so forth, these things must be wiped from the books, at least for the duration of the emergency. Under that authority, and by putting the banking system into bankruptcy reorganization—the financial system into bankruptcy reorganization—and using Federal credit to generate growth, as Roosevelt did, then we can come out of this quite well."

In his **Aug. 23, 2002** "Science and Infrastructure," LaRouche called for across-the-board action on the infrastructure crisis: "The most urgent of the immediate, specifically physical-economic U.S. reforms required by this crisis, involves immediate adoption of policies for rebuilding the U.S.A.'s basic economic infrastructure. Sweeping measures for rebuilding the systems of power generation and distribution, water management, land reclamation, healthcare, and education, must be fully under way during the 2003-2004 interval."

**Transportation:** On **Feb. 24, 2003**, LaRouche stressed to the Legislative Black Caucus of the Arkansas State Legislature, "Our present rail transport system is disintegrating. The Amtrak system is about to collapse, unless Federal action

is taken. Our air transport system is in crisis." Whereas, as LaRouche wrote in the November 2002 *Emergency Program To Rebuild the Economy*, "General transportation, by sea, ports, inland waterways, rail and also public highway systems, typifies the government's unique responsibility and authority for creation, maintenance, and direction of basic economic infrastructure." The pamphlet circulated detailed proposals and maps of LaRouche's program for the Amtrak routes and the national rail system, including extending the system north and south in North America, and introducing magnetic-levitation high-speed rail. It outlines re-instituting regulation of the airlines, rail, trucking, and water haulage.

On **Nov. 18, 2003**, LaRouche told a St. Louis town meeting, "What you have to do is, you create a fund, a 25- or 50-year plan, which you call the Rail-

way, or Magnetic Levitation, or Transport Reconstruction Fund, like the Tennessee Valley operation under Franklin Roosevelt. And, we would take the United States, which has been deprived of efficient mass transit, and we would develop a magnetic levitation system not only for passengers, but for freight. . . . This means a long-term investment of 50 years, essentially, in developing a new mass-transit system for the United States, for freight, and for passengers. . . . Can we get the credit? Why not? The government can guarantee it. We guarantee the credit, on a 25- to 50-year basis: We build the system, *the way it was done from experience in the past.*

In **September 2003**, the LaRouche campaign issued a 40-page report, *The Sovereign States of the Americas—LaRouche's Program for Continental Development*, on the needed new transportation corridors for the Western Hemisphere as a whole: giving detailed maps, and LaRouche's discussion of the "Great American Desert" development plan, the transportation projects needed throughout the Hemisphere, and other infrastructure priorities.

**Energy:** LaRouche has repeatedly called for restoring traditional regulation of utilities and other economic functions, and vastly upgrading power generation and distribution. At the time of the California power crisis in early 2001, under the new Cheney Energy Taskforce, LaRouche proposed electricity re-regulation, and on **Feb. 3, 2001**, a "National Energy Management Reconstruction Act," to deal with the California crisis and national electricity insecurity. His campaign release said that the required action must be, "An echo of the RFC-TVA outlook as a national energy-grid-recovery act, combining Federal with Federally-assisted state action, for meeting the requirements of an overlapping set of



*The world land-bridge, by maglev rail.*

two-, three-, five-, and ten-year goals of power-generation and distribution renewal and expansion, to correct the negligence of the recent quarter century respecting systems of both generation and distribution of power; and also to meet certain associated environmental goals.”

**Nuclear:** LaRouche stresses the need for “fourth generation” nuclear power generation, with its high energy flux density and safety features. In 1974, he was an initiating founder of the Fusion Energy Foundation, committed to further research and public education in all nuclear sciences and technologies.

**Water, Land Management:** In his **November 2002** report, “Science and Infrastructure,” LaRouche discussed how, “General land-maintenance, development and management of water resources, related functions of public sanitation, the general production and distribution of power, are also typical subjects of the inalienable responsibility of government to promote, protect, and regulate for the benefit of the general welfare.”

LaRouche backs the **North American Water and Power Alliance** continental project—designed in the 1960s but never constructed—to divert significant amounts of water, now flowing into the Arctic, southward for Canada, the United States, and northern Mexico.

**Health Care:** LaRouche campaigns to restore the post-World War II Hill-Burton Act, a policy of ensuring an adequate hospital-infrastructure base to provide care for all, based on modern standards of science. He completely opposes the post-1974 HMO/managed-care practices. In 2001, LaRouche made an international issue over the fight to stop the shut-down of D.C. General Hospital in Washington; and his campaign pointed out the disastrous process of takedown of community medical facilities, and also Veterans Administration and military base hospitals across the nation.

On **Nov. 14, 2001**, at a briefing on Capitol Hill convened by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), “Public Hospitals in Crisis,” associates of LaRouche presented his views. Rep. Max-



*Science and infrastructure: Moon-Mars colonization mission.*

ine Waters (D-Calif.), referring to LaRouche’s months-long campaign to save D.C. General, which she and other Congressmen had ignored, said, “I apologize, because you were right. It is a national issue.”

On **Oct. 22, 2003**, in an advance statement prepared for an international webcast in Washington, D.C., LaRouche wrote, “Unless the presently incumbent President were to take these actions before I am authorized to do so, during the first hours I am in office I shall take the following measures of executive action to address these issues.

“I. Restore D.C. General Hospital. First, to let the nation and world know I mean business on the issue of health care, I shall act not only to restore the D.C. General Hospital to a full-service public general hospital, but set into motion steps to make that hospital a leading edge of our improved national security and health-security capabilities, and a leading national hospital-institution of its type in the world.

“II. Restore Hill-Burton. Second, in that same hour, I shall send a draft bill of about five to seven pages length to the U.S. Congress, restoring the Hill-Burton Law as national policy, and repealing President Richard M. Nixon’s HMO law. . . .”

**Education:** LaRouche includes improving education as a core part of his national infrastructure policy, and is personally actively engaged in teaching in a series of cadre schools for youth both in the United States and internationally. He is engaged internationally on this subject, for example, speaking at a symposium in Moscow at the Russian Academy of Continuing Education for Teachers, on **Dec. 14, 2001**.

The Special Report, *LaRouche’s Emergency Infrastructure Program for the United States*, contains a full treatment of the principles of discovery, and commitment to truth. “The human potential is expressed in the millennia-long span of

an increase from a few millions, to present billions. . . . This point defines the axiomatic quality of difference between a competent form of general education, known historically by such names as ‘Classical humanist education,’ and the monstrously corrupt forms of education prevalent in U.S. practice and doctrine, including that of universities, today. The need for our return to the conception of a Classical mode of humanist education, corresponds to an indispensable element of the improved economic infrastructure which must be built into the U.S.A.’s public life.”

**Space Program:** LaRouche has, for decades, backed a full commitment to a space program, both on its merits for exploration, and as a science-driver for the economy as a whole. Among many other outlines, his *40-Year Moon-Mars Colonization Mission*, published in 1985, stands out.

On **Jan. 10, 2004**, at a Washington, D.C. campaign webcast, LaRouche said, “What happens in space exploration? We are looking out *to the universe!* To do what? *To discover new physical principles.* Universal principles, which, once discovered, will be applicable to our life on Earth. And that’s exactly what the Kennedy space program demonstrated. If you look out, at the challenge of exploring space, you’re forcing yourself to see problems and opportunities, which show you principles you otherwise would not discover.”

LaRouche stresses the need for in-depth mobilization: “Let’s take where Bush missed the point, where the [current] space program now misses the point. Mars-Moon exploration: Von Braun, back in the 1950s, said that if we’re going to send someone to Mars in the future, we would never send one ship. . . . Columbus had three ships when he crossed the Atlantic. . . . There is tremendous risk; you don’t know what to expect. Therefore, what you do, is you have to carry a logistical capability, for adapting to problems—first, beforehand: We need a more powerful form of flight. We need a higher order of power. We need at least *nuclear propulsion.* [Going into space] will give us new technologies, for example, for developing the Sahara Desert; for managing this planet. . . .

“So what Kennedy had in mind, or what he proposed, was not some joy-ride into space. . . . A space program would function as a *science-driver*, to give us the new technologies, the new principles, to increase the productive powers of man on Earth.”



### 3. Global Infrastructure

LaRouche’s **Aug. 23, 2002** “Science and Infrastructure” contains a section on global infrastructure, noting, “The U.S. system of infrastructure must be assessed as dovetailing with a now emerging global system of multi-continental economic-development corridors. In the case of one of these corridor-networks, the Eurasian Land-Bridge linking Pusan and Japan to Rotterdam, the included mission is to transform corridors running through large regions of Central and North Asia, into regions of development through which efficient access to the development of mineral and other resources becomes economically feasible. Thus, the transport of technology, from ‘fountains’ of technological progress throughout Eurasia, to regions of Asia which have presently a large deficit in such capacity, defines the principal lines of future world trade throughout the interior of Eurasia as a whole.

“In North America, the need for a nationwide water-management program, such as an expanded North American Power and Water Alliance, implies a unified rail-water grid-system reaching, through cooperation among sovereign states, into Mexico and Canada. Domestic infrastructure pol-

icy and related elements of foreign policy must now be seen as of greater importance to us than past practices imply.

“The Eurasian Land-Bridge system is to be linked with systems of the Americas through a rail/maglev link across the region of the Bering Strait.

“The North American rail-water grid is to be extended through Central and South America. Within South America, the combination of wide-scale rail/maglev and water management systems, have an outstanding included importance, in doing for inland South America what the Eurasian Land-Bridge makes possible for Central and North Asia.

“The Southernmost tier of the Eurasian Land-Bridge system enters Africa at Egypt, through a great railway bridge soaring above, and spanning the Suez Canal.

“Within such a global grid of development corridors, the nations enter into a new phase of history, in which cooperation in effectively managing the Biosphere becomes as feasible as it is indispensable.”

On Nov 3-9, 2002, LaRouche visited Monterrey and Coahuila, Mexico, speaking out on the necessity for infrastructure projects for the security of both Mexico and the United States. He announced the goal of developing the “Great American Desert” with water-management and transportation-corridor projects, through committing the United States to a “Super-TVA” policy.

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## Howard Dean

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### 1. The U.S. Infrastructure Breakdown

Dean refers to “failing infrastructure,” and lists as his areas of concern, schools and water systems. Dean says his Fund to Restore America is intended to add more than a million new jobs to the U.S. economy.



### 2. Emergency Economic Infrastructure Proposals

Dean does not propose any systematic improvements of “hard”—infrastructure—energy generation, transportation, water, and land use infrastructure; he believes the shrinkage of the American agricultural sector is permanent. He instead puts forward plans for biotechnologies, information technologies, nanotechnologies, broadband communications for rural areas, and so on.

Dean’s campaign pamphlet, *Common Sense*, indicated that current investment in hard infrastructure is *passé*, and advanced info-tech is the goal: “Progress: Today, technologies exist that can form the foundation of our economy for the next century. We should invest aggressively in them, just as when our nation invested in railroads, rural electrification,

and in public highways.”

**Fund to Restore America:** This is a proposal for a two year, \$100 billion program, “designed to add more than one million new jobs to the economy.” It calls for the Federal government to grant the money to states and localities to spend. No Federal projects are included of any scale; instead, the idea is that local decisions—even concerning such projects as rail—would put money to programs to “create jobs, rebuild infrastructure.” Among the purposes stated, is “to build new, or to renovate and repair, failing infrastructure, including: schools, roads, rail, water systems, wastewater treatment systems, electrical systems, and telecommunications systems.”

On **May 17, 2003**, at the AFSCME union debate in Iowa, Dean said, “I do want to invest in infrastructure. I want to build schools. The worst 10% of our schools need Federal help to be reconstructed. I want to rebuild our infrastructure and transportation. I want to put broadband in rural economies, so we can have a rural economy again. We’re not going to get those agriculture jobs back. We need jobs, and this President, with his supply-side economics is going to shift all of our jobs someplace else in this world; and we need them here in America.”

**Energy:** On **Oct. 21, 2003**, in Iowa, Dean announced a “Renewable Energy Program.” He said, “It’s time we start investing in those resources we have right here and stop relying on foreign oil and fossil fuels. Iowa is one of the best states in the nation to produce wind energy and biofuels. Wind farms, ethanol plants, and other sources of renewable energy create jobs in communities.”

**The Space Program:** On **Nov. 23, 2003**, in a Q&A with the *Concord Monitor*/WashingtonPost.com on line, Dean said, “I am a strong supporter of NASA and every government program that furthers scientific research. I don’t think we should close the shuttle program but I do believe that we should aggressively begin a program to have manned flights to Mars. This, of course, assumes that we can change Presidents so we can have a balanced budget again.”



*Solar power as infrastructure.*



**Health Care:** In the **November 2003** Democratic primary debate in Tennessee, Dean waved a stethoscope in the air to assert authority as a physician. He cites his governorship in Vermont as a model for extending medical coverage. In the **Sept. 4, 2003**, Albuquerque, New Mexico Democratic primary debate, Dean answered the question, how would you insure 41 million uninsured Americans?: “I implemented a workable plan in Vermont. Every child under 18; 99% eligible, 96% have it. Everybody under 150% of poverty had health insurance in my state. Every senior under 225% of poverty gets prescription help. Now, if we can do that in a small rural state and balance the budget, surely the U.S. can join every other industrial country in the world [which all have] health insurance.”

Actually, a survey taken (by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in 1993), showed that 93.2% of Vermont children already had medical insurance before Dean assumed the governorship there, because of his predecessor’s programs; secondly, a 2.6% increase in people insured over the 1990s in Vermont, was due to more people working, according to the Vermont Department of Data Analysis.

Dean’s other major point is cost-effectiveness in health care, by not providing so much care, especially to the elderly. On **Jan. 19, 2004** in Iowa, he said that there is too much end-of-life “intervention” by today’s medical system, and that stopping this will dramatically reduce the cost of health care.

On **May 3, 2003**, in the Democratic Party debate in Columbia, South Carolina, Dean summarized his healthcare plan, saying that his program would “cost less than half of the Bush tax cut. First, everybody under 25 gets Medicaid if they want it. It worked well for us in our state. It’s not expensive. Second, prescription benefits for every senior. . . . Third, between 25 and 65, subsidize small businesses, don’t give the tax credits to the big corporations, subsidize individuals who need help buying health insurance, and then help individuals who work for companies that don’t do it. The cost is half of the Bush tax cut.”

In its **Nov. 30, 2002**, “On the Issues” section, the Dean website gives details for these proposals, in what it calls “three-tiered coverage—state, Federal, and private.” For example, “States should be required to guarantee coverage for all children under age 23. . . .”

Dean does not acknowledge the states’ economic crises, and massive cuts in Medicaid now under way. He does not address the shrinking ratios of hospital beds per 1000 persons, declining number of emergency facilities, shutdown of hospitals, and other aspects of the contraction of medical care delivery, and public health services.

In an interview with *Medscape*, by Christopher Gearon, Dean called himself “a fan of HMOs,” praising them for “not having hassles over billing payments, since you have capitated payments [set fees per capita] up front. . . . I think it’s very important to have gatekeepers. Too many people can go to their specialists in fee for service, when a specialist is not

appropriate. . . . [Managed care] does definitely decrease use of the emergency room.” And, he says, it “has, in fact, begun to squeeze out some of the waste in the healthcare system,” and “begun the process in the medical community to begin questioning some of the prescribing and practice habits that drive costs up.”

Dean says that the means for providing more healthcare coverage could include, for example, having the IRS assign some kind of health insurance to uninsured taxpayers. He would allow persons aged 55-64 to join Medicare, according to AARP in January 2004. AARP estimates \$932 billion over 10 years as the price tag for Dean’s proposals.

**3. Global Infrastructure:** Dean does not discuss joint infrastructure development with other nations.

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## John Kerry

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### 1. The U.S. Infrastructure Breakdown

Kerry does not publicly recognize an overall decline or crisis in the infrastructure base of the country—water, power, transportation, etc. He does make reference to infrastructure problems such as the “transportation challenge” in rural areas; or “sewer overflow” into the rivers; etc. Kerry regards the 1990s—the Clinton years of economic policy—as positive for infrastructure, despite the crises of Amtrak, airline bankruptcies, and steady deterioration of national infrastructure noted by the Civil Engineers Society of America in its annual “report cards” during that period.

On **Dec. 12, 2003**, speaking in Cleveland, in the midst of sweeping cuts in city functions in response to the budget crisis, Kerry stated that investment in infrastructure “is long overdue”—the formulation is repeated in his “First 500 Days” statement on his website.

On **Dec. 8, 2003**, in remarks prepared for a speech at Stanford University, Kerry commented on the decline in education of the workforce. “A decade ago, the United States led the world in the percentage of 24-year-olds who had earned a degree in natural sciences or engineering. Today, the United Kingdom, South Korea, Canada, and Japan have a greater percentage than the United States. There are more information technology engineers in Bangalore than in Silicon Valley.”

### 2. Emergency Economic Infrastructure Proposals

In Kerry’s **Dec. 12, 2003** Cleveland speech, he gave a series of proposals under the heading, “Plan to Revive Economic Growth in the Short Term” in which he stated of infrastructure, “You know, one thing I learned in the military—





*Pipeline to Alaska.*

and John Glenn will know it well—whether on a ship, a small boat, or flying an airplane as John did—you live and die for your preventative maintenance and equipment investment. The same is true for bridges, rail, highways, buildings, and water and sewer systems. Ask Jane Campbell or Jack Ford—ask any mayor of a city or any small town in rural America—and they will tell you that long overdue in this country is an investment in our infrastructure—especially transportation.

“It’s how you create jobs. It’s how you move products. It’s how you make our cities work. And it’s how you help people spend time with their families instead of in traffic jams.”

On **July 30, 2003**, in the “First 500 Days of His Presidency,” campaign statement posted on Kerry’s website, this section is included among the list of 10 areas outlined: “Kerry also believes that improvements in infrastructure are long overdue. It’s how you create jobs. It’s how you move products.”

**Transportation:** The **July 30, 2003** “First 500 Days” statement continues: “This includes building high-speed rail where it makes sense; which can create jobs, reduce traffic, and help people and products get where they need to go.” On **Dec. 12, 2003**, he stated, “And I believe it’s past time we used our ingenuity . . . our incredible creativity to fundamentally improve our transportation system by embarking on an extensive commitment to build high-speed rail where it makes sense, and alternatives where it does not. Why should we lag behind France, Germany, and Japan? We can create jobs, reduce traffic and help people and products get where they need to go.”

But Kerry’s “Plan to Fight for America’s Economic Future,” **Aug. 28, 2003**, makes no recommendations for this or other infrastructure sectors, except high-tech communications and broadband. Nor is there a listing for either infrastruc-

ture or rail, in Kerry’s 26 “On the Issues” look-up list. Under Agriculture on that look-up list, it says, “John Kerry understands that revitalizing communities requires capital, infrastructure, and technology. . . . He has supported rural transportation initiatives that would expand Amtrak’s service to more of America’s rural cities and towns. Kerry has also consistently supported the Essential Air Program, which ensures that rural airports maintain an adequate level of service. And John Kerry has a plan to replace the nearly 3 million jobs lost during the Bush Administration.”

**Water:** The Kerry campaign does not address the deterioration in the nation’s water system—supply shortages, aged distribution lines and treatment facilities, etc.; but focuses on the issues of pollution and environment.

On **Nov. 12, 2003**, a campaign press release was issued, “John Kerry Calls for Comprehensive Plan to Restore America’s Air and Waters.” It calls for the creation of a new Environmental Enforcement Commission, to “stand up to special interests,” that want to use “our common ground as our dumping ground.” Among the many points provided, are proposals to restore wetlands, restore water systems (“natural” filtration), protect rivers (control stormwater run-off and sewer overflows), and “invest in America’s riverfronts, lakefronts.” The last point states, “He will work with communities and interested stakeholders as they turn their attention back to their waterfronts as a focus of urban rebirth and economic growth, in tandem with environmental improvement.”

**Energy:** Kerry campaign statements offer no overview of the energy crisis, in terms of fundamentals—falling per-capita generation capability, rising costs, need for re-regulation, etc.

In Kerry’s “100 Days To Change America”—his “Real Deal”—point four of ten summarizes his energy view, in tandem with an environmental proposal: “We will roll back the George W. Bush assault on clean air and clean water and work to strengthen our nation’s environmental laws. Kerry will also put forward a plan to make the U.S. energy-independent of Middle East oil in ten years—and create 500,000 jobs by investing in energy-renewable sources, such as ethanol, solar, and wind.”

In his **June 16, 2003** statement, “Energy Security Is American Security,” he states: “While we may not all recognize it, America has made exactly the sort of energy transition I am calling for, more than once before. For much of the 1800s, our primary source of energy was wood. By the late 1800s coal was king and oil accounted for only 3 percent of our energy. . . . By the end of World War II, oil was the nation’s dominant energy course. Natural gas, once burned off as waste, was added to the energy mix in the ’40s. Nuclear

power came on line in the '50s. And today we are fueled by a mix of oil, gas, coal, nuclear, and hydroelectric power. It has been our history to evolve from one fuel source to another gradually and economically. Now we need to prepare our nation for the 21st Century and begin a gradual economic transition to domestic, clean, and reliable energy technologies," listed elsewhere as wind, bio-fuels, ethanol, hydrogen cells, etc.

In his **Aug. 28, 2003** statement, "Plan to Fight for America's Economic Future," Kerry said there should be investment in projects like building the Alaska National Pipeline, "to carry the vast gas reserves of Alaska to the Midwest." The pipeline project, one product of Vice President Cheney's energy task force, was recently announced.

**Education:** Kerry does not address the content, nor the physical plant and equipment of the education and science sector. Among what he does address, is to "make college more affordable" by creating a new College Opportunity Tax Credit. He would pay tuition outright for students who give two years of Service for College, through work in communities or other civic tasks he calls "national service."

**Health Care:** Kerry does not address deficiencies in ratios of beds, diagnostics, staff, public health services, and other aspects of the healthcare and public health systems of the nation, but, rather focuses on making health care more "accessible," and on monitoring that HMOs and other plans are meeting "quality" standards.

On **May 31, 2002**, Kerry told the Democratic Convention of Massachusetts, "We must end the disgrace of America being the only industrialized nation on the planet not to make health care accessible to all our citizens."

Kerry's "On the Issues" section of his website, lists 12 "Priorities" (each discussed at more length). The summary of his detailed health plan states: "John Kerry's healthcare plan holds down costs, while offering access to affordable coverage for every American. The Kerry Plan will cover nearly 27 million uninsured Americans and will ensure that nearly 96% of adults, and 99% of children have proper health insurance." Kerry would allow people aged 55-64 to join a new, proposed Federal program, at subsidized rates. On Medicare, "In his first 100 days as President, Kerry will propose a bill that keeps Medicare strong, instead of privatizing it, and allows seniors to choose their doctor, instead of forcing them into HMOs."

He also states that he "is the author of the most comprehensive HIV/AIDS bill ever to pass the Senate."

Kerry's 12 listed healthcare "Priorities":

1. Give every American access to the same healthcare plan as Members of Congress;
2. Guaranteed health care for every child;
3. Support medical research, and assure all Americans benefit from more effective treatment;
4. Make care more affordable;
5. Protect Medicare;
6. Use "a new approach" to control spiralling healthcare costs;
7. Make prescriptions affordable for all;
8. Assure fairness to

9. Make malpractice insurance more affordable;
10. Enforce a strong Patients Bill of Rights;
11. Protect the Right to Choose;
12. Protect women's health.

*Space Program:* Kerry states support for the space program, but had no comment on the Mars landing. On **Dec. 8, 2003**, in remarks prepared for delivery at Stanford University, Kerry said, "We need to foster the next generation of discovery and ingenuity with increased funding for important programs and agencies such as the National Science Foundation and NASA."

**3. Global Infrastructure:** Kerry does not discuss joint infrastructure development with other nations.

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## John Edwards

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### 1. The U.S. Infrastructure Breakdown

Edwards makes only isolated references to infrastructure in his various campaign proposals, for example: 1) vulnerability to terrorist attack (e.g., seaports, rail tunnels, nuclear power plants); 2) the lack of broadband communications in rural areas; 3) the lack of local infrastructure for a "national medical records system;" 4) the shortage of nurses; and 5) the inadequacy of the U.S. public health system in the face of the flu epidemic of 2003-04.



### 2. Emergency Economic Infrastructure Proposals

Edwards has no program to upgrade the hard and soft infrastructure base of the nation. The thrust of his economic proposals are all fiscal and financial, motivated by the idea of allowing more people a fair chance to participate in "our great free enterprise system."

His isolated mentions of infrastructure issues are as summarized here.

On **Dec. 18, 2002**, in his "Homeland Security Address" at the Brookings Institution, Edwards said, on safeguarding physical sites, "Congress has passed legislation to strengthen border security, port security, cybersecurity, and guard against bioterrorism. I wrote provisions in all those bills; but for the most part, they're not being funded the way they should be." He said there is no "comprehensive strategy in place" to train people "to protect bridges and tunnels." He presumes the transportation infrastructure cited is, in itself, in adequate condition.

**Energy:** Edwards does not address the declining power generation capacity per capita in the nation, nor aged electricity transmission system, nor the deregulation disaster.

In a program called "Fueling America's Future," Edwards



*A push for more hospital nursing staff.*

calls for expansion of “renewable” fuels, including wood chips, and “biorefineries” processing switchgrass, corn husks, rice straw, as well as corn-ethanol. On **Aug. 1, 2003**, he stated, “I am pleased that the energy bill I voted for more than doubles the use of ethanol in gasoline and encourages energy conservation. I have long supported increasing our commitment to renewables. . . .”

**Communications:** Edwards calls for a “National Broadband Policy” involving providing Federal grants for localities to build the local infrastructure for a national medical records system—part of the Edwards healthcare plan, and for rural areas to “use the Internet to full advantage.”

**Health Care:** Edwards does not address the crisis of the shutdown of hospitals, the decline in emergency facilities, and similar problems, except for the shortage of nurses, for which he proposes a plan to add 100,000 new nurses by 2010. His website states, “Under the Edwards Plan, grants will be made available to hospitals and nursing homes to improve the working conditions of all 2.2 million of America’s nurses, and to draw 50,000 Americans . . . back into the profession. In addition, nursing schools will be expanded and scholarships provided so that another 50,000 nurses will be added.”

His proposals on health care otherwise are financial. According to the summary by AARP, **January 2004**: “Edwards would offer ‘targetted help’—chiefly through refundable tax credits—to two-thirds of the nation’s uninsured adults as well as to small businesses and the unemployed. He’d allow adults with incomes up to 250% of the Federal poverty level to buy into Medicaid or children’s insurance programs at subsidized rates.”

The Edwards plan is presented in seven points, including No. 5, “Ensure consumers get a fair deal from HMOs and insurance companies”; and No. 6, “Reduce fraud and abuse in government healthcare programs.”

**Public Health:** On **Dec. 15, 2003**, Edwards said of the flu epidemic, “This outbreak is a reminder that we must improve our public health system. . . . It needs the resources to respond to emergencies and keep us healthy.” His emphasis is on information-sharing, and a “real-time, unified national tracking system.” He proposes: “Fiscal crises have forced many states to cut support for public hospitals and health departments. Edwards introduced a \$50 billion state aid package with the resources to relieve these fiscal crises and provide adequate funds for public health systems.”

**The Space Program:** Edwards said in Des Moines on **Dec. 29, 2003**, “Well, I’m all for the space program, but Mr. President, if you’re looking for a vision, it’s time to solve the middle-class problems you’ve forgotten here on Earth.”

**3. Global Infrastructure:** Edwards does not discuss joint infrastructure development with other nations.

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## Joe Lieberman

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### 1. The U.S. Infrastructure Breakdown

Among 24 areas listed as “key” to the Lieberman platform on his campaign website, infrastructure is not mentioned. In line with the Democratic Leadership Council he leads, Lieberman takes the “New Economy,” anti-infrastructure view to the point of absurdity.



On **Oct. 18, 2002**—even as the stock market, fiber optic, and other bubbles had burst, Lieberman gave a speech at the NASDAQ Market titled, “Agenda for Economic Prosperity,” in which he issued a 31-point “stimulus” package for the nation, on the premise of inducing consumers to spend again. One point was “Bring Investors Back to the Markets,” and specified such measures as a zero-capital-gains tax for investors in new stock offerings by entrepreneurial firms, by which Lieberman meant info-tech, bio-tech, etc. For Lieberman, the term “infrastructure” ipso facto means such areas of technology as info-tech, especially broadband.

On **May 28, 2003**, in a speech at the University of California San Diego, Lieberman said, “Just as our nation couldn’t grow in the 19th Century without railroads, and in the 20th Century without highways, we cannot grow in the 21st Century without the high-speed, wide roads of broadband.” The speech was titled, “Growing the Innovation Economy: A New Strategy for a New Prosperity,” and gave the theme of all Lieberman’s discussion of “infrastructure.”



*The Computer as alpha and omega of infrastructure.*

## 2. Emergency Economic Infrastructure Proposals

Among the multiple statements and plans related to the economy in the Lieberman campaign, there are three contexts in which infrastructure figures: 1) protecting it—water, power, ports, etc.—against attacks from terrorists, as part of a proposed upgrade to Homeland Security; 2) complaining that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has not done its job in creating energy security; and 3) seeking to advance communications infrastructure such as broadband.

In his **Oct. 13, 2003**, major campaign document, “Leading With Integrity—A Fresh Start For America,” attention to hard infrastructure is insignificant.

In Lieberman’s Homeland Security proposal is stated the need for “launching a comprehensive new effort to protect our infrastructure—our transportation networks, energy grids, food and water supplies, and more.”

**Energy:** Lieberman does not address the shrinking power generation capacity of the nation, nor aged transmission lines, nor other physical conditions. He supports deregulation. After the **August 2003** black-outs, in which 250,000 people lost power in his state of Connecticut alone, Lieberman blamed FERC for not enforcing deregulation competently, in his position as the Democratic ranking member of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. On **Aug. 27, 2003**, he said, “It’s extremely troubling to me that—after a decade of leading the charge to deregulate the electricity and natural gas markets—FERC is still at the starting gate when it comes to being able to prevent these problems.” Lieberman took the same tactic in **June 2001**, when he chaired the same Senate Committee during the California crisis, clearly caused by a disastrous electricity deregulation policy.

**Communications:** In Lieberman’s elaborate “Plan to Revive Manufacturing,” it is stated, “Lieberman will build 21st-Century infrastructure cooperatively with the private sector, by wiring all of America to the high-speed Internet

by 2010 and seeding the private sector to replace antiquated energy, transportation, and production systems with new, environmentally-friendly infrastructure.”

**Education:** On **May 28, 2003**, Lieberman said, “As President, I will make the improvement of science and mathematics education in our schools a top priority. And we will increase the number of college students who study science and engineering. I will expand and fully fund the ‘Tech Talent’ bill I introduced, and which is now the law of the land.”

**Health Care:** On **Sept. 2, 2003**, Lieberman released his healthcare plan, “To Treat America Right,” focused on extending coverage to the uninsured. The Lieberman plan does not acknowledge, nor address the drastic loss over the past 30 years of hospitals, emergency facilities, and ratios of beds, treatment equipment, staffing, and similar aspects of the physical healthcare delivery system.

Lieberman’s plan says that it will “get the economy going and bring the deficit down” which will provide the resources to help children, and “workers who are falling through the cracks.” It calls for two new national insurance plans: “MediKids, covering children from birth to age 25; and MediChoice, described by AARP as intended—“through bulk purchasing—to give workers of all income levels access to insurance.” He also proposes tax credits for long-term care, and to expand Medicare’s coverage of treatment for mental illness and substance abuse. Lieberman stresses that the cost of care, not just the cost of insurance coverage, must be reduced.

He calls for an “American Center for Cures” for research into cancer and other diseases.

**The Space Program:** On **Jan. 14, 2004**, Lieberman said, “I cannot support this mission [Bush’s statement on Mars and the Moon] today. I want America to go back to the Moon and on to Mars in the future. But we should not be going hundreds of millions of miles away on a costly new mission when we have limited resources.”

**3. Global Infrastructure:** Lieberman does not discuss joint infrastructure development with other nations.

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## Gen. Wesley Clark

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### 1. The U.S. Infrastructure Breakdown

Clark does not evince any awareness of the deficit condition of the infrastructure base of the nation. Infrastructure specifics—water systems, decaying inland navigation, rail and transportation—do not appear in his Issues statement, “My Economic Vision: Jobs and



Growth for All Americans,” in which “smart stimulus programs” are promised, but with no association to infrastructure repair or building.

In Clark’s proposal for a “Homeland and Economic Security Fund,” there is this criticism of the present-day situation under the Bush Administration: “Too little focus on, and investment in, protecting America’s critical infrastructure (e.g., electricity infrastructure).”

In Clark’s “Agenda for Cities,” there is passing mention made of “deteriorating infrastructure.”

General Clark charges that Bush Administration policy “has weakened [the] public health system. With a few exceptions, funding for critical health programs, like the Ryan White Act, has not kept up with needs, and in some cases, has declined.”

## 2. Emergency Economic Infrastructure Proposals

Clark’s economic plan, “Saving for America’s Future,” is keyed to, “Saving \$2.35 trillion over ten years for deficit reduction and investment in priorities.” The two he cites are education and health care. In this policy statement, he has no recognition of “hard” economic infrastructure. That comes up elsewhere, in Clark’s proposal for a Homeland Economic and Security Fund. “The Fund [\$40 billion would be in place for two years to accelerate investments in homeland security.” It lists “training first responders, hiring more Coast Guard, preparing hospitals for bio-terrorism, etc.; construction projects to prepare ports, bridges, and tunnels. . . .”

Clark’s campaign document calling for the homeland defense states makes passing reference to hard infrastructure: “General Clark’s Homeland and Economic Security Fund will have three beneficial effects: First it will create jobs directly (e.g., construction projects to secure ports, bridges, and tunnels). Other effects concern hiring of more protector jobs, and the secondary effect hirings.”

Clark’s campaign document on “Agenda for Cities,” calls for creating “a State and Local Tax Rebate Fund of \$40 billion over two years to create jobs and lessen the need for states and local governments to raise taxes and other fees, and cut critical expenditures and investments in infrastructure.”

Clark’s “Rural and Farm Security” policy document states, under the subtopic, “Upgrade rural infrastructure”: “Wes Clark knows that to achieve a vibrant rural economy, we must fix the crumbling highways, bridges, rail, and water systems that serve our agricultural heartland. But these days, information as well as commodities moves from coast to coast and beyond. Wes Clark will: Make repairing and upgrading rural America’s pipes, roads, bridges, and broadband infrastructure a national priority; Devote the resources necessary to achieve universal broadband access as quickly as possible to allow rural hospitals and schools to better serve rural populations.”

**Energy:** Clark backs all the popularized myths, for example, on alternative energy. In his “Rural and Farm Security”



*Protecting infrastructure more than building it.*

document, he states, “Work to ensure that farmers and ranchers receive increased access to capital through tax credits and other incentives and technical assistance they need to take advantage of opportunities to increase profit through renewable energy production.”

**The Space Program:** On Jan. 7, 2004, Clark issued a release congratulating NASA on the Mars landing, saying, “This mission will help us discover whether there ever was life beyond Earth, and it will improve our understanding of climate change. *Spirit* is an example of how, working together, government, private industry, and NGO’s can advance science, education, and our economy, all at a reasonable cost. We need leadership that supports sensible investments in space technology.”

**Health Care:** Clark has, on the Issues section of his website, a lengthy “Plan for health care for American Families,” no part of which addresses the declining ratios of hospitals, beds, emergency facilities, staff and public health care in the nation. Much of it deals with cost-containment. The three part overview calls for stressing preventive—“cost-effective”—treatment, and coverage for all children; secondly, tax credits to make insurance coverage more affordable to families, and also a requirement of families with children to purchase it; and thirdly, financial aid to those between jobs, or otherwise low-income and vulnerable. “The plan would cost a net \$695 billion over 10 years from 2004-2013.” Clark is quoted in the **January 2004 AARP Bulletin**, “My plan focuses on getting more bang for the healthcare buck.”

Clark calls for “targetted public health initiatives” under his health plan: “III. Provide Extra Assistance to Vulnerable Populations. This plan would specifically increase funding for public health programs to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities and improve prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS.”

**3. Global Infrastructure:** Clark does not discuss joint infrastructure development with other nations.

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## Dennis Kucinich

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### 1. The U.S. Infrastructure Breakdown

Kucinich speaks of the “decaying infrastructure nationwide—such as schools, roads, water treatment, and environmental systems” in connection with his proposals “to stimulate the economy through investment in a jobs program restoring infrastructure.” He does not identify rail transportation as a vital part of infrastructure.

Among the major causes Kucinich cites for the decay of the U.S. economy overall, for loss of jobs, and “neglected infrastructure,” are: NAFTA and the free trade ideology; the lack of trust-busting by the Department of Justice; deregulation and privatization of energy; and the Bush Administration’s protection of special interests through preferential tax breaks, etc.

On **Aug. 18, 2003**, the Kucinich campaign put out a press release on the 50 million person black-out, reiterating: “Throughout Dennis Kucinich’s political career, he has battled for public power and against privatization and deregulation.” In 1977, Kucinich ran and won the office of Mayor of Cleveland, vowing to stop the sell-off of the city-owned electric system, Munny Light, which he did. In retaliation, Cleveland Trust Bank, in collusion with CEI power company, declared the City of Cleveland in financial default on Dec. 15, 1978, and Kucinich was subsequently voted out of office. However, under the slogan, “Because he was right,” Kucinich returned to elected office in 1994, to the Ohio State Senate. In 1996, he was elected to Federal Congress, in a campaign using signs with a light bulb behind his name, and the slogan, “Light Up Congress,” meaning, against deregulation of energy.

In a Labor Day speech on **Sept. 1, 2003**, “Employ the Jobless to Rebuild America’s Decaying Infrastructure,” Kucinich said, “The crisis of our decaying infrastructure is something we see every day when we sit in traffic bound by orange barrels that line our highways. It is something that schoolchildren experience at their desks, crowded together under leaking roofs. In cities, municipal sewer systems overflow into rivers, streams and estuaries. These events occur with increasing regularity as systems age. Infrastructure problems threaten our productivity, our economy, our environment and our health.

“Nationally, it would take more than \$1 trillion to bring our country’s roadways up to



speed, according to a report released a couple of year ago by the American Society for Civil Engineers. It would take \$127 billion to repair and renovate our schools, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. And in a study completed by the Water Infrastructure Network, it would take \$1.3 billion over 20 years to build, operate and maintain drinking water and wastewater facilities.”

### 2. Emergency Economic Infrastructure Proposals

Kucinich frequently mentions the need for large-scale job creation and infrastructure-building, in specific, like the Works Projects Administration (WPA) programs of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

In his **Sept. 1, 2003** speech (above), he called for the creation of low-cost Federal financing to administer \$50 billion in zero-interest loans every year for ten years. Of these funds, 20% would be for school construction and repair. State and local governments would continue to issue bonds to finance infrastructure projects, but the Kucinich plan would authorize the Federal government to buy those bonds. The Federal government would hold them in a Federal Bank for Infrastructure Modernization (FBIM), which would administer the loans. The Federal Reserve would transfer about \$50 billion annually to the FBIM—i.e., the Federal Reserve would operate as it does now to add liquidity to the system.

The speech states, “Two million Americans would find jobs in such enterprises as rebuilding schools, designing roads, refurbishing environmental projects and manufacturing steel for water systems. . . .” He omits any mention of railroad expansion, even for farm areas, where his web page for “Farm Policy” calls for “putting thousands to work re-



*The old WPA and CCC camps as infrastructure models.*

building invaluable public assets such as schools, hospitals, libraries, swimming pools, and parks.”

Kucinich says, “Investing \$500 billion to rebuild schools, roads, bridges, ports, and sewage, water, and environmental systems will do more to stimulate our economy than tax breaks for the wealthy.” On **Oct. 27, 2003**, at the Detroit Democratic Party candidates debate, he said, “My economic strategy would be to fuel growth in the economy by having a full-employment economy, by working to rebuild our cities with a massive new WPA-type program.”

**Energy:** Kucinich, who would end energy deregulation, stresses “alternative” energy sources, including low-efficiency modes such as wind and solar power: “I will spur research and investment in ‘alternative’ energy sources—hydrogen, solar, wind, and ocean—and make them mainstream.”

**Transportation:** Kucinich calls for upgrading highways. He does not address infrastructure improvements in rail or air transportation.

**Water:** Under his “Clean Water” policy, Kucinich states a number of proposals, including: “Stop privatization of drinking water and sewer systems”; and “Make a major investment in water system infrastructure.”

**Health Care:** The Kucinich proposal is called, “Enhanced Medical Care for All.” He describes it: “A universal, single-payer system of national health insurance, carefully phased in over 10 years.” Over time, private insurers would be removed from the system. Over time, all would be insured, including “the 45 million Americans without coverage and those paying exorbitant rates for health insurance.”

Kucinich estimates that at the present time, HMOs and other private health companies are taking 18% of medical payments for “administration,” while Medicare, in contrast, takes 3%; and he cites a Harvard Medical School study saying administrative bureaucracy costs the United States about \$399.4 billion a year. He and Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) have introduced a healthcare system bill in the Congress, H.R. 676.

**Education:** Kucinich calls for a major refurbishment of the physical plant of the nation’s school systems, to ensure conditions “conducive to learning.” He does not address the content of education.

**3. Global Infrastructure:** Kucinich calls for a “Global Green Deal,” in which the United States’ development of alternative energy technologies will give leadership to induce other nations to do likewise.

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## Al Sharpton

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### 1. The U.S. Infrastructure Breakdown

Sharpton states that U.S. “hard” economic infrastructure is in decay, but does not elaborate. In various statements to

the media, he presents generalizations about “highways, tunnels, bridges, roadways” ports, and railroads being in a condition of “infrastructural decay.”

Taking case of health care as example of his view of the cause of this decay, his website states: “Providing a high quality healthcare system for all Americans is not the result of a lack of resources, only the lack of political will.”



### 2. Emergency Economic Infrastructure Proposals

On **Sept. 25, 2003** at a debate at Pace University, Sharpton said: “I’ve proposed a five-year, \$250 billion infrastructure redevelopment plan. \$50 billion a year rebuilding highways, roadways, tunnels, bridges, and—in the name of homeland security—ports. If you look at the ports in this country, we are in disrepair. Not only does it create jobs, it does what is needed because we need to deal with the infrastructural decay. And if we do not create jobs, we can have all of the recovery we want in production, we are not going to have consumers to buy it.”

**Energy:** On **June 26, 2003**, in the Democratic candidates’ “Debate on the Environment” in Los Angeles, Sharpton called for moving away from “an oil-based economy.” He said, “You need to clear up on oil-based economy, free ourselves. Build jobs by building hybrid vehicles and by building electric vehicles. . . . We should have a goal of trying to do 45 miles per gallon.”

**Health Care:** Sharpton wants a “Right to Health Care of Equal High Quality” amendment to the Constitution, and gives a draft text on his campaign website. He does not address the shrinking infrastructure base of the nation’s healthcare system, such as the shutting down of D.C. General Hospital in Washington.

On **May 2, 2003**, in an interview with TheState.com, Sharpton said, “I believe health care’s a human right that should be put in the Constitution as a new amendment. That’s why I support House Joint Resolution 30. Charlton Heston believes in Second Amendment constitutional gun rights. I believe in constitutional healthcare rights.”

On **Sept. 25, 2003**, at the Pace University Debate, Sharpton said, “You’ve got to have a single-payer plan for everyone,” in answer to a question about senior citizens and the then-pending prescription drug bill.

**Education:** Sharpton wants an “Education Rights Amendment” to the Constitution, declaring “the right of all Americans to have a public education of equal high quality. It was introduced in the U.S. House as H.J. Res. 29,” and is listed as a platform plank on Sharpton’s campaign website.

**3. Global Infrastructure:** Sharpton does not discuss joint infrastructure development with other nations.



## CBO Deficit Forecast Jumps by \$100 Billion

The Congressional Budget Office, in its 2004 budget outlook, is forecasting a deficit of \$477 billion, more than \$100 billion more than Fiscal 2003's largest deficit in U.S. history. This, although the CBO is also forecasting 4.8% inflation-adjusted growth for 2004, 4.2% for 2005, and 2.7% annual growth from 2006 to 2014. It also projects a total of \$1.893 trillion in deficits through 2014, providing that the 2001 tax cuts are not extended when they expire in FY 2007. The forecast repeats those of the last four years: Deficits are projected to decline over the next ten years, and tax revenues to increase. But the real outcome of the past three years' forecasts has been that deficits have climbed and revenues have fallen. Tax revenues fell by \$71 billion, or 3.9%, in 2003, the third straight annual decline.

The White House is suggesting that the CBO's numbers are inflated, because of the requirement that it assume no changes in policy when it makes its projections; however, some Republicans in the Congress are becoming increasingly nervous about the unchecked flow of red ink. Democrats, on the other hand, took an "I told you so" attitude. Representative John Spratt (D-S.C.) and Sen. Kent Conrad (D-N.D.), the ranking Democrats on the Budget Committees of their chambers, blasted the Bush Administration's budget policies in a Jan. 26 press conference. "This confirms our fears that deficits loom way into the future . . . and it casts grave doubt on the administration's claim that they can cut the deficit in half over five years," said Spratt.

Conrad actually made reference to the real danger, citing an article in the *Washington Post* that morning on the collapse of the dollar against the euro. He noted that the article reported the fear that foreigners will tire of financ-

ing "America's appetites," with the result that interest rates will rise; inflation, bankruptcies and economic malaise will follow. "That is the risk this President is running," Conrad said. "It is utterly reckless." He still failed to identify the real process behind the dollar collapse he alluded to—the post-industrial policy trends of the last 35 years, that turned the U.S. economy from the world's largest producer into a consumer that has to loot the world to sustain itself.

## Senate Passes Omnibus Spending Bill

The U.S. Senate finally closed out the Fiscal 2004 appropriations process, on Jan. 22, when it passed the Omnibus Appropriations bill, wrapping up seven (out of the 13) annual spending bills that had not been passed. The House had passed the bill in late November, and Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) frustrated attempts by Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) to pass it on a voice vote.

When the Senate returned from its Winter recess on Jan. 20, Frist began the session by threatening the Senate that if the bill did not pass, it would be replaced by a continuing resolution funding the affected government agencies at Fiscal 2003 levels, creating hardships for veterans, food security, HIV/AIDS victims, and school districts awaiting Federal funds.

Senate Democrats, with the help of a handful of angry Republicans, did delay passage of the bill by a 48-45 cloture vote, but allowed it to pass two days later, 65-28. Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) said repeatedly that the Democrats did not want to be seen as obstructive but rather, wanted the bill fixed, especially to reflect the results of majority votes on issues such as overtime pay, food labeling, and media concentration. He

noted that the positions on all three issues in the bill were written by a handful of people in conference committee, and "So, I think we have to be concerned about democracy and about our Republic as occasions such as this arise."

## Showdown Looms on Roads, School Spending

Both Houses of Congress are primed to take up a new six-year highway bill in early February, in what promises to be the first of many collisions between Congress and the White House, on spending priorities in the Fiscal 2005 budget, scheduled to be released on Feb. 3. While the Bush budget proposes a six-year plan of \$247 billion, the Senate is to consider a \$311 billion bill; the House Transportation Committee, chaired by Rep. Don Young (R-Ak.), is looking at a \$375 billion plan. Some say it would take \$450 billion to meet the demands of the nation's clogged roads and crumbling infrastructure.

Young's committee is the largest in the House, with 76 members, and will prove a formidable block if Bush vetoes the highway bill, as some have suggested he might, in order to placate radical conservatives who complain that domestic spending has risen too fast during Bush's tenure. Committee spokesman Steven Hansen told the *Washington Post* on Jan. 24, "If we were to just punt and go with current funding levels, by 2009 our national highway and road system would be in chaos." Confrontation is also looming on funding for special education programs. The Bush budget proposes a \$1 billion increase, whereas Sen. Judd Gregg (R-N.H.), chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, is proposing a \$2 billion increase to cover 40% of school districts' special education costs, to meet a 30-year-old promise.

### *'DRE': As Discredited as 'WMD'*

An election based on “direct recording electronic” voting machines is as illegal as a war based on conjured-up weapons of mass destruction, and in both cases, not a trace of evidence can be found afterwards. The United States has already seen electronic voting experiments become fiascos: the 2002 Georgia Congressional elections, in which the candidates leading in the election-eve polls lost and the state was barred from seeing the vote-counting software used by the Diebold Corporation; the Iowa county in 2000 where 300 votes cast were counted as 4 million; the 2002 races in which computers awarded victories to the losers; and the 2004 Presidential primary in the nation’s capital, in which the total reported vote abruptly doubled well after midnight, the results bore no correlation to election-eve polls, and city officials’ demands for an investigation have so far resulted in nothing. Plans to introduce electronic voting in other states have been proliferating nonetheless, topped by the Pentagon’s obscene but operational experiment in “Internet online voting” for overseas absentee voters (which article of the U.S. Constitution gave the Defense Department responsibility for organizing elections?).

The threat of widespread “DRE” and related virtual voting arose from the Congress’ misnamed Help America Vote Act of 2002, exploiting the reaction to the 2000 Florida Presidential primary mess. Thus the threat really arose from Al Gore’s and Joe Lieberman’s decision not to challenge or even mention the real outrage in Florida—the disenfranchisement of tens of thousands of mainly minority voters—and to protest instead against the type of voting machines used in the Miami area. The introduction of electronic voting, which leaves no record of citizens’ votes and counts votes by unverifiable procedures subject to easy tampering, can disenfranchise many millions of voters, and destroy the Constitutional election process entirely.

But since the outrage of the Jan. 13 Washington, D.C. primary, and candidate Lyndon LaRouche’s statement that the American Constitutional republic could not survive such virtual elections, the tide has

turned against electronic voting, which is now thoroughly discredited.

One major blow came from outside the United States: The Philippines Supreme Court handed down a hard-hitting decision on Jan. 13 that banned electronic voting as a danger to the Philippines Republic, and confirmed that testing of DRE machines purchased for elections there had shown them inherently unreliable. The Court wrote that “We are thus confronted with the grim prospect of election fraud on a massive scale by means of just a few keystrokes.”

Then on Jan. 19, computer experts from Massachusetts Institute of Technology publicized their study of the Pentagon’s online voting plan, and warned that it was even more dangerous and unreliable than electronic “touch-screen” voting. Ten days later, on Jan. 28, all of the associations which organize the absentee voting of Americans abroad—those of Democratic, Republican, and independent voters—joined in a public call for the Pentagon plan, intended for them, to be abandoned, as capable of calling an entire close election into question once again.

That same day, the news came out, of a realistic hands-on test of the state of Maryland’s planned electronic voting system—a study in which computer experts were brought in as “hackers” to tamper with Maryland’s computer-voting set-up. The hackers had a field day, gaining entry to the machines physically, electronically, gaining control of them with small concealed keyboards in the voting booths; one managed to get control of the entire system, so that he “could have changed the result, could have shut down the election, could have given one guy’s vote to another,” as he told a radio interviewer. The score was hackers 99, DRE 0, and the Maryland official in charge was reduced to repeating, “We’re sure the system is secure”!

Neither candidates, citizens, nor the world’s respect for the U.S. Constitution is secure, while electronic voting has not been stopped. As the U.S. Congress helped open this Pandora’s box, it is the responsibility of Congress to close it shut tight by appropriate remedial legislation.

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MediaOne Ch.43  
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—5:30 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  
Thursdays—4:30 pm
- W.SAN FDO.VLY.  
Time Warner Ch.34  
Wed.—5:30 pm

## CONNECTICUT

- GROTON—Ch.12  
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

## INDIANA

- BLOOMINGTON  
Insight Ch.3  
Tuesdays—8 pm
- DELAWARE COUNTY  
Comcast Ch.42  
Mondays—11 pm
- GARY  
AT&T Ch.21  
Monday-Thursday  
8 am - 12 Noon

## KENTUCKY

- BOONE/KENTON  
Insight Ch.21  
Mon: 4 pm; Sat: 5 pm
- JEFFERSON Ch.98  
Fridays—2 pm

## LOUISIANA

- ORLEANS PARISH  
Cox Ch.78  
Tuesdays & Saturdays  
4 am & 4 pm

## MARYLAND

- ANNE ARUNDEL  
Annapolis Ch.20  
Millennium Ch.99  
Sat & Sun: 12:30 am

All programs are *The LaRouche Connection* unless otherwise noted. (\*) Call station for times.

## MONTGOMERY Ch.19

- 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  
WINDSORS Ch.27

## COLD SPRING

- 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 (N 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

## 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  
Fridays—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/STEBEN  
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
- IRONDEQUIT 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  
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  
Time Warner Cable  
Thu—11 pm (Ch.35)  
Sat—8 am (Ch.34)

## MONTVALE/MAHWAH

- 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  
Fridays—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/STEBEN  
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
- IRONDEQUIT 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  
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  
Time Warner Cable  
Thu—11 pm (Ch.35)  
Sat—8 am (Ch.34)

## TOMPKINS COUNTY

- 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  
Tue—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  
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  
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  
WTBO Ch.2  
Mondays—6 pm
- CHESTERFIELD  
Comcast Ch.6  
Tuesdays—5 pm
- FAIRFAX—Ch.10  
Tuesdays—12 Noon  
Thursdays—7 pm
- LOUDOUN  
Adelphia Ch. 23/24  
Thursdays—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

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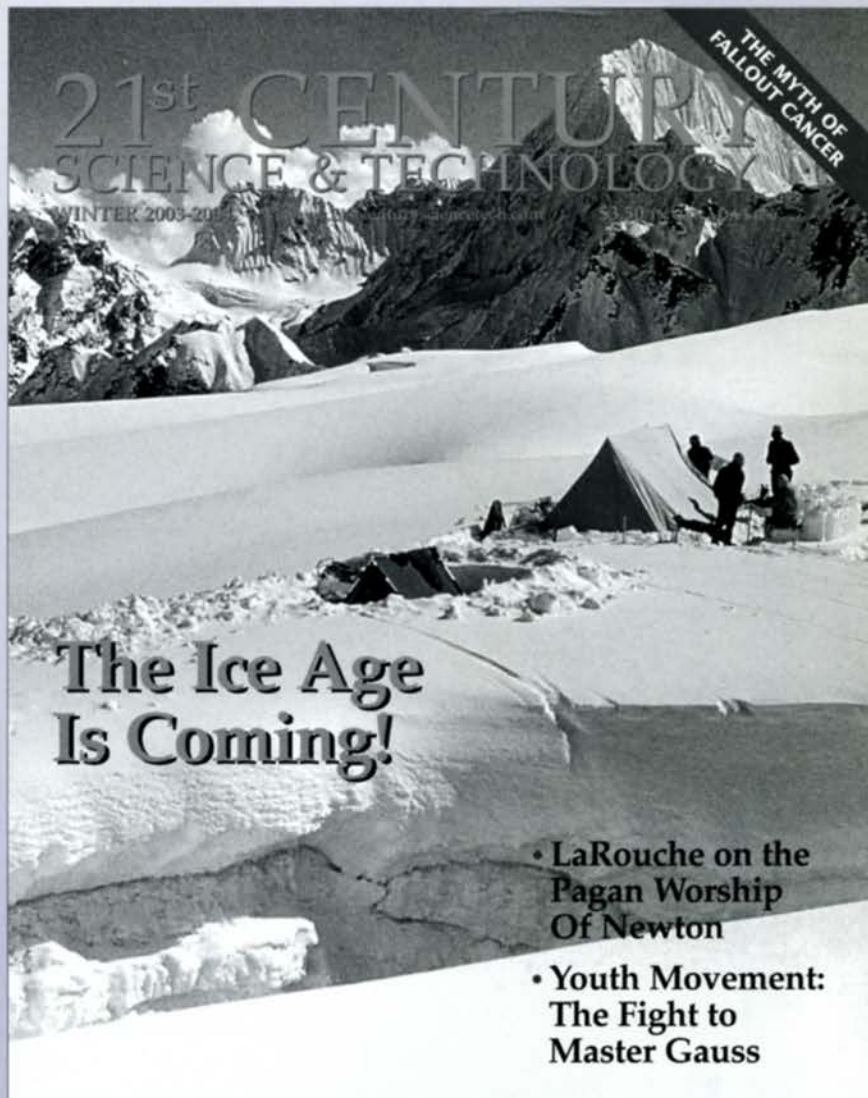
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