

Editorial

Rohatyn, or LaRouche?

The shockingly sudden announcement by International Monetary Fund Managing Director Horst Köhler, that he is leaving the Fund in order to run for the largely ceremonial position as President of Germany, and the numerous mootings of the early canning of Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, should serve as a renewed warning: We are headed into a phase shift in the financial breakdown crisis, where radical changes are on the agenda.

Economist Lyndon LaRouche has been sounding the alarm now since the beginning of the year, that the bankrupt system is going to reach a new breaking point over the course of 2004, and perhaps in the very near future. The collapsing dollar was one sign, now temporarily replaced by a volatility on the markets which has also seen a huge rush into hard commodities, some of which are reaching 24-year highs.

In this context, the world financial community is finally getting the nerve to discuss publicly, what is nowadays called the “elephant in the room”: the bankruptcy of the U.S. economy. On the one side, there’s the recent *Economist* magazine feature, which bluntly exposed the “phony recovery” of the United States. Equally significant have been the public discussions among bankers in Asia and Russia, about the dangers of sticking with the fragile dollar system, and about shifting to a basket of currencies broader than the dollar.

All of which is to say, that the bankers are being forced to think about changes. What *kind* of changes is an open question.

One directionality is being suggested by sources in Great Britain, who are talking about British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown replacing Köhler as Managing Director of the IMF. Brown, *EIR* has been told by a well-informed British source, associates himself with Lazard Frères honcho Felix Rohatyn, known for his delphic “New Bretton Woods” proposals. Rohatyn, whose Schachtian austerity credentials are well established through his destruction of New York City through the Big MAC and Financial Control Board operations, is a major player in Democratic Party circles,

and is undoubtedly slaving to play a major role in a Kerry Administration. Brown’s similar proclivities are demonstrated in his championing of a “Global New Deal” proposal.

Another directionality is suggested by one of the individuals being mooted to replace Alan Greenspan, the rabidly tax-cutting neo-conservative Martin Feldstein of Harvard. Should this occur, Greenspan’s fascist policies would suddenly appear to be positively low key and low risk, as compared to his successor.

With either of these changes, there would be no improvement in the world financial and economic situation. The banking establishment would maintain their control, and, by acting in order to save their power, would be forced by their own logic, to impose a fascist form of government.

We do not use the term “fascist” as an epithet. Strictly speaking, fascism involves rule by *force*, in order to carry out the looting of the productive powers of labor and the economy, to the benefit of the financier grouping. You don’t have to be anti-Semitic to be fascist, except to the extent that being anti-human means being against Jews as well as other people. Fascism requires the sacrifice of lives, in order to feed the bankers’ maw, and if they are foreign lives now—as with the slave-labor, free-trade policies of today—it is only a matter of time until they are lives here at home.

What is the alternative to fascism today? As the bankers themselves are well aware, the *only* competent leader putting forward a new monetary arrangement based on principles that will benefit all people, is Lyndon LaRouche. The bankers have already tangled with LaRouche: in the mid-1970s, when his views were popular with the Non-Aligned Movement; in the early 1980s, when Mexican President José López Portillo and other Ibero-Americans adopted his approach; in the 1990s, as his proposals for a New Bretton Woods and Eurasian Land-Bridge took root in many nations of Eurasia. They know he will put them, and their debt, in their place.

But will you leave the decision up to the bankers? With your help, fascism can be stopped.