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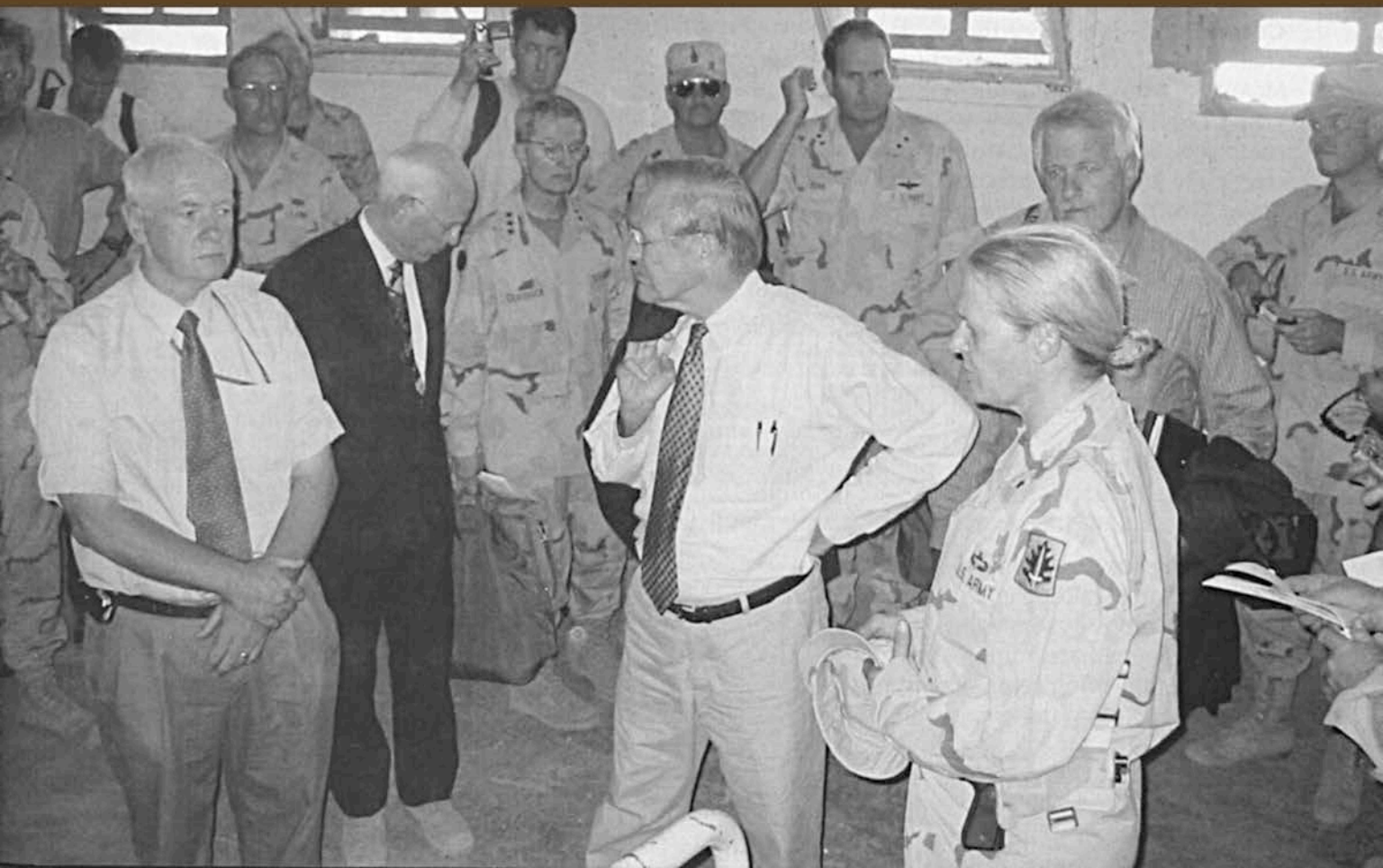
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## Behind the Torture: Beastmen Cheney & Rumsfeld



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## From the Associate Editor

We hear a lot of talk from President Bush, Dick Cheney, and Don Rumsfeld these days about “bad apples”—that the atrocities in Abu Ghraib prison do not reflect on anybody higher up, or on other soldiers, but were the work of a few bad apples, who, maybe, had gone rotten by being out in the scorching Iraqi sun for too long.

Our *Feature* documents the contrary fact, as stated pungently by Lyndon LaRouche (p. 21): “[A]n individual crime such as that reflected in the pictures from the U.S. prison in Iraq, is not essentially the result of the individual will, but the influence of the system on his, or her will. In such cases, as in the notoriety of the Inquisition, or the similar case of the U.S. Iraq prison-system today, the essential responsibility, the essential criminality, has been generated by those responsible for the Defense Department’s design of the conduct of the continuing war in Iraq.”

LaRouche’s point is further illustrated by famous studies by Yale’s Stanley Milgram in 1960-61, in the aftermath of the trial of Nazi mass-murderer Adolf Eichmann. Milgram had his subjects apply increasing voltages of electrical shock to the body parts of victims reposing behind a screen (the shock was fake, and the victims were actors, unbeknownst to the subjects). As the protests and eventually screams of the victims became louder with increasing voltage, some subjects manifested distress, but 60-65% of them, under the calm tutelage of the “scientist” in the white coat, went all the way to the 450 volt maximum (supposed) electric charge. The results of these studies held across many cultures, with large samples including both sexes and diverse socio-economic backgrounds.

While the results were used to various purposes (e.g., the false argument that we are all evil), they also serve to correct the myth that the Nazi atrocities were a “German” phenomenon; that “it could never happen here.” On our TV screens today, we see with revolting clarity, that it *is* happening here. The solution, and the essential political task now, is to break the *systemic* problem: to oust the Cheney-Rumsfeld “Beast-Men.”

As to the U.S. military itself, our interview with Gen. Joseph Hoar (USMC-ret.) makes clear that many military leaders oppose the Beast-Man policy, and are increasingly willing to speak out, rather than “going along to get along,” as did so many of Milgram’s subjects.

*Susan Welsh*

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## Behind the Torture Are the ‘Beast-Men’ Cheney and Rumsfeld

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Sen. Richard Durbin (D-Ill.), coming out of a closed-door Congressional screening of the Iraq torture photographs from Abu Ghraib prison, on May 12, summed up the reactions of a majority of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle: “It felt like you were descending into one of the rings of hell; and sadly, it was our own creation.”

Sen. Durbin’s words echoed the LaRouche in 2004 mass-circulation campaign pamphlets, *Children of Satan I and II*, which exposed the outright fascist, and willfully bestial ideology and policies of Vice President Dick Cheney, and his fellow Straussian neo-conservatives in the Department of Defense civilian bureaucracy and other power centers in Washington. It is Cheney’s neo-con apparatus that bears top-down responsibility for the inhuman torture that took place at Abu Ghraib.

In a May 10 campaign statement, “The Mark of the Beast,” Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche emphasized that the actions by the accused prison guards and interrogators in Baghdad were not simply of their own doing, but were the consequence of a geometry of policy that permeated, top-down, every major action by the Bush-Cheney administration, particularly the entirety of the Iraq war policy.

The pamphlet *Children of Satan II—The Beast-Men*, warned readers about the murderous character of Cheney, in particular: “Dick Cheney is not a copy of Adolf Hitler, but he comes directly out of the same background as Mussolini, Hitler, Franco, and their like, from the 1922-45 pages of modern history. He belongs to the same psychopathological stereotype which history traces back to the ancient Phrygian Dionysus from whom the models of the Spanish Grand Inquisitor and the French Jacobin Terror are traced by the leading intellectual founder of all modern fascist movements—the chief intellect of the modern fascist tradition, Joseph de Maistre. The Cheney-Strauss-Nazi connections to Maistre are clear, and crucial for understanding the Nazi-like global menace, which Cheney, as a sitting U.S. Vice President, typifies for the world today.”

Joseph de Maistre, a leading participant in the Jacobin Terror and the later tyranny of the prototypical beast-man Napoleon Bonaparte, famously wrote about



According to the U.S. Army, one Iraqi prisoner was told to stand on a box with his head covered, wires attached to his hands. (Photo: CBS)

TODAY'S TOP STORIES  
**IN PHOTOS**

*This CBS-TV photo which triggered the scandal, showed just one of a list of perhaps 50 interrogation techniques, which had been cleared at the top of the Pentagon. Defense Secretary Rumsfeld and Vice President Cheney told the world the Geneva Conventions didn't apply.*

the vital role of the executioner in maintaining social order—through bestialization and terror. “All grandeur, all power, all subordination to authority rests on the executioner; he is the horror and the bond of human association. Remove this incomprehensible agent from the world, and at that very moment, order gives way to chaos, thrones topple, and society disappears.”

Did not these words of Maistre mirror Dick Cheney’s now infamous pronouncements about the danger to all civilization in allowing Saddam Hussein to successfully pursue his purported quest for the nuclear bomb—a quest that proved to be pure fiction? Does the “Cheney Doctrine” of preventive nuclear war against potential *future* adversaries rise to the standard of de Maistre’s executioner?

When *Children of Satan II* was first circulated in January, many in official Washington called this characterization—of Vice President Cheney, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, et al., as Maistre-like “Beast-Men”—“over the top,” “exaggerated,” and “propagandistic.” Then the photographs emerged from inside Abu Ghraib, and the reality of the Cheney-led descent into hell became sensuously clear.

### **From the Top of the Chain of Command**

The full story of Abu Ghraib is yet to be told. But a week of Congressional hearings has already confirmed that the torture techniques were fully known and sanctioned from the top.

In August 2003, with the U.S. occupation force in Iraq

facing a growing asymmetrical warfare insurgency, and with the evidence out that Saddam Hussein did not possess the arsenals of “weapons of mass destruction” that Cheney cited as the reason for “preventive” war, Defense Secretary Rumsfeld dispatched Gen. Geoffrey Miller to Baghdad, to assess and modify the interrogation techniques being used on key Iraqi prisoners.

General Miller was the commander of the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where he was already employing techniques specifically banned by the Geneva Convention covering treatment of prisoners of war. (In March 2004, Miller was transferred to Iraq and placed in charge of the entire prison system of the American occupation.)

In April 2003, Miller had requested permission to adopt 20 interrogation methods at Guantanamo, involving sleep deprivation, exposure to extreme temperatures, forced nudity during interrogations, the use of dogs, and other forms of “sensory assault.” The request had been approved at the highest levels of the Pentagon and the John Ashcroft-led Department of Justice.

Defense Secretary Rumsfeld had personally paved the way for this use of torture when he publicly scoffed at the Geneva Convention, asserting that the prisoners at Guantanamo Bay were not protected by international law. Rumsfeld personally traveled to Iraq, in the midst of the Miller mission, and on Sept. 6, 2003, he visited the execution chamber at Abu Ghraib.



In contentious testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee May 12, Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence Stephen Cambone admitted that General Miller returned to Washington and fully briefed his deputy, Gen. William “Jerry” Boykin, on the mission, and on his recommendations for ramping up the pressure on key prisoners through more aggressive interrogation techniques. Miller had now improved his list to 50 aggressive techniques, to be used on the targeted prisoners, and virtually all of them violated the Geneva Convention and even the Army’s own regulations banning torture.

General Boykin is still under investigation for his off-the-wall remarks before a fundamentalist church, equating the Bush Administration’s war on terrorism with the Crusades, and for his vicious denunciations of Islam and all Muslims. Boykin famously declared that George W. Bush had been placed into the White House “by God.” Despite, or, perhaps, because of this Manichean mentality, Rumsfeld insisted that Boykin accept the post as Cambone’s deputy, and even arranged for Boykin to get his third star, as an incentive to take the post. Boykin has a long track record as a loose-cannon Special Forces cowboy. He was personally involved in the tragic incident in Mogadishu, Somalia, made famous by the book *Blackhawk Down*, as well as in the murder of Medellín Cartel boss Pablo Escobar.

Boykin’s “shoot first” record and reputation suggest that the Iraq “dirty war” scandals may go beyond the torture at Abu Ghraib. Among the other assets under the control of the newly created Cambone-Boykin Pentagon intelligence office are Special Forces units, including Task Force 121 and “Grey Fox,” which are engaged in highly classified proactive counterterrorism work.

## Top-Down Coverup

According to news accounts and testimony before Congress, top Pentagon officials, including Rumsfeld and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Richard Myers (USAF), were informed about the existence of photographs and videotapes of torture at Abu Ghraib in a secured phone call from Gen. John Abizaid, head of the Central Command, in mid-January 2004. Reports of the torture had been circulating as early as July 1, 2003, when Amnesty International issued a report, accusing the U.S. military of subjecting Iraqi prisoners to “cruel, inhumane, or degrading” conditions.

While the Pentagon appointed Gen. Antonio M. Taguba on Jan. 31 to conduct a formal probe of the torture at Abu Ghraib, top military and civilians at the Defense Department attempted to prevent the story from reaching the public. General Myers admitted, at Senate hearings, that he had personally called executives at CBS “60 Minutes” and convinced them to postpone airing an exposé of the torture for several weeks, and later, attempted unsuccessfully to get them to censor the photographs altogether.

A month before the Taguba report was completed on

March 3, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provided the Coalition Forces with a damning 24-page investigation summary, charging that prisoners had been tortured to death, and subjected to forms of cruelty in violation of the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions.

The general public was kept in the dark about all these developments until a copy of General Taguba’s report was leaked to *The New Yorker* magazine journalist Seymour Hersh, and the now-infamous photographs of the torture at Abu Ghraib aired on “60 Minutes.”

The Abu Ghraib revelations produced an immediate outcry for Rumsfeld’s firing as Secretary of Defense. As has been the case, repeatedly, since the beginning of the Bush Administration, Vice President Dick Cheney weighed in—before President Bush—and declared that Rumsfeld was the greatest Defense Secretary in American history, and had Cheney’s full backing. Speaking on May 7, Cheney arrogantly ordered the U.S. Congress to “lay off” Rumsfeld. Beast-Man Cheney, in effect, dared Congress to touch a hair on Rumsfeld’s head; Cheney put President Bush in the unenviable position of having to back up his Vice President, by paying a visit to the Pentagon the next day, to deliver his “me too” endorsement of the decision Cheney had made, and made public.

## Many Questions Unanswered

Cheney’s efforts to sweep the Iraq “dirty war” scandals under the rug will not work. There are many, many unanswered questions, already provoked by the first days of hearings before Congress. General Taguba told Senators on May 12 that there were, to his personal knowledge, at least two “third-country interrogators” implicated in the crimes at Abu Ghraib. These comments have provoked widespread speculation that Israeli interrogators may be on the ground in Baghdad, as sub-contractors to companies like CACI and Titan. These private companies have a pool of translators and interrogators fully integrated with the official military intelligence units.

The *Daily Star*, a Beirut newspaper, reported on May 11 that Jack London, Chairman and CEO of CACI, traveled to Israel in January, along with a delegation of defense contractors, Congressmen, and lobbyists. The trip was partially bankrolled by Jerusalem Fund of Aish HaTorah, and included a visit to Beit Horon, “the central training camp for the anti-terrorist forces of the Israeli police and the border police” in the West Bank.

Several U.S. and Israeli intelligence sources have also pointed to the bizarre business partnership between West Bank-based lawyer Mark Zell and Salem Chalabi, the nephew of Iraqi National Congress head Ahmed Chalabi. According to one source, the Zell-Chalabi duo have “a lock” on most of the security contracts in U.S.-occupied Iraq. Zell is the law partner of Doug Feith, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Policy.



# The Damning Red Cross Report of February 2004

*This is excerpted from the "Report of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on the Treatment by the Coalition Forces of Prisoners of War and Other Persons Protected by the Geneva Conventions in Iraq, During Arrest, Internment and Interrogation." Some subheads have been added.*

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## Executive Summary

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In its "Report on the Treatment by the Coalition Forces of Prisoners of War and other protected persons in Iraq," the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) draws the attention of the Coalition Forces (hereafter called "the CF") to a number of serious violations of International Humanitarian Law. These violations have been documented and sometimes observed while visiting prisoners of war, civilian internees and other protected persons by the Geneva Conventions (hereafter called persons deprived of their liberty, when their status is not specifically mentioned) in Iraq between March and November 2003. During its visits to places of internment of the CF, the ICRC collected allegations during private interviews with persons deprived of their liberty relating to the treatment by the CF of protected persons during their capture, arrest, transfer, internment and interrogation.

The main violations, which are described in the ICRC report and presented confidentially to the CF, include:

- Brutality against protected persons upon capture and initial custody, sometimes causing death or serious injury;
- Absence of notification of arrest of persons deprived of their liberty to their families causing distress among persons deprived of their liberty and their families;
- Physical or psychological coercion during interrogation to secure information;
- Prolonged solitary confinement in cells devoid of daylight;
- Excessive and disproportionate use of force against persons deprived of their liberty resulting in death or injury during their period of internment. . . .

According to the allegations collected by the ICRC, ill-treatment during interrogation was not systematic, *except with regard to persons arrested in connection with suspected security offences or deemed to have an "intelligence" value* [emphasis added].

- In these cases, persons deprived of their liberty under supervision of the Military Intelligence were at high risk of being subjected to a variety of harsh treatments ranging from insults, threats and humiliations to both physical and psychological coercion, which in some cases was tantamount to torture, in order to force cooperation with their interrogators. . . .

In the case of "High Value Detainees" held in Baghdad International Airport, their continued internment, several months after their arrest, in strict solitary confinement in cells devoid of sunlight for nearly 23 hours a day constituted a serious violation of the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions.

The ICRC was also concerned about the *excessive and disproportionate use of force* by some detaining authorities against persons deprived of their liberty, involved during their internment during periods of unrest or escape attempts that caused death and serious injuries. The use of firearms against persons deprived of their liberty in circumstances where methods without using firearms could have yielded the same result, could amount to a serious violation of International Humanitarian Law. . . .

## Coalition Authority Told

Since the beginning of the conflict, the ICRC has regularly brought its concerns to the attention of the CF. The observations in the present report are consistent with those made earlier on several occasions orally and in writing to the CF throughout 2003. In spite of some improvements in the material conditions of internment, allegations of ill-treatment perpetrated by members of the CF against persons deprived of their liberty continued to be collected by the ICRC and thus suggested that the use of ill-treatment against persons deprived of their liberty went beyond exceptional cases and might be considered as a practice tolerated by the CF.

The ICRC report does not aim to be exhaustive with regard to breaches of International Humanitarian Law by the CF in Iraq. Rather, it illustrates priority areas that warrant attention and corrective action on the part of CF, in compliance with their International Humanitarian Law obligations.

Consequently the ICRC asks the authorities of the CF in Iraq:

- to respect at all times the human dignity, physical integrity and cultural sensitivity of the persons deprived of their liberty held under their control;
- to set up a system of notifications of arrest to ensure quick and accurate transmission of information to the families of persons deprived of their liberty;
- to prevent all forms of ill-treatment, moral or physical coercion of persons deprived of their liberty in relation to interrogation;
- to set up an internment regime which ensures the respect of the psychological integrity and human dignity of the persons deprived of their liberty
- to ensure that all persons deprived of their liberty are

## Provisions of the Geneva Convention

The Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, and to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, which Convention was adopted by the world's nations in 1949, specifically includes the following provisions in Article 3:

In the case of armed conflict not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, each party to the conflict shall be bound to apply, as a minimum, the following provisions:

**1:** Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed hors de

combat by sickness, wounds, detention, or any other cause, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction founded on race, colour, religion or faith, sex, birth or wealth, or any other similar criteria.

To this end, the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons:

(a) Violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture;

(b) Taking of hostages;

(c) Outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment;

(d) The passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples.

allowed sufficient time every day outside in the sunlight, and that they are allowed to move and exercise in the outside yard;

- to define and apply regulations and sanctions compatible with International Humanitarian Law, and to ensure that persons deprived of their liberty are fully informed upon arrival about such regulations and sanctions;

- to thoroughly investigate violations of International Humanitarian Law in order to determine responsibilities and prosecute those found responsible for violations of International Humanitarian Law.

- to ensure that battle group units arresting individuals and staff in charge of internment facilities receive adequate training enabling them to operate in a proper manner and fulfill their responsibilities as arresting authority without resorting to ill-treatment or making excessive use of force. . . .

### 3. Treatment During Interrogation

**24:** Arrests were usually followed by temporary internment at battle group level or at initial interrogation facilities managed by military intelligence personnel, but accessible to other intelligence personnel (especially in the case of security detainees). The ill-treatment by the CF personnel during interrogation was not systematic, except with regard to persons arrested in connection with suspected security offences or deemed to have an "intelligence" value. In these cases, persons deprived of their liberty supervised by the military intelligence were subjected to a variety of ill-treatment, ranging from insults and humiliation to both physical

and psychological coercion that in some cases might amount to torture, in order to force them to cooperate with their interrogators. In certain cases, such as in Abu Ghraib military intelligence section, methods of physical and psychological coercion used by the interrogators appeared to be part of the standard operating procedures by military intelligence personnel to obtain confessions and extract information. Several military intelligence officers confirmed to the ICRC that it was part of the military intelligence process to hold a person deprived of his liberty naked, in a completely dark and empty cell for a prolonged period, to use inhumane and degrading treatment, including physical and psychological coercion, against persons deprived of their liberty, to secure their cooperation.

#### 3.1 Methods of Treatment

**25:** The methods of ill-treatment most frequently alleged during interrogation included:

- Hooding, used to prevent people from seeing and to disorient them, and also to prevent them from breathing freely. One or sometimes two bags, sometimes with an elastic blindfold over the eyes which, when slipped down, further impeded proper breathing. Hooding was sometimes used in conjunction with beatings, thus increasing anxiety as to when blows would come. The practice of hooding also allowed the interrogators to remain anonymous and thus to act with impunity. Hooding could last for periods from a few hours to up to 2 to 4 consecutive days, during which hoods were lifted only for drinking, eating or going to the toilets;

- Handcuffing with flexi-cuffs, which were sometimes made so tight and used for such extended periods that they

caused skin lesions and long-term after-effects on the hands (nerve damage), as observed by the ICRC;

- Beatings with hard objects (including pistols and rifles), slapping, punching, kicking with knees or feet on various parts of the body (legs, sides, loer back, groin);
- Pressing the face into the ground with boots;
- Threats (of ill-treatment, reprisals against family members, imminent execution or transfer to Guantanamo);
- Being stripped naked for several days while held in solitary confinement in an empty and completely dark cell that included a latrine.
- Being held in solitary confinement combined with threats (to intern the individual indefinitely, to arrest other family members, to transfer the individual to Guantanamo), insufficient sleep, food or water deprivation, minimal access to showers (twice a week), denial of access to open air, and prohibition of contacts with other persons deprived of their liberty;
- Being paraded naked outside cells in front of other persons deprived of their liberty, and guards, sometimes hooded or with women’s underwear over the head;
- Acts of humiliation such as being made to stand naked against the wall of the cell with arms raised or with women’s underwear over the head for prolonged periods—while being laughed at by guards, including female guards, and sometimes photographed in this position;
- Being attached repeatedly over several days, for several hours each time, with handcuffs to the bars of their cell door in humiliating (i.e. naked or in underwear) and/or uncomfortable position causing physical pain;
- Exposure while hooded to loud noise or music, prolonged exposure while hooded to the sun over several hours, including the hottest time of the day when temperatures could reach 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit) or higher;
- Being forced to remain for prolonged periods in stress positions such as squatting or standing with or without the arms lifted.

**26:** These methods of physical and psychological coercion were used by the military intelligence in a systematic way to gain confessions and extract information or other forms of co-operation from persons who had been arrested in connection with suspected security offences or were deemed to have an “intelligence value.”

### 3.2 Military Intelligence Section, “Abu Ghraib Correctional Facility”

**27:** In mid-October 2003, the ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) visited persons deprived of their liberty undergoing interrogation by military intelligence officers in Unit 1A, the “isolation section” of “Abu Ghraib” Correctional Facility. Most of these persons deprived of their liberty had been arrested in early October. During the visit, ICRC delegates directly witnessed and documented a variety of methods used to secure the cooperation of the persons

deprived of their liberty with their interrogators. In particular they witnessed the practice of keeping persons deprived of their liberty completely naked in totally empty concrete cells and in total darkness, allegedly for several consecutive days. Upon witnessing such cases, the ICRC interrupted its visits and requested an explanation from the authorities. The military intelligence officer in charge of the interrogation explained that this practice was “part of the process. . . .”

The ICRC documented other forms of ill-treatment, usually combined with those described above, including threats, insults, verbal violence, sleep deprivation caused by the playing of loud music or constant light in cells devoid of windows, light handcuffing with flexi-cuffs causing lesions and wounds around the wrists. Punishment included being made to walk in the corridors handcuffed and naked, or with women’s underwear on the head, or being handcuffed either dressed or naked to the bed bars or the cell door. Some persons deprived of their liberty preented physical marks and psychological symptoms, which were compatible with these allegations.

The ICRC medical delegate examined persons deprived of their liberty presenting signs of concentration difficulties, memory problems, verbal expression difficulties, incoherent speech, acute anxiety reactions, abnormal behaviour and suicidal tendencies. These symptoms appeared to have been caused by the methods and duration of interrogation. One person held in isolation that the ICRC examined, was unresponsive to verbal and painful stimuli. His heart rate was 120 beats per minute and his respiratory rate 18 per minute. He was diagnosed as suffering from somatoform (mental) disorder, specifically a conversion disorder, most likely due to the ill-treatment he was subjected to during interrogation.

According to the allegations collected by the ICRC, detaining authorities also continued to keep persons deprived of their liberty during the period of interrogation uninformed of the reason for their arrest. They were often questioned without knowing what they were accused of. They were not allowed to ask questions and were not provided with an opportunity to seek clarification about the reason for their arrest. Their treatment tended to vary according to their degree of cooperation with their interrogators: those who cooperated were afforded preferential treatment such as being allowed contacts with other persons deprived of their liberty, being allowed to phone their families, being given clothes, bedding equipment, food, water or cigarettes, being allowed access to showers, being held in a lit cell, etc.

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# Return of the Beasts

by Jeffrey Steinberg

*The following provides the essential background to the assertion of the “Beast-Man” ideology of the Cheney Administration. It is excerpted from LaRouche in 2004’s groundbreaking pamphlet, Children of Satan II, The Beast-Men, which was issued in early January 2004.*

## 1. Cheney, Hitler, and the Grand Inquisitor

As documented in the first (April 2003) edition of our *Children of Satan* report, the late fascist philosopher Leo Strauss, of the University of Chicago and St. John’s College in Annapolis, Maryland, was the most prominent U.S.A.-based disciple of the two leading Nazi Party ideologues: Nietzschean revivalist Martin Heidegger; and the “crown jurist” of the Nazi legal establishment, Carl Schmitt. Strauss trained two generations of American academics and political operatives around the idea that tyranny is the purest form of statecraft; that the manipulation of fear of an enemy, and debased forms of revealed religion, are the key to political power; and that strategic deception—the “Big Lie” technique associated with Nazi Propaganda Minister Goebbels—is the number-one weapon in every successful politician’s arsenal.

Dick Cheney is not a copy of Adolf Hitler, but he comes directly out of the same background as Mussolini, Hitler, Franco, and their like, from the 1922-45 pages of modern history. He belongs to the same psychopathological stereotype which history traces back to the ancient Phrygian Dionysus from whom the models of the Spanish Grand Inquisitor and the French Jacobin Terror are traced by the leading intellectual founder of all modern fascist movements—the chief intellect of the modern fascist tradition, Joseph de Maistre. The Cheney-Strauss-Nazi connections to Maistre are clear, and crucial for understanding the Nazi-like global menace which Cheney, as a sitting U.S. Vice President, typifies for the world today,

In his extensive correspondence with his long-time intellectual ally, Alexander Kojève, the Paris-based Russian émigré, Strauss jostled with Kojève over the issue of whether a national tyranny or a universal tyranny were superior. Kojève, a lifelong operative of the international Synarchist movement of European-centered fascists, cited the case of Napoleon Bonaparte, and the later cases of Mussolini, Hitler, and Stalin, as proof that a universal—i.e., world government—form of tyranny was possible and desirable.

Kojève aggressively promoted the Nietzschean idea of

“Beast-man” as universal tyrant, an idea first spelled out by the 18th- and 19th-century French Martinist cult philosopher Joseph de Maistre, whose writings inspired Napoleon Bonaparte, and later formed the basis for Joseph Alexandre Saint Yves d’Alveydre’s vast writings on Synarchism—the modern form of bankers’ universal fascism.

Maistre was himself a member of the Lyons Martinist lodge of occult Freemasons, along with Fabre D’Olivet, Saint Yves’ other source of inspiration (and Maistre’s Martinist followers were leading Jacobins). Maistre was a graphic promoter of the need for “a new inquisition,” modelled on the Grand Inquisitor of Spain.

Maistre was obsessed with the personality of the executioner, writing, “All grandeur, all power, all subordination to authority rests on the executioner; he is the horror and the bond of human association. Remove this incomprehensible agent from the world, and at that very moment, order gives way to chaos; thrones topple and society disappears.”

## Cheney, Fascism, and the Inquisition

As Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche has emphasized that often-overlooked, crucial fact of modern history, the French Revolution of 1789-1815 had been pre-organized by Lord Shelburne’s financier interests, the imperial British East India Company, as part of Shelburne’s avowed determination, from 1763 on, to crush the independence of the English-speaking colonies of North America, and to destroy the British Empire’s leading rival in Europe, namely, France. The victory of the American cause at Yorktown had therefore driven Shelburne and his circles into a frenzy of lust for destruction in all directions.

For this purpose, Shelburne had built up a network of British East India Company assets in France and Switzerland, of which the most important was the synthetic freemasonic cult known as the Martinists, centered around Lyons, France. It was these Martinists who developed the Beast-man model around which both the Jacobin Terror and Napoleon’s subsequent tyranny were crafted. This was the model used by Jeremy Bentham’s chief protégé and successor, Lord Palmerston, for creating the Giuseppe Mazzini-led Young Europe and Young America networks, around the British intelligence assets he and the British Library’s David Urquhart shared.

This was the model which produced the Synarchist International’s wave of fascist tyrannies of the 1922-45 interval. The Hitler regime typifies nothing other than the “Beast-man” concept of Martinist ideologue Maistre, and of such Maistre followers as Friedrich Nietzsche and Hannah Arendt’s beloved Nazi philosopher, Martin Heidegger. However, as Maistre himself insisted, he did not invent that concept of the Jacobin, Napoleonic, and Hitler models of the Beast-man as dictator. As he insisted, his proximate model for what we have come to know as the Nazi and Nazi-like model echoed by Vice President Cheney today, was the Spanish Grand Inquisitor.

This role of the Spanish Inquisition, and its continuing

## Joseph de Maistre On The Executioner

“Who is this inexplicable being, who, when there are so many agreeable, lucrative, honest and even honorable professions to choose among, in which a man can exercise his skill or his powers, has chosen that of torturing or killing his own kind? Is there not something in them that is peculiar, and alien to our nature? Myself, I have no doubt about this. He is made like us externally. He is born like all of us. But he is an extraordinary being, and it needs a special decree to bring him into existence as a member of the human family—a *fiat* of the creative power. He is created like a law unto himself.

“Consider what he is in the opinion of mankind, and try to conceive, if you can, how he can manage to ignore or defy this opinion. Hardly has he been assigned to his proper dwelling-place, hardly has he taken possession of it, when others remove their homes elsewhere whence they can no longer see him. In the midst of this desolation, in this sort of vacuum formed round him, he lives alone with his mate and his young, who acquaint him with the sound of the human voice: without them he would hear nothing but groans. . . . The gloomy signal is given; an abject servitor of justice knocks on his door to tell him that he is wanted; he goes; he arrives at a public square covered by a dense, trembling mob. A poisoner, a parricide, a man who has committed sacrilege is tossed to him: he seizes him, stretches him, ties him to a horizontal cross, he raises his arm; there is a horrible silence; there is no sound but that of bones cracking under the bars, and the shrieks of the victim. He unties him. He puts him on the wheel; the shattered limbs are entangled in the spokes; the head hangs down; the hair stands up, and the mouth gaping open

like a furnace from time to time emits only a few blood-stained words to beg for death. His heart is beating, but it is with joy: he congratulates himself, he says in his heart, ‘Nobody quarters as well as I.’ He steps down. He holds out his bloodstained hand, the justice throws him—from a distance—a few

pieces of gold, which he catches through a double row of human beings standing back in horror. He sits down to table, and he eats. Then he goes to bed and sleeps. And on the next day, when he wakes, he thinks of something totally different from what he did the day before. Is he a man? Yes. God receives him in his shrines, and allows him to pray. He is not a criminal. Nevertheless no tongue dares declare that he is virtuous, that he is an honest man, that he is estimable. No moral praise seems appropriate to him, for everyone else is assumed to have relations with human beings; he has none. And yet all greatness, all power, all subordination rest on the executioner. He is the terror and the bond of human association. Remove this mysterious agent from the world, and in an instant order yields to chaos: thrones fall, society disappears. God, who has created sovereignty, has also made punishment; he has fixed the earth upon these two poles: ‘for Jehovah is master of the twin poles and upon them he maketh turn the world.’ . . . (*I Samuel 2:8*.)”

[From *St. Petersburg Dialogues*, quoted in Isaiah Berlin, *Crooked Timber*, pp. 116-117.]



ideological tradition via Franco’s Spain, is of crucial significance for the endangered security of the American continents today. The most deadly threat to the internal security of South and Central America, still today, as during the late 1930s and early 1940s of the Nazi-backed Synarchist penetration there via Franco’s Spain, is the recently reactivated network of Spain-linked, self-styled right-wing, pro-aristocratic religious fanatics in Central and South America.

Therefore, the role of Maistre’s model of the Grand Inquisitor as the model for what became Hitler, is no mere literary-historical curiosity. It is of crucial practical importance for security concerns today. The abuse of the nations and peoples of South and Central America, chiefly by the United States and Britain since, especially, 1982, has built up

an accumulation of both left- and right-wing revivals of—ironically, often U.S.-backed—Synarchist hatred against the United States, which has turned those looted parts of the hemisphere into a hotbed of potential we dare not ignore. The right-wing admirers of the tradition of the Spanish Inquisition are, ultimately, the great source of internal danger to the Americas as a whole, from this quarter. The left-wing varieties are, like British agents Danton and Marat, and also the Jacobin Terrorists, the political cannon-fodder fertilizing the ground for the coming of a reactionary Synarchist tyrant like Napoleon or Hitler.

The relevance of that Spanish Inquisition which conducted the Hitler-like expulsion of the Jews of Spain in 1492, is, briefly, as follows.

From about the 10th Century A.D., until the aftermath of the mid-14th-century New Dark Age, Europe and adjoining regions of the world had been dominated increasingly by a symbiosis of the Norman chivalry with the growing imperial maritime power of Venice's financier oligarchy. The 15th-Century Renaissance, which revived Classical European civilization, restored a shattered Christianity, and launched the first modern nation-states in France and England, was a great threat to the Venice-Norman feudal tradition. The Spanish Inquisition was a leading element of the forces mustered by Venice's financier oligarchy to unleash the successive waves of religious warfare which dominated Europe from about A.D. 1511, until the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia.

With the decline of Venice's secular power, during the late 17th Century, the formerly Venice-centered financier oligarchy shifted its bases of international operations to the Netherlands and England, where the Anglo-Dutch imperial maritime power was built up around the Dutch and British East India companies, to emerge as the dominant force in Europe. To preserve that emerging imperial power, the forces typified by Lord Shelburne mobilized to crush the threat represented by the emerging tendency for establishment of a true republic from among the English-speaking colonies of North America.

Then, just as the Venetian oligarchical interest had unleashed the religious warfare of 1511-1648, in the effort to turn back the clock of history to 14th-Century feudalism, so the financier-oligarchical architects of the British East India Company's imperial maritime power, looked back to the Spanish Inquisition-led religious warfare of the 1511-1648 interval, for a design to be used to crush the emerging Classical humanist republicanism of the late 18th Century. Maistre's prolific references to the model of the Spanish Inquisition are not to be discounted as merely literary, but, rather, represent a resurgence of a tradition of the Inquisition which had not actually died out, then, or even today. Tom DeLay is an ironical example of this unbroken connection to the present time.

So, to the present day, the hallmark of the Synarchist is often his or her hatred of the actual history of the United States, especially among those influenced by the Spanish-speaking branch of the Maistre tradition. The argument that the existence of the United States was nothing but a mistake, or even an evil from the beginning, is typical of the "aristocratic" Spanish-speaking pro-fascist fanatic of this type.

That admiration of the tradition of the Spanish Inquisition, combined with explicitly anti-Semitic defense of Isabella's expulsion of the Jews, is the leading edge of the fascist (Synarchist) threat from within the Americas today. Cheney is no Christian in fact, but the character of his role over the recent several decades is fully in accord with the doctrine according to de Maistre.

In that context, we must recognize the deeper implications of Dick Cheney's incantations. We must understand, thus,

how the very fabric of the social order came apart on 9/11; and the significance of Cheney's repeated lies about Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction and links to Osama bin Laden, which have, on occasion, forced even President Bush to issue correctives, are right out of the pages of Maistre and Saint Yves. Vice President Cheney didn't just come upon this approach to politics by happenstance. He was placed under the wings of two of the leading Strauss cultists back in the early 1970s, when he first came to Washington and was adopted by Donald Rumsfeld.

### **The Goldwin Case, for Example**

According to a little-known, but quite revealing 2002 book, *Intellectuals and the American Presidency*, by Tevi Troy, during the early 1970s, both Rumsfeld and Cheney came under the sway of leading Strauss protégé Robert Goldwin. Goldwin got his Ph.D. in political science under Strauss at the University of Chicago in 1963, and remained at Chicago as director of the Public Affairs Conference Center, a program through which the Straussians spread their net into the business and political communities. At one Center seminar, Goldwin met two Midwest Republican Congressmen, Gerald Ford (Michigan) and Donald Rumsfeld (Illinois). Goldwin and Rumsfeld struck up a friendship, which continued even when Goldwin left Chicago to become Dean at his undergraduate alma mater, St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. Goldwin brought Strauss to St. John's as a resident scholar from 1969-1973, allowing Strauss to spend his final years near the Washington, D.C. center of political power.

In 1973, Goldwin became Rumsfeld's deputy when the Congressman accepted Richard Nixon's appointment as U.S. Ambassador to NATO. When Gerald Ford became President after Nixon's resignation, Rumsfeld, and his protégé Dick Cheney, came to the White House as chief of staff and deputy. Goldwin also came to the White House as a special consultant to the President.

According to extensive records at the Gerald Ford Presidential Library, reviewed by Troy, Goldwin's first assignment was to organize a small White House seminar for Ford and senior staff. The guest scholar for the kickoff seminar was Irving Kristol, the former Trotskyist, who had become one of the neo-conservative movement's founding fathers, and a close collaborator of Leo Strauss. Kristol and Goldwin both became White House fixtures under Ford; and Cheney, according to a string of memoranda and letters, became particularly enamored of Kristol, bringing him in on speech-writing and other policy tasks. When Rumsfeld was named to replace James Schlesinger as Secretary of Defense, Cheney stepped up to the post of White House Chief of Staff, and the love affair with Kristol and Goldwin blossomed even further.

Goldwin left the White House in October 1976, but did not return to academia. Instead, following Kristol's lead, he became director of seminars and senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. Goldwin's move was part of a

Kristol-devised scheme to use a group of right-wing foundations, led by the Mellon-Scaife, Smith-Richardson (the sponsor of Dennis King’s ravings), and Eli Lilly endowments, to establish a neo-conservative beach-head inside the Washington Beltway. Upon Goldwin’s arrival, AEI was rather rapidly transformed, from a traditional conservative outfit, to a hotbed of neo-con insurgency, paving the way for the later arrival of such Kristol and Strauss protégés as Perle, Michael Ledeen, William Kristol—and Lynne and Dick Cheney.

## 2. An Empire of Blood and Steal

Cheney has cast himself in Maistre models as the Spanish Grand Inquisitor and Hitler, but he often stops on the way to the assassinations, to pick up more than a bit of cash.

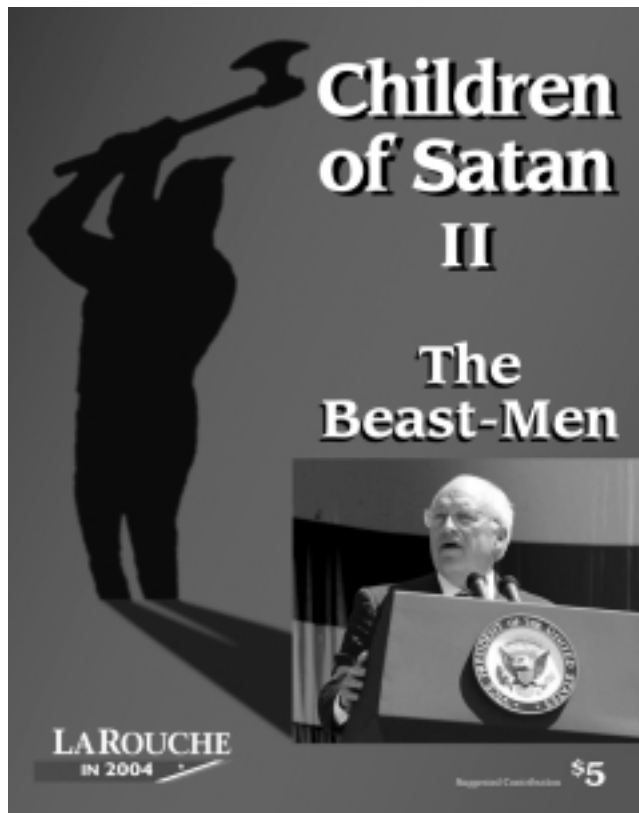
Cheney’s early pedigree as a Straussian “gentleman”—the politician who places himself, willingly, in the hands of a behind-the-scenes cabal of imperial “philosophers”—was still evident when he left the U.S. Congress in 1989, to become the Secretary of Defense in the “Bush 41” Cabinet. Cheney staffed his policy office with a team of Straussian intellectuals, headed by Allan Bloom protégé Paul Wolfowitz, Wolfowitz’s understudy “Scooter” Libby, and University of Chicago-trained utopian Zalmay Khalilzad. These men, along with foreign-service careerist Eric Edelman, formed an in-house thinktank, charged with deliberating on “big picture” issues, like American defense and national security policy in the post-Cold War era.

In May 1990, Cheney staged a competitive policy debate between the Wolfowitz team and a rival group, led by Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman Gen. Colin Powell. President Bush’s choice of Powell as JCS chairman had badly rattled Cheney, who was not even consulted by the President before the choice was made; and Cheney’s personal animus against Powell, which persists to the present day, dates at least back to that experience.

The subject of the “Team A/Team B” debate was the future U.S. national security doctrine for the post-Soviet era. Wolfowitz, according to published accounts, dominated the discussion (Powell never even got to deliver his alternative vision until several months later, long after Cheney had wholesale bought into the Wolfowitz strategy), setting out a neo-imperial mission for the United States, premised on the idea that no nation or combination of nations would be allowed to match American economic, military, or political power, for decades to come.

To assure American primacy, Wolfowitz, sometime Marc Rich lawyer Libby, Khalilzad, and Edelman argued that the United States should adopt a doctrine of preventive war. The corollary to the preventive-war theme was that the U.S.A. should develop a new generation of mini-nuclear weapons, which could be integrated into the conventional military arsenal—to terrorize any potential future rivals into submission.

The Wolfowitz presentation to Cheney occurred in May 1990—three months before Iraqi tanks rolled into Kuwait. At



*The LaRouche in 2004 Presidential campaign issued this pamphlet in January 2004, as a sequel to the blockbuster April 2003 “Children of Satan” report.*

the time, Saddam Hussein was still an “American asset,” who had received vast quantities of U.S. chemical weapons and other “weapons of mass destruction,” during the eight-year Iran-Iraq war. Nevertheless, policy papers were already crossing Secretary of Defense Cheney’s desk, promoting the development and use of mini-nukes, to counter “Third World dictators” seeking WMD. Saddam Hussein’s name was already on top of the list of despots, to be possible targets for U.S. preventive war, and American first use of mini-nukes.

Cheney had emerged as the Bush “41” Administration’s very own “Colonel Blimp,” promoting preventive wars, nuclear first strikes, and an American 1,000-year imperium.

Cooler heads, including President George H.W. Bush, National Security Adviser Scowcroft, Secretary of State Baker, and JCS chairman Powell, prevailed at that time. When Cheney, Wolfowitz, et al. tried to codify their American imperial wet-dream in the 1992 Defense Planning Guidance, the draft was leaked to the *New York Times*, and sent back to Cheney’s office for rewrite. Despite the setback, Cheney got in the final word—after Bush, Sr. lost his reelection bid. In January 1993, on the way out the door, “Beast-man” Cheney published *Defense Strategy for the 1990s: The Regional Defense Strategy*, in which both the preventive-war and mini-nuke policies were put on the record.



# ‘The Neo-Cons Have Had Their Day; Now It’s Time for a Clean Sweep’

*Gen. Joseph P. Hoar (USMC-ret.), a four-star general, was Commander in Chief, U.S. Central Command (1991-94), commanding the U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf after the 1991 war. He also served in the Vietnam War, as a battalion and brigade advisor with the Vietnamese Marines. He was interviewed by Jeffrey Steinberg on May 6, 2004.*

**EIR:** You were one of the people who had been critical before the outbreak of fighting, over whether or not the situation warranted going to war. I believe you also had some rather accurate warnings about what might happen, as the war unfolded, especially after the hot phase. What’s your thinking on these issues now, in hindsight, as we’re over a year past the formal fighting phase?

**Hoar:** There’s small comfort in realizing that perhaps you were closer to reality than the elected and appointed figures in the civilian government. Those of us that have had some experience in the region over the years, and don’t necessarily have ulterior motivations, particularly people that know very much about Iraq—and I don’t necessarily put myself in that category; specifically, I know a fair amount about the political-military situation in the region, but know enough about Iraq to know that any military operation and any subsequent reconstruction efforts, to include the interjection of democracy, were going to be extremely difficult, and perhaps impossible.

But, my major concern, Jeff, really was, that while I was in favor of regime change, I was not in favor of it a year and a half or two years ago, and certainly not these means. And the reason, of course, was the much higher priorities: the protection of the United States through the development of the Homeland Securities activities; the completion, successfully, of the Afghanistan campaign; and the destruction of al-Qaeda; all seem to me to be much higher priorities than going after Iraq. And you know the arguments as well as I do: the weapons of mass destruction, the threat to the United States, the connection between al-Qaeda, and then finally, the reason was indicated that this was a rogue regime, that punished its citizens, and its human rights record was abysmal and so forth. We all know that story. The fact remains, that this would have been a very difficult undertaking under the best of circumstances, and unfortunately, with the exception of the Phase I

military operation, which terminated essentially with the end of organized resistance over a year ago, the rest of it has been a disaster.

**EIR:** I was at an event, where both Gen. [Anthony] Zinni [USMC-ret.] and Chas Freeman, former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, spoke, and this was about eight months before the outbreak of fighting, in March 2003, and they both basically thought that the real troubles would begin after the “hot phase” of combat, when American forces would be there as an occupying force. And they rejected the neo-con and Cheney thesis, that this would be a cakewalk and we’d be greeted as liberators.

What was your sense of the neo-con vision of what was going to happen in Iraq?

**Hoar:** Well I think that there were two problems: The first one was that they created a set of circumstances that didn’t exist on the ground, and they were aided and abetted in this process by Ahmed Chalabi, who, to this day, is still on the U.S. government payroll. And Chalabi is a fraud. He was in the early 1990s, when I first came across him. Tony Zinni has spoken out against him, and got in a lot of trouble with [Sen.] Trent Lott [R-Miss.], for fighting to prevent the Congress from giving Chalabi’s Iraqi Congress \$94 million a few years ago.

Chalabi very quickly realized that the neo-cons wanted to hear certain things, and he obliged them, by giving them information, including planting erroneous intelligence. All of the stories, from dancing in the streets, to the locations of weapons of mass destruction, were all fabrications. And the people in the government bought into this, and there’s some evidence that they even cooked the books, with respect to intelligence information, so that they could cherry-pick unrefined information that had come to the United States, through intelligence sources, in order to make the case.

The second piece, of course, is that once they had made the case—if erroneously—to invade Iraq, they did an unbelievably poor job in planning for the reconstruction of the country. And this is evidenced by the fact, that a year after that phase of the operation began, that services, jobs, and security, are still woefully lacking in the country as a whole, and that we have done something that virtually no ruler of

Iraq has been able to accomplish, in the past: and that's to unite Sunnis and Shi'as in a common cause, against an external enemy; namely, the United States.

**EIR:** How do you assess the present situation on the ground? Word came back a few hours ago, that there's fairly heavy bombing and fighting in Karbala and Najaf, in addition to the situation up north, in the Fallujah area. How serious do you consider the situation on the ground, in terms of the building resistance against this U.S. occupation?

**Hoar:** Well, I think, that going back to the beginning of the reconstruction phase, all activities, once organized resistance was defeated a year ago, should have been turned over to political people, under the supervision of the Department of State. Because all activities going forward are, in fact, political activities. The military's responsibility is to provide security, and the exercise of force, in this circumstance, is much more useful when it's threatened than when it's actually used. And we find again and again, particularly in counterinsurgency operations, that when force is used amid an uncommitted, or generally hostile population, that the perpetrator of the force continues to lose political support.

And this, after all, is what this campaign, this current campaign, should be all about: Is winning the willing support of Iraqi citizens for the U.S. program going forward? And, by conducting large-scale operations in key cities, like Najaf and Karbala, we risk the popular support, or even grudging support of the Shi'a population, which we badly need, in order to bring about any successful transfer of power and movement toward democracy.

**EIR:** It seems that there are widely different approaches being taken in different parts of the country, and even disagreements on implementation. I'm referring to Gen. [James] Conway's decision to attempt to bring stability to Fallujah by putting together a new Iraqi military force in the city, to take up the primary security responsibilities. It seemed as if, after he had taken that move, which seemed to be a pretty smart move in my view, there was a lot of flak from back in the Pentagon civilian bureaucracy back in Washington, from [Paul] Wolfowitz and [Douglas] Feith and people like that. What's your assessment of what General Conway was doing up there, in Fallujah?

**Hoar:** Well, I have said it several times, and at least a couple of times publicly: Paul Wolfowitz is a very bright guy, but he doesn't know anything about war-fighting, and I suspect he knows less about counterinsurgency operations; and that Jim Conway has done exactly the right thing.

The attempt is to pacify Fallujah. If we get into the business of trying to conduct punitive operations against people in Fallujah, without specific actionable intelligence about who was responsible for the killing and the atrocities against the four civilian contractors, we're going to ultimately lose out.



*General Hoar: "I think we're running out of time. If something is not done soon, I think it may be irretrievable."*

Fallujah is a tribal city. It was a problem for Saddam Hussein. It has been a problem for virtually every government that has ruled Iraq, with the exception of a period prior to Saddam Hussein's rule; there was a military ruler who came from Fallujah. The solution to Fallujah has to be, to work through the tribal leaders in that city and that area, and that includes security, and ultimately to gain intelligence about the people that are in that city that are a problem.

The difficulty, of course, is that there is a larger disagreement within the U.S. military environment, and it extends to the uniformed services. The disagreement on how to conduct counterinsurgency operations, between the Army and the Marine Corps, goes back to Vietnam. When, in Vietnam, the Army's view was to meet and destroy main force Vietnamese units out in the hinterland. And the Marines' view, was to conduct counterinsurgency operations, to overcome the Vietcong infrastructure in the more populated areas. And, it seems to me, that these two divergent mind-sets have perpetuated themselves into Iraq. There is evidence that the U.S. Army continues to favor major operations, although I think a major diversion from that point of view was the 101st Air Mobile Division, which conducted very successful counterinsurgency operations in their area of responsibility, before rotating back to the States. But, other divisions, for the most part, favored large military operations, as well.

As I said earlier, these kinds of operations tend to alienate a population, and most especially those people that might have had positive attitudes towards the U.S. occupation, or at least were neutral in their views.

**EIR:** There's another dimension to what's going on now in Iraq, that I think is a rather new phenomenon in American experience, and that's the significant role of private contractors, both fulfilling logistical-type functions, and also a large number of security functions. The original idea of this outsourcing and privatization, as far as I know, emerged during



Gen. James Conway (center) in Fallujah, speaking with Iraqi Army officers on May 4, 2004, on the transfer of responsibility for maintaining order in the city from the Marines to Iraqi forces. Says General Hoar: “Jim Conway has done exactly the right thing.”

the period when Vice President Cheney was Secretary of Defense, when he commissioned the original Halliburton study of which functions could be outsourced. What’s your evaluation of this added factor of private contractors, including private security, quasi-mercenary elements on the ground, there, in Iraq?

**Hoar:** Well, I think, as a concept, the idea really goes back to the Vietnam War, where there were contractors that deployed with Air Force, Navy, and Marine aviation units, in order to help service the aircraft. And to my knowledge this was the first time that major combat operations were undertaken with civilians working under contract to directly assist the military in performing their functions.

Additionally, there was a great deal of construction work that was done in Vietnam, by, I believe, American construction companies, but I’m not sure of that. Cam Ranh Bay was an example of the large port that was built in central Vietnam.

So, the concept predates Mr. Cheney’s time as the Secretary of the Defense. Further, in the 1970s, the United States Army reorganized, to make sure—as I understand it—that the U.S. Army would never go to war, again, without activating the Reserves. You’ll recall that in Vietnam, the Reserves were never called up, and the United States Army had a well-balanced force, in which virtually everybody that served was in an active-duty unit.

The change that took place in the ’70s took many combat support activities—for example, medical hospitals, stevedore battalions that would open ports—in fact, all the day-to-day requirements for logistic throughput in a combat zone, from ships to ports, to trucks, and movement to the front, were

accomplished by military units that had been transferred to the Reserves. And this makes a lot of sense, because in peacetime operations, there is no requirement for literally tens of thousands of soldiers, whose primary responsibility is to run a port operation, or to drive an 18-wheel truck in a combat zone.

And so, the theory made sense from a practical point of view, and perhaps from an ideological point of view as well. I think that the logical extension of this, was in the ’90-91 war, that the Reserves *had* to be called up. There was no way that we could conduct an operation that involved 500,000 American forces, without calling on the Reserves to perform these absolutely essential combat support missions. And so, I think, that while Halliburton has done a great deal of work, Halliburton was doing work for the U.S.

government, in places like Yugoslavia and Somalia, prior to this time. And indeed, if I’m not mistaken, Halliburton’s association with providing contractual support to the U.S. government goes back to the time when Mr. Lyndon Johnson was the President.

**EIR:** We talked last week, about a proposal that Mr. LaRouche has put forward to stabilize the situation, through a fairly dramatic change in the present concept underlying the mission there: to keep American forces there, but under a radically different status of forces agreement; put much more emphasis on reconstruction, and turn the whole effort really officially, over to [Lakhdar] Brahimi and the UN to try to work out some kind of arrangement, with a more credible interim government, minus the Chalabi types.

What’s your recipe for what can be done now? It’s obviously a year into an insurgency situation; it’s more difficult. But, what kinds of things do you think need to be done, to both bring stability to the Iraq situation, and to repair whatever damage has been done to the U.S. image in the Arab world and more broadly?

**Hoar:** Well, I think—to speak, first of all, about the image—I think it’s imperative that there be some major changes. The most recent disclosure about the abuse of Iraqi prisoners is a good example of this. One of the reasons the Administration has used for the need to go and invade Iraq, was the abusive nature of the Saddam Hussein regime. It does us no good, to find ourselves being abusive to prisoners in the same prison where Saddam Hussein was abusive to Iraqis!

There is no question that we need to broaden the interna-



*“Paul Wolfowitz is a very bright guy, but he doesn’t know anything about war-fighting, and I suspect he knows less about counterinsurgency operations.” Here, top neo-con Deputy Defense Secretary Wolfowitz (center) in Mosul, Iraq, in July 2003.*

tional support. And the place to start, is with the UN. And the place, more specifically, is with the UN Security Council. We need a UN Security Council resolution that would authorize a UN Chapter 7 peacekeeping operation, with the United States as the lead; that would allow us to continue going forward with the UN operation, rather than solely a U.S. operation; with the UN taking the lead on the transition from the occupation force to an independent Iraqi government, and the conduct of elections there sometime in the future.

The fact of the matter is, there have never been enough troops on the ground to provide adequate security, starting with Day One when the invasion began, up until the present time. We have tried to get by on the cheap, with disastrous results. There have never been adequate resources, directed toward the reconstruction of Iraq. I’m told that unemployment in the country still remains at about 80%. [The United States] is a country that, during the Depression, put people to work on public transportation, public welfare projects for roads, dams, buildings, power. It seems to me, that so much more could be done to enhance the quality of life of Iraqis, more than just painting schools, and going about some of these minor programs; but rather, major programs to help revitalize the Iraqi economy, particularly since the original estimates about the ability of the oil sector of the Iraqi government to pay for the most of the expenses incurred during this reconstruction period, have been woefully incorrect.

So, there’s a great deal of things that need to be done. Services and jobs and security are the three key things that the occupying power, whether it is us or the UN, needs to provide; and that costs a lot of money. And it costs a lot of people on the ground, in terms of providing security. And

without improving those three things—services, jobs, and security—we are not going to have a successful ability to change the attitudes of the people in Iraq.

**EIR:** What would you see as the consequences, regionally, of failure to make those policy corrections?

**Hoar:** Well, I think we are certainly at a pivotal point, in terms of what is going on in Iraq. The first thing is, that there is no possibility that we can walk away from Iraq. The consequences of that would be enormous. Secondly, the success of our efforts is really dependent on broadening the base of those that are involved in the operation, namely through the UN and perhaps ultimately bringing NATO into it, as well.

But, the consequences for the neighbors are quite large, because,

while there’s no evidence that al-Qaeda was present before the invasion, it appears that a virtually misguided, but perhaps idealistic Muslim, who feels that the United States has been unfair to Muslim countries, wants to go to Iraq to fight Americans. And, if a power vacuum were created there, it would be fertile ground for terrorists of all stripes; it would be fertile ground for neighboring countries, particularly Iran, to attempt to make inroads in the political structure; and it would be fertile ground for al-Qaeda to enter into a failed state that was about to implode on itself.

And so, the United States must stay. In order to be successful, in my judgment, we need to broaden our base of support through the UN, and spend more money and more time, and more ambitious programs, and more armed soldiers on the ground. And if those soldiers don’t come from other countries, we’re going to have to provide them ourselves, in order to make this work. Even at the cost of severely upsetting the nature of our rotation policy for soldiers and Marines, we must do this on an emergency basis, until we gain the upper hand, and gain some modicum of control. If we can bring other countries in to help us, so much the better.

**EIR:** How significant a linkage do you see, between the Israel/Palestine situation, and the challenges on the ground in Iraq, and throughout the whole region?

**Hoar:** There’s enormous significance. And there are many people in government and elsewhere in the United States that have attempted to decouple the inter-connectedness of these two issues. They are connected, because 1.2 billion Muslims—worldwide, but largely spread out between the Philippines and all the way across South Asia and North Africa to



*Israeli President Ariel Sharon and President Bush at their April 14 meeting in Washington, at which Bush approved Sharon's repudiation of the Road Map and 50 years of U.S. policy toward Israel and Palestine. "The timing of it could not have been worse," says Hoar, "given the internal unrest that exists right now in Iraq, and then, on top of that, the events of this maltreatment of Iraqi prisoners."*

Morocco—believe that the United States has unjustly taken the part of Israel, in the Palestine/Israel confrontation. Many of our activities in the region, including the invasion of Iraq, are connected to our support for Israel.

And, our public diplomacy in this regard, has been horrendous, in that we have taken the back seat to Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiya, two of the most prominent cable television stations, which have cameramen and newspeople on the ground all the time, and are looking for opportunities to make this case. Now, whether the case is a good one or not, from our point of view as American citizens, it's important to point out that there is linkage in the eyes of Muslims worldwide; and if we don't deal with that problem, it makes the problem in the region—and more specifically in Iraq—more difficult.

And so, when the President stands with Mr. Sharon, and makes statements that are patently not in congruence with the work of the Quartet and the Road Map that had been put together by the Quartet—namely, the United States, the EU, Russia, and Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General—that that is immediately read as another example of how the United States unjustly supports Israel. And in fact, the timing of it could not have been worse, given the internal unrest that exists right now in Iraq, and then, on top of that, the events of this maltreatment of Iraqi prisoners.

So, it's a major part of this. It's a major issue in terms of public diplomacy. It's a major issue, because throughout the Arab world and the Muslim world, the larger Muslim world of 1.2 billion people, we are perceived as an occupying power, and treating the Palestinian issue unfairly, while at the same time, our circumstances in Iraq are not improving.

**EIR:** As someone with a great deal of experience in the re-

gion as a whole, how do you appraise the situation with the major regimes that have been historically pro-American: Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan? Does this combined Iraq problem and the failure to deal justly with Israel/Palestine create, in your judgment, serious threats of instability in those countries, also?

**Hoar:** I think very much so. It's interesting, that in perhaps more elegant terms, both President Mubarak of Egypt and King Abdullah of Jordan have said essentially what I've just said a moment ago, with respect to the linkage between the Iraqi business and the Israeli-Palestinian issue. Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia has carried forward a peace proposal to the Arab League, and received 25 votes to nothing, unanimously supporting it, which in large measure looked very much like the Oslo Accords, with some differences, but certainly, a place where the negotiations could begin again. It seems to me, as a representative of a government in the Middle East said to me some months ago, but after the invasion of Iraq, that the United States makes it very hard to be friends with them. And, I think, in the Middle East, the countries that encircle, or are neighbors of Iraq, which have historically had close ties to the United States, find it very difficult to be supportive of U.S. policy in the region, and at the same time, be responsive to their own, indigenous populations.

**EIR:** Do you see any evidence, from within the particularly neo-conservative circles within the Bush Administration, that there's any sense of lessons learned, any kind of rethinking, as the result of the mess that we're in on the ground right now in Iraq?

**Hoar:** Well, the military doesn't always get it right. But, one

of the things that the military has learned over the years, is that you continually have reviews about how organizations perform. And you have after-action reports, you have critical discussions about what went well, and what went wrong. I see no evidence of anybody in this government going back and looking back at the events of the last couple of years, with an effort to try and determine what went well, and what went wrong. And, I mean on the ground. I don't mean the 9/11 Commission, and some of these others that are more narrowly focussed. We have had a Congressional committee to look at intelligence.

But, what went well with the offensive campaign, that allowed us to seize Iraq in a relatively short period of time; what went wrong in that portion of the campaign; and similarly, what steps had been taken during that period in planning, and what had taken place in execution in the post-offensive operation phase of this; without the ability to go back and be critical of your own actions, it seems to me that there's very little ability to make changes in the future.

And I would just point out one example: the manner in which we handled the Iraqi Army. You will recall, shortly after the offensive operations terminated, the decision was made to disband the Iraqi Army. This was done, at least in part, on the recommendations of Mr. Chalabi, that these people were all Ba'athists and couldn't be trusted in the government. But, as I recall, within a day or two, soldiers came out on the street and rioted. U.S. Army troops were called out; they fired into the mob, killed some number of protesting former soldiers of the Iraq government. The next day, it was decided that there would be a stipend for soldiers. So, they were all sent home with their rifles and their rocket-propelled grenades, with a small stipend. And then, we come full circle, in almost a year, where we have now decided, that perhaps we're going to have to hire some of these people back again, if we're going to establish an effective force, border patrol, police, and so forth.

And, finally coming to the realization that there were many people who joined the Ba'athist Party during the Saddam Hussein regime, only to make a living, and be able to get by, where any kind of promotion or any kind of status—whether they were academics or in the government or in the military—was dependent on their membership in the Ba'athist Party. And that all of those people were not necessarily ardent supporters of Saddam Hussein.

So, I think that the neo-conservatives had their day, by selling to the President the need for invasion of Iraq. I think



*“The fact of the matter is, there have never been enough troops on the ground to provide adequate security, starting with Day One when the invasion began, up until the present time. We have tried to get by on the cheap, with disastrous results. There have never been adequate resources, directed toward the reconstruction of Iraq.” Here, U.S. soldiers on duty in Iraq.*

it's now time for a clean sweep—and it has been for some time, in my judgment—to get rid of these people. And, to see if we can put together a more coherent policy than has existed for the last couple years.

**EIR:** Any closing comments, you'd care to make? I very much appreciate your time.

**Hoar:** Well, Jeff, I don't think all is lost. But, we're getting to the point, where it is becoming increasingly more difficult to make the case that our purposes were noble and that the end of this occupation will be a better day for the Iraqis. We have a lot of convincing to do, to convince the Iraqis of our nobility and our honest efforts, with regard to a new Iraq. And, without their belief in our noble efforts, and without their active support, the success of this endeavor is almost certainly doomed to failure.

There are some things that can be done: the UN multinational effort; a serious increase in resources, both in terms of troops on the ground, and also money to help rebuild the country and convince these people that we have their best interests at heart.

But, I think we're running out of time. If something is not done soon, I think it may be irretrievable.

**EIR:** With some pretty horrifying consequences, both for the region as a whole, and also elsewhere around the planet.

**Hoar:** Well, and for the reputation of the United States. We are certainly not going to come out of this, with our reputation as a beacon for democracy intact. In fact, it's seriously damaged already.

## LaRouche on Hustings: Bush Too Dumb To Dump Cheney Now?

by Harley Schlanger

In an eventful three-day tour through Arkansas, which held its Democratic Presidential primary on May 18, candidate Lyndon LaRouche repeatedly demonstrated the mission orientation required of a President, to extricate the United States from the devastating twin crises of war and financial disintegration.

The Democratic Presidential candidate, who is the only serious remaining alternative to Sen. John Kerry for the nomination, spoke with urgency and passion during meetings held with religious leaders, political officials, and the media, at which he elaborated his principled approach to peace in Southwest Asia—the LaRouche Doctrine—and his proposals to create 10 million jobs in the United States with a Franklin

Roosevelt-style financial reorganization to rebuild necessary infrastructure and defend the general welfare.

LaRouche has a base of support in the state, which first became evident in the Democratic Presidential primary in 2000, when he received enough votes—more than 52,000—to qualify for at least eight delegates to the Democratic National Convention. The subsequent corrupt and illegal actions by the Gore campaign and Gore’s allies in the Democratic National Committee—which disenfranchised those 52,000-plus voters in the same way that, in 1964, the then-racist Democratic Party in Mississippi threw out the votes cast by African-Americans—made LaRouche a folk hero among Democrats who are fighting the Wall Street interests which



*Candidate LaRouche toured Arkansas in mid-May, speaking to groups of supporters and students (above) and ministers, and receiving prominent coverage of his challenge to Bush: “Fire Cheney and Rumsfeld now, or prove yourself the dumbest President in U.S. history” (with local ABC-TV station, right).*



have captured the Kerry campaign since his emergence as the “front-runner.”

It was leaders of this potential alliance of civil rights activists and farm and labor Democrats, who invited LaRouche to the state for a series of meetings in January, and participated again in a dialogue with him this week.

LaRouche’s visit coincided with the exposure of the escalating scandal of the treatment of Iraqi prisoners. While Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and his deputy, Straussian Stephen Cambone, lied to members of the Congressional committees looking into the Torquemada-type torture used to “extract information,” arguing that only a few low-level

types are responsible, LaRouche identified the reality in a memo drafted while in Arkansas. The responsibility for these actions comes from the top, LaRouche said, from whence emanated the mindset with which the war is being conducted. LaRouche also directly challenged President Bush to show the brains to dump Rumsfeld and Cheney—or stand convicted of being the dumbest President the United States ever had.

This was part of the message he delivered to members of the Christian Ministerial Alliance of Little Rock, when he addressed their weekly meeting on May 10. If Cheney and the neo-con crowd controlling their puppet Bush are not re-

## The Mark of the Beast

*This statement was released on May 11 by the LaRouche in 2004 political campaign committee.*

Tell those lunatics who have been praying for the Battle of Armageddon (in the hope that they will be rewarded by a removal of their obligation to pay next month’s rent), that the Bush Administration’s behavior in the Iraq prisoner scandal proffers any competent intelligence officer clear evidentiary proof, that these pictures are clues pointing to a crime committed by those who, like the notorious Grand Inquisitor Tomás Torquemada, bear “The Mark of the Beast.” The perpetrators of the crime against Iraqis held captive, are the same circle of Vice President Cheney et al., who we exposed as nothing other than “beast-men” in my campaign’s report on the Synarchist roots, which today’s neo-conservative followers of Chicago’s Professor Leo Strauss share with the fascists Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler, Francisco Franco, and their like, of 1922-1945 notoriety. There, in the intention expressed by those Synarchist traditions—that at the highest level—lies the essential culpability, the essential criminality.

Most people today, think as if they were running around on a giant pool-table, bouncing off one another according to the mechanical rules of some Hobbesian-nightmare universe. Thus, they seek to explain nearly every experience in terms of “Who hit whom.” For persons sharing that confused state of mind, the crime lies, essentially, in the willful action by the individual. An educated, sane person rejects that “Who hit whom” approach. The competently developed mind recognizes that an individual crime such as that reflected in the pictures from the U.S. prison in Iraq, is not essentially the result of the individual will, but the influence of the system on his, or her will. In such cases, as in the notoriety of the Inquisition, or the

similar case of the U.S. Iraq prison-system today, the essential responsibility, the essential criminality, has been generated by those responsible for the Defense Department’s design of the conduct of the continuing war in Iraq.

Consider a few relevant points.

The foolish President of the United States once announced that the war in Iraq had been won. What a fool he was, to put on a uniform, as if it were a clown-suit, stand on a carrier, and proclaim himself a mastermind in matters of warfare! The war has not ended to the present day; what the poor, mentally limited President mistakenly thought was the end of war, was the beginning of its more deadly, protracted phase, as Classical asymmetric warfare in the tradition of the post-MacArthur phase of the Korea War, again in Indo-China, and so on. The President started a war, could not end it successfully, and then blamed the nation which he had attacked (on fraudulent pretexts concocted by his Vice President’s cronies) for refusing to play by what the President thought were his God-like powers to declare the war won at any time he just happened to chose.

The foolish President complicated his folly by putting Bremer, a known entity, in charge. Bremer occupied Saddam Hussein’s offices, violated all standing principles for a U.S. occupying military force, and copied every bad kind of act, to the present day, for which Saddam Hussein had been accused by his own Iraq opponents.

Under the Bremer regime, Iraqis were tortured for information, presumably for the “weapons of mass destruction” which had almost certainly never existed.

Shades of the inquisition against the Cathars: “Kill them all, and let God sort them out!”

To free himself from continuing culpability in the ongoing crime, let the President call the accomplices of Cheney and Rumsfeld into the Oval Office. Let the President tell them all: “I have found the enemy in Iraq, and he is us.” The President might add, pointing to his President of Vice: “Dick, get that damned rug out of your mouth!”

—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.



*LaRouche Youth Movement activists from Texas organized students on Arkansas campuses while candidate LaRouche toured the state.*

moved, he told them, we face perpetual war, including nuclear war. Under those conditions, there will be no chance that the economic collapse and bankruptcy facing the world will be addressed.

But this crisis, LaRouche continued, presents us with an opportunity, as “people are going to find themselves suddenly plunged into a sense of reality. They’re going to sense that their lives are meaningless; that this pursuit of bread and circuses is not reality. If we can communicate to them a sense of mission, a national and world mission, to give them a sense of being human and not part of a herd of cattle, then we can survive, and leave a better world.”

This message provoked an intense discussion, as the candidate’s challenge brought out the pessimism of some of the ministers—who expressed their fear that the “monied interests” are too powerful to defeat—and their desire to “fight the good fight.” In response to LaRouche’s discussion of immortality and the quality of the “sublime,” as exemplified by Joan of Arc and Martin Luther King, one minister expressed his full agreement, adding that “the only thing worse than dying, is being alive when you should be dead!”

### Looking for Leadership

A similar dialogue ensued when LaRouche addressed a reception that evening, which included five Arkansas state legislators, as well as local elected officials. In addition to questions about LaRouche’s proposals for financial reorganization, job creation through infrastructure programs, and ways to combat the breakdown of rural communities and the effects of the “Wal-Martization” of the economy, there was an in-depth discussion of how to reverse voters’ apathy and the sense of impotence in the electorate.

LaRouche returned again to the question of the sublime, of humanity’s need for leaders who act for posterity, who show the courage to act against the foolish popular opinions of the moment. While his presentation took them through

physical economy and the history of the last century, to demonstrate the difference between the American System and the speculative bubble of consumerism, he kept returning to the central “spiritual” issue facing humanity: the distinction between man, organized in a human society, and the beasts. Human beings can stand up and fight, and must not be terrorized into submitting to Cheney and his Beast-Men. The function of leaders is to inspire people to act as creative, courageous human beings.

A key moment came when a state legislator said, “My wife and I voted for you. What else can we do?” It was agreed that organizing a big LaRouche vote in Arkansas’ primary is a necessary step toward sanity.

### Bush Is ‘Dumbest’ President

The candidate’s trip included a well-attended press conference in Little Rock, which generated coverage on all three network TV stations, and an article in the state’s leading paper, the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. The article captured at least a part of LaRouche’s message, by accurately quoting him with the headline, “LaRouche Says Bush ‘Dumbest’ President.” LaRouche was also the only candidate who appeared on the special debate organized by Fayetteville’s cable-TV station; this became a probing one-hour interview with LaRouche, conducted by local NBC news anchorman Don Elkins, when Kerry opted to attend a \$1,000/person event in Little Rock, rather than join LaRouche in a necessary political dialogue.

Accompanying LaRouche on this tour was a group of nine activists from the LaRouche Youth Movement from Houston. In addition to organizing attendees at the various events, they have been circulating campaign literature at campuses, downtown areas, and churches statewide, to get out the vote for LaRouche in the Arkansas primary, and to recruit young Arkansans to the LYM and its mission to advance civilization by initiating a new renaissance.

The candidate went from Arkansas to neighboring Alabama, where he is also one of three candidates on the ballot in the upcoming (June 1) Democratic Presidential Primary. His visit there will feature dialogue with leading civil rights organizations, including those who hosted LaRouche in Talladega for his famous Martin Luther King Day speech on Jan. 19 of this year.

At the same time, LaRouche is having a major impact in Washington and around the country, through his leadership on the question of the Iraq War, which he addressed by issuing his LaRouche Doctrine. Already that doctrine is being heeded on the ground in Iraq, in places like Fallujah, and debate over a withdrawal of U.S. forces is being informed by LaRouche’s proposal. Should Rumsfeld and/or Cheney be removed soon, an action indispensable to the positive future of the United States and the world, it will be in large part due to the initiative taken by LaRouche, intrepidly to identify the source of this war, and put forward a viable alternative for peace among the nations in the region.

# LaRouche to Kentucky Labor: We Need ‘Leadership That Is Looking for Trouble’

*Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche spoke to the Louisville, Kentucky Building Trades Council on May 6, followed by an extensive question-and-answer dialogue. LaRouche was introduced by an official from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.*

**Introduction:** Join me in welcoming Lyndon LaRouche. Mr Lyndon LaRouche is running as a candidate for President, U.S. President, and we’ll suspend our regular order of business to allow Mr. LaRouche the floor as long as he needs.

**LaRouche:** Well, as you know from experience, that most of the jobs you come to, are bad jobs that you have to turn into good jobs. I’ve been there, in the old days of consulting.

Now the job of President is like that. The job of President of the United States today is a very bad job. The specifications of the job are wrong, the materials you have to work with are wrong, and you’ve got to turn it into something.

Now, that’s our problem. It’s not the problem of the next President, it’s *our* problem, because this is our country. And the function of President, as the Presidency—despite the fact that the present incumbent is not too clear on which direction North is—the Presidency is the actual institution which must make the ongoing decisions, on which the way things turn, depends. The Congress is important, as it advises the President, in particular, because it makes laws and so forth, but the action comes from the Presidency.

In an emergency, it is the President of the United States who reacts to the emergency, not a discussion with the Congress. The necessary action is taken, and then the Congress comes in on the act, in terms of how this is going to affect the lawmaking and provisions. When the President acts, he has to get permission from the House of Representatives for the money, with the consent of the Congress to do the job, that sort of thing.

Now, most people who are running for President, tell you what they’re going to do when they get there. Now, if they’re not already doing it, as you may know, they generally don’t do it when they get there. You know, you say, “I don’t want to talk the President, I want to talk to his teleprompter. I want to get an intelligent answer.”

Now, here’s what we face. We’re faced with a very bad job. The United States and the world is bankrupt. The banking system of the United States is bankrupt. The IMF monetary system, financial system, is bankrupt, and in the process of disintegration. This is the problem the Presidency faces.

We’re also faced with, as often in times of depressions, or similar crises, usually there are military and related crises that occur. We have phenomena which are called terrorism—it’s somewhat of a misnomer, but it exists. We have wars which are spreading. Right now, Sharon and Cheney would like to have a new war against Syria, for political reasons—they’re desperate. And Syria’s the number one target. They intend to drop a couple of nukes on Iran, if they get re-elected. They intend to do the same thing with North Korea. We’re in a period of trouble.

Look at the Patriot Act, look at what its implications are. You look at what’s happening in the prisons, the military prisons in Iraq, for the Iraqis, and in Guantanamo. And we know the same kind of mood is coming in the United States, with the Patriot Act, and similar kinds of things. There’s a tendency to go toward dictatorship.

## A Crisis of Artificial Debt

The real thing comes about money, on this thing, money in a special way. When bankers become bankrupt, and the question is, who is going to pay the debts, the bankers say, “The people will.” As they said in the case of Argentina.

Now I happen to know that Argentina does not owe a nickel to anybody, but under the provisions of certain changes in the world monetary system, from 1971-72, and actions taken in 1982, the countries of South and Central America were looted by these international financial institutions. The way they did it was this: Under a floating exchange rate system, they would start with the London market. They would get a run on a nation’s currency. They’d target the currency, they would organize a run against the national currency. The value of the national currency is falling on the international markets. The country’s in trouble. People of the country say, “What are we going to do?”

Someone says, “Call in the IMF and World Bank. They’ll advise you on what to do.” The people from the World Bank and the IMF arrive, as advisers, and they say, “Well, slice this, cut this, cut this, cut this . . . and also drop the value of your currency. Maybe 20%, 30%, maybe 50%.” The country says, “We’ve got to do it. We’d better do it. Otherwise they’re not going to let you go.”

“Okay, that’s the deal. Fine.”

“Oh, one more thing. When you drop the value of your currency, as we order you to do, that means that you are threatening to cheat your creditors. If you’re going to pay in

your currency, and your currency has been dropped by us by 20-40%, or whatever percent, you've got to make up for that. You've got to increase your debt to compensate your creditors on future payments to them."

Now, if you look at the total debt, of the countries of Central and South America, back in 1971, back in August of 1971, and look also at the same figures, the same kind of figures, for the following year of the so-called Azores Monetary Conference, when the floating-exchange-rate monetary system was put into effect: These countries owe not a nickel to anyone, on national account. They have more than paid every debt they actually incurred. The debt which is squeezing them, is the debt which was imposed upon them artificially, without their receiving a nickel for it in advance.

And now they come in, and they say to Argentina, "We're coming to eat your people." And they're going to say the same thing, and are saying the same thing, in South and Central America.

Take the case of Mexico. 1982, Mexico was hit by this operation. It was run from the United States. It was run by very dirty people, against the President of Mexico who happened to be a friend of mine, López Portillo, who just recently died. We staged a fight. We tried to save Mexico and other countries from this kind of predatory operation.

Now, if you look at an area like Monterrey, which used to be an industrial center in Mexico, look at other parts of Mexico, the country has been destroyed. What's happened, therefore: We have the globalization and NAFTA process. What we did is, we destroyed the ability of Mexico to provide for the employment of its own people. Then we dumped those people, as virtual slave labor, in *maquiladoras* in the northern states of Mexico, or we brought them across the border as cheap labor, here.

Now, what they get in wages in Mexico, is not enough to support a family. So, we're destroying the country. This is what we're doing throughout the hemisphere; this operation. This is what they plan for *us*, here in the United States, and elsewhere, under the conditions of a monetary crisis. That's what the big fight is, behind the scenes in the election campaign.

## **A Tragedy in Our Economic Infrastructure**

Now, there are two ways you go at this. We're going to have a big depression, that is, a financial depression. The question is: can we prevent that from becoming a permanent economic depression, a killer kind of economic depression inside the United States?

We can! We have a precedent. Franklin Roosevelt represented the precedent.

Now you go back to 1929, when, because of a breakdown of the Versailles monetary system, over the period 1929 through 1931, the United States, between that time—1929 and 1933, March '33—had lost half of the average income, in real terms, of our people and our industries. We were bank-

rupt. We were bankrupt not merely because of '29, we were bankrupt because of Herbert Hoover, and Herbert Hoover came in with the same basic economic policies that the Nazis applied in Germany. That is, when the bankers were in trouble, the people are eaten. That's what happened to us.

Roosevelt came in, and demonstrated that, under our Constitution, we don't have to put up with that; that Roosevelt on March 1933 put the banking system into receivership, with a bank holiday, and we came out of that bank holiday as an intact nation. Roosevelt also launched a program, of a type which we need today, a jobs program. What were the jobs?

Well, the basic point is, when you get into a financial crisis, where business is bankrupt, or about to go bankrupt—and I can assure you that all of the leading banks of the United States today are bankrupt, and hopelessly bankrupt, for special reasons. So there is no credit in the system to speak of, net credit. Where is the credit going to come from? Where did it come from then?

It came from the Federal government, in various ways. The government took action either to create credit—the Federal government—or to make arrangements which helped others create credit, as in the case of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which helped to build, for example, the Tennessee Valley Authority. So, government is good at one thing, in terms of business: It's good at government business. The government business is what we used to call basic economic infrastructure, before Brzezinski was running the Carter Administration, when we shut down regulation, and began to close down regulated industries, of power companies, mass transportation, and so forth. Government is good at that.

Now, we have—as you know from your work—we have a tragedy in the United States in terms of basic economic infrastructure. We don't have it. What we have is rotting. In terms of generation and distribution of power, we're at a point of breakdown. The industry is bankrupt—deregulation has created a nightmare. We're headed for hell in terms of power generation and distribution, the way things are going now. This is an area where the government has to be responsible. The Federal government has to take the initiative to repeal deregulation. They can set forth a program, a regulated program, on the Federal level, and on the state levels, of returning to a system of private utilities, to ensure that we can maintain the large-scale investments that are required to put the whole industry back into shape. Because we've got collapses on our hands, coming up fast.

We have the same thing in mass transit, rail transit. We've lost it. We need a national rail system. We also need improvements in rail systems in regions. We need, in terms of this growing sprawl of habitation around cities, we need light rail. We've got to avoid the congestion. We've to enable people to get more efficiently to and from their places of work. We've got to bring the society back together again.

We have a water crisis. The Mississippi system, of which you're a part here—the larger central system based on the



*Candidate LaRouche met with the Louisville Building Trades Council's leaders for an hour on May 6, during his campaign swing through Kentucky and Arkansas. "Most people who are running for President," he told them, "tell you what they're going to do when they get there. Now, if they're not already doing it, as you may know, they generally don't do it when they get there."*

Mississippi River, up to the 20-inch rainfall line out in the Midwest—this whole system, it's disintegrating. We started a system of water management. It was actually completed under Roosevelt, up to about St. Louis; and from there on down, we had a system, the TVA system. The attempt to get the TVA, the Tennessee-Tombigbee system, into operation, was an extension of that kind of system, of managing the existing water resources to deal with the problems.

We have not yet attacked the Missouri. We have not attacked the Northern Mississippi, which is a region which fairly needs the same thing.

So, we also have not touched the Great America Desert area, which runs from nearly the border up in Montana, down into the middle of Mexico, in the Sierra Madre region in Mexico. We haven't touched it. So, we have a need for a large-scale water management program, on a Federal and state level, which means putting the Corps of Engineers back to work, in the way they used to work, and with the rules they used to have.

### **\$6 Trillion in Infrastructure Investment**

So, we think—power, water, mass transportation. These are areas in which we need a large investment. In these and related areas, in rebuilding health care facilities, which we've lost, in rebuilding educational systems and institutions, the Federal government, in cooperation with the states, has a major infrastructure requirement. My estimate is that over the next 4 years, what the Federal government should be doing,

in cooperation with the states, is creating \$6 trillion of credit, against our so-called 10-11 trillion dollar economy. \$6 trillion dollars of credit for long-term investment, in large-scale public infrastructure on the state and Federal level.

Of course, as you know, when you go into Federal projects of this type, and state projects, with government organized credit, under the kind of system that Roosevelt used, that is the way you revive the private sector: through contracts, through the market that is created by increased employment in these areas. Therefore, you need credit for that, as Roosevelt did then.

So, you have to reorganize your bankrupt banking system; make credit available, Federally-organized credit, or credit indirectly Federally organized, as with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, to recycle the credit in the system officially. Make the credit available through local banking facilities. Establish institutions in each area to review loans, loans to be made under this kind of system. If somebody's a good businessman, and has a good proposition,

the local community thinks it's sound, it meets Federal standards and priorities, they should get the loan. These loans have to be in the order of magnitude of a basic rate of 1-2% long-term credit.

This means we need a regulated system, a fixed-exchange-rate system, where we control inflation of the currency the way Roosevelt did, and the way we did up until the early 1960s. Because only with a fixed-exchange-rate system, can you keep interest rates down. If you have a floating-exchange-rate system, debt will drive the interest rates up, and will put you out of business, or in restrictive conditions, through what's happened to us.

So, we have a great problem. We're in a depression. It's coming on fast, it's coming on now. They'll lie about it here; in Europe they're much more honest about it. The system is finished. That's the bad part of the job. The good part of the job is, we can make something of it, as a nation. We in the United States have the experience, as with the Roosevelt experience; we can tackle the job, we can get it done. We can create the credit. The problem is: How is the job going to get done? Who's going to do the job?

### **'Good Troublemakers' Are the Best Managers**

Now, obviously, being the President of the United States, gives you the power, as it did Roosevelt, to get a lot done. And it's important to have a President who's going to do that. But that's not enough. The mistake people make, and I'm sure that in dealing with your areas, your respective areas, you

know this very well: You can put a man on a job, but is he going to be able to do it? You can give him the guidance, you can give him the education, the schooling and so forth to know what he should do. Can he do it?

Well, something else comes in. A different human factor. There's a difference between knowing something from a book, or having rehearsed it in a laboratory, or rehearsed the job; and facing a job—that requires ingenuity, innovation. Doing something that's not in the book. It requires the kind of leadership that is looking for trouble. Good management is always looking for trouble. Why? Because you've got rules. You're supposed to do the job this way, that way. Rules.

"I don't like that." If you're any good, [you say] "I don't like that. There has to be a better way." That's the way you do a job. There has to be a better way. There always is a better way. And you need people who think and act on the basis of that simple philosophy, which was the basis on which the smart corporations in former times set up their system of turning in proposals, through the box—in the employees' suggestion box. Because the good employee, the good skilled person, whether they're a scientist or just a skilled person, comes onto the job, looks at the job, and says: "I don't like this. There has to be a better way." And therefore, ingenuity and creativity comes not from someone saying, "What's up? We need an adviser on this problem." I was a consultant for some decades, I can tell you about that one.

But that doesn't really do the job. They call in Booz Allen Hamilton, or someone like that. I've tracked some of their jobs in the old days. They did a lousy job. They would go by the book, they would make plans, and so forth, no good.

But you have to have an attitude of doing the job. The attitude of the troublemaker who says, "There has to be a better way to do the job. I don't like this way. It's boring, it's stupid, it's inefficient, it's lazy. There has to be a better way," and has the competence to work out a solution that will work, and prove it. And put it into action.

Now, troublemakers—good troublemakers who are the best managers—don't wait to be asked. They're pushing, they're always thinking. And they're the ones that will carry the job through; because if they run into a problem in implementing the new policy, they will fight to make it work. Whereas the mere book technician, who's educated in how to do it by the book, will give up if it doesn't work. Whereas the person who understands what the innovation is, will make it work.

Now, this is true in government. The function of a competent President in the United States, in a time of crisis, is not to be the guy who has a teleprompter, which tells him what to tell people to do. A good President is a man who's got his hands dirty, who's looking for trouble, having people around him who work with him, who are also looking for trouble, in each department of government. "Look, I want you to look for trouble! I want you to see what might hit us, or where

we're doing the wrong thing. That's your job, and your job is also to *do* something about it. If you don't think you have the authority to do something about it, come talk to me. I want to know about it. We'll get some people down there to help you. We'll get the job done."

And that's where we are now. That's where *you* are now. Because you are a part of the people who are on the line, who have to get the job done. You're the troublemakers who recognize what's wrong with what's being done often, and can have access to people we work with, who will show you what the problem is, and how the improvement can be made.

What you need, and many Americans need, in government or not, is to be turned loose, in that way, in an organized way. Where we say, we've got a problem, we've got a mess. In principle we can solve the problem. We cannot rely on waiting for somebody to cut the orders, to tell us how to solve the problem, or that it exists. We have to be troublemakers, who suspect what's wrong, who recognize what's wrong, who have the ability to find out from others what they need in assistance to determine what the problem is, and what the solution might be. The kind of troublemakers who are going to get on the job, and make sure the job is done properly.

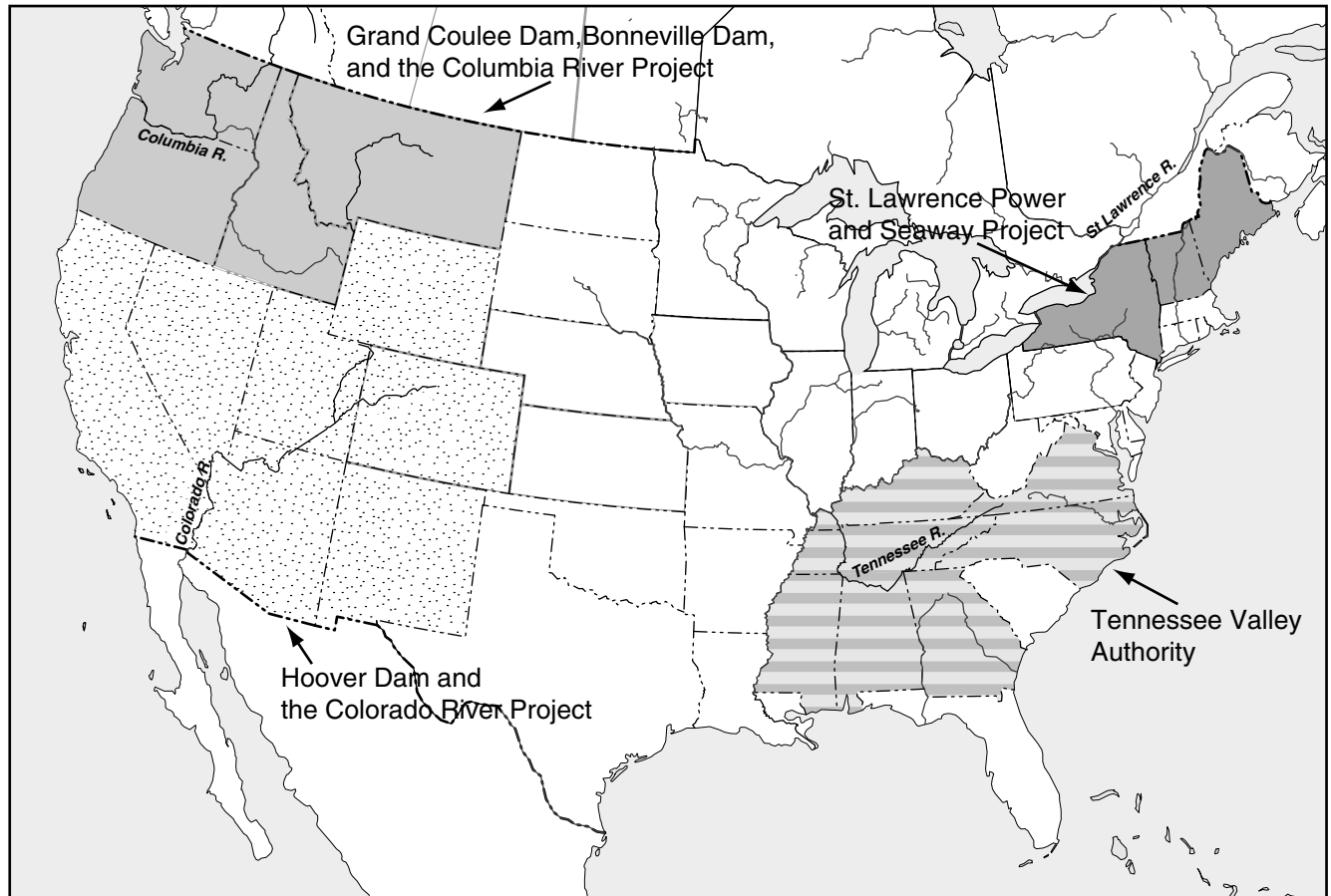
You need that all the way from the top down, in government, and in society. You need a leadership by troublemakers. And I think you are troublemakers. Because you wouldn't be in the positions you're in if you weren't. You're the ones who are critical of what is going on. You're critical of the way the job is being done. You're critical about what is not being done for the society. You see the mess we're making of our economy. You see the problems that are associated with trying to build these suburban build-ups around a city like Louisville. It's a problem. It's a mess. It's a problem, a crisis for the future. It shouldn't go that way. There should be rules and directions, to prevent this thing from becoming chaos, and becoming the slums of the future.

We're destroying—You know this stuff. You see it, day by day. So, you know something about being troublemakers, and you want permission to be a little more of a troublemaker. You want some cooperation up and down the ladder. Your initiative is an essential part of government. You're the ones saying, "I can do it." And when somebody's in charge, in government, and they want a job done, they go to someone who is competent, and who will say, "I can do it."

## **Both Candidates Gaining Money, Losing Ground**

You can't give an order, and expect the order to be carried out because it was uttered from your lips, because you copied it from the teleprompter. When you give an order, you're actually turning someone loose. You're looking for somebody who's capable of doing the job, who is willing to do the job, and, with your encouragement and backing, is going to have some zest for getting the job done, competently. And

## Roosevelt's 'Four Quarters' Development Projects



Source: EIRNS

*The greatest infrastructure projects under the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The Federal government has to take action in this economic collapse, to create credit for infrastructure on Franklin Roosevelt's model, LaRouche emphasized. He calls his national policy for this, "the Super-TVA."*

that's how you run government.

Now we have a situation where you've got the other philosophy now running the election campaign. The question is: Which can lose the quickest, the Democratic candidate, or the Republican candidate? They're both losing. Republicans who wanted to vote for Democrats out of disgust, are now being discouraged by Kerry; that's what they're saying.

So, we've got a mess. The parties are operating on the usual old game. They're looking at the upper 20% of family income brackets, they're taking the count of average voters, typical voters who are expected to vote, looking generally for the upper brackets, and then trying to figure out how to manage and brainwash the lower income brackets, if they choose to come out to vote. The parties are operating on the basis of

getting big money from big contributors: like George Shultz, Warren Buffett, and George Soros, and looking at the people who are likely to vote, based on past performance.

They're trying to influence them and manage the others, discourage the others from taking any other view than supporting their leading candidate.

You look at their programs, look at their definition of the problems. How many people as candidates, in the United States today, are talking about the *fact*, well-known, that we are in the process of a financial collapse internationally? A housing collapse, internationally. The housing market is about to collapse. We have a bubble in the housing market, through Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. They can go under.

We've got other bubbles. Who talks about it? We've got



a war in Iraq, which is threatening to spread to other countries; what are we doing about it? People are making proposals; maybe the Secretary of Defense may be dumped, any day now, over this scandal of the prison in Iraq. But they're not *doing* anything about it. They're saying, "Me, too. I can do the job in Iraq better."

No one can do the present job in Iraq better. You've got to cancel the job. We should not be in the occupation business. We're in a situation where we send people over to get killed, and that's called patriotism. I don't think sending American soldiers over to get killed in Iraq, is patriotism—because that's the only thing you're doing, killing a lot of other people [applause].

I've got a policy which is getting a lot of support from around the world, and people here, on how to deal with this Iraq situation. But nobody else is doing it, not in this country, and other candidates. We don't belong there. We've got to get ourselves out, but we've got to get ourselves out clean. We can't just scamper and run, but we've got to stop the killing. We've got to pull most of our people back, retrain them. We've got some other things to do in that area. We've got these wounded veterans returning who can't get health-care. We've got a Veterans hospital system that's broken down, that can't care for them. That's called patriotic, huh?

So, that's our situation. Neither party, presently, is disposed to act. And the reason they're not disposed to act, is because they lost the fundamental principle of our Constitution, from the beginning. In politics, if you're any good, you look at the guy who's at the bottom of the barrel first. Because if you cannot take care of the people who are at the bottom of the barrel, you can't take care of anyone. What you do, as we've seen over the recent years, as the lower 80% of family income brackets in the United States have been going down, down, down, since 1977. We've seen the poor, who are now becoming up to 80% of the population, do not have the standard of living they had back in 1977, in terms of effective physical standard of living. They're being more and more neglected. They're becoming more and more discouraged, more and more withdrawn.

When you say you're President of the United States, you say, "I represent the United States." Well, why don't you represent the lower 80% of our citizens of the United States?

You say, "We represent the Western Hemisphere." "Well, why don't you do a better job in representing Mexico, and Argentina, and Peru, Bolivia?"

The problem is, people are not taking the responsibility of being troublemakers, who look for problems where they are emerging, and try to determine solutions for those problems, and measure the competence of their solution by the test of: What effect are you having on the poorest, least well-protected sections of our population? What are you doing for the coming generation? What kind of a world are you creating for people who are now 18-25? What kind of a world are they entering, for the next 50 years of their adult lives?

What are you doing for the young children, who are coming up and getting into those generations?

That's the test of government. That's the test of a good troublemaker, and we don't have it. But you, in the unions, typify those who are the right constituency. We need to have a representation, Roosevelt-type system of representation, in which the major part of the population, including those who fall in the lower 80% of family income brackets, know they have an advocate, a leader and an advocate in government. And then you ask them, "Don't tell them to get big money from the big contributors, and tell you what to do. If you want to turn out the vote, why don't you motivate the person to vote? Motivate the citizen to vote? Give him a reason to vote. Don't try to buy his vote." Become his representative. You know that, in the union business. You want the people to turn out? You want to build? You've got to convince the people you're leading that you're working for them. . . . Go to the people who need that the most. They'll be your best defenders, your best promoters.

### **The Spark of Leadership**

And that's the situation. I can do a good job. I'm probably the only man in the United States who can, because of the peculiarity of my situation, knowledge, and so forth. I'm the only one qualified to be President, that I know of right now. The others are far down the list. But nonetheless, what I have to do is not simply sit back and wait to become President. I have the experience . . . leadership now, within the population, as a man of our nation, with some skill and some access to influence. And that there are people like you, working with what I'm trying to do. And we have to sort of move in on the government and on the parties—whatever the outcome of the elections are: We have to move in, and make sure that *we* are controlling the standard of performance we impose upon *them*: "You want to be President? Do the job we want you to do. You want to run an economic policy? Create the economic policy that we need. We'll tell you what that is. We'll tell you what the needs are."

*We* have to, as citizens, realize that, in us, in each of us, is something of the President of the United States, is something of the leadership of our states. We have to think as if we were Presidents of the United States, each of us, in part, in ourselves. We have to provide the spark of leadership, that will force some of those—some are good, some are dummies—in government, to do what we know has to be done.

*We*, as troublemakers, have to create the spark, which is the spark of leadership, which will control the nation. We have to have the image of what Franklin Roosevelt brought out in people who were waiting to die in 1932-33, and brought them back to life, and made us, again, the most powerful producer nation on this planet. That was leadership. We have to have that leadership in each of us. We have to collaborate to create that force of leadership, which politicians will be compelled to get along with.

# Don't Let the 2004 Election Be Stolen: EIR Submits Testimony Against HAVA

EIR submitted testimony to the House Government Reform Committee's Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census, whose hearing on "The Science of Voting Machine Technology: Accuracy, Reliability, and Security" was on May 12. The testimony was given by EIR Law Editor Edward W. Spannaus, on May 12, 2004.

On May 5, Spannaus had testified at hearings held by the Elections Committee of the Missouri House of Representatives on House Bill 1744, to ban all use of computers, either in the casting or the counting of votes, in the November Presidential elections and thereafter. The bill, the first of its kind in the country, requires that only paper ballots be used; it is sponsored by Representatives Juanita Walton and Jim Whorton. That EIR testimony is posted at [www.larouche-pub.com](http://www.larouche-pub.com).

This is Spannaus' May 12 written testimony to the House Government Reform Committee.

The ill-advised passage of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), under the guise of reforming and "modernizing" our election machinery, has created a potentially much larger crisis than that which followed the last Presidential election in the year 2000. With computer voting increasingly being utilized in many states, our Nation could face a situation in which the voting results in many states, not just one, are called into question, and in which the public loses all confidence in the integrity and legitimacy of the elections.

The possibility that the 2004 Presidential election could be stolen by means of rigging computerized voting systems, requires that drastic measures be taken now, by both the Congress and the states.

While we sympathize with the concerns that have led many to advocate voter-verifiable paper trails, we do not believe that this solves the problem, and, on the contrary, it adds another element of technological complication and potential mechanical failure.

EIR's founding editor, Lyndon LaRouche, has called for a ban on all computerized voting devices, and a return to a 100% system of paper ballots.

We therefore call for emergency legislation on both the Federal level and state level, as appropriate, which would:

1. Prohibit the use of any computerized device for casting or counting votes in the November 2004 Presidential election;
2. Mandate that only paper ballots can be used, and that each voter must be given a receipt on which is recorded his

or her vote;

3. Require that all ballots must be manually counted, subject to the same requirements for observation of the tabulating of votes, as is required by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 pertaining to observers in covered jurisdictions; and

4. Repeal the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) in its entirety.

## The Constitutional Issue

A system totally of paper ballots is the best means for fulfilling the Constitutional requirement for fair elections, and it provides the soundest basis for voter confidence in the electoral process.

The right to vote grows out of Articles I and II of the United States Constitution, as pertains to the selection of members of Congress, and the election of the President and Vice President. The post-Civil War amendments enshrined the right of all to equal protection of the law (14th Amendment), and the right to vote (15th Amendment).

The U.S. Supreme Court has declared that the right to vote includes the right of qualified voters within a state not simply to cast a vote, but to have their votes counted properly.<sup>1</sup>

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 implements these provisions, particularly the 15th Amendment. The Voting Rights Act, *inter alia*, provides for the appointment of Federal voting examiners, who are entitled to be present at any polling place, or any place where votes are being tabulated, "for the purpose of observing whether votes . . . are being properly tabulated."<sup>2</sup>

The use of electronic vote-counting devices clearly renders it impossible to observe the tabulation of votes. In many instances, elected officials don't even know how the computers count the votes, but they are dependent on private contractors. The internal instructions for the computer are contained in source code, which is regarded as the vendors' private property. While the use of Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) touch-screen machines creates the most egregious situation, the same problems apply to any other systems, such as optical-scanning and punch-cards, which utilize computers to count ballots.

The security vulnerabilities of DRE systems have been so thoroughly documented, that it is not necessary to belabor the point here. These are summarized in many locations, includ-

1. Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533 (1964), and cases cited therein.

2. 42 U.S.C. 1973f.

ing the November 2003 report by the Congressional Research Service. However, it should be emphasized, that the CRS Report notes that *any* computerized ballot-counting, system, including optical scanning, is also vulnerable to tampering. The CRS report states:

“The potential threats and vulnerabilities associated with DREs are substantially greater than those associated with punchcard and optical scan readers, both because DREs are more complex and because they have no independent records of the votes cast. However, document-ballot readers are potentially subject to malware [malicious computer code] that could affect the count; to vulnerabilities associated with connections to other computers; and to some other kinds of tampering.”<sup>3</sup>

It is also worthy of consideration, that a comprehensive study of lost votes for the past four Presidential elections (1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000) found that paper ballots had the lowest rate of error of any voting system. This study, known as the “Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Report,” studied five general types of voting technologies: hand-counted paper ballots, lever machines, punch cards, optically-scanned paper ballots, and touch-screen (DRE) machines. The study reported:

“The central finding of this investigation is that manually-counted paper ballots have the lowest average incidence of spoiled, uncounted, and unmarked ballots, followed closely by lever machines and optically-scanned ballots. Punchcard methods and systems using direct recording electronic devices (DREs) had significantly higher average rates of spoiled, uncounted, and unmarked ballots than of the other systems.”<sup>4</sup>

## HAVA Must Be Repealed

HAVA was passed in 2002 under a false premise, that the use of “modern” computerized technology would avoid the type of chaos that occurred in the 2000 Florida elections. The passage of HAVA, with its financial incentives and other provisions, has resulted in a significant increase in the use of completely-computerized, paperless DRE voting equipment, in which the counting of ballots is invisible to the public—and even to elected officials and election workers.

Contrary to widespread belief, HAVA did not mandate the use of DRE voting equipment. However, three provisions of the HAVA legislation have encouraged states to purchase DRE machines. First, is the Federal subsidy for replacing punch-card and lever machines; second is the requirement

that voting system notify voters of overvotes and permit voters to correct their votes (although there is an exception for paper ballots); and third, is the requirement that each polling place used in a Federal election have a least one voting machine that is fully accessible for persons with disabilities.

Not surprisingly, electronic voting machine manufacturers were heavily involved in lobbying for HAVA, along with defense contractors. Advocacy groups for the disabled were also promoting the bill, but it turns out that Diebold, for example, has provided significant financial support to such organizations.<sup>5</sup>

The supposed advantage of DRE machines is that an audio attachment can be used to assist blind persons, but there are other methods that can be used that are consistent with paper ballots, such as the “tactile voting template,” which are favored by many of those needing special equipment.<sup>6</sup>

Furthermore, the development of security standards and guidelines for the use of electronic voting devices, and procedures for certification and decertification of voting systems, has been stalled and delayed, so that many jurisdictions have purchased new voting equipment, without security standards having been developed and promulgated. The Bush Administration delayed the establishment of the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), which is charged under HAVA with developing voting system guidelines, overseeing the testing and certification or decertification of voting systems and hardware, and conducting studies of “methods of identifying, deterring, and investigating voter fraud.”

Furthermore, under HAVA, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) was designated to play the leading role in developing standards for voting equipment, and assisting state and local officials in implementing new voting systems. In February, the NIST announced that it had ceased all its HAVA-related activities because of a \$22-million budget cut in Fiscal 2004.

This has put the states in an impossible bind, where they are rushing to meet HAVA deadlines and to qualify for Federal money, so that they can purchase new voting equipment which has not yet been evaluated or certified.

## Why Use Only Paper Ballots?

*Any* use of computers opens the door to fraud. The speed and complexity of computers creates an inherently dangerous and fraud-prone situation, because, as we have noted, only a handful of people know how votes are being counted. Citizens can never have full confidence in any such system

3. Congressional Research Service, “Election Reform and Electronic Voting Systems (DREs): Analysis of Security Issues,” Nov. 4, 2003, p. 36; <http://www.epic.org/privacy/voting/crsreport.pdf>.

4. Executive Summary, “Residual Votes Attributable to Technology: An Assessment of the Reliability of Existing Voting Equipment,” The Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project. Version 2: March 30, 2001. <http://www.vote.caltech.edu/Reports/>

5. Douglas W. Jones, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Iowa, “The Case of the Diebold FTP Site.” See, [www.cs.uiowa.edu/~jones/voting/dieboldftp.html](http://www.cs.uiowa.edu/~jones/voting/dieboldftp.html).

6. See E-access Bulletin, April 2001, [www.e-accessibility.com/issues/apr2001.html](http://www.e-accessibility.com/issues/apr2001.html). The International Foundation for Election Systems ([www.ifes.org](http://www.ifes.org)) operates a Disabilities Project, which has sponsored the introduction of tactile ballots in a number of countries.

of vote-counting.

By going back to a universal paper ballot, which is hand-counted, we are creating additional impediments to fraud and tampering with results. If this requires more people to count the votes than is needed when using computers, all the better. The more people involved, the more obstacles we have created to carrying out vote fraud.

Some actions have been taken in the states, which move in this direction:

- In Missouri, House Bill 1744 was introduced on April 20, 2004, which would ban all computer voting and vote-counting. It would require that only paper ballots be used, and that each voter be given a copy of his or her completed ballot.

- In California, the Committee on Elections Reapportionment of the California Senate approved on May 4, a bill to ban all DRE touch-screen voting devices in the November elections. Legislators in California have pointed out that paper trails would not have prevented most of the problems experienced in the March 2 primary, in which Diebold machines simply failed to function in many polling places.

- Vermont uses an “all-paper” system, utilizing only paper ballots and ballot cards which are optically-scanned, but which are capable of being hand-counted.

## Conclusion

The fundamental question is: What is it worth to have honest elections?

The objection has been raised, that a total paper-ballot system would be a slow, inefficient system for counting votes. In our view, this is great advantage. A slow, ponderous vote-counting system, where citizens can watch their votes being counted with complete transparency, is the best way, not only to prevent vote fraud and election-rigging, but to establish public confidence in the integrity of the electoral process.

There is no requirement, Constitutional or otherwise, that vote totals must be made available instantaneously for the benefit of the news media or any one else. There is, however, a Constitutional mandate that votes be counted fairly, and that all votes be treated equally.

If we do not act now, we are likely to face a crisis this coming November, which will be far worse and more widespread than that which occurred in Florida after the November 2000 elections.

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## Book Review

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# The Right Man, in the Right Fight

by Lawrence K. Freeman

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## **The Politics of Truth: Inside the Lies that Led to War and Betrayed My Wife's CIA Identity**

by Joseph Wilson

New York: Carroll & Graf Publishers, 2004

544 pages, hardcover, \$27.50

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Ambassador Wilson's memoir is an interesting, and at times a witty story. Essentially, the first portion of the book tells of his life in the Foreign Service, which takes him from the deserts and poverty of Sub-Saharan Africa to the hotbed of Iraq, to the European Central Command of U.S. Armed Forces, to the National Security Council, before he retired from government service. But the second part depicts how he was brought directly into the fight against the “Beast-Man,” Vice President Dick Cheney, and Cheney's Chief of Staff Lewis “Scooter” Libby, along with the whole Straussian neocon cabal in the Pentagon. What ties the book together from the first to the last chapter, and what has put the former Ambassador in the spotlight, is the July 14, 2003 “outing” of his wife Valerie Plame as a CIA agent, in retaliation for Wilson's first-hand refutation of the charge that the poor African nation of Niger was involved in supplying uranium yellow cake for Saddam Hussein's nuclear weapons program; and his outspoken criticism of the drive to war in Iraq in general.

Wilson begins dramatically with a telephone call, about a week after his wife's “outing,” from TV talk-show host Chris Matthews of “Hardball,” who told Wilson that Karl Rove, President Bush's top political advisor just had told him, “Wilson's wife is fair game.” Then Wilson recounts the now-infamous 16 words in President Bush's Jan. 28, 2003 State of the Union Address, in which the President had conveyed the lie, to his nation and the world, that “The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa.” This blatantly false report was used to whip the spineless U.S. Congress and the gullible American population into supporting a war for which there never was any just cause. Any thoughtful person could have

known, if they were not afraid of popular opinion, that there was no validity at all in the claim that Saddam Hussein possessed so-called “weapons of mass destruction.”

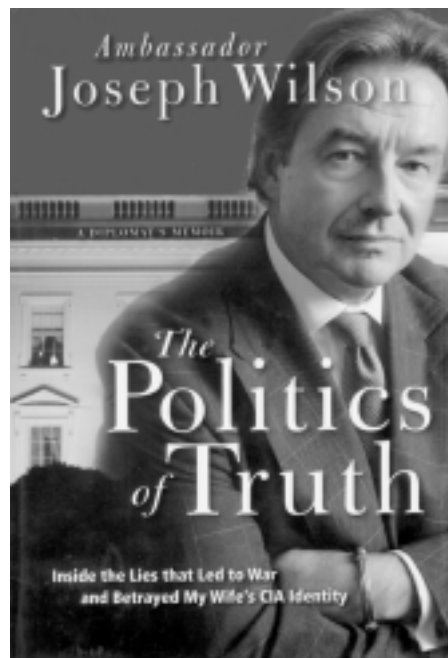
Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche had, as early as September 2002, identified the purpose for the planned invasion of Iraq: that it was to be used to establish as policy the “preventive nuclear war” doctrine of Cheney et al., which they had been unsuccessful at accomplishing until Sept. 11, 2001. After International Atomic Energy Agency Director Mohammed ElBaradei told the world that the documents purporting to show Niger’s sale of uranium yellowcake to Iraq were forgeries, LaRouche stressed that this phony uranium story could be the “smoking gun” to force Cheney’s resignation. By June 2003, LaRouche was calling for Cheney’s impeachment, for intentionally lying about Saddam Hussein’s alleged nuclear weapons program, in order to get a war.

### The Smoking Gun

Ambassador Wilson also responded to the lies from Bush and Cheney. He provided the “smoking gun,” which through many twists and turns, has led to a grand jury that may soon be issuing indictments against key individuals in Cheney’s office for leaking the identity of Wilson’s wife. There had been rumors that an Ambassador had gone to Niger to check out the Niger yellowcake story, but no one knew who had gone, or what he or she had learned. As Wilson describes in his book, he tried to inform the White House and State Department that their records would show that Niger was not involved in supplying Iraq with such material. Finally, after 13 months of silence, he went public with the truth, which he revealed in an op-ed in the July 6 2003 *New York Times* entitled “What I Didn’t Find in Africa.” As he writes in *The Politics of Truth*: “It was not an act of courage—nor was it a partisan act, as critics have howled. It was a civic duty, pure and simple. . . . Our democracy required that the administration be called to account.”

With the published account of his trip, it was revealed, that in February 2002, at the request of Cheney, the CIA asked Wilson to go to Niger and find out if the uranium yellowcake allegations were true. Wilson was by then retired from government service, and had a good reputation as a former Ambassador to Gabon and São Tomé and Príncipe (1992-95), and as the General Service Officer in Niamey, Niger (1976-78). He had kept in contact with political and other personalities in Niger and had traveled there several times in recent years. Thus he seemed to be the right choice for such a mission.

Wilson conclusively determined after his eight-day fact-finding trip, that the alleged sale of 500 tons of uranium yellowcake to Iraq by Niger had never happened. Both U.S. Ambassador to Niger Barbro Owens-Kirkpatrick and Marine Gen. Carleton Fulford had also made reports of the “non-transaction.” Thus, Bush and Cheney ignored all three reports.



Wilson returned from Niger in March, and a CIA officer came out to his house to debrief him. Yet, one year later, this false claim was used to engage the United States in the worst military and foreign policy blunder in our history.

### Cheney Strikes Back

Eight days after Wilson’s op-ed appeared, syndicated columnist Robert Novak wrote that Wilson’s wife, Valerie Plame, was a CIA undercover agent working on weapons of mass destruction, and had suggested the assignment for her husband. Wilson vehemently denies there is any truth to this claim, while furious that his wife’s identity was revealed—a criminal act, as he and others have pointed out. Wilson never tires of quoting former President George H.W. Bush, for whose administration Wilson worked, running the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad Iraq just prior to Desert Storm: In 1999, speaking at the rededication of CIA headquarters, the elder Bush referred to those who expose clandestine officers as, “the most insidious of traitors.” Novak wrote in his column, that two senior administration officials had given him the information. Later, it was revealed that six journalists were leaked the story on Valerie Plame, but each is afraid to speak out; “he would end up in Guantanamo.” It was not until Sept. 29, 2003 that the Department of Justice finally asked the FBI to initiate an investigation of these leaks from the White House. Attorney General John Ashcroft recused himself from the investigation on Dec. 30. At last, on Jan. 21, 2004, a grand jury was convened. It is the indictments from this grand jury that have the potential to remove Beast-Man Cheney from the Vice Presidency, and topple the whole neo-con, chickenhawk cabal nested in the Defense and State Departments.

In Wilson's final chapter, he indicates that information from numerous sources points to a "get Wilson" meeting in the Vice President's office in March 2003, either chaired by the Vice President, or more likely by Libby; this is corroborated by *EIR*'s investigation. Not surprising to readers of this and other LaRouche publications, Wilson fingers Libby as one most likely responsible for leaking his wife's identity, even if he may not have actually done the dirty work himself. Elliott Abrams, of Iran-Contra fame, is another name that was frequently brought to Wilson's attention as a possible leaker. While Wilson does not go nearly far enough in identifying the Straussian fascist policy governing the behavior of Cheney et al., he shows more courage than most people in his position.

### **An Unusual Diplomat**

Recently Wilson was asked on "Meet The Press," about his calling the Vice President a lying SOB. Without missing a beat, Wilson calmly answered: "Well, with respect to the Vice President, that may be the gentlest and kindest thing I've had to say about him in recent months." That response gives you a good indication that Ambassador Wilson is not your typical diplomat, although he still accepts the Washington beltway 'rules of the game' in conducting policy debate.

Wilson's odyssey—how a West Coast hippie surfer, carpenter, and skier became a top diplomat and Presidential advisor on Africa—is an amusing tale, which occupies a good portion of the rest of Wilson's memoir. One bit of biographic material which rounds out the picture of what went into making Joe Wilson who he is, are his Republican military family roots. Wilson's maternal great-uncle was the mayor of San Francisco from 1912-32, later served as Governor of California, and was a delegate to two Republican Conventions. This, of course, was before Franklin Roosevelt transformed the Democratic Party into a party of the "forgotten man," moored to the Constitutional principle of the General Welfare. Both of Wilson's grandfathers served in World War I and World War II, and his father was a Marine pilot in World War II.

After being posted in several African embassies—Niger, Togo, South Africa, Burundi, and Congo Brazzaville—he ended up in a career-defining position as Deputy Chief of Mission in Baghdad from 1988-91. These chapters give one an enhanced view of the behavior of the Iraqi elite and Saddam Hussein, which is useful, but as with some of Wilson's views on Africa, it proceeds from commonly accepted flawed analysis. As "luck" would have it, the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq, April Glaspie, went on vacation the day before Saddam Hussein launched his takeover of Kuwait, leaving Wilson as the senior official in charge to deal with freeing American hostages, and hundreds of others, until he and his six remaining colleagues finally left before the bombs started to drop on Baghdad.

There are some exciting tales, but one of the more humor-

ous moments in an otherwise dangerous situation, was the way Wilson dealt with then-Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz at the high point of the hostage crisis. It gives one a glimpse into Wilson's character and unorthodox methods of diplomacy, which one can still see today in his confrontation with the office of the Vice President.

According to Wilson, after Iraqi authorities threatened him and others with capital punishment, if they failed to comply with registering all foreign citizens in the care of the embassies—which could potentially have resulted in more Americans becoming hostages—Wilson appeared at his regular press conference wearing a hangman's noose in place of his tie. As Wilson reports it, the Iraqi leadership were furious at him and the Foreign Minister convened a meeting of the entire foreign diplomatic corps for the purpose of a showdown with Wilson.

Wilson writes: "With what I'd done now widely known, I wasn't going to back down, so I played my hand as aggressively as I could. We sat at opposite ends of a long table. Tariq lit a cigar. I did as well; Tariq said that the Iraqis had no intention of executing diplomats. I responded 'Then why did they refer to capital punishment in the note?' The meeting broke up inconclusively. Tariq had tried to embarrass me in front of my diplomatic colleagues, but I was having none of it." Wilson and his fellow U.S. Embassy personnel had adopted an "in your face" approach in dealing with Iraqis, in what they thought was the best way to survive during the crisis.

Wilson provides another anecdotal display of gallows humor when he describes, how, at the end of his regular morning press conference, a journalist asked him for his business card. "One day I asked a journalist why he needed yet another card, since his news organization must have at least ten in their offices. He replied without hesitation that the press betting was that I was not going to survive, and he thought the card might prove valuable someday. I handed him my card, after autographing it for him."

Despite the latest attacks on Wilson as partisan Democrat (actually, Libby called him an "asshole playboy"), his 22-year career in government shows strong bipartisanship. His close working relations with President Bush 41, James Baker III, and the former President's National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft—all of them Republicans—gives the lie to the present President Bush's and Cheney's attack-dog characterizations of Wilson. His outspoken criticisms of the war, and refusal to back down under heavy fire from the office of the Vice President, including the completely unethical attacks on his wife, make Ambassador Joe Wilson the right man for the right fight, at the right time.

While the book is enjoyable, it is also a valuable contribution to the effort to free our nation and the world of Cheney's evil, anti-republican bunch of vipers, who are trying to take control of our country's most vital institution: The Office of the Presidency.

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## Book Review

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# What Do You Mean, ‘We’?

by Anton Chaitkin

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### **Who Are We?—The Challenges to America’s National Identity**

by Samuel P. Huntington

New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004

428 pages, Hardbound, \$27.00

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The latest book from Samuel Huntington attempts to open a new front in the fear-driven perpetual-war scenario of Vice President Dick Cheney, Attorney General John Ashcroft and their faction. The author acknowledges that the Smith Richardson Foundation and other far-right funding sources have paid to produce this book, the same sources which back the Cheneyites, and sponsor Huntington’s Harvard University professorship.

Huntington’s 1996 *The Clash of Civilizations* sought to derange the public mind to accept war between the West and Islam as inevitable. With this sequel, *Who Are We?*, he promotes a “white nativist movement,” to be herded with panic and hatred against the proposed new enemy image: Hispanics, particularly Mexican immigrants.

Doubting that the spectre of Osama bin Laden—“if we do not experience renewed attacks”—will keep Americans in line behind the Cheney agenda, Huntington announces that a supposed “Anglo-Protestant culture” is the country’s historic national identity. This wholly concocted identity is then said to be mortally threatened by Catholic Mexican hordes coming across the border. Here is the geometry for a new theater of the Cheney-Rumsfeld war, throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The title asks, “Who Are We?” The author presents the viewpoint of the Tory enemies of the American Revolution, the Anglophile-“blueblood” plantation slaveowners, Boston Brahmins and Wall Street bankers—Huntington’s own British imperial faction—and calls this America’s national identity!

The book’s argument for this travesty has so many obvious fabrications, and such shallow and tortured misuses of historical material, that the most notable feature of its publication is the polite, if “critical,” response from the political and academic muckety-mucks.

This book must be viewed in the sequence of Huntington’s pro-fascist productions, from his 1957 *The Soldier and the*

*State*, which complained that the World War II aim of victory over Axis Germany and Japan hindered the anti-Russian “balance-of-power” objective; to the 1970s Trilateral Commission study, “The Crisis of Democracy,” where he demanded Hitler-Schacht austerity instead of the Constitutional republic (“A government . . . committed to substantial domestic programs will have little ability, short of cataclysmic crisis, to impose on its people the sacrifices which may be necessary to deal with foreign policy problems and defense. . . We have come to recognize that there are potentially desirable limits to economic growth. There are also potentially desirable limits to the indefinite extension of political democracy”); to his later racist provocations against Muslims, and now Hispanics.

But it is the crude, unblushing *falsification* which is most shocking in the present volume.

Those gentlemanly reviewers who debate this and that nicety of nuance with Samuel Huntington may be awed by his status as national-security advisor to the fanatics and miscreants who, for the moment, run America’s government. But they might recover their scruples by recalling that in 1986 and 1987, Huntington was repeatedly rejected for membership in the National Academy of Sciences, when he was exposed as a cheap pseudoscientist.

Yale mathematics professor Serge Lang challenged Huntington’s book, *Political Order In Changing Societies*, in which, among other nonsense, South Africa under racial *apartheid* was classified as a “satisfied society,” with a purported social-science study of the matter as a reference. A heated controversy ensued. Huntington was quoted in the *New Republic* responding that “satisfaction” described “the fact that the people for some reason are not protesting [the regime]. When this study . . . was made in the early sixties, there had been no major riots, strikes or disturbances in [South Africa].” Lang assembled a 50-page list of clashes in South Africa—such as the famous Sharpeville Massacre of March 21, 1960—and sent copies of his meticulous indictment of the netted liar to each of the Academy’s hundreds of members, who twice rejected Huntington’s nomination in secret balloting.

### **Lying As a Way of Life**

In *Who Are We?*, Huntington portrays America as a traditionally racist society, supposedly always allied to British imperialism; he thus seeks to make the bestial Bush-Cheney-Blair axis appear natural rather than a usurpation.

To buttress this fraud, he drops the names of many past U.S. leaders, with brief comments or paraphrases designed to misrepresent the named individual as having views *exactly contrary to his real beliefs*, but in line with Huntington’s own ravings.

For example, referring to the case in which Georgia slaveowners demanded the murderous removal of Indians from ancestral land guaranteed to them by U.S. treaty, Huntington writes (page 54): “In connection with the Indian removals, the Supreme Court, in an opinion by Chief Justice John Marshall,



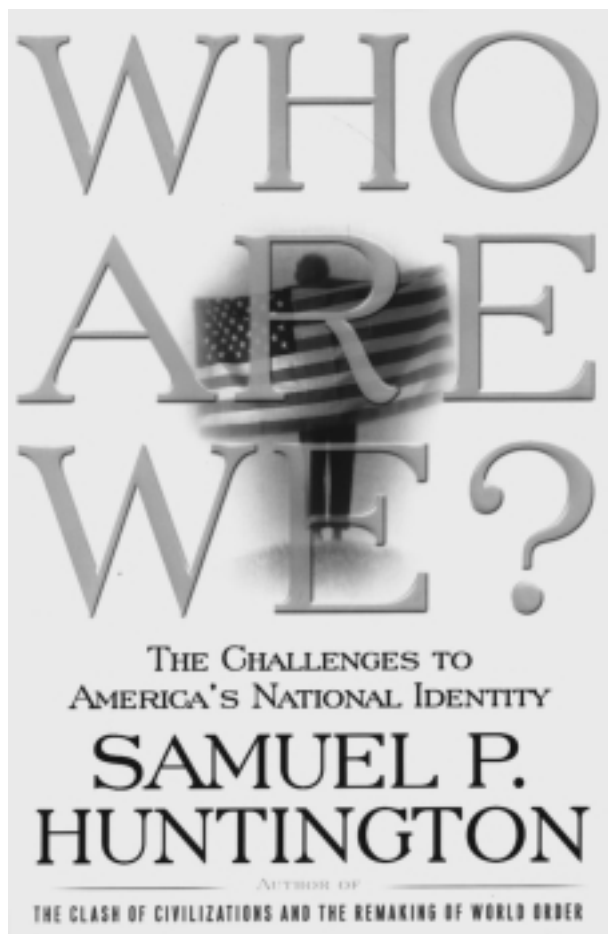
held that . . . individual Indians were not eligible for American citizenship unless they explicitly detached themselves from the tribe and integrated themselves into American society.” These words are taken from Marshall’s decision in the 1831 case, *Cherokee Nation vs the State of Georgia*. This was in its day very famous. But apparently Huntington hopes people today are so ignorant they will not know *what Marshall decided*—that under U.S. law the Indians’ rights must be protected. By not telling the reader about this, he can try to make it appear that John Marshall was in Huntington’s racist faction. In fact, people in Marshall’s day were outraged that the Supreme Court’s honorable decision was openly disobeyed by President Andrew Jackson, who ordered the army to forcibly remove the Indians from Georgia, killing thousands on the “Trail of Tears.”

Lying on religion, Huntington declares (page 76) that the American “Revolution . . . was grounded in the Great Awakening” [the 1730s-1740s religious-revival irrationalist frenzy] and greatly shaped by it. . . . The Awakening’s charismatic evangelist, Whitfield . . . was the first truly *American* public figure. . . . It was the first unifying experience for Americans . . .” He then (page 77) viciously misuses John Adams (President 1797-1801): “ ‘The Revolution,’ John Adams observed in 1818, ‘was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people; a change in their religious sentiments of their duties and obligations.’ ” But Adams, in the cited letter, says nothing remotely connected to religious revivals; he is describing how the American public went from praying for the King and his government, when they deserved it, to the opposite, “when they found [England] a cruel bedlam, willing like Lady Macbeth, to ‘dash their brains out.’ ” Throughout the book, Huntington similarly tries to equate the pro-human Christianity of the American Founding Fathers with the views of today’s loonies, Christian Zionist Armageddonists, etc.

### Nationalism Is Not Fascism

In all of Huntington’s outpourings, he debases man according to the philosophy of English writer Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679): Men are naturally such beasts that only an imperial dictator or one-world government will keep them from tearing each other apart. In *The Soldier and the State*, Huntington invokes Hobbes to argue against the U.S. Constitution and in favor of a Roman Empire-style military. In *Who Are We?*, he depicts an evil state of mind that he calls American nationalism, completely at odds with the actual nationalist views and policies of American’s greatest historical leaders, who represent a school of thought in the most profound war against the imperial faction for which Huntington writes.

Plato taught that when men hurt others they err against the Good which is their nature and the spirit of the Creator’s universe. Huntington claims that national identity requires an enemy image to hate; that people “prefer to be worse off absolutely but better off compared to someone they see as a rival. . . .” He drags Plato into this Hobbesian madness (page



25): “Individuals need . . . what Plato, as Francis Fukuyama reminded us, designated *thymos* and Adam Smith termed vanity.” This is the book’s only reference to Plato!

Whig party leader Henry Clay (1777-1852) shaped the economic and political thinking of Abraham Lincoln and several generations of anti-British-empire nationalists. Clay fought for the protective tariffs, national banking and government-sponsored railroads and canals, which successfully changed America (and other countries that followed our lead in rejecting Free Trade) from a backward agrarian society, dominated by bankers and plantation owners, to a modern, high-wage agro-industrial republic. Huntington blacks out this American nationalism. He demeans Henry Clay, characterizing him *only* as a supposed apostle for the “American Protestant belief in . . . the concept of the self-made man. . . . Henry Clay first using the phrase [self-made man] in a Senate debate in 1832.”

What, then, is Samuel Huntington’s “nationalism”?

As it appears in the section entitled “White Nativism” (pages 309-316), it is his incitement to race war and religious war, as a way of making Americans stupid enough to stick with the regime of his sponsors. He writes, “The large and continuing influx of Hispanics threatens the pre-eminence of white Anglo-Saxon Protestant culture and the place of En-

glish as the only national language. White nativist movements are a possible and plausible response to these trends, and in situations of serious economic downturn and hardship they could be highly probable. . . . The . . . loss in power, status and numbers by any social, ethnic, racial, or economic group almost always leads to efforts by that group to stop or reverse those losses.”

Of course, such losses hit the American and the German people in the 1930s Depression. At that juncture, America went with Franklin Roosevelt for economic recovery. Anglo-American bankers promoted Hitler’s Nazis through ethnic/religious strife and Jewish scapegoats, as now with Huntington’s Muslims and Hispanics.

Lest you worry, Huntington assures us (pages 311-312) that his “new breed of white racial advocate” is “[c]ultured, intelligent, and often possessing impressive degrees from some of America’s premier colleges and universities.”

### Harvard’s Disgrace

Yes, there is a terrible wrong; millions of Mexicans and Central Americans, impoverished by cheap labor policies and the North American Free Trade Agreement, are driven northward, desperate to make a living. But Huntington gives this explanation: “economic growth, low unemployment, and a labor shortage in the late 1990s created even greater need for immigrant labor.” To him, the post-industrial takedown of U.S. factories and farms is a miracle, the rotting U.S. society a paradise. Low wages? Well, lazy Catholics lack the “Protestant work ethic.” Wal-Mart clerking, for the poor, and Enron thievery, for the rich, should equally be a source of pride, if one works hard. He claims (page 314) that “*Industrialization* in the late 19th Century produced losses for American farmers and led to the formation of numerous agrarian protest groups. . . . Comparable organizations promoting white interest could emerge in the coming years.” This is insane; industrialization made farming successful; usurers, including railroad and grain monopolists, made farmers bankrupt.

The movement he promotes (page 310) “would be both racially and culturally inspired, and could be anti-Hispanic, anti-black, and anti-immigration.” He continues—now beginning to let his readers in on the personal secret of who the “we” in the book’s title refers to: “They would be the heir to the many comparable exclusive racial and anti-foreign movements that helped define American identity [sic] in the past.”

What past movements? He says (page 57), “Immigration restrictions were furthered by the ideology of ‘Anglo-Saxonism’ articulated by writers and social scientists such as Edward Ross, Madison Grant, Josiah Strong, and Lothrop Stoddard.”

These men he names are “social scientists” only in the same horrifying sense that Huntington himself is given that courtesy by today’s fawning or cowed academics.

They are the spawn of Huntington’s own self-chosen “heritage”: the tradition of the anti-nationalist Bostonians, the

pro-Free Trade importers and partners of Britain in Asian opium trafficking. They and their slaveowner friends pushed war against Mexico, over the protests of America’s patriots. They insisted that the Declaration of Independence was a mistake, that “Anglo-Saxons”—English-speakers—must unite trans-Atlantically. They formed the Harvard-based Immigration Restriction League, and the Eugenics Society, and the fascist movement of the 1920s and 1930s.

Madison Grant, a top leader of the eugenics movement which bridged the United States and Nazi Germany, wrote “the New England manufacturer imported the Irish . . . the immigrant laborers are now breeding out their masters. . . . Associated with this advance of democracy and the transfer of power from the higher to the lower races, we find the . . . recrudescence of obsolete religious forms [i.e. Catholics].” And, “Indiscriminant efforts to preserve babies among the lower classes often results in serious injury to the race. . . . Mistaken regard for what are believed to be divine laws and sentimental belief in the sanctity of human life tend to prevent both the elimination of defective infants and the sterilization of such adults as are themselves of no value to the community.”

Lothrop Stoddard’s book *The Rising Tide of Color Against White-Supremacy* got him invited to audiences with his beloved Hitler and Himmler, and he sat in as an honorary judge on a Nazi Eugenics court deciding whether the “unfit” should be sterilized.

These men’s works, and Huntington’s, are now sold by neo-Nazis, and they promote today’s unified anti-immigrant movement, including vigilantes on the border.

The American identity, which Huntington despises, has been mostly lost to the present generation of Boomers. It was, especially, the passion for improvement: that under self-government, man’s dominion over nature could be constantly increased by new inventions and revolutionary scientific advances. Thus social problems (poverty) and intellectual problems (ignorance) could be solved together. This nationalism was never against other nations, but was spread to other countries (Ireland, India, Russia, Japan, Germany, Peru) to gain the cooperation of brother sovereign nations advancing together against the European imperialists.

Huntington, however, speaks for the other side. Who his “we” is, should be no riddle or secret. He echoes Adolf Hitler, who wrote in *Mein Kampf*, “When man attempts to rebel against the iron logic of Nature, he comes into struggle with the principles to which he himself owes his existence as a man. . . . Here . . . we encounter the objection of the modern pacifist, as truly Jewish in its effrontery as it is stupid! ‘Man’s role is to overcome Nature!’ Millions thoughtlessly parrot this Jewish nonsense and end up really imagining that they themselves represent a kind of conqueror of Nature. . . . But . . . man . . . at most has caught hold of and tried to lift one or another corner of her immense gigantic veil of eternal riddles and secrets.”

## Senate Rejects Extending Unemployment

A bipartisan attempt to extend an unemployment insurance program that expired last December, failed by one vote in the Senate on May 11. The amendment, co-sponsored by Senators Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.) and George Voinovich (R-Ohio), would have extended temporary unemployment benefits until November 2004, for workers who have already exhausted their normal 26 weeks of benefits but are still unemployed. The amendment went down when Senate Budget Committee chairman Don Nickles raised a point of order against increasing spending to a level greater than that allowed by the Fiscal Year 2004 budget resolution. Overcoming such a point of order requires 60 votes, but supporters of the amendment were only able to round up 59. The one vote they could not get was that of Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.), out campaigning for the Presidency.

Nickles, and other opponents of the Cantwell-Voinovich amendment, argued that because of the supposed recovery now under way, extended unemployment benefits are no longer needed. Nickles claimed that 1.1 million new jobs have been created in the last eight months and that jobless claims are also declining.

Cantwell replied by telling the Senate that "This is a debate about 1.5 million people who have lost their jobs and have not been able to find work and have been without benefits." As for Nickles' complaint that the amendment would cost \$9 billion, she noted that the underlying bill, a bill to make changes in U.S. tax law to comply with World Trade Organization rulings, included \$9 billion for the oil and gas industry, \$2.2 billion for clean coal, \$2.8 billion for synthetic fuel, and other expensive programs. "Where are the priorities in passing this kind of

legislation when we know that American men and women need our help and support?" Cantwell asked. The underlying bill passed by a vote of 92-5.

## Murtha Blasts Bush Military Policy

Rep. John Murtha (D-Penn.), a Vietnam veteran and the ranking Democrat on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, came out swinging against the failure of Bush Administration's military policy in remarks to reporters on May 6. "Today our forces in Iraq are undermanned, under-resourced, inadequately trained, and poorly supervised," he said. "There's a lack of leadership stemming from the very top." He noted that he and many members of Congress have made many recommendations to the Defense Department to address numerous problems, but they appear to have been ignored.

Murtha detailed many of the conditions that he has heard about or observed in visits to Iraq, including of the 372nd Military Police Company, the same one involved in the abuses at the Abu Ghraib prison in Baghdad. According to an e-mail he received from a member of that unit, the 372nd was re-assigned to duty providing protection to truck drivers in convoys, a mission for which they have no training or doctrine. The 372nd does not even, presently, have any officers assigned to it—no leadership. Murtha reported visits to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where soldiers recovering from war wounds expressed concern about lack of training and assignments to duties outside their specialties.

"Bad intelligence, inept planning, careless mistakes made by the architect of this war, have resulted in gross errors and underestimated distribution of resources that are needed," Murtha said. He said that the U.S. backed off

in Fallujah because "they found out they didn't have the people to do that. . . . We either mobilize [to expand the services] or we have to get out."

## House Discusses Mideast Water Shortages

The physical economic requirements for peace in the Middle East have rarely been discussed; but the House International Relations Committee did just that, in a May 5 hearing, when it convened to discuss the lack of water in the Jordan Valley. Most of the discussion centered around desalination of sea water as the most viable solution. Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.) noted that a plant capable of producing 100 million cubic meters of water will come on line in Ashkelon, Israel, next year. David Satterfield, the Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, added that besides the Ashkelon plant, there are other proposals for shared Israeli-Jordanian desalination projects.

Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.) maintained that the \$5 billion price tag for the proposed Red Sea-Dead Sea canal project is reasonable: "It behooves us as Americans and our government to try to say to all of the parties involved" that "the time is long since past when all factions should put aside other considerations and agree to work together on this one issue. It should not be tolerated that someone is putting some other political consideration, in the way of getting this project under way." In California, Rohrabacher added, "we would be in a desperate desert-like situation . . . if it wasn't for the fact that we decided at some point to take all things into consideration . . . and then move forward in what seems best for human beings . . . not just today's human beings, and future generations as well."

## Central Bankers Preparing For Bank Failures

by John Hoefle

With banks and other financial institutions dominating the lists of the world's largest corporations, any talk of bank failures is bound to make people nervous. Great efforts are made to keep the public in the dark about the volatile nature of modern finance, and the frequency with which banks and banking systems blow up. Thus when both the Federal Reserve and the Bank for International Settlements begin speaking publicly on the subject, one had better pay close attention. Paying attention to what they say, however, should not be confused with believing what they say, because central bankers are almost genetically incapable of telling the truth. Watch them as you would watch a viper.

The bankers have a very big problem, as virtually every bank in the world is a bankrupt part of a now-bankrupt floating-exchange-rate monetary system. There are no safe havens, and no possibility of bailing out all the derivatives bets, worthless assets, and unpayable liabilities. With world productive activity in the tens of billions of dollars a year and financial claims in the hundreds of trillions, the banks, as the largest holders of financial assets in the world, are already gone. The only question left, is when to make the announcement.

It is in this context that the central bankers' discussions of bank failures, as well as their publicly questioning the concept of "too big to fail," must be evaluated. Though they phrase it as a theoretical discussion of future possibilities, the bomb they're holding in their hands is live, and ready to blow.

### 'Too Big To Fail'

The prospect of bank failures was one of the key topics discussed at the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank's 40th annual Conference on Bank Structure and Competition, held in Chicago May 5-7. Alfred Broaddus, the President of the Richmond Fed, raised the issue in the context of a discussion of

the "too big to fail" doctrine. Too big to fail really means too big to be allowed to fail, reflecting a policy in which the Government is either explicitly or implicitly expected to bail out any big bank which gets into trouble.

"Most banking analysts would agree that depositors and creditors of the largest banks are more likely to be protected in the event of financial troubles than their counterparts in small banks," Broaddus said.

As the banking sector continues to consolidate, he warned, the assets held by banks in the "too big to fail" category will expand.

As opposed to bailing out or arranging a takeover of every failed bank, Broaddus advocates letting some banks fail: "Promptly resolving large, troubled banks and imposing costs on uninsured creditors, even at the risk of some short-term financial disruption, is in my view the only means of eliminating the market's perception that large banks will receive special treatment should they become troubled," Broaddus said.

Minneapolis Fed President Gary Stern, who warned that "The seeds of serious bank problems are being sowed now," wrote a book on the dangers of bailing out every failing bank, entitled "Too Big To Fail: The Hazards of Bank Bailouts," released earlier this year.

### String of Failures

While the Fed officials try to disguise their warnings as hypothetical possibilities, the Bank for International Settlements' Basel Committee for Banking Supervision released a study of past bank failures on April 29. The BIS report, entitled "Bank Failures in Mature Economics," details a string of "significant bank failures or banking crises during the past 30 years," noting that "central bankers fear widespread bank failures because they exacerbate cyclical recessions and may trigger a financial crisis."

The BIS report covers bank crises ranging from the 1973-

74 failure of the Herstatt bank in Germany; to the 1990s banking crisis in Japan, which included the 1998 collapse of Long-Term Credit Bank; the Norwegian crisis of 1988-1993; three separate waves of crisis in Spain from 1978 through the 1993 Banesto crisis; the Swedish crisis of the early 1990s; the 1991-1996 Swiss banking turmoil; three waves of failures in Great Britain during 1991-1995, including the failure of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International in 1995 and the 1995 collapse of the venerable Barings merchant bank; and the wave of U.S. banking problems from the 1984 collapse of Continental Illinois Bank, the late 1980s Texas banking and thrift crisis, and the 1991 failure of the Bank of New England.

To those who don't follow the subject, the frequency with which major banks blow up may seem surprising, but the truth is much worse than the sanitized BIS report admits. For example, the BIS says nothing about the Federal Reserve's takeover of Citicorp in 1991 or the takeover of Bankers Trust in 1994, and is discretely silent about the similar actions taken against J.P. Morgan Chase and Citigroup in 2001.

The BIS notes Delphically that "the process of financial liberalization (though not the financial liberalization itself) was a major factor in Spain, Norway, Sweden, and the U.S. S&L crisis," adding that the S&L crisis "was aggravated by insured depositors' confidence in their immunity from any losses."

## Deregulation and Consolidation

The common thread which runs through the bank failures cited by the BIS, and the warnings being issued by the Fed officials, is the recurring pattern of deregulation, speculation and disaster. It is precisely this "financial liberalization" that is the problem. The BIS's assertion that it is the failure to adequately handle deregulation, and not the deregulation itself, is the lie which gives their game away.

To see the effects of "liberalization," one can compare the top ten banks in the United States in 1985, versus the top ten banks in 2003 **Table 1**. In 1985, the biggest bank in the U.S. was Citicorp, with \$174 billion in assets, and the top ten banks had just \$775 billion in combined assets. Compare that with today, where Citigroup has \$1.26 trillion in assets, and the top ten banks have a combined \$4.7 trillion in assets. The picture gets even worse when you consider that only one of the top ten banks in 1985 still exists today; all the rest have been taken over in mergers, many of them shotgun weddings arranged by regulators. Don't let the names fool you: The only survivor in the group is Chemical, which bought Manufacturers Hanover, Chase Manhattan and J.P. Morgan, and changed its name in the process. Citicorp was bought by Travelers, which became Citigroup, and Bank of America was bought by NationsBank, which kept the BoA name. On top of that, the list is already out of date, since Bank of America has acquired FleetBoston and Morgan Chase is buying Bank One, in a deal which will produce another trillion-dollar zombie.

TABLE 1

## Top Ten U.S. Banks, 1985 and 2003

(Assets, \$ Billions)

| 1985                      |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Bank                      | Assets |
| 1 Citicorp                | 174    |
| 2 BankAmerica             | 119    |
| 3 Chase Manhattan         | 88     |
| 4 Manufacturers Hanover   | 77     |
| 5 JP Morgan               | 69     |
| 6 Chemical NY Corp        | 57     |
| 7 Security Pacific        | 54     |
| 8 Bankers Trust NY        | 51     |
| 9 First Interstate        | 49     |
| 10 First Chicago          | 39     |
| Total                     | 775    |
| 2003                      |        |
| Bank                      | Assets |
| 1 Citigroup               | 1,264  |
| 2 JP Morgan Chase         | 771    |
| 3 Bank of America         | 736    |
| 4 Wells Fargo             | 388    |
| 5 Wachovia                | 401    |
| 6 Bank One                | 327    |
| 7 Taunus                  | 291    |
| 8 FleetBoston             | 200    |
| 9 US Bancorp              | 189    |
| 10 ABN-Amro North America | 127    |
| Total                     | 4,695  |

Source: Company reports.

The same process has occurred on a global scale, where many of the banks which topped the list in 1996 have disappeared into others **Table 2**. This is particularly true in Japan, where already huge and bankrupt banks have been merged into even larger giants. Germany's Deutsche Bank is bigger now than it was then, but has been shrinking over the past couple of years.

The extent to which these financial giants dominate the corporate world can be seen in the list published annually by *Forbes*. Of the 50 largest corporations in the world in 2003, ranked by assets, all but three are banks, insurance companies or other financial companies, and the three that aren't (General Electric, General Motors and Ford) have large financial arms which account for significant percentages of their assets. The *Forbes* list, published April 12, ranks Fannie Mae third and Freddie Mac thirteenth.

One might be inclined to think, looking at these impressive asset figures, that the banks are actually in fairly good shape. But when you consider that most of a bank's assets are made up of claims owed to the bank by others, the picture is not so rosy. In a world full of claims which cannot be paid, being among the biggest holders of IOUs is a dangerous position. There is not a single bank on that list which can stand against the storm which is brewing.

TABLE 2

**Top World Banks, 1996 and 2003**

(Assets, \$ Billions)

| 1996 Rank | Bank                     | Assets | Country |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------|---------|
| 1         | Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi | 696    | Japan   |
| 2         | Deutsche Bank            | 570    | Germany |
| 3         | Credit Agricole Mutuel   | 477    | France  |
| 4         | Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank     | 454    | Japan   |
| 5         | Fuji Bank                | 453    | Japan   |
| 6         | Sanwa Bank               | 447    | Japan   |
| 7         | Sumitomo Bank            | 486    | Japan   |
| 8         | Sakura Bank              | 441    | Japan   |
| 9         | HSBC Holdings            | 402    | UK      |
| 10        | Norinchukin Bank         | 379    | Japan   |
|           | Total                    | 4,805  |         |

| 2003 Rank | Bank                       | Assets | Country     |
|-----------|----------------------------|--------|-------------|
| 1         | Citigroup                  | 1,264  | USA         |
| 2         | Mizuho Financial           | 1,116  | Japan       |
| 3         | Sumitomo Mitsui Financial  | 868    | Japan       |
| 4         | UBS                        | 853    | Switzerland |
| 5         | Mitsubishi Tokyo Financial | 827    | Japan       |
| 6         | JP Morgan Chase            | 793    | USA         |
| 7         | Deutsche Bank              | 792    | Germany     |
| 8         | Barclays                   | 792    | UK          |
| 9         | HSBC Group                 | 758    | UK          |
| 10        | BNP Paribas                | 745    | France      |
|           | Total                      | 8,808  |             |

Source: *Forbes*.**Shaping the Crash**

What the BIS and the Fed presidents are actually talking about is how to shape the crash. Fed Chairman Sir Alan Greenspan has publicly promised to bail out the giant derivatives banks, while Fed Gov. Ben “Bubbles” Bernanke has promised to print as much money as necessary to bail out the stock and bond markets; but even they realize that saving the system is not the same as bailing everyone out. The discussion of limiting the use of the “too big to fail” criteria is implicitly an admission that some banks will be allowed to fail, in order to save the system as a whole. The discussion about the lack of a Federal guarantee for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac obligations is the same thing—even under the most optimistic scenarios, many investors are going to be cut loose, and the further you are from being an insider, the worse your chances. If you have to ask, you’re in trouble.

The Bank for International Settlements is essentially the central bank of the international financial oligarchy, which is planning to rule the world after the crash through their control over global corporate cartels. That is, they plan to return to the days when imperial corporations like the British East India Company and the Venetian Levant Company ruled large swaths of the world.

**No Recovery For Mexico, But ‘Argentinization’**

by Ronald Moncayo

The enforcement of Schachtian monetary and fiscal policies over the past 20 years in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico, has set those nations on the path of their own dissolution, with the result that they are turning into satraps of a new world financial empire.

The persistent arguments of international bankers and government officials that the “spectacular” growth of its international reserves proves the “strength of the peso and of the economy” of Mexico—and that nation’s characterization by these same forces as “the ninth world economic power”—are as absurd as they are fraudulent.

What these officials are presenting is nothing but the façade of a Mexican “Potemkin village.” As we will show, Mexico’s relatively high international reserves reflect nothing less than the brutal looting to which the national economy has been subjected, looting that has also served for the illicit but spectacular enrichment of a group of international pirates who have been gradually taking over the Mexican financial system.

Not surprisingly, these pirates of Wall Street and European financial centers, historically grouped under the name “Synarchist International,” and who today promote the racist doctrine of Samuel “Clash of Civilizations” Huntington, have chosen Jorge Castañeda as their preferred candidate for the 2006 Presidential elections in Mexico, given his commitment to carry out their policy of disintegration of national institutions and of Mexico as a sovereign nation.

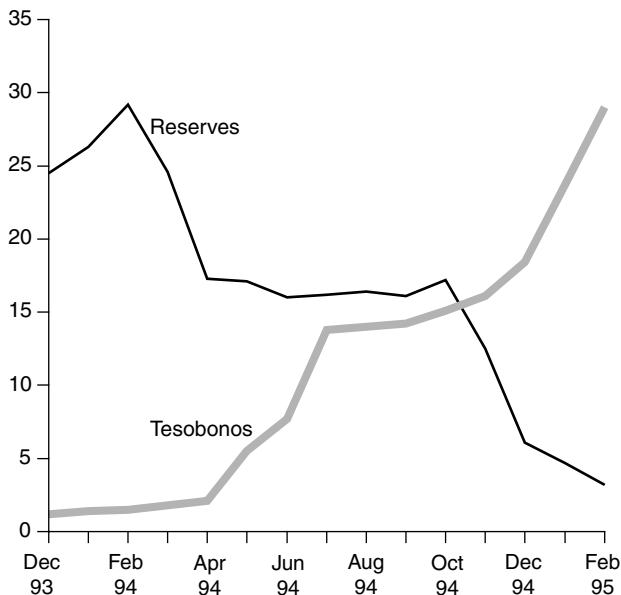
**Super-Fraud of the Super-Reserves**

Under the excuse of “preventing another Tequila Effect”—a reference to the debt bomb explosion in Mexico in late 1994, when the expiration of dollarized Tesobonos swallowed up two-thirds of international reserves in a matter of months (see **Figure 1**)—President Ernesto Zedillo adopted, just like Argentina and Brazil in their turn, a series of economic policy measures tied to the following neoliberal criteria and their derivatives:

- a) An immediate commitment to “zero deficit,” by means of a policy of systematic reduction of public expenditures, otherwise dubbed “fiscal austerity”;
- b) A restrictive monetary policy, supposedly in order to achieve absolute control over inflation, based on reducing the supply of currency in circulation.
- c) Minimal or zero primary emission of productive credit,

FIGURE 1  
**International Reserves and Tesobono Payments**

(billions dollars)



Source: Banxico.

and its substitution with a total opening of the economy to foreign investment.

d) Elevated international reserves, the so-called “economic armor” to assure payment of the foreign debt and to ameliorate the consequent risk of accumulating mountains of foreign bonds and other paper which could, at any moment, flee the country.

After ten years of these policies by the Zedillo and Vicente Fox governments, Mexico’s international reserves at the end of March 2004 closed at \$58.6 billion, and showed a growth of 15.6% annually (see **Table 1**).

But what has not been said, is that that quantity of reserves represents only 86% of the so-called “foreign portfolio investment,” whose sum at the close of February 2004 reached \$68 billion. This foreign investment—representing nearly half of the entire Mexican stock market, which at the end of the first quarter of 2004 reflected activity on the order of \$140 billion—is flight capital which could leave the country at the drop of a hat, which is precisely what occurred in December 1994 with the abrupt and unexpected hemorrhage of capital at that time.

In other words, the apparent stock market “boom,” reflected in the so-called international reserves “boom,” could turn overnight into a new crash, given the volatility of the majority of those reserves which have nothing whatever to do with any domestic economic recovery.

TABLE 1  
**Total Foreign Reserves**

(\$ Millions)

|            |        |
|------------|--------|
| Feb. 1995  | 3,200  |
| Dec. 1995  | 15,741 |
| 1996       | 17,509 |
| 1997       | 28,000 |
| 1998       | 30,140 |
| 1999       | 30,733 |
| 2000       | 33,555 |
| 2001       | 40,880 |
| 2002       | 47,984 |
| 2003       | 57,400 |
| March 2004 | 58,604 |

Source: Banxico.

One portion of the international reserves came from the category of “direct foreign investment,” which essentially was the privatization of state companies during the past decade. But in 2003, reserves grew by barely \$10.731 billion, the lowest figure in ten years. Of these, only \$2.651 billion was from “new investment,” and the rest was from stock purchases. This amount of money would just barely cover the current accounts deficit of the balance of payments, which was on the order of \$9.150 billion. This business of covering the current accounts of deficit through the sale of stocks, has in fact become a regular and permanent practice of the Federal government.

The origin of the remaining international reserves lies primarily in the looting of Mexican labor power inside the United States and in the *maquiladoras* based on Mexican soil; and secondarily, in the high international prices for the oil Mexican exports.

In 2003, remittances sent to Mexico rose 35.1% over 2002 remittances, reaching a record \$13.266 billion. Remittances thus became Mexico’s most important source of foreign exchange after oil. For all of Ibero-America, remittances were \$38 billion in 2003. That is, Mexico represents 35% of the entire continent’s remittance receipts. What was sent to Mexico in 2003 is four times that sent in 1984 (see **Table 2**).

According to the Bank of Mexico, remittances benefitted 1,330,000 Mexican families. Eighty percent of those remittances are spent on the basic needs of these families; 16% on restoration or construction of homes; and what remains goes to the “micro-businesses” (which is, by far, much more than the theoretical 500 pesos which the World Bank is allocating for each such business.)

And so, the low-wage labor of Mexicans inside the United States becomes a source of remittances which, in turn, becomes a pillar of Mexico’s international reserves for paying the foreign debt. It is expected that in 2004, that amount will

TABLE 2

**Remittances Sent to Mexico from the U.S.**

(\$ Millions)

|      |        |
|------|--------|
| 1984 | 3,317  |
| 2000 | 6,573  |
| 2001 | 8,897  |
| 2002 | 9,814  |
| 2003 | 13,266 |

Source: Banxico.

surpass national oil revenues.

The other kind of looting of Mexican labor power is by means of the *maquiladoras* which, over the past three years, have averaged about \$18 billion a year in net exports. This, too, goes to swell international reserves.

In 2003, oil income reached \$18.628 billion, but this money was not reinvested for national development. Rather, the money was essentially used to leverage international speculative investments, since a high percentage of those revenues must go to international reserves, by law. Thus far in 2004, 47% of those revenues have gone to the accumulation of reserves, while \$1.596 billion was channeled into the exchange market through its mechanism of daily foreign exchange sales, in response to “the demands of the money market”—that is, speculation.

When one looks at these origins of the international reserves, the “economic reactivation” as presented by the government, can be seen as the fraud it is, and in fact demonstrates Mexico’s weak position in the face of any speculative move international bankers might attempt.

**The Bankers’ Banquet**

Since 1992, Mexico’s reprivatized banks have sunk ever deeper into insolvency, due to the accelerated growth of non-performing debt resulting from the contraction of the physical economy under IMF policies imposed on Mexico from 1982 onward. The 1994 “December error” ended all illusions, and the financial system collapsed: no lending, no payments, no collections.

President Zedillo decided to rescue the banks in order to “clean them up” and sell them to international financiers. The government exchanged the banks’ non-performing debt for government IOUs, which then generated interest payable by the government, up to the point that the non-performing debt could be made good. This mechanism was implemented through the agency of Fobaproa, and in a burst of sophistry, was dubbed “savings protector.”

These IOUs, in turn, entered the banks’ coffers as assets, giving the government majority ownership of the banks’ stocks and thereby entitling the government to make decisions on their sale. In 1998, this “clean-up” of the banks by the

government cost \$65 billion, while the “recovery” of the non-performing debt yielded some \$42 billion. The government covered the difference with the taxes of Mexicans.

But immediately after this bank “rescue,” the Zedillo government began to sell the banks to foreigners. Remember that in 1991, the Mexican government only obtained \$12 billion through the “reprivatization” of banks nationalized in 1982. But in 1998, the same Mexican government spent \$65 billion to “recover” those banks, in the name of “protecting” the depositors. What a deal! And the irony is that the foreign owners of the banks received a bonus in the form of interest on the Fobaproa IOUs. That agency transformed itself into the so-called Institute for Savings Protection (IPAB), which is the currently-existing agency whose activities now extend to the creation of a secondary market in non-performing debt assets.

Now, in 2004, 76% of the Mexican financial system’s assets are held by foreigners, and 81.7% of the national banking system is in the hands of foreigners. In the insurance sector, 60% belongs to foreigners, and more than 70% of the assets of the privatized pension funds are in the same situation.

As of Dec. 31, 2003, the net debt of IPAB reached nearly \$72 billion—nearly half the government’s national budget—and interest paid on that debt in 2004 will be \$5.4 billion. This will be happily distributed as follows (in millions of pesos, 11 of which equal one dollar):

- Citigroup (Banamex): 10,298
- BBVA (Bancomer): 9,231
- Banorte: 7,961
- Hong Kong Shangai Bank Corporation (HSBC): 5,932.
- Santander: 5,515
- Nafin: 4,092

The rest will be distributed among the other minor banks.

The banks profits for 2003 added up to \$2.5 billion. The profits of just 13 banks in Mexico represent 90% of the total profits of the sector, which grew some 200% in 2003 with respect to the previous year. Achieving and maintaining 200% rates of profit for the banks has been the primary task of the Carlos Salinas, Zedillo, and Fox governments. This has meant in real terms the absolute deterioration of the living standards of the Mexican population. Currently, at least 65% of the population lives in poverty.

It is appropriate to indicate here some important sources of bank profits.

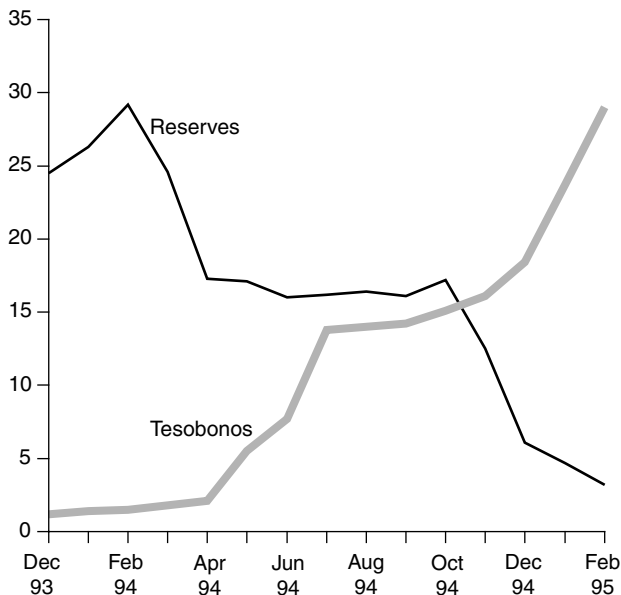
- Credit cards. The brutal economic depression in the United States which has afflicted Mexico, has forced families and companies alike to “live on plastic.” Despite the high interest rates the banks collect on credit cards, the use of bank credit cards to meet personal consumption needs and/or payment of employees has been steadily rising. For example, credit card use in 2003 grew 40% with respect to the previous year. Some government officials have had the gall to call this a “recovery” due to “rising consumption.”

- *Non-performing debt: Fobaproa and IPAB.* According



FIGURE 1  
**International Reserves and Tesobono Payments**

(billions dollars)



Source: Banxico.

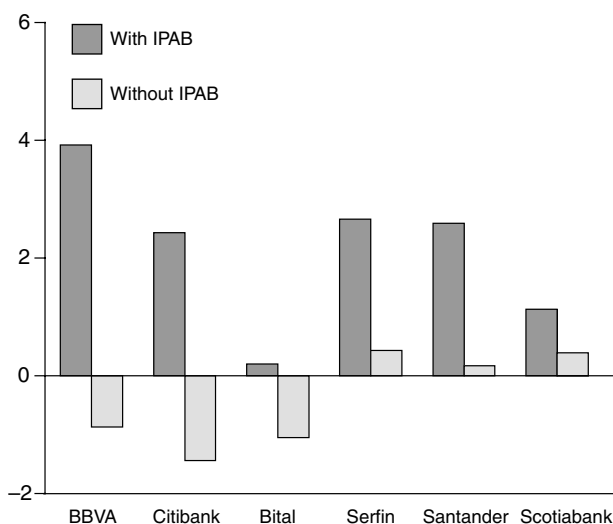
to data from the National Banking and Stocks Commission (CNBV), interest on the non-performing debt that the government gifted to the leading six banks, has proven to be the largest business deal ever, since without these payments—that is, without the IPAB—they would have received only 26% of the profits they actually got. That is, thanks to the efforts of the past several governments, the Mexican people—through IPAB—gifted the bankers 74% of their profits, amounting to some \$1.826 billion in 2003. Cumulative profits for the six major banks since 1998 add up to more than \$5.742 billion, as can be seen in **Figure 2**.

Without Fobaproa-IPAB, these bankers would have been exposed for what they really are: the worst financial parasites imaginable. As can be seen in **Figure 3**, the primary Mexican banks—BBVA-Bancomer, Citibank-Banamex and Bital, all foreign-owned—are insolvent. If not for the blood transfusions from Mexicans, through IPAB, these vampires would all be officially bankrupt.

- Getting sky-high interest payments. With these illegitimate profits discussed above, from one quarter to the next or from one year to the next, the bankers have taken an extra margin as follows. They take their illegitimate profits and then “invest” them in nothing less than government bonds; that is, in the bonds of the same Mexican government which has just paid them interest on IPAB IOUs! Over the past four years, the average annual amount of interest received has been

FIGURE 3  
**Net Profits of Mexico's Six Largest Banks in 2002**

(billions of pesos)



Sources: CNBV; Reforma.

on the order of \$4 billion. The bankers clearly prefer to buy government bonds, rather than lend money to companies which are dying for lack of working capital. The profit from these “investments” is pure usury. Thus, Mexico has lost the ability to provide its own financial mediation. It has lost its financial sovereignty.

But the voracious usury doesn't stop there. The bankers have taken yet another margin to skim, by giving fraudulently high figures for non-performing debt, with the result that they get higher rates of looting in return. Recently, the National Auditing Federation discovered accounting fraud in non-performing debt, to the tune of 21 billion pesos, almost \$2 billion.

Both the fraud of the super-reserves, plus the usurious pirates' assault on the financial system, have put Mexico directly on the path of “Argentization”—official national bankruptcy. It is time for both Mexico and Argentina—along with all the other victim-nations of this same looting process—to finally kick over the chessboard, and expose what is actually bankrupt, which is the world financial system itself.

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# 'Troublemaker' Kirchner Defies the Vultures

by Cynthia R. Rush

Argentine President Néstor Kirchner appears to have taken to heart Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche's advice, that "making trouble" for synarchist bankers is a healthy and enjoyable thing to do. As Kirchner told a Buenos Aires audience on May 12, he has no intention of "behaving" or "being nice" as some people would wish him to do. "I will not be an employee of foreign interests, as others have done," he said, in an obvious reference to former President Carlos Menem, the International Monetary Fund's darling whose free-market policies of the 1990s sped Argentina's descent into national catastrophe in 2001.

Over the past year, Kirchner has enraged the IMF and its allies in the City of London and on Wall Street, by refusing to subordinate his population's welfare to the demands of various species of financial predators and energy pirates. And in a May 11 address at the Presidential palace, the Casa Rosada, before a 300-person audience, he took another bold step, reaffirming that policy, a little over a week before the May 25 anniversary of his first year in office.

At a time when Argentina, and much of the rest of South America's Southern Cone, is trapped in an energy crisis—a natural gas shortage—not of its own making, Kirchner announced a national energy plan to reassert government control over the vital resources which were sold for a song, during the Menem-directed privatization orgy of the 1990s, to energy pirates and speculators. The country will once again have a national energy company, he said, to be called Enarsa (Energí Argentina, S.A.). The state will control 53% of its non-transferable stock, provincial (state) governments will control 12%, and the remaining 35% will be offered to private investors.

The government had already made known prior to the May 11 speech, that a new state energy firm would be seeking a tri-national agreement with the state-owned oil companies of Venezuela, PdVsa, and Brazil's oil company, Petrobras. Sitting in the audience during the ceremony were Eduardo José Dutra, Petrobras's President, as well as the Venezuelan Energy Minister.

## Reviving Nuclear Energy

"We don't want to watch from the sidelines," Kirchner told his audience, "but want to be where the energy equation and Argentina's interests are being discussed. We are willing to participate, and thus our decision to once again have a

national energy company." Addressing the businessmen present, he stated pointedly, "if Argentina has an energy crisis today, it is unfortunately because no investments have been generated" by private companies, "fundamentally as of 1998, but also earlier."

The Argentine people "are not going to pay for this lack of investment with their hard work," he warned, explaining that he had instead raised taxes on exports of oil, gasoline, diesel oil, and other fuels. A week earlier in New York, Kirchner had accused the Spanish oil firm Repsol-YPF, which bought the privatized Argentine state oil firm YPF in 1993, of practicing "extortion" against Argentina, and of plugging up oil wells to force the government to raise prices, so that Repsol could increase profits.

Necessary infrastructure, especially gas pipelines, will be built over the course of a five-year, \$3.5 billion infrastructure development plan; and, notably, \$490 mn. will be allocated for the completion of the Atucha II nuclear plant, whose construction was halted in 1995.

The importance of this latter point cannot be overstated. Argentina's pioneering nuclear energy program, developed in the early 1950s, is a source of tremendous national pride, but it has been gradually "downsized" and undermined by the Malthusians of the international anti-nuclear lobby. The announcement that Atucha II would be completed, and that the highly respected Argentine technology company, Inpav, would oversee the process, reflects a determination to assert sovereign control over the process of economic development, not expressed by any Argentine President in recent years. Appropriately, the announcement was met by a standing ovation from overjoyed employees of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) sitting in the Casa Rosada audience.

## Too Late for Lula in Brazil?

Kirchner's willingness to defy the financial predators determined to crush his country, stands in stark contrast to Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, whose unabashed subservience to the IMF has created the conditions for Brazil's total destruction—and perhaps his own early exit from the Presidency as well.

Several Argentine commentators have observed that the kind of speculative attack that hit Brazil during the first two weeks of May is strikingly similar to what Argentina experienced in 2001, as a result of the same insane economic austerity policies applied today by Lula's Finance Minister Antonio Palocci. The "country risk" rate shot up to over 800 points, the benchmark Bovespa stock market index plunged, and the currency, the real, plummeted to its lowest level in a year.

Unless Lula were to dramatically change course—under the current conditions of global financial breakdown, and the near impossibility Brazil will face in refinancing its almost \$500 billion in foreign debt when U.S. interest rates rise—the country has nowhere to go but down.



*Wall Street and the debt-vulture funds are having a very hard time getting Argentina's President Néstor Kirchner (center) to behave according to their "make the people pay the debt" rules.*

One Buenos Aires commentator remarked that Lula's claim to have a protective "financial cushion" of \$1.3 billion obtained from the IMF, is like the "financial armor" that Argentina received from the IMF in 2001, which several rotating Finance Ministers swore would protect that country from a debt blowout. On December 21 of that year, economic chaos and political upheaval forced Argentina's then-President Fernando de la Rúa from office, and the country defaulted on its foreign debt a few days later.

From Argentina's standpoint, a Brazilian default is a foregone conclusion. The question is, *Página 12* columnist Julio Nudler asked in the May 12 edition: Will Lula end up like de la Rúa?

With their developed scientific and technological infrastructure, and economic might, Argentina and Brazil should be allies against the synarchists' destructive schemes. Instead, Lula's cowardice and submission to the IMF's austerity policies have left Kirchner as the only Ibero-American head of state willing to fight to defend his country's national interests and the welfare of its citizens.

### **The General Welfare Comes First**

In a speech May 12 in the Buenos Aires district of Enseñada, Kirchner defined what, for him, is the bottom line. "With my good points and with my mistakes, I come to take responsibility. I don't have one foot in one camp, and one in the other camp. I have both feet firmly planted in the Argentine Nation, in the Fatherland, [and my goal] is the construction of an independent nation. . . . It will

be tough, and difficult, but I didn't become President to just be seated in a chair, or pass through the halls of power." He told his listeners, "I want to ask you to help me, because if you help me, then a different country" will come into being.

It is that attitude of concern for Argentina's "forgotten man" that led Kirchner to include as part of his new energy program a promise to bring down the price of the compressed gas sold in cannisters—used largely by poor sectors of the population for cooking—and to review and renegotiate privatization contracts on terms more beneficial to the country and the population.

Over the last two years, the price of gas sold in cannisters has tripled. By raising taxes by 15% on the export of natural gas, Kirchner hopes to force the price down for domestic consumption, and is otherwise considering declaring it an essential public service, by which means some form of price regulation could be imposed. Planning Minister Julio De Vido has said that the "Argentine state will take whatever measures are necessary—in addition to imposing taxes—to lower the price."

To drive home that point, Finance Minister Lavagna announced on May 12 that the government had initiated an "in-depth investigation" to detect "monopolistic practices" and possible abuses by the oil companies involved in producing gas in cannisters. In the space of 60 days, Lavagna said, the "entire chain" of production and marketing of this gas will be examined.

With the same kind of feistiness, Kirchner has repeatedly rejected IMF and World Bank demands that he extract more loot from the still-exhausted Argentine economy and population, in order to pay back more than just the 25% of the \$99 billion in defaulted debt that the government is offering to pay in its debt restructuring plan. Just prior to traveling to New York on May 4, Kirchner announced an increase in wages and pensions for state-sector employees, to be financed in part from the larger primary budget surplus that the IMF and vulture funds had hoped they could get their hands on for debt payment.

Revealing how Kirchner is thinking—and why the synarchists view him as a troublemaker—is his characterization, in his May 12 speech, of the 1990s era of privatizations as the "infamous decade" that would not be repeated again in Argentina while he was President. The *década infame* to which the phrase normally refers, is the 1930s, during which British financial interests ran roughshod over the country in the name of free trade, and produced such abominations as the Roca-Runciman Treaty of 1933, for the purpose of making Argentina a mere appendage of the British Empire.

# China-India: Trade To Boom Via Tibet, Sikkim

by Ramtanu Maitra

Early this month, the Indian External Affairs Ministry told reporters that the just-published World Affairs Yearbook for 2003-2004, for the first time showed Sikkim as part of India instead of China. This came about following the visit to China by the Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee last June and Beijing's acceptance of Sikkim's accession to India in 1975. Observers in New Delhi point out that the latest move by Beijing would not only enhance the steady growth of Sino-Indian relations, but may pave the way for an infrastructural link-up between China's Tibet province and India's port-city of Kolkata.

The small mountain kingdom of Sikkim, south of Tibet and nestled between two other mountain kingdoms, Nepal and Bhutan, merged with India in 1975. Sikkim's accession took place at a time when Sino-Indian relations were at a low ebb, and that part of the world was in the midst of an intensified Cold War in which India was aligned with the erstwhile Soviet Union. Till the landmark decision made public in early May, Chinese maps continued to show Sikkim as an independent territory, and official Chinese policy had not accepted Sikkim as a part of India. In one of the Memoranda-of-Understanding (MoU), signed during Vajpayee's visit last year on border trade, China for the first time had tacitly recognized Sikkim as part of India. The official recognition, however, was a subject of much celebration in New Delhi.

## Move of Reconciliation

The official recognition given by China to Sikkim as part of India, and India's acceptance of Tibet as an integral part of China, has opened up the stage for the next major development, which is to integrate trade-infrastructure between China and India through Tibet and Sikkim. The issue of integrating one, or more trade routes between China and India, had been on the table for a while. During his May 2000 visit to China, then-Indian president and a great promoter of India-China cooperation, K.R. Narayanan, in his final public address to a gathering of Chinese scholars and academicians, said: "I am happy to be present at the beginning of a very important process, the Kunming process,"

The "Kunming process" began in the late 1980s, exploring ways to make the southwest Chinese province of Yunnan a trading post with South and Southeast Asia. Its academic community began researching the subject in great detail. Yun-

nan Academy of Social Sciences researchers fanned out to various regions—Bangladesh, India, and Myanmar. "The quadrilateral proposal depends crucially on bilateral relations. Eventually, these proposals have to be dovetailed with our bilateral relations," President Narayanan rightly added.

The recognition of Sikkim by China has now added one such possibility to enhance bilateral trade and cooperation. According to C. Raja Mohan, a senior Indian analyst and now a professor at India's prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), there prevails an extraordinary enthusiasm in Lhasa for reviving commerce with India through Sikkim. As part of Tibet's growth strategy, China has created new infrastructure for trade at Yatung, once home to Indian traders. Lhasa, capital of Tibet, also wants the Indians to invest in its booming economy. Trading with the natural markets in the southern Himalayas, then, is an obvious priority. Ever since India and China fell out in the late 1950s, the Himalayan regions have become a zone of mutual distrust and rivalry. Instead of the barrier that they are now, the Himalayas can easily become a bridge between India and China.

## Economic Boom for India's Northeast

Raja Mohan points out that Pawan Chamling, the dynamic Chief Minister of Sikkim, dreams of a bus service between Gangtok and Lhasa. If buses can run between Lhasa and Delhi and between Kolkata and Dhaka, then it is no more difficult to set up a road service between Sikkim and Tibet along the historic Silk Road going through the spectacular Nathu La (the Nathu Pass that connects Sikkim with Tibet).

Beside the fact that the immediate beneficiaries of the opening up of the Nathu La passage to Lhasa, via the Chumbi valley in Tibet, are the state of Sikkim and its Chief Minister Pawan Chamling, it is only a matter of time before opening up another link-up through the all-weather route up from Kalimpong in the Indian state of West Bengal via the alternate Jelep La takes place. When that road opens up, West Bengal's Darjeeling district may expect to see a revival of its own fortunes. Unlike Sikkim, Darjeeling does not have a booming economy and it has been going to seed over the decades, as the local economy stagnated.

The road linking Lhasa to the Port of Kolkata, situated at the mouth of the Hooghly River that drains into the Bay of Bengal, will strengthen Sino-Indian bilateral relations to no end. To develop Tibet, China needs access to the sea promised by Highway 31, which leads down to Siliguri in the Himalayan foothills and on to the Kolkata port. Once this corridor generates economic dividends for both countries, not only the ghost of the 1962 border war between India and China may finally be exorcised, but it may lead to an amicable resolution of the un-demarcated borders between India and China as well.

The project, as all feasible international projects should be, is economically beneficial for both sides. In the year 2007,



*The resolution of the status of Sikkim by China and India, opens the door to trade between Tibet and India's northeast; the possible revival of Kolkata (Calcutta) through which the trade will reach the ocean; the construction of new road and rail links from Tibet; and the economic development of Sikkim itself.*

China plans to bring the railroads to Lhasa. An upgraded road between Lhasa and Nathu La by 2007 will further China's objective along the same line. The Kunming initiative tends to further the objectives of four nations. It would open up overland connectivity between India and China.

### **Revival of Kolkata Port**

For India, of course, the road is of great importance. Beside the vast Northeast, which is politically turbulent and economically demanding, it would revive the Kolkata port. Once one of the three leading ports of independent India, the Kolkata port is now in bad shape. And, yet, with India broadening its economic, trade, commerce, and political relations with Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam, Kolkata port would have a key role to play. As of now, Kolkata port acts as the outlet to the sea for both Nepal and Bhutan. But it is evident that the Chinese goods coming through Lhasa going to southern India would find Kolkata port an essential part of trade infrastructure.

On March 19, speaking at a conference on India's northeast, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), A.R. Kohli, Governor of India's northeastern state of Mizoram, said India is thinking of building a port in northwest Myanmar that will open up trade opportunities with both Myanmar and Thailand through the country's Northeast.

"We will spend close to \$500 million over the next eight to nine years to build a port in northwest Myanmar," Kohli said. "A detailed project report is under consideration. It will take us another two to three years to get the project kick started."

Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) is conducting a due diligence study to ascertain the viability of the port that will open a new trade route to Thailand. In October, India signed a free-trade agreement with Thailand under which both countries agreed to slash tariffs by 50% on 84 products, including car parts. The two sides are sorting out glitches over rules of origin of products under the pact, that aims to allow free trade in all goods by 2010.

The proposed port will be built along Kaladan River that runs through Mizoram and Myanmar before flowing into the Bay of Bengal. The project envisages up-grading port facilities at Akyab, about 250 km from the Mizoram-Myanmar border.

"Goods from Calcutta and other Indian ports will be able to use Akyab to reach Mizoram and other northeastern provinces once India improves the Kaladan waterway and builds a modern road," Governor Kohli said.

Overwhelming the potential for cooperation between the neighboring provinces of India and China is the huge opportunity for growth in overall trade and investment between the two nations. India-China bilateral trade is set to establish a new record this year by crossing the \$10 billion mark, and this figure could even touch \$20 billion by the end of 2010, Indian Ambassador to China, Nalin Surie said in Beijing on May 12. In 2003, India-China bilateral trade hit a record \$7.6 billion. If Hong Kong and Taiwan are included, Greater China becomes the third largest economic partner of India after the European Union and the United States. After an initial campaign to resist trade with China, Indian industry is beginning to explore the Chinese market with increased confidence. This growth has taken place despite inadequate political support lent by either capital. "In my personal view, India and China could easily aim to achieve bilateral trade of \$20 billion by the end of 2010," Surie said in his inaugural address at 'India Day' seminar on "Business Opportunities for Global Co-operation" at Beijing.

# Korea's Citizens To Master Eurasian New Deal

by Kathy Wolfe

I was lucky enough to tour Korea April 16-25 during a wave of optimism after the April 15 election, and to present Lyndon LaRouche's Eurasian Land-Bridge as a "New Apollo Project" vision for the nation's future. A youth movement peacefully holding candles, had taken the streets of Seoul, giving President Roh Moo-hyun's Uri Party a clear majority in the National Assembly for détente with the North for the first time since 1945. Roh's March impeachment was thus dismissed in court on May 14.

On the one hand, Korea seems ready for a "Eurasian New Deal" as LaRouche proposes: a coalition of the two Koreas, China, Russia, and Japan, to rebuild the Trans-Korean Railway and the infrastructure of the entire Eurasian mega-continent—especially with the April 1 debut of the new Korean-made KTX bullet train. Boarding the KTX at Seoul Station, I was delighted to see a large public Korean National Railway billboard advertising a future KTX trip as a ride on the New Silk Road "from Busan (Pusan) to Pyongyang, Beijing, Moscow, and Paris." In beautiful new Dorasan Station at the south end of the DMZ, posters promote the rise of the Silk Road and the end of the Cold War, symbolized by an old locomotive rusting in no-man's land since the rails were cut in 1945.

But Korea's youth movement, and its leaders, have no economic plan—the problem which has crippled Mr. Roh since inauguration. Candles are not enough; with no economic blueprint, Korea's economy is already being destroyed by a "New Oil Shock," thanks to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), under which foreign hot money bought 45% of Korean

assets. Now the hot money is rushing out again in a financial panic.

The panic is made worse by U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney, who in Asia April 9-16 called for confrontation with North Korea. Cheney, who has said he will "never negotiate" with Pyongyang, aims to stop the May 12-15 Six Power Talks in Beijing, by demanding the North close all nuclear plants, even power plants, with no compensation. North Korean Chairman Kim Jong-il told China last month that this was a "deal breaker." John Kerry's failure to speak out against them means the Cheney-Bush team may win the U.S. election, so things can only get worse—unless Seoul comes up with a new plan.

## New Chance for Economic Transformation

While President Roh spoke of the New Silk Road at length in his February 2003 inaugural speech, he hasn't said a word on it since, because the nuclear impasse has almost frozen Trans-Korean Railway (TKR) construction.

LaRouche's Silk Road concept is just the new plan South Korea's new majority needs, to escape this trap.

The April 15 election gives Korea a "second chance at 1989," when a peaceful "people's revolution" toppled the Berlin Wall. Germany missed its chance and fell under IMF budget cuts, which destroyed its economy and ruined Unification. I urged Koreans not to let the same failure ruin their future; but instead, to teach LaRouche's "physical economy" to the youth. As long as a few gurus on Wall Street run the world economy, Koreans cannot win. The time has come for all citizens to master economics.

LaRouche's "Apollo Project" approach to the TKR and Silk Road means not simply to build a few more miles of 19th-Century railroads, but to opt for a total, integrated upgrade of all infrastructure across Eurasia. President John F. Kennedy transformed the U.S. industrial base with the Apollo Moon launch, because it forced the introduction of new technologies into every sector of industry. LaRouche's plan would revolutionize the economy of Korea and Eurasia with technologies such as Magnetic Levitation trains and 21st Century gas-



*A youth movement's candlelight rallies swept Korea and defeated the neo-con destabilization of Roh Moo-hyun's government; but Roh's movement lacks a clear economic policy. A start is found in the commitment to "a new Iron Silk Road," shown in this billboard with a KTX bullet train crossing all of Eurasia.*

cooled nuclear power plants, along with large new water transfer projects, oil and gas pipelines, and building of new cities.

In Seoul and other cities around Korea, I was able to begin public debate about this approach. Senior statesman Senator Yoo Jay Kun, chief foreign spokesman for President Roh, was one of the first to see the Silk Road as Korea's mission. At his election victory party April 16, he held up an *EIR* with the Eurasian Land-Bridge map, and asked me to greet the crowd. "Let's congratulate Mr. Yoo as a moral leader who won't bow to money politics," I said. "Now that you have won your revolution, let's start a revolution in the world economy, by building the New Silk Road to Pyongyang and Paris." Much discussion ensued.

On April 17 I was able to join the last "candle-light rally" for President Roh, where tens of thousands of young people filled King Sejong Boulevard south of the Blue House. A reporter from the popular Internet agency "Oh My News" asked why this foreign lady was in Seoul. She was shocked to hear that *EIR* had predicted a neo-con attack on Mr. Roh months beforehand, and she ran a full story on LaRouche's critique of Cheney's neo-cons and the positive alternative, the New Silk Road.

On April 19, I addressed 60 engineers and executives at the Korea National Rail College, where the KTX was built, with a color slide show on the "big picture" of LaRouche's Eurasia-wide Apollo Project approach. They were happy to hear of a continent-wide plan to integrate rail with water, energy, and other large transformation projects. They also asked sharp questions about how to overturn the last 30 years' anti-industrial axioms.

That evening, a slide show combining LaRouche's critique of the neo-cons, with the "New Deal" of the Eurasian Land-Bridge, was presented to 30 peace movement leaders at the Center for Democratic Studies. Despite one nostalgic comment that "you have ruined our illusions about the revolutionary Alexandre Kojève," these intellectuals were eager to discuss how to build the Land-Bridge. One leader of this group decided to organize a regional conference on the Eurasian Land-Bridge by contacting peace groups in Japan, China, Russia, and other countries in the region.

In the cultural capital of Namwon as well, LaRouche's Land-Bridge program was presented to an elite audience of former officials, educators, and media experts.

## Gateway to Eurasia

The trip's highlight was a speech at the Port of Gwangyang, at the southern tip of Korea, by invitation of the Korea Trade Research Association (KTRA), Gwangyang City, and Jeolla Province. Here, South Korea is building a new Pusan



*The beautiful new Dorasan train station at the inter-Korean border is full of Eurasian Land-Bridge images contrasted to those of the Cold War. The author presented Lyndon LaRouche's concept of the Land-Bridge to political and professional meetings across the country.*

from scratch, a super-port which will double the tons of freight which southern Korea can handle daily by 2011. As the many DVDs and brochures distributed by the port show, Gwangyang is meant to be the new "Gateway to the Iron Silk Road" for the entire Pacific.

The three-day conference featured speakers from the UN and ports and universities around the world; I was privileged to address some 400 guests at the final session with another *EIR* slide show. In contrast to the many speeches focusing on port statistics and profit figures, I asked the audience "to forget for a moment about money, and think of future generations, your grand-children, and grandchildren of future generations all across Eurasia," through LaRouche's vision of the real Land-Bridge.

After explaining LaRouche's paper "On Tariffs and Trade," I said: "The reason we are here in Gwangyang today, is China's economic miracle, which is based not on Marx, but on the principles of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. China is having a real boom in the industrial production of physical goods." This led to numerous graphics explaining the full extent of the Land-Bridge.

This is a plan to overthrow the basic axioms of IMF economics, it was noted. Instead of IMF budget cuts, which somehow always funnel cash to speculators, LaRouche proposes major government spending on "New Deal" infrastructure programs, and controls on hot money.

These and other events resulted in a half-dozen invitations to write articles with illustrations on the Eurasian Land-Bridge: for the Ministries of Transportation in Korea; also in Japan; as well as for other journals.

# U.S. Troops Enter Pakistani Territory

by Ramtanu Maitra

U.S.-Pakistani relations may take a sharp downturn in the near future, as Washington is mobilizing its resources to enter Pakistan to capture and eliminate foreign members of al-Qaeda. The first such move was made by the U.S. troops in the evening of May 2, when they “strayed into Pakistani territory” while hunting al-Qaeda and Taliban suspects in southeastern Afghanistan and were turned back by Pakistani troops, Pakistan’s Maj. Gen. Shaukat Sultan told the Pakistani media.

According to General Sultan, American soldiers came inside Pakistani territory in three military vehicles and rode into Lowara Mandi town in the North Waziristan tribal region. They had checked a few shops and a gas station looking for foreign terrorists, when Pakistani Army personnel arrived on the scene and told them that they were inside Pakistan. The U.S. troop commander apologized and left.

Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman Masood Khan said Islamabad has lodged a protest with the United States and demanded an inquiry into the incident. “We have protested to the U.S. authorities, both through the diplomatic and military channels,” he said. On May 6, the written statement that the U.S. State Department released did not mention the intrusion, but assured Pakistan that the United States respects the border that divides the tribal territory from Afghanistan.

In March, under pressure from the United States, Islamabad had sent about 70,000 troops inside the Federally Administered Tribal Agencies (FATA) area of Pakistan, which borders Afghanistan. There was definite information that foreign terrorists—mostly Uzbeks, Chechens, Uighurs, and some Arab nationals—had set up their base in these tribal areas, to harass American troops and undermine the already-weakened Kabul regime.

For two weeks, Pakistani troops, who had never entered the FATA, let alone battled the fierce tribes there, in the country’s 57-year history, fought the tribes and in all 150 lives were lost. Intercepting the communication system used by the terrorists, Pakistanis claimed that they were close on the heels of some “big fish” within al-Qaeda. There were certainly a number of Uzbeks, affiliated to the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), which has been declared a terrorist organization by the U.S. government, holding out in the area. It was said that IMU leader Tahir Yuldavesh was among the militants hiding there. The authorities were also probing the

presence of Chechen commanders Daniyar and Qurban Ata in South Waziristan. But the Pakistani Army came up empty-handed, and the Americans believe that the Pakistani Army was merely putting up a show, without any intent to nab any of the bigwigs.

## Reluctant Warriors

Islamabad had gone into the FATA most unwillingly, and has no intention to antagonize the fierce tribes who had fought with the Afghan mujahideen in the 1980s against the invading Soviet Army. Unlike the United States, which is obsessed with al-Qaeda and the Taliban, Pakistan has no qualms about leaving them alone.

Pakistani troops made a foray into South Waziristan, the largest of the seven tribal agencies in terms of area, which has always been difficult to govern. It is also one of the bigger agencies in terms of population, and has, therefore, been given two seats in the country’s national assembly as against one for most of the other tribal regions. South Waziristan is largely mountainous, making it ideal for guerrilla warfare. The landscape is dotted by forts built by the British in the early part of the last century, in their largely unsuccessful colonial bid to crush the freedom struggle of the native tribes. Two Pashtun tribes, Ahmadzai Wazir and Mahsud, dominate South Waziristan. There are also some Burkis, a small ethnic group that has been assimilated by the Pashtuns and now mostly speaks the Pashto language. The Waziris live on both sides of the Durand Line, which serves as a border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Most of the Pakistani tribesmen who gave refuge to the non-Pakistanis and are now fighting alongside them against the Pakistan Army, belong to the Zalikhel section of the Ahmadzai Wazir tribe. These tribes are extremely volatile, and Islamabad has no intention whatsoever to mark them as enemies.

But the U.S. pressure has led the situation in that direction. The conflict between Pakistan’s Armed Forces and Islamic militants has spread to some of the other FATA areas, causing considerable loss of life on both sides. The recent firing of four rockets at targets in Peshawar city highlighted the kind of threat that the well-armed and trained tribesmen and some of their “guest fighters” now pose to President Pervez Musharraf’s government.

## Air Strip To Enter Pakistan

There is no doubt that the situation will deteriorate, and most likely, rapidly. The U.S. military has built a new airbase in southeastern Afghanistan, in a remote desert area near the border with Pakistan, BBC reported on May 3. U.S. commanders say the airstrip, in Afghanistan’s Paktika province, will be capable of taking large transport aircraft such as the C-130. The base will allow U.S. forces to bring in more ground troops to combat the Taliban and al-Qaeda allegedly hiding in bordering FATA areas of Pakistan. North Waziristan and adjoining South Waziristan lie along Afghanistan’s southeastern provinces of Paktia, Paktika, and Khost, where the



## Pakistan's Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA)



United States often searches for Taliban and al-Qaeda insurgents.

The Americans took extreme caution to get the air strip built without fanfare. The operation began in late April in the dark, with five giant U.S. Air Force planes dropping tons of construction equipment onto the desert plateau. The exact location of the air strip is still secret, but it is known to be very close to Pakistan's borders—so close that Islamabad is certain that every time a plane takes off from the strip, it would veer into Pakistani air space, violating international law.

According to reports, U.S. soldiers on the ground guided in the transport planes, which had flown all the way from Germany. Work began soon afterwards, bulldozing the hard, rocky scrub. In less than four days' time, the troops of the 27th Combat Engineering Battallion created an airstrip capable of taking C-130 transport aircraft, and eventually even larger planes, according to reports.

U.S. commanders will not say exactly how they intend to use the base, but it will allow them to move far larger forces into this region more quickly. This is an area where suspected Taliban militants remain active, and just across the border is the Pakistani tribal area of Waziristan.

### American Objectives

The U.S. move to build the air strip has two basic objectives. First, the Americans are convinced that Pakistan is "soft" on the terrorists. The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Lt. Gen. David Barno, on May 3 questioned Pakistan's commitment to fighting Taliban and al-Qaeda militants along the border, saying that appeasing extremists will only put off an inevitable battle. Barno said the U.S. military was watching closely how Pakistan deals with the militants, but said that a "significant" number had to be "killed or captured." Barno

told reporters that the United States has "some concerns that [the Pakistani operation] could go in the wrong directions." Attacks on U.S. forces just across the border from Waziristan are frequent, and militants often retreat into the mountains toward the Pakistani region, he pointed out.

While the first objective of the Bush Administration is to take control of search-and-destroy missions inside Pakistan, the second objective is to find Osama bin Laden well before the U.S. Presidential election. It is also certain that friendship with Pakistan, however much it is touted by Washington, will not be allowed to stand in the way of the U.S. desire to kill off al-Qaeda members and grab Osama.

### Beyond Repair

It has become evident to Washington by now that the United States is wholly trapped in Afghanistan. No matter how long it stays, its stated objectives, which very few outside of the United States really believe—to stabilize and democratize Afghanistan—are even more elusive than Osama bin Laden. On May 5, the Asian Development Bank's representative in Afghanistan, Frank Polman, at a news conference in Washington, made it clear that development of Afghanistan is not possible unless the security situation improves. At the core of the security problem lies the booming opium trade, endorsed fully by the occupying U.S. forces. "Everybody knows" that the warlords, local commanders, and heroin factories are involved, he said. "Get these guys and put them in jail. But this is not happening. You can put a truck full of opium in Kandahar and drive all the way through the country; nobody will stop you."

In other words, things have gone too dirty in Afghanistan. Any talk of development, stabilization, and democracy are mere lollipops meant for public consumption.

Under the circumstances, Washington will most likely unleash brutal force to kill and capture the "terrorist suspects." The U.S. military has sent 2,000 Marines to the area around Tirin Kot, 250 miles southwest of the capital, Kabul, in Uruzgan province, Lt. Col. Tucker Mansager said. Uruzgan, the home province of fugitive Taliban supreme leader Mullah Omar and several of his lieutenants, remains a stronghold of the ousted militia. Colonel Mansager said the Marines were a "surge force," available to go anywhere at short notice. It is likely that these Marines would be deployed inside Pakistani borders as well.

Pakistan is well aware that none of these methods will bring about peace or stability in Afghanistan. Pakistan is also concerned that when the storm and thunder represented by the U.S. military withdraws from the scene, it would leave behind those who would identify Islamabad as the sole partner of the murderous Americans. The wrath that Pakistan would face then will be not only from Taliban and al-Qaeda, but also its own fierce tribes bordering Afghanistan.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said the other day, "You break it, you own it." But in this case, the U.S. breaks it, but Pakistan owns it. A friendly job, indeed!

# German War Party Crumbles After Exposé

by Rainer Apel

The less rigidly ideological of the neo-cons in Germany had begun to distance themselves from the Bush-Cheney policy in Iraq, even before the first news about the prison torture there became public. For example, Horst Köhler, the former IMF director who is the German Christian Democrats' (CDU) candidate for the May 23 presidential elections, in an April 25 speech called the U.S. intervention into Iraq a "terrible mistake." Embarrassed responses from pro-Bush CDU party leaders like Angela Merkel revealed that Köhler's remarks had apparently caught them by surprise, but since then, more and prominent CDU members have distanced themselves from the U.S. policy in Iraq. Some of the neo-con hardline CDU politicians like Friedbert Pflüger, the main architect of the CDU pro-war position, have started attacking the Bush-Cheney Administration so much that Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, whose anti-war position they attacked as "anti-American" a year ago, no has mocked them with the warning "not to turn too anti-American."

The case of Pflüger is a striking example of how shallow the pro-war current in Germany actually is, and how fast it is crumbling under the impact of disastrous news from the Iraqi war theater. Pflüger is the man who set up the scandalous Washington, D.C. meetings in February 2003 between CDU chairwoman Angela Merkel and some of the main proponents of the American war faction, like Cheney, Wolfowitz, and Rice. Now, 15 months later, Pflüger claims in interviews that "among the Christian Democrats, none was ever for the war, we were always against"; and he even claims now that he and Merkel actually tried to talk Cheney and Rumsfeld out of the war, last year.

On May 11, Pflüger gave full support to (Green Party) Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer for his ongoing talks with Powell and Rice in Washington, on the eve of the G-8 foreign ministers session there. Pflüger said that "everybody in Germany" insists that the full truth about the torture must come out, and that those who are responsible must be tried and punished. And, Pflüger emphasized, it is now intolerable that the United States determine the structure and composition of the next Iraqi government after June 30—this should be left to the United Nations.

The situation strongly resembles that of late 1989, when after the fall of the Berlin Wall, numerous East German prominent figures told the media that they had always been in dissent with the regime. This was called the *Wendehals* phenomenon in Germany, referring to a person who suddenly

turns his face (or, neck) in a diametrically opposite direction from before, while pretending that it has always been that way.

Going beyond simply reacting to the torture revelations, Gernot Erler, chief foreign policy spokesman of the German Social Democrats (SPD), said in a May 12 radio interview that the revelations from the Iraqi war theater have to be seen together with the situation in the U.S. "war prisoners" camp in Guantanamo. Both show where the Bush Administration's refusal to respect the standards of international law lead to, preferring "exceptions" which better serve American national interests. Erler pointed out that this was not an exclusive U.S. problem, but a challenge to the rest of the "Western" world: were the United States allowed to go its own way, it would in the future no longer be possible to insist on "human rights" and "human dignity" anywhere in the world, if they could be so grossly violated in Iraq and in Guantanamo.

Rather than looking for individual military commanders that would be blamed for the torture practices, Erler said, "it [must] be clarified whether it resulted from a systematic approach to achieve results from interrogations, through mishandling and humiliation of human beings. If that is the case, then the entire system must be abolished; and the entire chain of command must be held responsible, in any case." Only this could repair the damage to the reputation of the West, Erler added.

Erler's portrayal of the Bush-Cheney-run United States as a "rogue state" will have an impact on the remaining four weeks of the election campaign for European Parliament (elections on June 13), and it will be featured as an important aspect of the SPD's campaigning. But it will also fully vindicate everything that the LaRouche movement, its political party in Germany, the BüSo, along with its fraternal parties in other countries such as France and Sweden, have said; LaRouche candidates in all three countries are running for seats in the European Parliament. At the same time Erler made his remarks, the latest issue of the BüSo's weekly, *Neue Solidarität*, had just been released with a revealing timeline on who said what in Germany's political establishment on the Iraq War a year ago, including a review of CDU party chairwoman Angela Merkel's afore-mentioned trip to the United States. Just prior to the trip, she had written an op-ed in the *New York Times* claiming that a majority of Germans did not share Chancellor Schröder's anti-war views. Her pro-war rantings and hand-shaking with Cheney and others during that trip, made prominent media coverage in Germany—including a full-day television clip of the northern German N-TV channel showing LaRouche Youth Movement protesters against Merkel's speech at Georgetown University. Nemesis struck Merkel promptly, after her return from the States, when her popularity ratings dropped from 46% to 21% within only a few days.

Now, under pressure by the news about torture in Iraq, Merkel now says she did "not feel happy about the U.S. conduct."

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# International Intelligence

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## *Venezuela-Colombia Conflict Possible*

With great fanfare, Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez announced on May 9 that Venezuelan military forces had raided a home owned by a Cuban-Venezuelan leader of the radical Democratic Block opposition group, and arrested 88 Colombian paramilitary fighters, who were preparing to attack Venezuelan military installations, assassinate Chávez and trigger a coup. Vice President José Vicente Rangel charged that the Colombian and U.S. governments were behind the operation, claiming that the Colombian government “exports violence, it exports guerrillas, and it exports paramilitaries.” Rangel promised that arrests of Venezuelan opposition leaders would follow.

The Venezuelan opposition, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher, and Organization of American States Secretary General Cesar Gaviria cast doubt on the Chavez government’s story. The more centrist faction of the Venezuelan opposition charge that the whole thing was hoked up, to distract from the final voting on the referendum to recall Chávez, scheduled for the end of May. The radical right wing of the opposition associated with Blas Piñar’s asset Alejandro Peña are engaged in creating a “contra” operation. And the Cuban-Venezuelan on whose farm the alleged squadristi were found, Roberto Alonso, is known to be central to that wing of the opposition.

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## *One of India’s Biggest Upsets*

The economy was the key issue in the sweeping from power of India’s ruling coalition in national Parliamentary elections. Prime Minister Vajpayee’s BJP had called national elections six months early, in confidence that it could win even 300 seats in the 543-seat Lok Sabha, the lower house of Parliament. It fell below 200 instead. With 482 seats decided the Congress and allies had 198 seats, the BJP and allies 167, and other parties 117. Four or five seats are being

re-pollled due to irregularities.

Because India has an electorate of 675 million people—about 56% voted—the elections were held over three full weeks, beginning on April 20. The first political earthquake was in the southeastern state of Andhra Pradesh. The Telugu Desam Party, a key ally of the BJP national alliance and in power for a decade, was swept out by the Congress. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu was ousted. Naidu was known as “CEO” because of his focus on “New Economy.” The Congress also took what had been the BJP stronghold of Gujarat, the west-coast state which had seen terrible communal riots.

On May 13, Prime Minister Vajpayee, who won his own seat, announced after discussions with Defence Minister George Fernandes, that he and the whole government would resign, and he would become Opposition leader. It remains to be seen how the new government will be formed. The Congress, which has nominated Sonia Gandhi as Prime Minister will need allies, and may create an arrangement in which it is supported by a group of left-wing parties which are not part of a formal coalition. Congress faces an enormous challenge, of meeting the economic needs of the majority of Indians. Some 300 million live in extreme poverty, on less than the equivalent of \$1 a day, as day laborers in the villages, or in huge slums in the cities.

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## *AIDS Treatment Is a ‘Human Right’*

Eleven African health ministers said on May 12 at a conference in Rome, that access to effective treatment for AIDS is a human right, and they launched a solemn appeal for urgent assistance from wealthy countries. “We ask this is the name of a human right, which is called the right to treatment, in the name of intelligent globalization, which should be equally capable of globalizing solidarity,” they said at the close of the two-day conference organized by the Community of Sant’Egidio. “We ask that the most developed countries mobilize economic and hu-

man resources to bring a halt to this extermination,” the ministers said.

Addressing pharmaceutical companies, without naming them, the health ministers urged lower prices for antiretroviral drugs “to the point of being compatible with the weak resources of our countries.”

AIDS is affecting the entire planet, but currently 70% of its victims die and are born in Africa,” said the ministers from the Central African Republic, Congo, Ivory Coast, Ethiopia, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, Sudan, Tanzania, and Togo. “The epidemic cuts down as many human lives as a world war.”

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## *OPEC Only 30% of World Oil Production*

There is a widespread undertaking to locate “the root” of the run-up of oil prices above \$40, in OPEC production decisions; but it is a mis-identification of the problem. OPEC currently produces 23.5 million barrels per day (mbd) of crude. At the moment, Algeria, Indonesia, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, and Nigeria are producing at their capacity limit. Saudi Arabia, which produces 8.7 mbd, can produce up to 10.5 mbd. Saudi Arabia indicated on May 11 that it is willing to increase crude output by 1.5 mbd, which would bring total OPEC oil production up to 25 mbd.

However, the world currently consumes about 82 mbd. OPEC produces 30% of world consumption (and approximately the same percentage of world production). Producing virtually at capacity, OPEC is not the problem.

OPEC President Purnomo Yusgiantoro said on May 12, “The main problem with the recent high prices is closely linked to geopolitical uncertainties, inadequate refining capacity in the United States to cope with rising demand, multiple specifications for gasoline by different states, and heavy speculation on oil by investment funds/speculators. All of these are factors about which OPEC has no control.” The largest speculative oil market in the world is the International Petroleum Exchange (IPE), based in London.

## Watering Central Asia

by Mary Burdman

“Water is life” is the fundamental idea of the civilization of Central Asia from ancient times. Central Asia lies at the heart of the world’s biggest landmass, Eurasia, a region of steppes, deserts, and oases, surrounded by some of the world’s highest mountain ranges. It is the most arid region on Earth. Irrigation is essential for agriculture and city life, and has been the basis of Central Asian culture since 4,000-3,000 B.C.

The idea of taking water from the great, north-flowing rivers of Siberia, south and west, to water the steppes and deserts of Central Asia, is at least 100 years old. This idea was almost brought to life in the early 1980s, when preparations were under way in the then-Soviet Union, to construct a 2,200 kilometer canal from the Ob-Irtysh river system in central Siberia, to take water to the two great rivers of Central Asia. These are the Amu Darya (formerly known in the West as the Oxus) and the Syr Darya, which flowed into the Aral Sea, at one time the fourth largest inland body of water in the world. In the last half-century, as more and more water has been taken from the Amu Darya and Syr Darya for irrigation, the Aral Sea has been fast drying up into a salt desert.

The economic upheaval imposed by the last Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachov—*perestroika*—which has done so much to destroy the economies of Russia and the other nations of the former Soviet Union, led Moscow to suddenly decide, in August 1986, to stop this project cold. The reasons given were cost, and alleged environmental concerns.

In reality, much more was at stake; this decision was a repudiation of the great Russian scientific tradition, as it was led by V.I. Vernadsky.

The nations of Central Asia, led by Uzbekistan, refused to allow the idea of the Siberia-to-Aral water project die. As an April 2002 conference in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, emphasized, this canal will create an “economic bridge” between central Russia and the Aral Sea basin, and make it possible to develop large-scale social and economic cooperation. In Russia, which would supply the water, scientists are

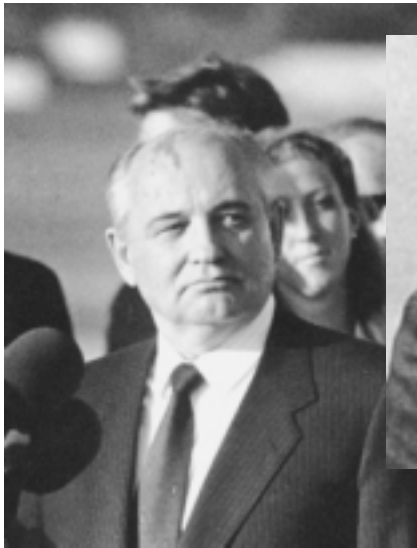
restarting, or continuing, research begun in the 1970s. The Sib-Aral Canal would not be the only great water project of such a scale in Eurasia. China is leading the way, in the construction of its Three Gorges project on the Yangtze, and—as *EIR* has documented—in its huge “Move South Water North” project, begun in November 2002. More and more articles are appearing on the subject, including in the United States.

### Man Managing the Biosphere

The Aral Sea Basin, at the core of Central Asia, includes all or part of seven nations: Uzbekistan, Kazakstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, and Iran. It is some 1.8 million square kilometers in extent. This is the crossroads of Eurasia, and has been for millennia. The ancient Silk Road, which carried art, religions, and philosophy, as well as goods, to and from China and India, Persia, Arabia and Africa, and Russia and Europe, passed through the oases of Central Asia.

The region is as strategically placed today. It borders Russia, China, and Iran, and lies directly to the north of the Indian Subcontinent. The development of the interior of Eurasia is the key to the future of mankind. Here lie vast space, and the great mineral wealth and other resources which humanity urgently needs.

The idea of the Eurasian Land-Bridge, is to open up this great interior, using the most advanced infrastructure for transport, energy, water management, and city-building. This will change the face of Eurasia. This must be done to the highest scientific standards. During the Soviet period, huge water-management projects were carried out to control the flow of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya, and to irrigate large areas. However, big problems have arisen: It was not understood, or not taken into account, what effect diverting so much water would have, letting the Aral Sea dry up. Then, long-promised water supplies from Siberia were never brought to



Part of Gorbachev's (left) disastrous perestroika was a repudiation of the legacy of Russia's great scientific genius V.I. Vernadsky (center), who developed the broad idea of mankind's mental activity (the *Noösphere*) managing the Biosphere. Gorbachev in 1986 stopped the project to bring Siberian rivers' water to the desertifying Aral Sea area. Now many in Russia and Central Asia want it revived. Lyndon LaRouche (right, speaking at Moscow State University April 14) cited the Sib-Aral project, to be done over a generation's time, as an example of Vernadsky's scientific vision.

#### Central Asia.

Such mistakes should not be repeated. The “first law” of building such infrastructure projects, is that this is humanity “managing” what the Russian biogeochemist V.I. Vernadsky has defined as the Biosphere. Living things and their products have transformed the nature of the world during their long history on the planet; humans most of all. Human responsibility is to perform this task optimally. The world is always in flux; the role of humanity is in directing those changes.

Vernadsky made scientific, ideas which have their roots in ancient philosophic thought, of three divisions of the world: the “abiotic” (non-living processes), the “biotic” (living processes and their products), and the noëtic (the creative processes.) Vernadsky discussed the relationship between the biotic and abiotic phases of our planet's history. This means, essentially, the effects of living processes upon the Earth, including the formation of fossils, which include rocks, soil, and fuels, the basis of our current economy; the effects of water, which everywhere is full of life; and then, the impact of man's work, on the whole planet.

These are not “environmentalist” concerns. Environmentalists have as their basic assumption, that the world is “fixed,” and they want to keep it stagnant. This is *impossible*, and leads directly to regression of the Biosphere. The Biosphere is being constantly changed by the impact of life; human science and physical economy should be directed to maximizing the beneficial effects of this process.

For the future of humanity, the vast interior regions of

Eurasia have to be developed, despite the most dramatic geography on Earth. More water is urgently needed to support greater population density. This means water-management projects, between water-rich, and water-poor areas, conceived on a Eurasian scale. In addition, all around the Eurasian rim, more fresh water can be created by using nuclear energy to desalinate seawater. “Greening deserts” produces climate changes, just as desertification does in reverse. For such a region as Central Asia, the most arid region on Earth, there must be *sufficient* water to do this—the failure to meet this challenge, was the disaster of the Soviet water management policy. The politically motivated dedication of Central Asia to inappropriate water-hungry crops such as cotton and rice, contributed to the problem.

As Lyndon LaRouche explained to students in a Moscow State University speech on April 14, “In the development of great projects of basic economic infrastructure, we are launching works to be realized over an immediate future period of not less than one or two generations, and are thereby laying the foundation for a future benefit of mankind which lies many generations beyond that.”

#### The Siberian Project

It is important to understand that this project, sometimes called “diverting” or even “reversing the flow” of the Siberian Rivers, is nothing so drastic. The Siberian-Aral, or “Sib-Aral” Canal, about to be built in 1986, would have taken a small portion—some 6-7%—of the flow of the Ob and Irtysh. These

two rivers together are the longest river system in Asia. The flow of the Ob averages about 404 cubic kilometers per year, and overall flow can reach a maximum of over 586 cu km per year at the Salekhard Station near the Ob Estuary.

The cost of the project, for which estimates range from \$4 billion to \$30 billion, would be substantial, given the current poverty of some of the Central Asian nations. Yet this region is, in physical economic reality, very rich. It is the crossroads of the greatest landmass in the world; it would be the “roundhouse” of transport, energy, and water-management projects for all Eurasia. The region is also very rich in minerals, including petroleum, natural gas, and in Uzbekistan, gold and uranium. The potential is great.

Central Asia must have more water for its fast-growing population. At the beginning of the 20th Century, there were some 7-8 million people living in the Central Asian oases; now, the population is more than 50 million, and will be 60 million by 2020. Irrigated land has doubled, to 7.5-7.7 million hectares. Already, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan have the highest per-capita consumption of water in the world; and in Uzbekistan, 90% of that is for irrigation. Some of this is due to inefficiency, but much also to the special nature of the Aral Sea Basin.

The Siberian rivers project was researched and designed in the 1970s and 1980s, by the All-Union Design and Research Institute for Water Resources Construction (SoyUzbekistangiprovodkhoz)—a subagency of the Soviet Union’s Ministry of Reclamation and Water Management—with strong support from Central Asian leaders. Some 80% of rivers in the former Soviet Union empty into the Arctic Ocean. Water from two of them, the Ob and Irtysh, would be sent to Central Asia via a system using low dams, pumping stations, and a huge canal, the Sib-Aral.

The project was designed for two stages: The first was to take 27 cubic kilometers of water a year to Central Asia, and would have been underway by the late 1980s or early 1990s. A second canal project would have taken water to the Volga River and Sea of Azov.

In an interview with *Pravda* on July 2, 1971, Igor Gerardi, chief project technical director, described the beginning work on this “Project of the Century.” Nature, he said, had not distributed water resources in the then-Soviet Union very well: The vast majority of rivers and precipitation flow are in the sparsely-populated North and East; and only 12% of water resources flow to the arable lands in the South. At the beginning of the 1970s, he said, “Our science and technology have reached a level of development at which the daring dream of Russia’s advanced scientists—that of diverting part of the flow of the Siberian and northern rivers southward in the interests of the entire national economy—now has a realistic basis.”

In the first stage, water would be collected where the Tobol River flows into the Irtysh, and a “Tobol Sea” created. Via eight or so pumping stations along the canal, water would

be pumped up to a height of 80-100 meters, to the Turgai Divide or Gates, near the city of Zavodoukovsk. From there it would flow downwards, via the long canal, to a reservoir in the Aral Basin plains, where it would be sent into the Syr Darya and Amu Darya, and into a system of irrigation canals. The main canal would be 2,200 kilometers long, 10-15 meters deep, and 200 meters wide.

The first stage would transport about 25 cubic kilometers (cu km) of water a year to Central Asia. A second stage would double the volume of water, by also taking water from the Ob. In the final stage, more water would be taken from the Ob in two places: near Bilsk, and near Khanty-Mansiisk, where the Irtysh flows into the Ob.

In a later interview, given to *Literaturnaya Gazeta* on March 10, 1982, technical director Gerardi emphasized that without water, you cannot “properly utilize the industrial and agricultural potential of Central Asia.” There was “great interest among the public” in this project, which had been researched already for about 15 years. Gerardi emphasized that many of the doubts and questions being raised about the feasibility of the project, were not based on reality. Fulminations about supposedly “turning around” or “reversing the flow” of the Siberian rivers were totally exaggerated, he said, since this would not be done. Use of “only a small part of the Siberian rivers’ enormous flow” was under discussion. Also, opponents’ claims that the project would build reservoirs on the Ob and Irtysh, so big that they would swamp huge areas, were not true.

In addition, the lower reaches of the Ob and other north-flowing rivers often flood, especially in the Spring, and this project could help flood prevention.

Of the 404 cu km average annual water flow of the west Siberian rivers into the Kara Sea basin, it was planned to take just 25 cu km during the first stage, and 60 cu km during the later stage of the project.

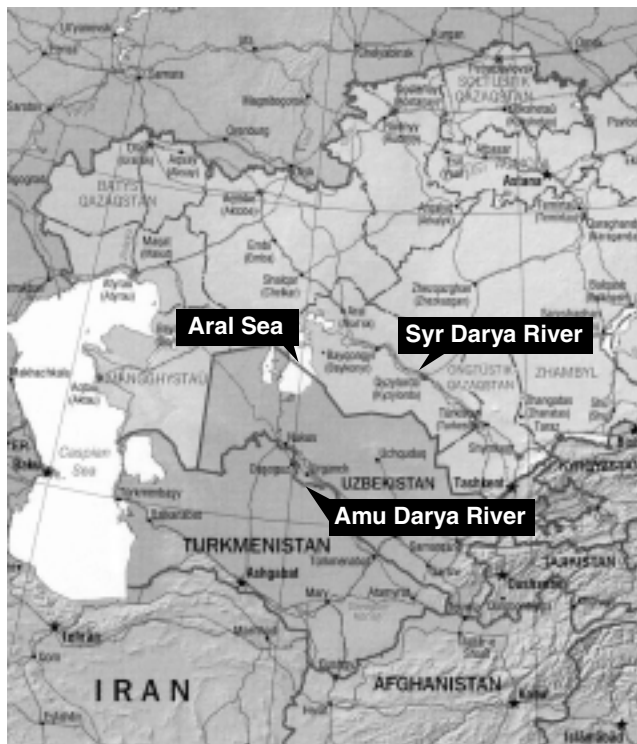
There were demands for “ecological substantiation” of the project; much work had already been done, Gerardi stressed. Opponents, he said, “are undervaluing knowledge that has already been accumulated, confusing the problem, and burying its vast social and economic essence, under excessive details.”

### **Why Pravda and Izvestia Said, ‘No!’**

In Russia and Central Asia, only about 30% of arable land gets enough precipitation; 70% is afflicted with regular droughts. This situation, according to Soviet Academician Ye. Fyodorov, is the opposite of that in North America.

Gerardi said that using this much Siberian water would “guarantee grain production” for the Soviet Union, where so much agriculture depends upon precipitation: Corn and soybean production in Central Asia could be increased by 25 million tons, and eventually by 60 million tons a year. This would be an “intelligent and comprehensive use” of Siberian water and the dry lands of Central Asia, and eventually could

FIGURE 1  
**The Aral Sea Basin**



*Like virtually all water resources in the Central and South Asian region of Eurasia, the flow of the rivers which feed the Aral Sea originates in the “roof of the world,” the great Himalaya and related mountain chains. The headwaters of the Amu Darya (photo above) are in northern Afghanistan’s Pamir Mountains. The Syr Darya and Amu Darya flow northwestward from the mountains through all the Central Asian Republics to the Aral Sea (Figure 1 at left), and these growing nations’ economic activity is dependent on them.*

feed 200 million people. In this way, Gerardi said, the canal would have paid for itself in 10 years.

Their research indicated that water losses in a long earthen canal would be less than expected, Gerardi said. In the large irrigation canals in Central Asia, water loss due to evaporation and seepage, was 5-10% (although current estimates, from the Uzbek State Committee for Science and Technology and Samarkand State University, put such losses at 30-50%. This is, however, also due to the current very bad state of repair of these systems). Much of the Sib-Aral canal, however, Gerardi stated, would go through relatively impermeable, clayey soil, where seepage would be less; where it has to go through sandy soil, the engineers would lay drainage pipes along the canal to capture seepage.

Water salinity, he estimated, would be 0.5 grams per liter at the end of the main canal, less than the salinity of the water in the lower Syr and Amu Darya already.

As to the warnings that the Arctic Ocean would be affected by this water loss: Every year, it gets 2,800 cu km of water from the rivers of Russia; the loss would be about 2% of that! Fish in the rivers would be affected, but fish production in Central Asia would be increased.

The Aral Sea itself would not get help from the first phase of the project, but only when the second phase was completed, after 2000, the scientists said. Other measures to stabilize the

Sea would also have to be taken.

No “trade off” would be made between the water diversion project and improving existing irrigation in Central Asia, Gerardi said. The Soviet Ministry of Land Reclamation was, at that same time, working to improve the irrigation systems, which work was to have been completed when the canal was finished, ensuring that the Siberian water would not be wasted. The irrigation systems’ efficiency would have reached about 80%. Proposals existed to use other irrigation methods in Central Asia, which could be useful, but no panacea for conditions there, Gerardi said.

Another important consideration, was that this canal would have been deep and wide enough for navigation. The second stage of the project would have linked the canal to the Caspian Sea, thus creating “a direct water route, with no transshipments, from Siberia to Europe. I do not think, that the importance to the country of this water-transport route requires any special explanation,” Gerardi stated.

Some 150 research and design institutes had worked with the Water Ministry on the technical and economic feasibility studies for 15 years. In January 1985, preparatory work for constructing the Sib-Aral began. But, as Prof. Philip Micklin wrote in 1988: on Aug. 20, 1986, “in a dramatic policy reversal,” front-page articles in *Pravda* and *Izvestia* announced that the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and the Soviet Council of Ministers, had adopted a resolution “On Discontinuing Work on Diverting Part of the Flow of Northern and Siberian Rivers.” Design and preparatory work on the project to send northern water to the Volga was stopped, as well as any further research on the

Sib-Aral. The State Planning Committee, State Agro-Industrial Committee, and Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources were told to halt any work on these projects for their economic planning until 1990. Regional solutions would have to found to the Central Asian water shortages, Moscow announced.

The Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences led the opposition to the plan. This, combined with sharp cost-cutting, and “nationalist” views of some Russian writers opposed to sending such resources to the South, prevailed. Even after the August order, the controversy was so great, Micklin wrote, that criticism of the project continued, some of it exaggerated, misrepresentative, and using personal attacks.

A December 1991 *Pravda* interview of KGB Major General E.N. Yakovlev, on the 70th anniversary of the Soviet secret services, gives one insight into what was behind this decision. In 1985, Yakovlev said, the KGB had “obtained data” that Western intelligence services and experts viewed clean fresh water as “an important strategic material,” soon to be “in short supply in many parts of the world.” The Westerners urged saving water with better irrigation systems, but also “pointed out that gigantic projects to irrigate arid areas—and particularly to divert rivers—are not cost-effective.” Water losses, they claimed, are enormous and “negative ecological effects” too great. The KGB submitted these views to the Council of Ministers, which gave the KGB “several unpleasant moments.” There were many counter-reactions to these Western views.

Yakovlev said the KGB could not “claim the main role in the government’s decision, soon after, to reject river diversion,” but was gratified that it had “spoken out from objective, impartial positions.” (I owe this reference to my late colleague Denise Henderson.)

Indeed, Nikolay Grishchenko, leader of the project under the Soviet Union, said in April 2002, that he regretted the project had not been started then, in the 1980s. It would have increased agriculture production in the Aral Sea basin, and given the region good drinking water. “The West was against it, because it was selling a lot of grain and other produce to the Soviet Union and needed to keep its market intact,” he told Uzbek journalist Karina Insarova.

In Central Asia, the reaction to this Soviet decision was strong, especially in Uzbekistan and Kazakstan, where governments, population, and “scientists, writers, and journalists,” as Micklin wrote, continued to demand that action be taken to bring water to the region and the Aral Sea. In 1988, Micklin wrote that the “preservation of the Aral may require implementation of the controversial project to divert water from western Siberia into the Aral Sea basin.” Now, his views have apparently changed: UPI quoted him on April 2, 2004 warning that Central Asia “can (and probably must) get along without Siberian water”—because the World Bank and such institutions would not fund such a project.

More momentous decisions were being made in Moscow in August 1986. At the beginning of the month, then-U.S. President Reagan made a speech in Washington, describing

## What Transforms The Biosphere?

And you look, as Vernadsky did, at the planet. And the planet is a Biosphere. What does that mean? That life is more powerful than abiotic principles. That life penetrates, and acts upon the domain of abiotic principles. Life does not come from inorganic processes. Life is a principle, in the universe, which *acts* upon what we call inorganic processes, to produce the combined effect, such as we call the Biosphere: a planet which has fossil layers and so forth—including the atmosphere which is a fossil, a product of living activities which produced the atmosphere, which produced the oceans, the water; which produced the fossil layers on this planet; which concentrated certain minerals and certain deposits within the fossil layer, which you will not find concentrated as efficiently for your purpose anywhere else, except by knowing which fossil made that deposit. Who made all that chalk, on the cliffs of

Dover? Trillions of animals, who died, and left their little bodies behind, as chalk, as a result of what they had consumed.

So, the planet is becoming, more and more, a living creature. Because, what we call the “inorganic” or abiotic processes of the planet, are constantly being gobbled up, and *taken over*, by a superior force, called “life!”

And then, we find a third one: The planet is being transformed, the biosphere is being transformed, by a *more powerful force!* The more powerful force is the ability of the human mind, to discover a universal physical principle. And the changes in the planet as a whole, as a result of man’s discovery and application of physical principles, is changing the planet into what Vernadsky called a Noö-sphere. That is, the ratio—of the total pure weight, of the mass of the planet—is being increased, so the product of man’s intervention, through man’s discovery of principles, is becoming more and more. And if this continues, the whole Solar System is going to become a product of the human mind, which has gobbled up, assimilated, and mastered all processes of non-living and living processes on the planet.—*Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.*





*The ruins of Subashi at the edge of the Taklamakan Desert. The deserts of Central Asia are extensive and are the driest in the world; the region has been famed for highly efficient irrigation uses of water, for 5,000 years.*

a letter he had sent to Gorbachov, calling on the Soviets to respond to his proposal to *share* the critical Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) technology, which could have ended the “Mutual and Assured Destruction” nuclear threat. Reagan’s proposal was for joint or parallel deployment of the SDI—the only way to make the program truly effective strategically. Reagan stressed the enormous potential of the SDI and related technologies, for “increasing our productivity and expanding the limits of human potential.”

This was the core of the concept of Lyndon LaRouche, the conceptual author of the SDI: that sharing such advanced technologies could create a transformation of the Soviet economy, and the U.S. economy as well. Without this infusion of advanced technologies, especially into the backward civilian sector, the Soviet economy would collapse, as LaRouche warned the Russian leadership from 1982-83 onward. Barely five years after his warnings, that is exactly what happened.

Moscow did not publicly respond to this offer by President Reagan until October 1986, when it was roundly rejected by Gorbachov at the Reykjavik, Iceland summit. However, Moscow’s intentions had been made known earlier, in a series of nasty press attacks on LaRouche, which utilized nothing but the fraudulent material used by the U.S. Eastern Establishment press against LaRouche. On Aug. 7, 1986, *Sovietskaya Kultura* had launched the attack on LaRouche; by September, Moscow’s flagship propaganda organ, *New Times*, published a Soviet intelligence-authored attack on LaRouche, and specifically, his support for the SDI.

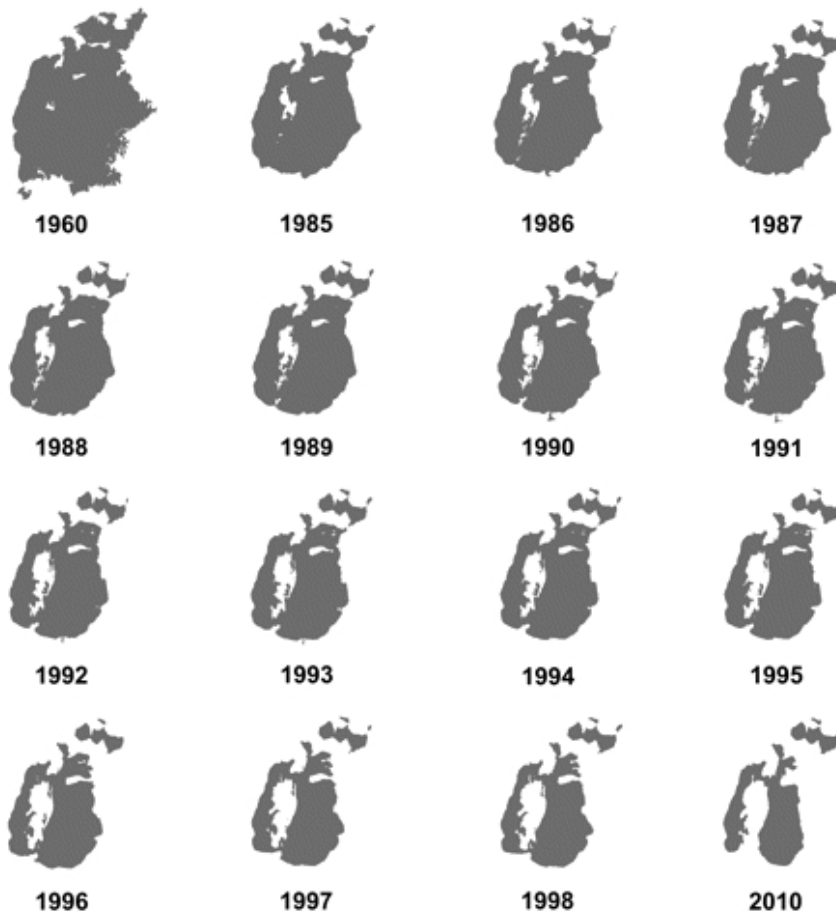
Some of the ideology behind these attacks, was reflected a decade later in a strange 1996 article by Prof. David Schwartzman, of Howard University’s Biology Department, entitled “Solar Communism.” The radical “green socialist” Schwartzman attacked the constructive efforts of scientists in the Soviet Union, and also tried to denigrate Russia’s great founding scientist Vernadsky. He complained that Vernadsky’s conception of the Noösphere “converged with the ambitions of the planners of the Soviet economy. . . . Some of the biggest planned projects, e.g., the diversion of Siberian rivers to arid Soviet Central Asia, were narrowly averted.” He admitted the importance of Vernadsky’s biogeochemistry, having “vital importance” to understanding environmental impacts such as “global warming”; but urged that the “possibility of inherent unpredictability” of anthropogenic impacts on the environment showed the “necessity” of containment and precaution.

### **Saving the Aral Sea**

The Aral Sea, once the world’s fourth largest lake—after the Caspian Sea, Lake Superior in North America, and Lake Victoria in Africa—and once a rich center of human, animal, and plant life, is fast becoming a salt desert. Its fish, plant, and animal life are dead or dying; human life on its former shores is impoverished and disease-ridden; and salt-dust storms are blowing to areas 1,000 kilometers away. Bringing water from the Siberian rivers would not, alone, revive the Aral Sea—much more water would be required. But, if combined with

FIGURE 2

## The Shrinking Aral Sea



*The disappearance of the Aral Sea since 1960, shown in these satellite remote-sensing images, was caused primarily by misguided Soviet-era monoculture—growing cotton and rice in near-desert areas. It has intensified desertification of the region around it, with widespread salt-dust storms and worsening ecological and human effects.*

other measures, it would be a step, at least to preserve what remains.

The Aral Sea basin is watered, as is all of East and South Eurasia, by the rivers which rise at the “roof of the world”—the Tibetan plateau and the vast surrounding mountain ranges. Huge amounts of water come “rolling down” the Pamir and Tian Shan mountains, especially in the Spring. The Amu Darya, the largest river, flows 2,400 kilometers from the Pamirs in Tajikistan, through the Kara-Kum desert to the Aral Sea; its long-term average annual flow is 75.9 cu km. The Syr Darya flows 2,500 kilometers from the Tian Shan. Together, the two rivers’ annual flow is 114 cu km. For comparison, the Rhine River’s annual flow averages 86.1 cu km.

Including groundwater, annual renewable water resources in the Aral Sea basin are about 133 cu km. In the past,

about half the water from the mountains reached the Aral Sea, but by 1990-95, water taken for irrigation was so much—some 111-126 cu km—that almost nothing reached the Sea.

As Prof. Amanbek Ramazanov, chairman of the water resources committee of Uzbekistan’s Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, wrote in June 2001, there have been many climate shifts in this region during past millennia, and the Aral Sea depression has repeatedly been flooded and then desiccated, depending especially on the flow of the Amu Darya.

The region is bordered by some of the highest mountains in the world, including the Hindu Kush to the south, and the Pamirs, Kun Lun, and Tian Shan to the east. The Aral Sea itself lies among the three great deserts in Central Asia: Kara-Kum, Kyzyl-Kum, and Bepakdala. This is the most arid region on Earth: The evaporation rate is high, 1,750-2,250 millimeters of water a year, and precipitation low and unevenly distributed (150-200 millimeters average). Summer temperatures reach 49° Celsius. This region is much more arid than other desert regions, such as Southwest Asia, (called the “Middle East” by British tradition) which borders the Mediterranean.

The bordering mountains to the south and east are much wetter and cooler.

Since the 19th Century, many Russian scientists have studied the Aral Sea basin. Academician Aleksandr Fedorovich Middendorf, who explored the entire region to the Pacific coast, wrote in 1880-81 that Central Asia would face a shortage of water and natural fertilizers in the future. In 1868, Ukrainian agronomist Y.B. Demchenko proposed to send Siberian river water to Central Asia, in a student thesis and presentation to the Russian Geographical Society, “On the Climate of Russia.” In 1871, he published a book *On flooding the Aral-Caspian lowlands to improve the climate of adjacent countries*. In 1902, the Russian Academy of Sciences approved the great canal project, but it was never built, due to the enormous strain put on Russia by World War I and the later collapse of economy in the Civil War.

Irrigation began in ancient times, and was expanded under the Russian Empire and further expanded by the Soviet Union, as Professor Micklin wrote in *Managing Water in*

*Central Asia.* Settlements were already established 8-10,000 years ago; by 4,000 years ago, there was substantial irrigation in the Aral Sea deltas of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya. Canals took 200-300 cubic meters a day, and the apparent efficiency of water use was close to modern standards. By 3,000 years ago, irrigation “flourished,” Micklin wrote. In the Khor- ezmi basin, as many as 1.2 million hectares could have been under irrigation, supporting a population of 200,000; in the famous, ancient Merv oasis, one of the world’s biggest cities during the Middle Ages, as much as 500,000 hectares could have been irrigated, to support a population of 300,000.

The ancient systems were highly regulated: Large areas were left fallow, to prevent waterlogging and increasing salinity of the soil, a severe problem in Central Asia today. In the medieval period, Central Asian civilization perfected the use of diversion dams and storage basins, use of the chigir wheel to lift water, and built canals through the Kyzyl-kum desert to unite irrigated areas along the Amu and Syr Darya. Up to 2.5 million hectares of land were under irrigation.

Recurrent invasions, the worst by the Mongols in 1220, destroyed the complex water-management systems. They conquered Merv by breaking its dams; so great was the Mongol destruction of dikes and dams, that the Amu Darya changed its course, and flowed away from the Aral Sea. After centuries of reconstruction, 2 million hectares of land were under irrigation by the early 19th Century—still less than prior to the Mongol invasion!

The abundant gardens and vineyards of the 6th-7th Centuries earned the river valleys the name of the “the garden of the caliph of the faithful,” wrote Iskandar Abdullaev, Executive Director of Uzbekistan’s Association for Sustainable Use of Water Resources, in November 2000. The medieval system would give 5-7 years rest to irrigated lands. The ruins of reservoirs, canals, and dams, show how advanced the system was before the Russian invasion. In the early 19th Century, the Uzbek scientist A. Donish designed a plan to build a canal to the middle Amu Darya, warning that Turkestan could be easily conquered by cutting off the waters of the Zaravshan River—which the Russians did.

### **Russia’s Cotton Strategy**

The Russian empire conquered Central Asia during 1860-1900. To become self-sufficient in cotton production, imperial Russia expanded irrigation into new steppe and desert areas. The Soviet Union set up modern intense irrigation in Central Asia, and problems came with it. In the 1930s, cotton became the predominant crop, and by 1990, some 85% of irrigated land was planted in cotton. Collectivization, large fields, con-



*The town of Aralsk, once a thriving port on the Aral Sea at the Syr Darya River delta, is now far from any water; the Syr Darya at this point is a trickling stream.*

stant irrigation, and heavy use of fertilizers and pesticides, all “radically and permanently changed the face of agriculture and human life” in the Aral Sea basin, wrote Micklin.

Irrigation of new areas such as the Golodnaya (Hungry) Steppe along the Syr Darya, took large amounts of water. The Kara-Kum Canal, 1,450 kilometers long, the largest man-made “river” in Central Asia, was begun in 1954. It takes Amu Darya water 1,300 kilometers westward to the desert, in an unlined canal which loses far too much water to the sandy soil.

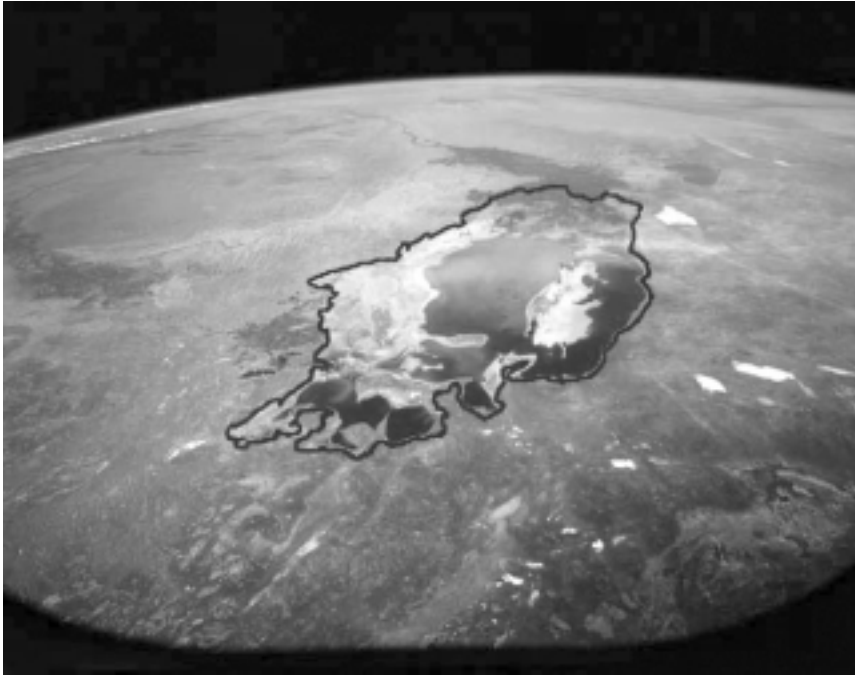
Current intensive irrigation has turned over 2 million hectares land into salt marsh, due to over-irrigation and bad drainage. Run-off water from the fields and floodwater have created large, artificial brackish lakes in depressions in the desert, including the Sarykamysh in Turkmenistan, the Arnasay in Uzbekistan, or Aydarkul in Uzbekistan.

For the Aral Sea, all this water is lost.

During 1965-85, the Soviets began constructing big dams and reservoirs on the upper reaches of the rivers—at least 10 in Kyrgyzstan—to store Spring flows for Summer agriculture. The Nurek dam on the Vaksh, the main Amu Darya tributary in Tajikistan, is the second largest dam in the world. The Soviets made an integral system of water management on the Naryn, Talas, and Syr Darya, and built hydroelectric plants on the Toktogul and Kairakkum reservoirs. They also built huge irrigation projects in the downstream nations of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan, including some 45-50,000 kilometers of irrigation channels.

By the late 1960s, the Amu Darya and Syr Darya were “exhausted.” Russian officials—especially in the Water Ministry—and the Central Asian republics began to call for water from the Siberian rivers, to expand irrigation.

Russian and Soviet policy kept Central Asia an agricul-



*Wide areas of what used to be the waters of the Aral Sea, are now turned into salty marshes and dessicating flats, and the Sea has been divided into two shrinking bodies of water, as shown in this enhanced satellite image.*

tural economy. Over 95% of Soviet industry for processing cotton was located far away; the only industry that developed in the region, was to produce fertilizer or cotton farm machinery. In the 1980s, cotton accounted for 75-80% of the crop yield, and land under irrigation constantly increased: A ton of cotton requires four or five tons of water; rice is grown in flooded paddies. Despite this demand for water, the dependence upon cotton, especially as an export for foreign exchange, has not changed: Uzbekistan is the world's third largest cotton producer, and earns over \$1.5 billion a year—50-60% of its export earnings, according to the World Bank—and Turkmenistan wants to increase production. To do this, Turkmen President Saparmurat Niyazov wants to create the “Lake of the Golden Century” in the Kara-kum desert—by diverting even more water from the Amu Darya. He signed a decree on this in September 2000.

Until 1960, the Aral Sea was an important body of water. Now, due to lack of inflow—the Sea used to receive about 56 cu km of water a year, now it gets 6 cu km—it is disappearing. Its water, once one-third as saline as the oceans, is now as salt as ocean water. By 1987, its depth, which had been 53-54 meters, had fallen by 18 meters, leaving two separate seas. The overall size of the Aral has decreased by over 50% and its volume by nearly 80%. Whole regions of Uzbekistan and Kazakstan on the Sea have been devastated; the rich deltas have dried up. Never before has so important a body of water disappeared so fast. The smaller sea still gets some flow from the Syr Darya, and could survive.

The problem will be worse, Micklin warns, because the 1990s was a period of high water flow, the highest, at 104 cu km, since the 1950s. Then, drought began. The big dam/reservoir projects regulate river flow to some degree, but it is impossible—and not a good idea—to try to control river flow completely. In coming decades, water shortages could worsen.

Irrigation methods could certainly be improved, especially since the effects of “market reforms” in the Central Asian nations have led to drastic cuts in maintenance of the water systems. Key measures would include lining canals and leveling fields. Sprinkler, subsurface or drip irrigation have been promoted, especially by opponents of the Siberian project, but these are not only very expensive, but likely not useful in Central Asia, where the scale of irrigation is too large, and mineralization of the water too high.

Soil salinity is also big problem: Over half the soil is slightly salinized, especially in Uzbekistan, and 13% badly so. Even more water is needed to leach, or “flush” the soil, than for irrigation. The results are falling yields of irrigated crops.

Uzbek water engineers Kayum Odilov and Pirmat Shermukhamedov wrote in the newspaper *Vatan* in February 2000, about problems in Soviet-era research into the economic value of opening up new lands. Extremely saline lands require three-four times more water than non-saline soils, and the cost of raising crops on such land is double that of non-saline land.

The Soviet system failed to comprehend the impact of drying up the Aral Sea. The loss of the Sea was seen as a “productive” trade-off for agriculture, but this did not take into account the “geochemistry of a shrinking and salinizing Aral,” wrote Micklin in 2001. Large amounts of toxic salts accumulated on the dried sea bed, and are now being blown all over the basin, and as far away as the Fergana Valley or northern Russia. Big salt-dust storms began already by 1975; and now, an estimated 43 million metric tons of salt annually are carried from the sea's dried bottom.

The effect was climate change: The moderating effect of the large Aral Sea is lost. Now, everything is more arid; Summers are hotter, Winters are longer and colder, by a full 3° Celsius. In Karakalpakstan, the region of Uzbekistan bordering the Aral Sea zone, which once had a flourishing agriculture, it has simply stopped raining. Groundwater levels, although well supplied by the bordering mountains, are sinking. The worst effect has been upon human health. Infant

mortality and morbidity are rising fast; water-borne diseases, anemia, throat cancer, and other health scourges are prevalent.

## Developing Central Asia

The Soviet decision in 1986 to end the Sib-Aral project left Central Asia with enormous economic problems. As the

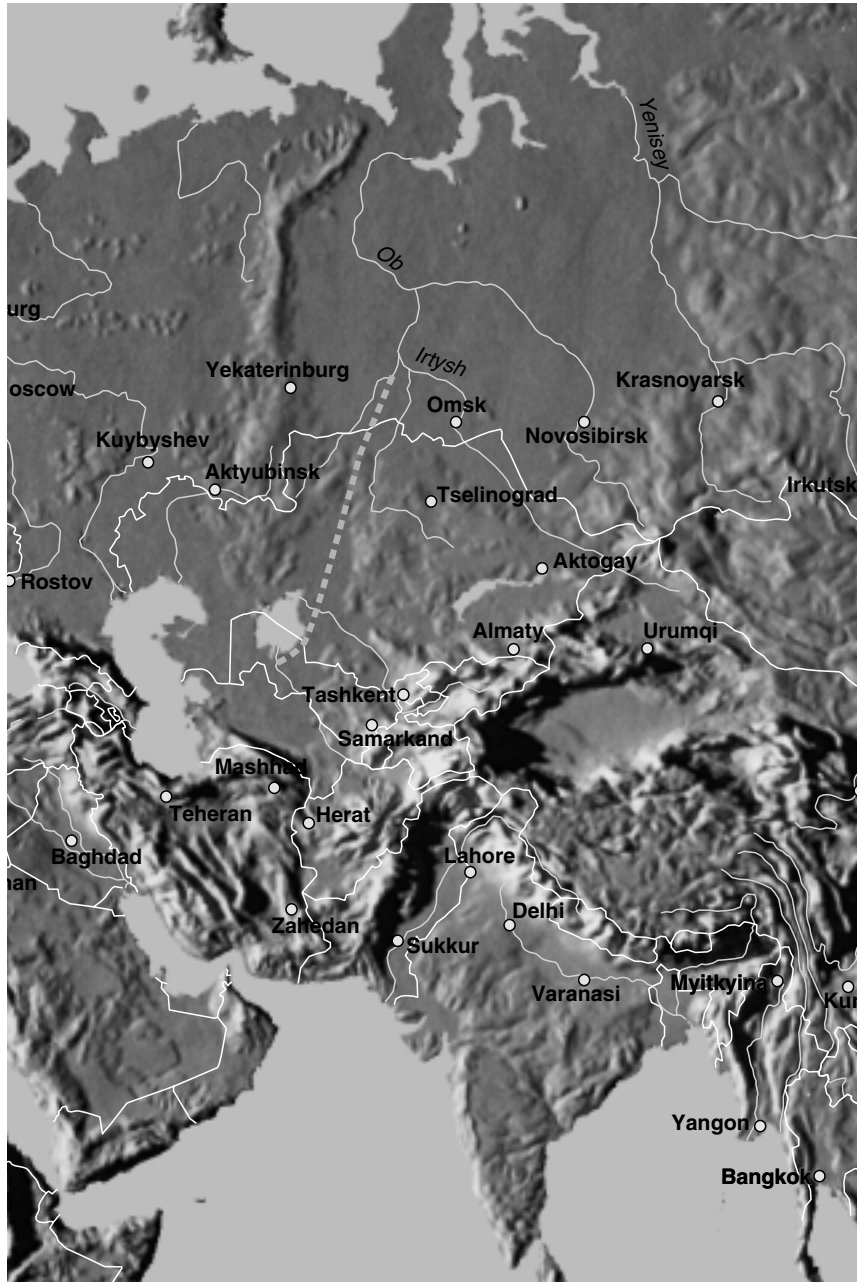
Soviet system broke down in the following years, the Central Asian nations declared their own sovereignty over vital resources, especially water. They had to adapt a “centrally planned” system into an international one. In the 1930s, Stalin’s Soviet government had drawn a very complex pattern of national boundaries in Central Asia, cutting through ethnic regions, and dividing up special geographic areas, such as the fertile Fergana Valley. As a result, the Amu Darya and Syr Darya flow from Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, into and out of Uzbekistan, Kazakstan, and Turkmenistan.

There have been many predictions, especially by western think-tanks, that water will soon be a greater matter of contention in this region, even than oil is, and of coming “water wars”; but the Central Asian nations have prevented such conflicts. Given the overall economic and security problems of the region—emphatically, the opium-centered “cockpit” of conflict in Afghanistan—this indicates their commitment to cooperation. Yet, the nations of the Aral Sea basin recognize that the scale of the problem—the need for water, the Aral Sea disaster, and overall economic crisis after a decade of “shock therapy”—is beyond their ability to resolve. This is a Eurasian problem, and only a Eurasian approach can deal with it. Such associations as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization can play an important role.

Other nations bordering the Aral Sea basin also could draw on its water. Afghanistan has rights to take some 10% of the flow of the Amu Darya, when the country reaches a sufficient level of economic stability. China is striving to develop its far-west interior, where lack of water is a crucial issue. China wants to use more water from the Irtysh and Ile rivers, the most important among the more than 30 rivers which roll from Xinjiang region, to Kazakstan and Russia. It is planning to build a canal

FIGURE 3

### Siberian-Aral Water Transfer



Central to the Sib-Aral great project, killed under Gorbachev in 1986 but being proposed anew by Central Asian nations, is a long canal or water pipeline (dotted line) to transfer about 6% of the flow of the large Siberian Rivers Ob and Irtysh, to the Syr Darya, Amu Darya, and Aral Sea. The point of origin would be the Tugai Gap where the Irtysh first joins the Ob; these, and other major Siberian rivers, flow north to the Arctic Ocean.

to take about 1 million cu km of water a year, about 10% of the Irytsh's flow.

The economic growth of Uzbekistan and Kazakstan, the two most populous Central Asian nations, is already being curbed due to lack of water. Uzbekistan has 27 million people (its population grew by 17 million in the past 20 years); Kazakstan has 15 million. Several years of extreme drought, starting in 2000, have exacerbated the problem. There have been crop and food shortages in Tajikistan, Iran, Uzbekistan, and in Afghanistan, and insurgency by radical groups, which set off civil war in Tajikistan. The deployment of U.S. troops in the region, especially in Uzbekistan, as part of the unsuccessful "war on terrorism" in Afghanistan and Iraq, is also generating regional tensions.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the five Central Asian republics put together accords to maintain existing region-wide water- and energy-distribution policies. In 1992, the five nations formed the Interstate Commission for Water

Coordination (ICWC), to manage water in the entire Aral Sea basin system; the International Fund for the Aral Sea (IFAS), was begun in 1993; and the 1994 Interstate Council of the Republics of Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan (ICKKTU), to enhance economic and trade cooperation. Turmenistan stands "outside" the later two agreements, but the Syr Darya countries—Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan—are showing a continuous interest in cooperating within common legal frameworks. (Daniel Linotte)

The newly independent countries all wrote "Water Codes" emphasizing national sovereignty over water resources; they define water as "exclusive property of the state" and "national wealth." In early 2001, Uzbekistan called for declaring all Central Asian water resources "common wealth." In 1997, a draft Agreement "On the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Syr Darya Basin" was made part of the Action Program on Formation of a Single Economic Zone of the Syr Darya nations. This set up a Working

## Desalination's Huge Potential

The greatest potential for solving the whole world's water problems, is through creation of much more fresh water by desalinating seawater. The failure of Soviet water management in Central Asia, was not so much due to its grand scale, but rather to the failure to bring sufficient water into the most arid region on Earth, both to save the Aral Sea and to turn the steppes and deserts green.

Bringing river water from Siberia would be one great help; another, is desalinating brackish water in Central Asia, including its abundant groundwater reserves.

Hal B.H. Cooper, a civil engineer and consultant on many infrastructure projects in North America, says, "I believe that there are many saline aquifers which exist throughout the world which could be utilized if it were possible to implement the LaRouche water and energy desalination policy, with nuclear power plants and desalination together. . . . We should be making extensive use of the desalination of brackish and impure waters, so they can be used for municipal, industrial, and agricultural purposes."

Professor Micklin reported in 1988 that in Central Asia, "ground water could make a larger contribution to regional water supplies. Subsurface storage is huge, but little used. However, much of the reserve lies at great depth or is heavily mineralized. Up to 17 cu km per year of

ground water could be consumed in the Aral Sea basin without adversely affecting river flow." Kyrgyzstan alone has aquifers which carry 13 cu km of water a year.

Only small-scale desalination projects exist, such as one set up by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to produce drinking water on the Amu Darya River in Dashoguz province, Turkmenistan.

Both China and India, with huge populations and urgent water management problems, are working on combined nuclear power and desalination projects. Some 11 seawater desalination plants using nuclear energy are already in operation internationally. The nations of Southwest Asia produce about 60% of current desalinated seawater, but they use abundant petroleum supplies as the heat source for the process. This would be far too expensive for petroleum-importing nations. In Central Asia, Kazakstan has petroleum resources, which could be put to use for desalination projects on the Aral Sea and in the lower reaches of the Syr Darya.

But this, while useful in the short term, will not meet the needs of the future. Regions of such broad expanses as Central Asia, and nations of such high population as China and India, must develop nuclear energy as the only clean, safe, and "non-geopolitical" energy resource. Petroleum must be transported, often over long distances, and is currently hostage to geopolitical economic and political operations. Nuclear plants are local, under a nation's sovereign control, and uniquely produce enough energy for *large-scale* desalination.

In December 2003, India's President Abdul Kalam, a noted scientist, told an Indian Nuclear Society conference

Group of water and energy ministry managers and specialists, from Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. U.S. and other international experts contributed to the draft, which drew on models including the Columbia basin of the United States and Canada, and the Rio Grande basin of the the United States and Mexico. In March 1998, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan signed an Interstate Agreement “On the Use of Water and Energy Resources of the Syr Darya River Basin.”

In June 1990, wrote Bakhtior A. Islamov, the leaders of Uzbekistan, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan had signed a joint declaration on the devastation of the Aral Sea basin, and appealed to Moscow for assistance. This came to nothing. By December 1991, the Soviet Union was dead, and the “promised radical measures for the restoration of the destruction of the region’s ecological balance and the preservation of the Aral Sea were never fulfilled.” Amidst the economic disasters following the end of the U.S.S.R.,

including radical falls in production, and hyperinflation, the Central Asian nations sought to create new regional cooperation on economic, scientific, technical, cultural, and environmental issues, among “equal and sovereign republics.”

There is a commitment to avoid armed conflict, but disputes have arisen over water and energy. A 1996 interstate agreement among Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakstan was to compensate Kyrgyzstan for lowering water-use—and therefore generation of hydropower electricity—during the Winter, and increasing water releases during Summer.

Both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have enormous hydropower resources: Tajikistan’s are the eighth-largest in the world, at 300 billion kilowatt-hours of potential. The Soviet system was designed to serve the cotton monoculture in the Aral Sea basin. In Winter, water was stored, for release in the Summer months when need for irrigation, not electricity, is greatest. Now, Kyrgyzstan wants to generate cheap electric power, rather than depending upon energy supplies of natural

at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research at Kalpakkam, that desalination of seawater is the best solution to the world water crisis. Using the “multistage flash” desalination process requires enormous quantities of energy, and only nuclear power can supply that. “It is essential to set up desalination plants next to nuclear plants to reuse the waste energy effectively,” Kalam said.

### China’s Programs

China also is developing nuclear desalination. The China Society of Nuclear Science, and the Beijing Institute of Nuclear Engineers directed by Prof. Li Zhaoheng, are developing projects which could produce an annual output of 300 million-1 billion tons of water. Only nuclear power is cheap and efficient enough for this scale of desalination. China has also developed new, more efficient distillation techniques. “Three decades worth of effort has ranked China among the world’s few countries capable of seawater desalination,” Prof. Hui Shaotang, director of the Tianjin Institute of Seawater Desalination and Comprehensive Utilization told a 2002 conference. “Water diversion can only alter the geological layout of water resources. It’s not able to enhance the total amount available.” Desalinated water from large-scale, nuclear-powered projects would cost about 25%—eventually even more—below what diverted water—at 20 yuan a ton—will cost.

China is now “first” in the world, with a nuclear technology which could be of enormous benefit in Central Asia for desalination. This is the modular high temperature gas-cooled nuclear reactor (MHTGR, or HTR for short). A



*Seven nations already have operating desalination units powered by nuclear energy, needed for any large-scale production of fresh water, especially from brackish inland and groundwater. This nuclear desalination plant is at Kalpakkam in India.*

prototype of the reactor has already been built at China’s leading science and technology institution, the Institute of Nuclear Energy Technology (INET) of Qinghua University, northwest of Beijing. This reactor is more efficient than conventional nuclear technology; is relatively simple and inherently safe; and can be built in small units, which are perfect for flexible application—for heating, industrial use, electricity generation. Because they could be produced on standardized “assembly-lines,” HTR production costs can be kept low. Germany first developed the technology, but China is the only nation to have built one.—Mary Burdman



*The Ob River in Siberia. Though population density in the Ob and Irtysh River regions is low, more than 30 million people live in the overall Ob-Irtysh River Basin. These rivers have been significantly dammed for hydropower production, and also badly polluted; major investments in Russia's economic infrastructure will be needed to make watering Central Asia possible.*

gas from Uzbekistan and Kazakstan. But, when it releases water in the Winter, that floods Kazakstan's Shardarya reservoir, and spills over into Uzbekistan. In Summer, Kyrgyzstan has been retaining more water, which has dried up Kazakstan's part of the rivers, and the lack of flow has damaged the riverbeds and canals.

Most of Kyrgyzstan's water infrastructure is approaching 50 years old, and maintenance has been minimal since the end of the Soviet Union. Kyrgyzstan does not charge the downstream nations for the water, or the cost of maintaining the infrastructure, but has to rely on unreliable swap agreements for energy.

Tajikistan is very poor and isolated, with its infrastructure totally interdependent with that of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. It has not been able to realize its hydropower potential, and is dependent upon imports from the other Central Asian nations.

There have been a series of meetings among Central Asian leaders to try and deal with the Aral Sea, but, Bakhtior Islamov wrote, it has become "clear that the environmental and social problems reached an extent which was beyond the capacity of Central Asian states alone to fix." Western suggestions of raising the price for water are unacceptable, given the poverty of much of the population: In many areas, households must spend up to 90% of their cash income for food. Any increase in water costs, would be devastating.

"Water is life"; "Save the water and keep it clean"; these are "common wisdoms" for Central Asian people for thousands of years in an area of irrigated arable land, wrote Islamov. These principles are as true today. Cooperation is especially important because of the effects of shock therapy, and of half a century of intensive irrigation and cotton mono-

culture. The margins, in managing the water supply, in financial/economic dependence upon cotton exports, are too small—at this time.

In 2000, due especially to severe drought, agricultural production fell by 30% in Central Asia. On top of lack of water, the effects of the "market reforms" are also being felt. Not one of the five Central Asian states has since achieved the production levels of 1990. Uzbekistan produced only 3 million tons of raw cotton in 2000, compared to 4-5 million tons in previous years. In 2001, Uzbekistan's rice harvest was 67,800 tons, a 56% decrease from 2000. In 1999, Uzbekistan reported a rice harvest of 420,800 tons.

Desertification is taking a worsening toll. Uzbekistan's State Committee for Science and Technology and Samarkand State University warned that 60% of Uzbekistan's agricultural land may go barren from dryness. In Turkmenistan, desertification has caused crop shortfalls of up to 40%.

As the Tashkent Institute of Engineers of Irrigation has emphasized, the Aral Sea basin needs an integrated, basin-wide strategy for water, as the only way to avoid conflicts. The Institute proposes rehabilitation and modernization of existing irrigation systems, and crop substitution; these would be costly undertakings. Philip Micklin also proposed "water user associations," which are widely in use in India, the United States, Mexico, Egypt, and Pakistan, to regulate water use in any given area, and set up reasonable pricing systems. This idea is under discussion in Uzbekistan and other nations.

## Reviving Siberia-Aral

Iskandar Abdullaev, Executive Director of Uzbekistan's Association for Sustainable Use of Water Resources, in November 2000 called for a Central Asian Water Pact, along the lines of those existing or being created in the Mekong, Jordan, and Rio Grande river basins. The long history of Central Asian water management and irrigation, should be the basis of the pact, and population density should be a key factor in dividing water, Abdullaev proposed. He also called for region-wide agricultural cooperation to make it possible to diversify crop production, and for founding a Central Asian Bank for Development, to fund maintenance and operation of the entire water-management system.

Abdullaev warned that Central Asia faced a seven-year dry period, beginning in 2000. Of Central Asia's 170-180 cu km of annual water-flow resources, over 90% are already being used. The Soviet-era water quotas "can no longer meet the demands of the day," he said. Lack of management has led to break-up of what used to be an integral water-management system; lack of funding and maintenance has thrown whole infrastructure into disarray. Every country is trying to expand



irrigated lands and taking water if possible. This cannot work; a comprehensive policy, emphatically including the development of new water resources, is essential.

The government of Uzbekistan is leading efforts to revive the Siberian-Aral project. Uzbekistan, with half the population of the Aral Sea basin, must play a central role. Tajikistan President Emomali Rakhmonov, currently head of the International Save the Aral Foundation, also supports the Sib-Aral project.

In May 2001, Uzbek President Islam Karimov, during a visit to Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow, revived the proposal to use water from Siberia to help Central Asia. Prof. Abdukhaliil Razzakov wrote one month later, that rerouting water from the Ob-Irtysh is the “only tangible solution” to the problems caused by the drying up of the Aral Sea. An “efficient system” must be used for this project, Razzakov wrote, including possible use of pipelines, and international funding should support it, due to the interest in solving the Aral Sea problem.

An ironic point made by Professor Razzakov, is that the “ecological” fears cited in the past by some Americans and Canadians, that diverting just some of the water from the Siberian rivers, could lower the level of the Arctic Ocean, were now being challenged by other “ecological” concerns. Now, ecologists fear that increased melting due to “global warming” will *increase* ocean levels, so they should be happy if some Siberian water is sent to Central Asia!

This would be “a mutually beneficial project,” said Ismail Jurabekov, aide to President Karimov, at an April 2002 forum organized by ECOSAN in Tashkent and Nukus, which is in the Aral Sea zone. “The shortage will only get worse as the population increases. . . . Siberian water would help us grow fruit, vegetables, cotton, and grain crops, the bulk of which will feed Russian provinces. It would be in Russia’s interests to import agricultural produce from Central Asia rather than from more remote parts of the world.” The conference decided to establish an international consortium to develop the project, with support from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Russia. The ECOSAN concept is limited, unfortunately, with the view that “private” and foreign investment would have to fund the project.

Viktor Dukhovny, director of the Interstate Commission on Water Coordination in Tashkent, has warned repeatedly of the looming water deficit in the Aral Sea basin. As he told the *New York Times* in December 2003, “We have enough water for the survival of all five states, even plus Afghanistan, if we will work together. Of course, not forever. Only up to 2025,” he emphasized. This April, Dukhovny told UPI that by 2050, the population of the Aral Sea basin should reach 100 million people. By then, more water will be urgently needed.

Prof. Yusufjan Shadimetov, a leading advisor to the President of Uzbekistan and advisor to many UN economic and social councils, told a Workshop on “Water, Climate, and

Development Issues in the Amu Darya Basin,” held in Philadelphia in July 2002, that the Siberia-Aral basin water project has to be undertaken. Even with optimal results from various existing and proposed water management and conservation policies, it would likely be “impossible” to provide enough water to the populations and national economies of Central Asia, Shadimetov said. Current problems of drought, and potential problems of climate change in Central Asia, “urgently highlight the necessity of the diversion of a part of the Siberian rivers’ flow to Central Asia.” This would be the only way to solve fundamental problems of lack of water, and stabilize the situation in the region, to prevent possible conflicts.

The “water deficit originated and continues to be aggravated because of the large-scale development of new irrigated areas in the region, conditioned by the rapid and significant growth of the population,” Shadimetov said. He contested any view that “the problem of water deficits in the Aral basin does not exist, and that all the troubles the population in the region face are caused exclusively by ‘unreasonable economic activities’ ” related to water use.

While “shortcomings of economic activity in the region certainly exist, . . . they are not the primary reason for the [Aral] sea drying out.” The future water needs of Afghanistan make the Siberian project all the more important. Central Asia must create a special program on water economy and improve management and distribution policy, but this would not resolve the real deficit of water, he concluded.

It is notable that, at the same Workshop, Prof. Ye Qian, Director of the Center for Development of Atmospheric Sciences at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, emphasized the role of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), for development of relations among the nations of Central Asia and China, and China’s own focus on “closing the gaps”—which have existed throughout China’s long history—between eastern and western China. China’s “Develop the West” program, begun in 1999, is striving to do this, and resolving China’s water needs is crucial to this policy.

## The Role of Russia

The issue of the Sib-Aral project is still very much alive in Russia. Russia’s “kind consent” is obviously essential for the project, as Uzbek President Karimov noted at an October 2002 conference in Dushanbe.

In a Feb. 9, 2004 article in *New Scientist*, Fred Pearce quoted Igor Zonn, director of the official Russian Soyuzvod-project for water management, saying that: “We are beginning to revise the old project plans for the diversion of Siberian rivers. The old material has to be gathered from more than 300 institutes.” And Victor Brovkin, a Russian expert in climate modelling at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, “If Putin wants to respond to Bush’s plan to go to Mars, this might be it.”

Academician Oleg Vasilyev, hydrologist at the Institute of Water and Ecology Problems in the Russian Academy of

Sciences in Siberia at Novosibirsk, who also worked on the Soviet-era project, said at an April 2002 Tashkent conference that “Water, unlike natural gas and oil, is a renewable resource.” Diverting some 5-7% of the Siberian rivers’ flow would not have a global effect, and could create a “green bridge” between Central Asia and Russia, Vasilyev told *Kosmolskya Pravda* in January 2003.

Moscow Mayor Yury Luzhkov also is promoting the idea—but from the perspective of promoting more Russian selling of its natural resources. In December 2002, Luzhkov wrote a letter to President Vladimir Putin, that fresh water would at some point be traded on world markets, as oil is today. “Water will be main source of conflicts and priority problem of mankind in 21st Century,” his letter stated. Russia should take advantage of this, he stated. The 1980s project had been abandoned “due to the weakness and indecisiveness of the authorities at the time who were opposed by unfairly formed public opinion by pseudo-patriots and pseudo-environmentalists.”

Now, Luzhkov said, an “international Eurasian Consortium” to trade Siberian water should be set up, with the various parties owning shares. Russia would get cheaper agricultural produce in exchange. In January, Luzhkov visited Kazakhstan to discuss the project. Some Central Asian analysts note that Russia emphatically wants to improve relations with Kazakhstan, and especially to bind the two economies close together. Such a water project would play a central role in this.

At a late-August 2003 conference on “Transboundary Water Resources,” held at the Russian science city of Akademgorodok, near Novosibirsk, the Sib-Aral project was a much-discussed issue, *Pravda* reported. There, as in the 1980s, there was universal support for this project from the Central Asian representatives.

Hydrologist Vasilyev told the conference that the “idea to take a portion of water from Siberia and deliver it to Asia looks quite natural to me. Many projects of this kind are being carried out in the world. . . . The project must be considered once again. Sooner or later, people will again return to the problem.”

In the same context, Prof. Nikolay Grishin, director of Moscow’s Ecoterra Center for Environmental Studies, emphasized the scientific importance of the Sib-Aral: “The project for delivery of water from the Ob and Irtysh Rivers in Siberia to Central Asia is unique regarding its scale and the level of development work. It is a good example of ‘strategic ecological evaluation’ [due to the need for] construction of a wide range of hydraulic constructions. . . .

“Even if we consider the project from the point of view of today’s scientific development, it was and is the world’s largest project containing strategic ecological evaluation. Such detailed research has never been done either in this country or abroad.” Grishin noted the financial problems and the amount of study which would have to be done. However, he said, “It is very important to get back to consideration of

the project once again. The project is invaluable scientific material. It is very interesting from a scientific point of view and could help develop methods to estimate the scale of ecological impact.”

Bringing the almost 150-year-old Siberian-to-Aral Sea water project into existence, has the potential to help transform the Eurasian landmass. This must be done using the most advanced scientific principles, drawing in particular on the great scientific and advanced technology tradition and capability of Russia. It must be done with the necessary perspective of taking one to two generations—25 to 50 years—to realize its full potential.

This project can help make the Eurasian “heartland,” so coveted by evil geopoliticians for the last two centuries, into a modern garden with a secure future, and one of the most productive and beautiful regions on Earth.

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## ‘Cooperation Should Be More Pro-active’

*Professor Abdukhilil Razzakov of Tashkent State Economic University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, provided these written answers to questions from EIR. The answers have been translated from Russian.*

**EIR:** The plan to divert water from the rivers of Siberia to Central Asia is one of the most important potential “great projects” for the development of the Eurasian Landmass.

On history: You wrote in an article in June 2001, on the “Re-Routing of Siberian Rivers to Central Asia,” that the proposal for such a great project was first made in the 1880s. Who made this proposal, and can you tell us more about it?

**Razzakov:** The idea to divert water from Siberian rivers to Central Asia emerged in 1868. It was authored by Y.G. Demchenko, an agronomist from Kiev. He first submitted to Imperial Russian Geographical Society a paper titled: “On Flooding the Aral-Caspian Lowlands to Improve the Climate.” At that time, this issue was not pressing, and nobody saw the point in it. To improve the climate in the far reaches of Tsarist Russia was only of concern to a few.

Interest in this question grew considerably in the 1920s. During that period, the proposal to divert water to Central Asia was voiced in 1920 by D. Bukinich; in 1924 by N. Botvinkin; in 1927 by V. Monastirev and Z. Kirilets; and, in 1930 by A. Makarov. Every scientist proposed erecting dams on Irtysh, Ob, and Enisey rivers, and directing the water by its own flow through the Tugai Depression into Kazakhstan and Central Asia.

An important new principle was put forward in 1936 by A. Muller. His plan envisaged that Siberian water would pass through the Tugai watershed not on its own, but with the assistance of pumping stations.

In 1947-54, the Hydroenergyproject Institute, headed by M. Davidov, prepared an initial technical assessment of such a diversion project, which included minor research and observation works.

The cultivation of new lands in Central Asia, and the gradual shrinking of the Aral Sea level during the 1960s, rendered this issue very urgent. The “Hydrovodhoz” and “Soyuzvodproject” institutes, under the leadership of I. Gerardi, proved not only the technical but also the economic viability of diverting part of Siberian rivers into the Aral Sea basin.

**EIR:** On the work of such Russian scientists as Aleksandr Fedorovich Middendorf and Vladimir Vernadsky, what have they written on this project? What Uzbek or other Central Asian scientists have worked on this?

**Razzakov:** Alexander Fedorovich Middendorf (1815-94) was a prominent Russian traveler and geographer who became famous after his big expedition to Northern and Eastern Siberia (1843-44), which produced rich scientific material. In 1876, the elderly Middendorf headed large expeditionary works in Central Asia, organized on the behest of Turkestan General-Governor K. Kaufman. Middendorf’s expeditions devoted much attention to questions of cotton growing, irrigation, and so on. In 1880-81, he carried out research on the Ferghana Valley and wrote a book, titled *Ferghana Valley Notes*. In this book, he concluded that “Progress [in Central Asia] will inevitably stop, with [the] shortages of water and manure.” These conclusions of the scientist have in fact been proved over time, and one could easily argue that Middendorf had a positive view on diverting parts of Siberian river water into Central Asia.

In Central Asia, including in Uzbekistan, over the last few years the cotton harvest has been shrinking, partly because of the shortage of water resources and particularly the decrease of soil humus.

Here we need to especially note, that interest in Central Asia had grown after the Civil War in the U.S.A. (1861-65). It is known that the war caused a substantive decrease of cotton imports to Russia. One of the most famous scientists of that time, Alexander Ivanovich Voeikov (1842-1916), studied at length the issue of water resources, cotton production, and irrigation (he visited Turkestan in 1912). He wrote: “Given the level of riches such as fertile soil and mild climate in Turkestan, it is time to expand irrigation works in the region. More water, which is not being used, and flows to the Aral Sea to simply evaporate into thin air, should be used for irrigation purposes. The Aral Sea should in time shrink and serve only as a sink for extra water in years with high levels of precipitation, and during low precipitation years, the whole body of water of the Amu and Syr Darya and their tributaries should be used for artificial irrigation.”

The forecast of this academic has materialized, as the level of the Aral Sea has shrunk considerably.

**EIR:** There were well-developed plans in the Soviet Union, in the early 1980s. However, these were stopped for allegedly environmental reasons under Mikhail Gorbachov. Can you tell us more about why this important project was stopped? What was the political and economic impact in the Central Asian nations?

**Razzakov:** In the 1970s and 1980s, there already were thought-out projects for such water diversion. An All-Union Conference on this problem was held in 1978. The project of I. Gerardi was supported, and the following academics, among others, took the floor: G. Voropaev, director of the Water

Problems Institute; Academician A. Aganbegyan; and Academician S. Ziyadullaev.

It is worth noting that, along with the generally optimistic tone, somewhat pessimistic ideas were voiced in terms of the ecological consequences of the project. In order to make myself clear, it is necessary to describe what was envisaged under this project.

The “Tugai” option needed a 2,270-kilometer-long canal starting at Belogorye village on the Ob River and extending to the Amu Darya River in Karakalpakstan. The median depth

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*Shrinking of the Aral Sea began in 1960. . . . Only in the 1980s did the real alarm bells for the dying sea start to toll. Now this problem has become international; it cannot be resolved by Central Asian states only.*

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of the canal should be 12 meters; width 120-170 meters. In the first stage, 25 cubic kilometers of water should be diverted; in the second stage, 60 cubic kilometers (or about 5-10% of Ob River flow).

According to G. Voropaev’s assessment, the price tag of this canal was 13.8 billion rubles—i.e., each kilometer of the canal would cost 5.1 million rubles. The successful implementation of this project would result in development of 4.5 million hectares of new land, including 1.5 million in the Russian Federation, and 3 million in Central Asia.

However, during the years of *perestroika*, M. Gorbachev’s rule—particularly in the period just before U.S.S.R.’s demise—the diversion works were suspended and later abandoned, because of sharply decreased attention to this issue. I believe that the following reasons played a significant role for such a decision.

First and foremost, was the situation in the country at that time. In the late 1980s, the economic situation worsened and resulted in protracted stagnation and crises, and, usually, in this kind of situation, these kinds of projects attract little interest. Second, was the demise of the Soviet Union and emergence of independent states. Everything had to be divided and nobody wanted to share. The third reason is nationalistic ambitions, as well as the effects of the creation of new independent countries.

In that period, there was a sharp increase of “ecological” statements and views by Russian writers, which opposed this diversion project. I would like to underscore this fact: These

were *not* by scientists and academics.

According to the authors of the project, the diversion of a small part of Siberian river flow, should result in a positive outcome, such as the decrease of precipitation expenses and shrinking of horizons, and draining large marshes between the Ob and Irtysh.

Some academics (especially in the U.S.A.) were against this project because of fear that water intake might lead to decrease in the level of water in seaport harbors, which would hamper navigation.

However, during the last 50 years, the water in the world ocean has warmed up 0.06° Celsius, and ice at the poles of the Earth is melting. This would, consequently, lead to an increased sea level and devastating flooding. The area of large glaciers is gradually shrinking. Thus, contrary to what those Americans had said, the opposite might be the case.

**EIR:** Can you describe your own interest in, and work on this project?

**Razzakov:** I personally have a positive view of these kind of projects, because mankind, over thousands of years, has used artificial irrigation for redistribution and transportation of water resources, since land and water resources are distributed extremely unevenly. One can give lots of examples to support this claim.

But at the same time, I support a scientific complex approach to such problems; in other words, I am for a “balanced approach.” The main idea should be “do not harm,” since extreme and not-thought-out interference in natural processes may cause unpredictable consequences.

Population growth and human development in general (1.2 billion live in poverty now) will always create a demand for these kind of projects. For instance, after the Siberian river diversion project had been abandoned, a new idea was put forward, foreseeing the diversion of the Hind (Indus) River to Central Asia. (The author of the project was Academician N. Khamraev.)

The Aral Sea tragedy, a multi-year drought in the region, and substantial decreases of agricultural production, have forced scientists and experts to reinvigorate the old idea. The Mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov, in 2001 raised the question of rehabilitation of the Siberian project. He talked about the commercialization of water resources.

**EIR:** Can you outline your view of how this project should be built, and in what time-frame?

**Razzakov:** I, too, think that this project has a right to exist. But to make it happen, the following factors loom large: the political will of interested parties; securing capital resources; creation of a single economic area; and throwing aside nationalistic ambitions.

In terms of time limits on implementing this project, I would say all Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

countries are going through a transition period. Only after the transition is complete, I believe, would it be constructive to initiate a dialogue on this issue. For now, the thrust of attention and efforts should be directed at rational use of existing water resources.

**EIR:** There are ideas, that pipelines, rather than an open canal, could be used to transport the water. Do you think this would be an appropriate method?

**Razzakov:** Along with irrigation and other relevant measures, any re-routing plan should envisage also amelioration measures (drainage), because in open canals (envisaged in the project), up to 50% of the water goes underground unused. This results in more marshy lands and secondary salinization of the soil, which gravely affects soil fertility.

Given this circumstance and technical progress, including emergence of new materials in irrigation-related construction works, experts prefer using pipelines, which is, of course, expensive; but as some say, the goal justifies the means. This idea might be very hard to implement, but, at least, a combination of open and closed methods of water diversion, depending on the concrete existing conditions in parts of the route, looks very feasible. Indeed, anti-filtration measures should be widely used.

**EIR:** My institute, the Schiller Institute, is committed to promoting the policy of “dialogue among civilizations,” and that the claim of an inevitable “clash of civilizations” is wrong. Of greatest importance for this dialogue, is economic cooperation. Such great projects as diverting the Siberian rivers, could play a key role in Eurasia. It would benefit all Eurasia, including western China as well as Central Asia. It could also have a good impact in Russia, by promoting economic development of the nations of Central Asia. Can you tell me your views on this?

**Razzakov:** According to historical experience and economic theories, integration processes are a necessity and reality. The examples of the European Union and NAFTA are good examples of successful integration.

Regional integration initiatives in Central Asia include the establishment in 1993 of the Central Asian Economic Community (including all Central Asian countries except Turkilometersenistan, and which has been renamed and now is called Organization for Central Asian Cooperation), and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (consisting of China, Russia, and Central Asian nations except Turkilometersenistan). These regional groups should also concentrate on the issues of closer economic integration. There are other similar organizations. I think that, in fact, the proper mechanisms of cooperation and dialogue are taking shape.

However, now Central Asian and other former U.S.S.R. republics are preoccupied with political problems related mostly to fulfilling their ambitions (the main argument being whose model of economic development is better and who is

the true leader in the region). Border demarcation has not taken place, and there are arguments over natural resources, including water—a God-given bounty!

During drought years, the water issue has become so acute, that it threatened to easily turn into a full-fledged conflict. Kyrgyzstan, located on the upper stream of the Syr Darya, sometimes releases water at its own behest at very inappropriate times, and stores water (at its Toktogul reservoir) during the active growing period (the other way is adequate, i.e., store water in Winter and release in Summer). Different countries (Turkilometersenistan and Uzbekistan) pursue the policy of “closed doors.” For instance, import duties in Uzbekistan are very high (up to 70%).

These factors do not encourage the development of economic cooperation among the countries of the region.

Privatization of state property did not take place properly, and in many countries of the region, the state still holds the large share of industrial assets.

The stabilization of Afghanistan may result in its increased claims for water intake from the Amu Darya, as it may start building grandiose irrigation canals, which would further intensify the existing situation with regards to water resources in the region.

All these factors—political, social, economic, regional, and inter-regional—require their proper solution.

The project to divert Siberian rivers to Central Asia evolved at a time when the Aral Sea was not a problem. According to hydrologists (Prof. V. Shultz), shrinking of the Aral Sea began in 1960 (shrinking meaning that evaporation is greater than inflow). But at that time it was deemed a result of cyclical factors, and only in the 1980s did the real alarm bells for the dying sea start to toll. Now this problem has become international; it cannot be resolved by Central Asian states only. All efforts to resolve this problem should be consolidated with the assistance of such international organizations as the United Nations, the World Bank, IMF, UNDP, and so on. The diversion of the part of Siberian rivers would be very much to the point in terms of saving the Aral Sea basin—economic and ecological problems would be resolved.

I hold the view that for resolving this global problem, as peoples of Central Asia say, we need to have a worldwide *hashar*. *Hashar* is when friends, neighbors, and others come to help free of charge—to build houses, mosques, canals, schools, bridges, and to perform other public works.

The nations of Central Asia, located along the historic Great Silk Route, in the past played an important role in connecting East and West, Europe and Asia, economically, politically, and culturally. I think that now it is high time to rehabilitate “the dialogue among civilizations,” which would also boost economic cooperation. There are already a few such projects (such as TRASECA), but that is not enough. Cooperation should be more pro-active and based on equality and mutual benefit.

# Reckless Disregard for Truth

An obnoxious “question” to candidate Lyndon LaRouche from a National Public Radio reporter in Little Rock, Arkansas, gave LaRouche a golden opportunity to enlighten the public on how they are brainwashed by today’s media.

“If you do a Google search for the name LaRouche, . . . there are dozens of sites that label you a fascist, an anti-Semite, talk about your ‘cult,’ ” the reporter began. “Are you a fringe—aren’t you a nut?”

“No, only people who say that are nuts,” LaRouche responded. When the reporter then asked him to explain why “there’s so much hatred” out there, LaRouche gave a lengthy reply.

First, LaRouche reviewed the history of why the banking interests fear him. He said:

“I have been a successful long-range forecaster, the most successful in 35 or 40 years. And I forecast the kind of condition which broke out in August of 1971. At that point, my associates and I went after all these economists who had said this couldn’t happen, when I said it was likely *to happen*. And they’d written books and said that the ‘built-in stabilizers’ would prevent any crash from occurring. A crash had occurred.

“So, I challenged them, on the basis of the competence of what was being taught in universities as economics at that time. And I do, still today. What’s being taught, in my view, is incompetent. We are now *in* a big crisis. An unbelievably serious crisis.”

And after LaRouche effectively wiped the floor with the leading Keynesian economist Abba Lerner in 1971, exposing him as an apologist for Hitlerian policies, those interests typified by Felix Rohatyn, George Soros, and George Shultz determined then and there never to let LaRouche into a policy debate again.

Instead, they used libel—aided by the fact that, from 1984 on, U.S. law ceased to protect public figures from “maliciously motivated reckless disregard for the truth.” During that year a court decision was made, which was upheld by the Supreme Court, that permitted such libel.

Thus, one finds places such as the Internet full of libel. LaRouche put it this way:

“Now, the sites you’re referring to, all happen to be of the same species. They’re associated with a guy

called John Train, for example. This is a product of Tom Braden’s and other people’s ‘Cultural Freedom’ operation—Congress for Cultural Freedom, which was a brainwashing operation. This included people like Chip Berlet, who used to work for Tom Braden, as part of the National Student Association. These are spook operations. All of this stuff is nothing, but maliciously motivated, reckless disregard for truth. But many people repeat it.

“Anybody who wants to check it—my record is full. My website makes it very easy for people to get my full record, on about anything! Anyone who wanted to check the facts, would not repeat that garbage! The only people who would repeat it, is, because they were instructed by their editor to.

“As you know, the problem we have in the press in this country: It is *difficult* to be a honest reporter. Because the institutions don’t want it. . . . The only broadcast institutions that have any freedom, are to some degree, the small talk-show press, that kind of local radio, that kind of thing. But, the large-scale press has no freedom whatsoever. It’s controlled by big money; it doesn’t have independent status—look at the crisis of all our major media. Look at it, you’ve got a top man who is controlled by Wal-Mart, you know? This kind of thing.

“So, that’s our problem. And, you *don’t* have honest discussion. Look at these guys, look at the debates we had, the television debates: These guys said *nothing* of any importance on these debates! Nothing! They don’t *want* to say things of that importance. They want to lay back, create bite-size impressions; take positions, postures. They don’t discuss the issues. We have serious problems in this country, and they’re not being discussed.”

There are ways to get around the major media’s reckless disregard for truth these days, but they take work. You have to go to websites, and dig for the truth. You have to talk, and question, and study.

So, the next time you are tempted to complain, “Why isn’t LaRouche in the media?”, catch yourself. Until you show the proper disdain for the media’s brainwashing, this country will remain in trouble. To rebuild our citizenry, restore the regard for truth.

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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

## MINNESOTA

- ANOKA  
Comcast Ch.15  
Thu: 3 pm & 9 pm
- BURNSVILLE/EGAN  
ATT Ch.14,57,96  
Tuesdays—5:30 pm  
Saturdays—9 pm
- CAMBRIDGE  
US Cable Ch.10  
Wednesdays—2 pm
- 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

## MISSISSIPPI

- MARSHALL COUNTY  
Galaxy Ch. 2  
Mondays—7 pm
- MISSOURI  
• ST.LOUIS  
AT&T Ch.22  
Wednesdays—5 pm  
Thursdays—12 Noon

## NEBRASKA

- LINCOLN  
T/W Ch.80  
*Citizen Watchdog*  
Tuesdays—7 pm  
Wednesdays—10 pm

## NEVADA

- CARSON—Ch.10  
Wednesdays—7 pm  
Saturdays—3 pm
- RENO/SPARKS  
Charter Ch.16  
Wednesdays—9 pm

## NEW JERSEY

- MERCER COUNTY  
Comcast\*  
TRENTON Ch.81  
WINDSOR S Ch.27

## 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
- IRONDEQUOIT Ch.15  
Mondays—7:30 pm  
Thursdays—7 pm
- JEFFERSON/LEWIS  
Time Warner Ch.2  
Unscheduled pop-ins
- MANHATTAN—MNN  
T/W Ch.34; RCN Ch.109  
Alt. Sundays—9 am
- NIAGARA COUNTY  
Adelphia Ch.20  
Thursdays—10:35 pm
- ONEIDA—Ch.10  
Thu: 8 or 9 pm
- PENFIELD—Ch.15  
Penfield Comm. TV\*
- QUEENS QPTV Ch.34  
Fridays—5 pm  
Tuesdays—9 pm
- QUEENSBURY Ch.71  
Thursdays—7 pm
- RIVERHEAD Ch.70  
Thu—12 Midnight
- ROCHESTER—Ch.15  
Sundays—3 pm  
Mondays—10 pm
- ROCKLAND—Ch.71  
Mondays—6 pm
- STATEN ISL.  
Time Warner Cable  
Thu—11 pm (Ch.35)  
Sat—8 am (Ch.34)

## TOMPKINS COUNTY

- 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  
Comcast Ch. 23  
Wed:7 pm; Fri:10 pm  
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  
WTOB 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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Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

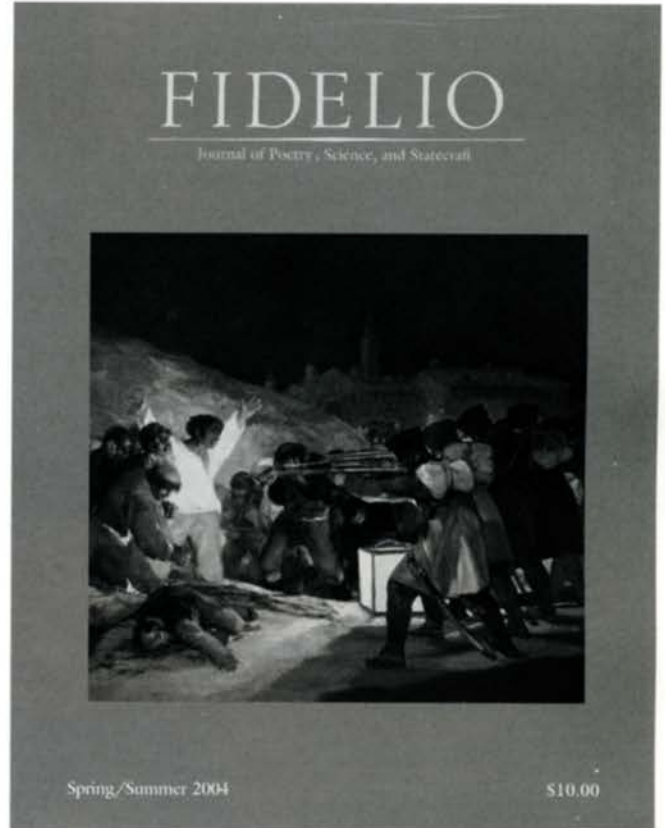
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