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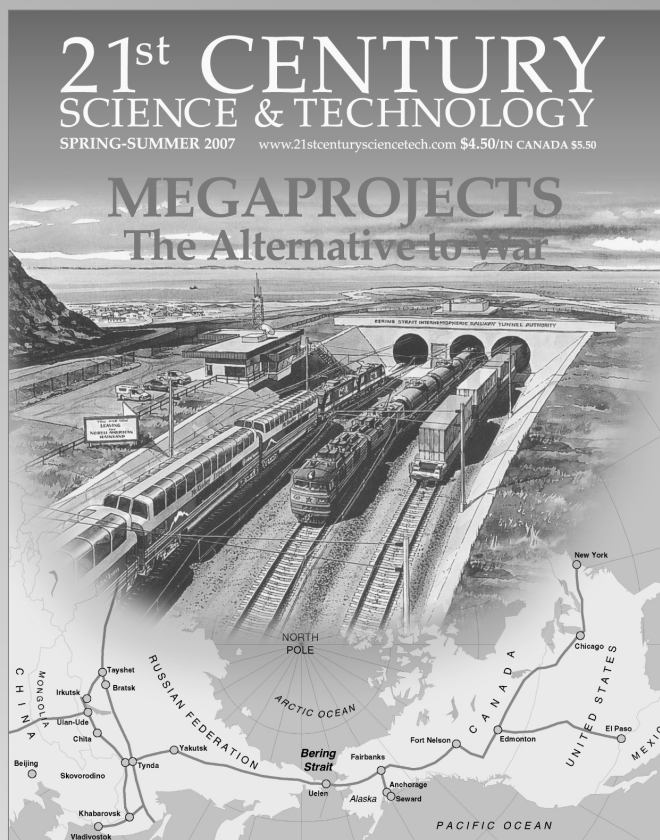
British Empire Role in Bhutto Assassination
Six Months After the Crash
Only Diseased Minds Believe in Entropy

**Lyndon LaRouche on
'Capitalism & Its Law'**



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EIR

From the Assistant Managing Editor

As eerily forecast by Lyndon LaRouche in this week's *Feature*, "Capitalism & Its Laws," the tumultuous year 2007 ended in tragedy and chaos, with the savage murder of Benazir Bhutto in Pakistan (see *International* for Ramtanu Maitra's evaluation, "The Planned Killing of Benazir Bhutto"). LaRouche observes that, "today, only the reawakening of the deeply embedded legacy of the American System of political-economy, as typified by the Presidency of Franklin Roosevelt, presents a credible strategic option for escaping a rather immediate plunge of our planet as a whole, escaping such horrors as becoming the virtual Hell of former Vice-President Al Gore's version of both a crumbling, globalized, tumbling Tower of Babble, and a matching flight into the veritable Cities of the Plain."

Thus, as the New Year opens, we also have the pathway lit before us, by which we can avoid the terrible fate of those Cities of the Plain, such as Sodom and Gomorrah, in those solution-proposals put forward by LaRouche: the Homeowners and Bank Protection Act (see *National* for the latest developments); and his "Four-Power" strategy to reverse the worldwide economic collapse, through development of the Eurasian Land-Bridge, and related economic-infrastructure programs (see *Economics* for John Hoefle's "The System Is Dead; Now What?")

Among the hopeful signs for 2008:

- Moves toward peace in Southwest Asia, as Syria plays an increasingly important role (*International*);
- Russia's leadership in promoting infrastructure development in Eurasia (*Economics*: Dr. Sergei Uyanayev's article on "Transportation Routes in Asia: Opportunities and Challenges for Russia");
- Breakthroughs in the use of medical isotopes for diagnostic and therapeutic applications (*Science & Technology*);

But, the greatest hope for the future, is in the growing leadership of the LaRouche Youth Movement, whose latest contribution can be found in *Is the Devil in Your Laptop?*, which continues the LYM's battle to save the minds of an entire generation.

Finally, be sure to tune in for LaRouche's first webcast of 2008, "Six Months Into the Crash," on Jan. 17, 1 p.m. Eastern time, at www.larouchehub.com.



Cover This Week

“Scene at the Signing of the Constitution of the United States,” by Howard Chandler Christy.



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By Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. Reflecting on a new book by Germany’s Prof. Wilhelm Hankel, *Die EURO Lüge und andere volkswirtschaftliche Märchen (The EURO lie and other economic fairytales)*, LaRouche analyzes the principled difference between the American System of political-economy, and the British money-oriented system. While he and Professor Hankel agree on many matters of political-economy, LaRouche notes, Hankel “takes John Maynard Keynes’ 1944 proposal to the Bretton Woods conference as his choice for the genesis of the post-1944 world monetary system; I, for my part, take a different standpoint, rooted in those notions of physical economy traced from Gottfried Leibniz’s concept of physical economy which informed President Franklin Roosevelt’s approach, rather than monetary economy.”

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DIE EURO LÜGE

Capitalism & Its Law

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

December 12, 2007

Germany's Professor Wilhelm Hankel is among a few of his nation's senior-ranking economists, and also other influentials, who led a rear-guard effort to prevent that disaster which was unleashed by Germany's consent to the replacement of its then sovereign currency, the Deutschemark. This attempted ruin of Germany was conducted by the instrument of a virtual post-modernist Tower of Babel, the strategic concoction known as the intrinsically very inflationary, presently collapsing Euro.¹

What the imposition of the Euro did, among its other leading, malicious effects for continental Europe, was to destroy the existing sovereign mechanisms by which Germany's national banking system, in particular, could defend itself against the rape which the introduction of the Euro has accomplished.

Partly as a consequence of the introduction of that Euro, a much, much greater crash than even notable opponents of the change to the Euro had justly feared back then, was delivered, on a global scale, beginning approximately the end of this past

1. The Euro as a single currency to replace the national currencies of the European Union member countries was decided with the signing of the Treaty of Maastricht in February 1992. The Euro plan was ratified a few years after, for example by Germany in Spring 1998. From January 2000 on, the Euro served as an interbank trading unit, and two years later became the daily currency of the European Union. Prof. Wilhelm Hankel and three other leading professors of economic theory and law (Nölling, Starbatty, and Schacht-schneider) filed a complaint against the Euro to the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany in January 1998, to prevent its ratification by the German parliament, but the Court turned the complaint down. The ratification was hurried through shortly thereafter. Because of the inflationary pressure the new currency has generated since, the majority of Europeans to this day have not accepted it, and in Germany, almost two thirds of the population would prefer to have the old currency, the German Mark, back. In that sense, Hankel and his co-plaintiffs have been vindicated in their resistance against the Euro.

July. As I stated in my international webcast at that time, on or about the date of my July 25th, international webcast, the world had already entered a definitive form of general breakdown-crisis of the existing world monetary system. Since that date, that breakdown has already triggered a presently escalating, terrible acceleration of inflation, which, combined with catastrophic erasures of nominal banking and related capital, in the order of more than \$1 trillions thus far, has unleashed a crisis of the type which should remind today's senior economists and other historians of the situation which existed during the late 1923 Weimar Germany.

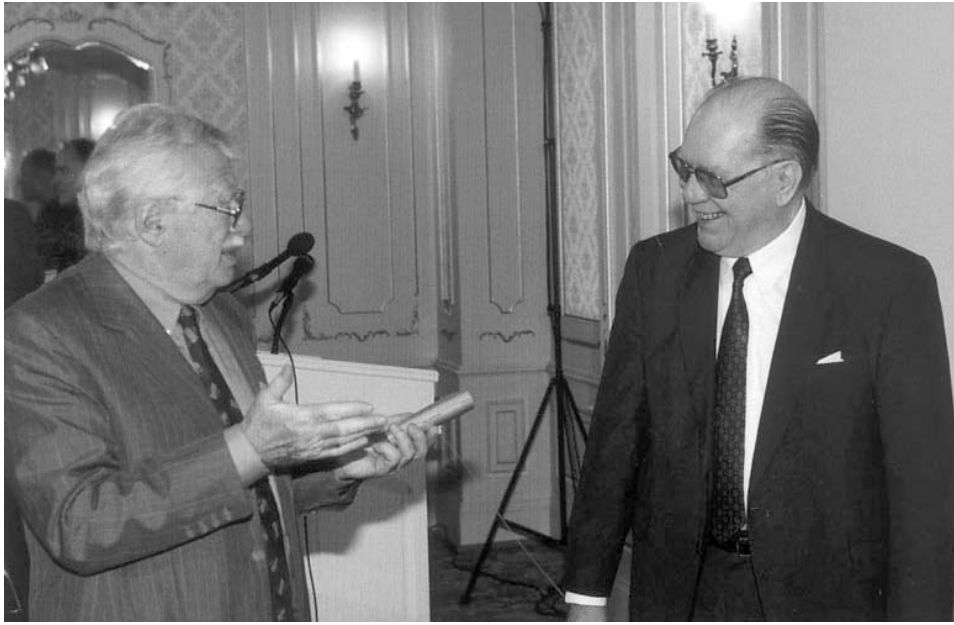
The present breakdown is no longer merely a threat; **the great crash of 2007, which is of orders of magnitude greater than the famous crash of October 1929, is, as I have just indicated, already an accomplished fact, as of approximately this past July 25th,**

2007. The trans-Atlantic economies have already been hit, first and hardest, that since the immediate aftermath of this past July 25th; but, awful effects on the East and South Asian economies are now also threatened to come with early, and increasingly brutal blows.

The crucial fact, which must be emphasized here, is, that the present crash is **not something which might happen**. The crash has now already occurred; it happened, as I have just emphasized, during the last week of July; that crash now grips



"The EURO Lie ... and other economic fairytales."



EIRNS

Professor Hankel and Lyndon LaRouche see eye-to-eye on many matters of political economy, especially about those sophistries employed to promote the policies which have led to our current existential crisis. The two are shown here at a conference in Berlin, Nov. 17, 2001.

the crashing world monetary-financial system. The ensuing, widening waves of breakdown of the world's present monetary-financial system, are to be recognized as the reverberating after-shocks of the great, global earthquake which has already happened.

*That now just collapsed monetary system, can not be saved; it must be replaced. Without an urgently needed change in the monetary system itself, the entire world system would now have entered a terminal phase of sheer disintegration, or, perhaps, something worse, something out of the pages of the avowed English fascist H.G. Wells' early 1930s **The Shape of Things to Come**.*

*Such are the reflections of some of the more notable among the sundry effects which the adoption of the Euro **did not** cause, but to whose eruption it has contributed significantly. Professor Hankel's new book has begun with a prefatory review of the kinds of political lies deployed in aid of bringing about a crucially significant, contributing factor in the presently ongoing general breakdown-crisis, the contributing role of the disastrous dumping of the Mark for the Euro.² He has concluded the book, appropriately, on a relevant positive theme, in the second of two, appended closing chapters, his epilogue, with a chapter titled "**Capitalism & Its Law**."*

Certain selected matters, if only a few among those either treated, or implied by the content of the Professor's book, receive my special attention here. I choose my subjects with two

2. Wilhelm Hankel, *Die EURO Lüge: eine volkswirtschaftliche Märchen* (Wien: Signum, 2007).

leading concerns in view: to save Europe, even from itself, and to take the occasion of Professor Hankel's relevant concerns, to pound some sense into a presently disastrous, onrushing general election campaign inside the U.S.A. My concern is, principally, certain, selected, deeper implications of the matter which Professor Hankel addresses. Otherwise, the book speaks well enough for itself to the German readers who still have the means to purchase a copy.

For the benefit of the historian and of the leading political figures of today's world generally, the issue which Professor Hankel's new book poses, from its preface to its close, is the issue of some of those presently, extremely relevant social-political

phenomena which have contributed to triggering not only the present crash of the Euro itself, but more. That issue which he poses, is, in point of historical fact: his identification of a pack of popularized lies which is to be recognized by Classical historians as the expression of a modern form of *Sophistry, a Sophistry*, whose effects, reaching far beyond the problem of the Euro itself, are now, already coming down upon today's modern, globally extended form of European civilization. The included result is a suffering which, unless prevented by drastic reforms, would soon be as bad, or perhaps soon worse, than that which felled the self-doomed Greece of the ancient Pericles.

To assist today's observer in grasping the import of that present, actually global crisis, we must draw upon the wisdom of Germany's greatest modern poet, dramatist, philosopher, and historian, Friedrich Schiller, who defined known European history as a single whole, as the unfolding of a great conflict, which must be traced as continuing across the intervening millennia since the conflict between the Delphic tradition of Lycurgus' Sparta and the spirit of the reforms led by Solon of Athens.

As Plato had emphasized, it was the influence of the Delphic cult of Sophistry on the Athens of Pericles and his followers, which not only induced the self-inflicted ruin of the Athens of that time, but, which is a Sophistry which, in the name of contemporary philosophical Liberalism, typifies, again, for us, today, the form of recurring, long-ranging corruption threatening the now globally extended reach of European civilization. Such is the relevant experience which is to

be recalled now from that time under Pericles, then, to its effect on world-wide European civilization, its cultures, and its catastrophes, today.

As Professor Hankel's prefatory chapter illustrates the point for our contemporary historians, we are experiencing what he describes there, as, in fact, the effects of a political Sophistry like that, including the folly of the Peloponnesian War, which ruined Pericles' Athens, as this heritage is typified by the character of the existentialists' style of the lies used to promote Germany's ruinous acquiescence to the Euro. Such is the way in which a modern form of the same ancient tradition of Sophistry, has fostered the willful self-destruction of today's economies of western and central Europe, and also the Americas, that over the course of these recent decades. That threat to trans-Atlantic civilization, unless halted now, is now actually a pandemic threat of general physical-economic collapse to civilization world-wide.

Although Professor Hankel and I are in obvious agreement in much of our respective views of these matters of political-economy, it is a quality of agreement ironically typical of most truthful accounts of the entire known history of crises of civilizations: that, the Professor and I share a certain relevant difference in our respective choices of standpoint used to shape the way we, respectively, but otherwise similarly, read the decades which span the temporary success of the original Bretton Woods, fixed-exchange-rate, monetary reforms, that over the interval between 1944-45 and the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy.

So, on this account, Professor Hankel, for his part, takes John Maynard Keynes' 1944 proposal to the Bretton Woods conference as his choice for the genesis of the post-1944 world monetary system; I, for my part, take a different standpoint, rooted in those notions of physical economy traced from Gottfried Leibniz's concept of physical economy which informed President Franklin Roosevelt's approach, rather than monetary economy.

These latter notions, which I represent, most notably, today, are associated historically with the North American luminaries among the followers of Gottfried Leibniz's conception of a science of physical economy (or, credit system), rather than a monetary system. My views in respect to this matter have been those shared with such creators of the American System of political-economy as Cotton Mather, Benjamin Franklin, Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton, Mathew Carey, and the latter's celebrated son, Henry C. Carey. The gem of beauty in all this, is the deliciously ironical fact, for Professor Hankel's Germany, that, in Chancellor Otto von Bismarck's time, as for now, that it was Henry Carey who played a direct role, during his late 1870s visit to Germany, in the context of Germany's adoption of those brilliantly successful social and economic reforms, by Bismarck, which drove the uncle of the Kaiser, Britain's Prince of Wales, into the fits of rage which gener-

ated what is called World War I.³

To summarize the most relevant of the differences between the two systems as simply as possible: *the U.S. Federal Constitution treats money as a creation and subject of the state; whereas, the European parliamentary systems of government usually treat the state itself relatively as Keynes does (and the European Union does in the extreme today), as the mere hod-carrier of money, even merely fictitious money.*

As a practical matter, despite such differences between Professor Hankel's view of the matter and my own, there is a certain large degree of what should be recognized as a remarkable coincidence. That coincidence, as Professor Hankel makes the point plainly enough, lies in our shared moral view on achieving the desired human outcome for society of the management of the respective economic systems.

In the meantime, the persistence of that indicated difference in method of financial systems itself, is rooted essentially in the contrast between the presently continuing design of the parliamentary traditions of the principal governments of Europe, on his side, and the presidential form of the constitutional American system, on mine.

Notably, under U.S. constitutional law, the very existence of central banking institutions independent of supervisory control by elected government, has been an anathema to our actually thinking varieties of U.S. patriots. Under our patriots' reading of actual U.S. constitutional law, the national currency is under the direction and control of the Federal Executive, but only with the consent of the Congress, especially that of the House of Representatives. The crucial difference between the two systems is, that *the U.S. constitutional system (when not violated) is a Federal credit system, rather than a European monetarist style in globalist forms of implicitly finance-imperialist, neo-Venetian monetary systems.*

There have been hybrids, European hybrids, most notably, which combine elements of parliamentary and U.S.-style Presidential systems. A most notable example of this, is the founding of Germany's Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau [Reconstruction Finance Agency], an institution with which Professor Hankel has been associated. That Kreditanstalt has been a wonderfully successful innovation in its time, an institution whose design reflected the model based on study, by Hermann Abs, et al., of experience of U.S. practice under

3. Contrary to much rumor, both inside the U.S.A. and abroad, Franklin Roosevelt was a fully witting, and, essentially, a concurring descendant of his ancestor Isaac Roosevelt, the latter a New York banker personally allied with Alexander Hamilton, and against the Aaron Burr who was directly an agent of the British Foreign Office's spy master Jeremy Bentham. With the assassination of U.S. President McKinley, and Presidencies of such devotees of the Confederacy tradition as Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, the American System tradition underlying the U.S. Federal Constitution's economic and monetary policies, was both undermined and suppressed, in favor of London's dictates, until the election of Franklin Roosevelt. Few among Europeans living today have acquired personal knowledge of these issues which were of primary importance during the great struggles of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth centuries, and are still today.

President Franklin Roosevelt. Explicit German receptivity for that hybrid, is rooted as far back in the history of the two republics, as the trans-Atlantic role of the Marquis de Lafayette's German-American protégé Friedrich List.⁴ However, for obvious reasons, where parliamentary systems prevail, rather than the U.S. constitutional model, Keynes' doctrinal influence tends to prevail in shaping opinion today, as it does for Professor Hankel's inside view of the Bretton Woods proceedings.

For the purposes implicit in the presently onrushing global monetary breakdown-crisis, proper attention to certain important matters presented in Professor Hankel's new book, should be focused on the way the two different systems, a U.S. style of constitutional credit system as contrasted with a monetary system rooted in a modern evolution of European parliamentary systems, once did, and still could cohabit efficiently within a single globally extended, political-economic domain among respectively sovereign nation-states.

It must be continually emphasized, again, that, at the present moment, the world is gripped by a global monetary-financial crisis with marked similarities, on a world scale, to the predicament which gripped a then relatively isolated Weimar Germany, during the latter half of 1923. It is therefore most notable, that there is no miraculously benevolent Dawes-Plan gold to supervise the looting of what had been the stalwart economic middle class of Germany of that time. Who shall pay the imposed war-debts, or their Maastricht equivalent, under the present conditions of a global monetary-financial breakdown-crisis, as now?

Under the particular conditions of the presently onrushing collapse of the world's monetary-financial systems, the crucially important issue associated with that distinction between a parliamentary and a true Presidential system akin to that of the U.S.A., is that the American System, provides an inher-



Lutz Kleinhans

Germany's Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Reconstruction Finance Agency) was designed by Herman Abs (pictured here) et al., to reflect the economic policies of the U.S. under President Franklin Roosevelt.

ently available remedy for the presently onrushing collapse of the present world monetary-financial relationships. Whereas, present systems of western and central Europe do not. It is a remedy like that of the international monetary reform launched for a post-war world under President Franklin Roosevelt; whereas, the European parliamentary model, such as the Keynesian model as such, does not.

That, for us today, as for Germany's Hermann Abs in his post-war time, there is a remedy in the tradition of President Franklin Roosevelt's use of the 1944-1945 world-primacy of the U.S. credit system's dollar, to establish the fixed-exchange-rate system needed for the combined purposes which include the rescue of a chiefly self-ruined "Old Europe." That lesson from history was also, and remains, still today, the key for promoting the rise of modern, truly sovereign nation-states, in places where the past European reign over colonies or semi-colonies had ruled

and ruined, as, once again, in the great crimes against the sovereignty of the nations of Africa today.

1. The Trans-Atlantic Legacy

To reach a competently systemic, global outlook on certain important matters of principles of economic policy which Professor Hankel references, it is essential to clear away some currently popular, simplistic opinion respecting the U.S.A. and its relations to Europe, a body of erring opinion which pollutes currently prevalent expressions of influential opinion on both sides of the Atlantic, and beyond.

There could be no competent insight into the essential features of the way in which the present crisis came into being, without first recognizing the fact, that the policy of the Truman Administration, toward both the U.S.A. itself and to the world at large, especially toward the colonial and semi-colonial regions, expressed an intention which was directly the opposite to the war-time policies, and post-war intentions of President Franklin Roosevelt, including the intention embedded in President Roosevelt's sponsoring the Bretton Woods agreements. Roosevelt explicitly disagreed with the finance-imperialist outlook of Britain's Keynes on the design for the post-war world—although, manifestly, President Harry Truman, admittedly, did agree with Churchill's

4. The U.S. institution which sponsored Friedrich List's entry into the U.S.A. was the same Society of the Cincinnati which, as a private association of U.S. Revolutionary War officers and their primary heirs, conducted the most significant foreign intelligence, and counter-intelligence functions of that period of U.S. history. With the deaths of other original founders of the Society, such as the Alexander Hamilton shot by British agent and American traitor Aaron Burr, the Marquis de Lafayette performed a crucial function for the Society during the mid-1820s and slightly beyond. The curious circumstances of the death of List, following a visit with the English, are notable in this respect.

view on these matters.

Roosevelt's conception of the post-war world, was the elimination of the British Empire, to the advantage of a world system of national sovereignties, including the sovereign physical development of former colonies and semi-colonies; Truman's conception was, on the contrary, crafted to support the British Empire, a U.S. subordination, under Truman, to a commonality of interests of the U.S.A.'s financier oligarchy with that of the British Empire, in respect to the British system's organic character as an empire of the neo-Venetian style of imperial Anglo-Dutch financier Liberalism.

In short, President Truman's role as an opponent of President Franklin Roosevelt and Roosevelt's legacy, was to entrench a post-World War II dogma which became known as "Atlanticism." That role of Atlanticism has been, repeatedly, the Anglo-American curse which continental Europe has suffered since that time. On this account, it is essential to recall, and study the innovative approach by U.S. President Eisenhower to France's President de Gaulle, and a similar, exploratory thrust by Eisenhower and Kennedy toward both de Gaulle's France and the Adenauer factor in Germany; these outreaches were among virtually the last gasps of an effort from certain leading circles of the Americas and Europe, as typified by Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy, to bring the noxious habit of "Atlanticism" to a close.

That must be recognized as the meaning of the repeated attempted assassinations of President Charles de Gaulle, the orchestrated "Profumo" scandal which brought down Britain's Macmillan government, the hastened retirement of Germany's Konrad Adenauer (as if by a knife thrust Liberally in his political back), Bertrand Russell's rotten role in the great missiles-crisis of 1962, and the assassination of President Kennedy in November 1963.

To understand the global turning-point of the interval from Sputnik through the onset of the U.S. war in Indo-China, we must recognize the fact, that Truman's "Atlanticist" policy echoed the world view of the same, allied New York and London financier interests which had, even biologically, fully backed the earlier rise to power of both the Mussolini and Hitler dictatorships.

Under prodding by President Franklin Roosevelt, London finance had temporarily changed course, to come away from its original support for Mussolini and Hitler, and to oppose those dictators; but, once Hitler and Mussolini were gone, and President Franklin Roosevelt "safely out of the way," the quarrelsome ties to London of American-Tory-infested Manhattan financier circles, resumed their formerly pro-fascist ties to and rivalries with the Fabian and relevant other playmates in the City of London. The continuation of "Atlanticism" was a product of this latter turn against the Franklin Roosevelt legacy.

Thus, nonetheless, the Bretton Woods system of the 1945-1970 aftermath of the death of President Franklin Roosevelt, had retained many important features of the original Bretton

Woods design; but, with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, that remaining element of the Roosevelt legacy was also virtually doomed. The long, wasting war in Indo-China, the rise of the wrecking-role of the crazed and violence-prone "68ers," and the drive toward fascism expressed by the forces controlling the U.S. Richard Nixon Administration and the Trilateral Commission, have both wrecked both the U.S. and continental European economy from within, and put both on a course toward global Hell: unless action is taken now to reverse that post-1963 trend.

So, today, only the reawakening of the deeply embedded legacy of the American System of political-economy, as typified by the Presidency of Franklin Roosevelt, presents a credible strategic option for escaping a rather immediate plunge of our planet as a whole, escaping such horrors as becoming the virtual Hell of former Vice-President Al Gore's version of both a crumbling, globalized, tumbling Tower of Babel, and a matching flight into the veritable Cities of the Plain.

So, to summarize this important point of qualification: although essential elements of the U.S.A. role in relations with western Europe, and many other places, continued, for a while, partially in the general direction which President Franklin Roosevelt had intended, until the aftermath of the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy.

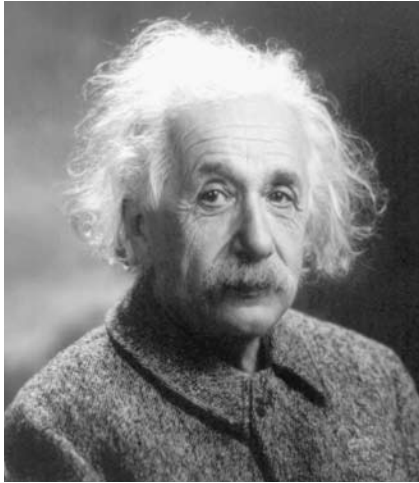
Therefore, on background: Roosevelt's successor, President Harry S Truman, had introduced what was to prove, over time, as a great, and potentially fatal flaw in U.S. policy-making: the corrupting influence of Truman's wicked Churchill fantasy. Under the influence of chiefly the financier interests of the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, the post-Franklin Roosevelt U.S.A. became, more and more, a promoter of the resuscitation of the inherently corrupt intentions of the political and economic power of the leading European imperialist powers of the pre-war period.

Under the Truman legacy, the newly "independent" African states emerging over the course of post-war decades, for example, were permitted to (*almost!*) have their own governments, but not the freedom of those governments to rule—not to the present day! The monetary system, run as a joint enterprise centered in lower Manhattan and London, retained its imperial control by aid of the alternatives of corruption and brute force, including means adopted from the traditions of imperial Rome, such as assassinations, from about the moment of Truman's inauguration, through the present day.

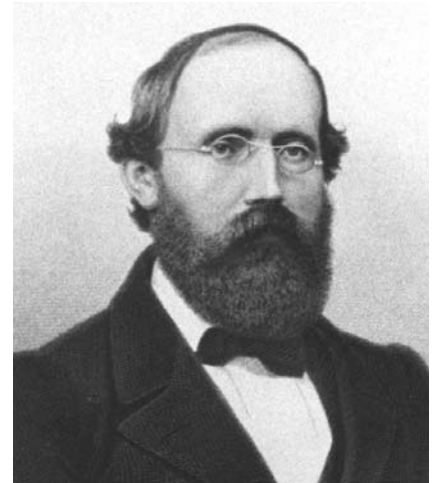
Since the Kennedy Assassination

The shock-effects produced, and probably also intended, by the assassination of President Kennedy, drove the U.S. political process into a madness reminiscent of what had been the worst impulses of the Harry S Truman Administration.⁵

5. The absolutely unwarranted nuclear bombing of two cities of an already defeated Japan, was the first major signal of Truman's intention to be rid of General MacArthur, and of Truman's obscene attachment to Winston



Library of Congress



Albert Einstein (left) acknowledged his debt to such among his own outstanding predecessors as Johannes Kepler (center), whom he esteemed to be the originator of the principled organization of modern European science, and to Kepler follower Bernhard Riemann.

The U.S. Senate vote for the fraudulent Gulf of Tonkin resolution—contrary to the policy of President Kennedy, and contrary to the counsel of no lesser rank than that of the leading veterans of World War II, Generals of the Armies Dwight Eisenhower and Douglas MacArthur—has sent the U.S., since, toward ruin, repeatedly, as if habitually, over the sweep of the 1964-2007 interval to date, that in ways reminiscent of the self-inflicted doom of Pericles' Athens in the Peloponnesian War.

It must not be forgotten, that apart from the evils which have taken over leading U.S. policy since the assassination of President Kennedy, that the U.S. had previously undergone long waves of corruption under, mainly, among those of its earlier Presidents who were not assassinated or similarly removed from office, or election to that office, as during the bleak interval from the election of the always treacherous scoundrel Andrew Jackson, until President Abraham Lincoln, and, similarly, from the assassination of President William McKinley until the inauguration of President Franklin Roosevelt. Great U.S. Presidents have been the exceptions to our menaced republic's otherwise apparently habitual practice of top-down rule by folly, as has been the similar pattern also among the crowned and other heads and also virtually headless alike, of Russian and other European states.

This pattern has not been accidental. Only those who have become sufficiently matured in their thinking, to the point of conceiving of the dynamically functional unity of full sweep of the millennial history of European civilization since Thales, Solon of Athens, the Pythagoreans, and Plato, as in the terms specified by Friedrich Schiller, are truly qualified to understand the crisis which menaces the continued existence of European civilization, from within, as a whole today.

Churchill and to the "world government through preventive nuclear war" doctrine of Britain's Bertrand Russell.

Men and women are not members of the animal species (the *Biosphere*); they are members of a higher order of existence, the *Noösphere*, that in the sense that the first Chapter of *Genesis* specifies. They are in the likeness of the Creator, as no animal could be, and are endowed with both creative-mental powers, and related missions in the universe, missions which no lower form of life could express.

Such men and women express the principle of the *Noösphere*, as this distinction, rigorously defined by Nicholas of Cusa in his *De Docta Ignorantia*, defined Cusa's launching of what became the modern European experimental science of such explicit followers of Cusa as Luca Pacioli, Leonardo da Vinci, the exploring sea-captain Christopher Columbus, and, as Albert Einstein was to emphasize later, the unique founder of modern universal physical science, Johannes Kepler. Creativity, as typified by the method of such successors of Cusa as Kepler, Fermat, Leibniz, Gauss, and Bernhard Riemann, and Einstein himself, defines the human individual as a potential representative of an immortal species, whose members' active role in the history of all mankind does not end with their death as mortal beings.

The only true histories are those of the struggles for the progress generated only by the creative powers of the individual representative of mankind, and of the universe as a whole. History is therefore *dynamic*, that, as Leibniz insisted, in the sense of the ancient Pythagoreans' and Plato's use of *dynamis*, and Leibniz's anti-Cartesian conception of *dynamics*. Thus, on this account, the history of European civilization, as known to us since Thales, Heracleitus, the Pythagoreans, and Plato, is a dynamic unity in that sense. We are, thus, interactive, within the terms of those dynamics, reflections of an indicated thousands of years span of the ebbs and flows of European civilization as a whole, as Friedrich Schiller made this concept of history explicit in such locations as his celebrated Jena lectures.

That essential element of chronic disposition for failure in modern European civilization thus far, is therefore expressed as the effects of those oligarchical forms of social and economic policies which insist on the populist forms of the suppression of that quality of man and women specified in the first Chapter of Genesis, a suppression undertaken by means of an imposed dumbing-down, as in the post-war Germany suppression of the revived Humboldt reforms of education, imposed upon the great majority of their own nations' populations.

Although this modern practice has rarely gone to the extremes of a cult of the Olympian Zeus, the fact of such a tendency toward evil persists throughout modern European civilization, except where evil has achieved almost absolute control, as in the Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, and British finance-capital's promotion of the international slave and opium trade.

Modernist trends in influential periodical literature, and related post-1945 trends such as those of Europe's Congress for Cultural Freedom (CCF), have promoted cultural trends aimed to effect the dumbing down of the intellects and morals of larger, and still larger rations of contemporary generations.

Instances such as what I have just referenced as the destruction of the Classical humanist education programs in post-1945 Germany by anti-rational cults such as the existentialists of the Heidegger, Adorno, Arendt, Brecht type, and the related promotion of intellectual and moral degeneracy by the already referenced Congress for Cultural Freedom (CCF) and the pollutions of morals and minds in Theodor Adorno and Hannah Arendt's *The Authoritarian Personality*, typify that systemic dumbing-down of popularized cultures, and, by implications, a corrosive dumbing-down of the U.S. and European populations at large, which has eroded the political competence, even the bare rationality of most of those populations.

The result of such brutishly corrupting policies of practice, has been the recurring pattern of moral and intellectual degradation of the majority of the political class of our populations. It is chiefly by that degradation, that nations have been controlled.

Until we develop the great majority of our citizenries to become the composition of our reigning moral and intellectual elite, as Germany's post-Hitler revival of the Humboldt program attempted to do this until the existentialist cult of the CCF et al. took over, the progress, now, even the existence of civilization itself continues to be an uncertain proposition.

The American System

From our founding as a constitutional republic which was opposed, constitutionally, to the oligarchical legacies still deeply rooted in Europe, there has been a factor of trans-Atlantic coincidence between the history of Europe and North America. That coincidence had persisted since Christopher

Columbus' reading from the testament of Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa, had inspired Columbus to the effect of prompting him to cross the Atlantic as soon as he had the means to do so, about two decades later. This, the consequent legacy of what had been specified by Cusa, began to be built up in places such as the Seventeenth-Century New England of the Winthrops and Mathers.

The leading immigrants into what was to become the territory of the U.S.A., were not desperate refugees, but men and women of sturdy character and dedication, seeking to bring the best of the cultural heritage of Europe to a place, at a much needed, relative distance from oligarchy-ridden Europe, to a place in the Americas where the best of European culture might flourish, as did many who fled the evil of Spain of the Inquisition with similar intentions. This specifically American expression of the European heritage, rooted in the injunction by Cusa, not the spillovers of brutish, hate-filled religious cults from Europe, became the essentially positive distinction of the American character.

Unfortunately, a significant quotient of usurious interest and of Europe's export of religious fanatics, followed the founders of the new nations westward across the Atlantic, throughout the Americas. The products of this flood of the old corruption pouring out of Europe, included, most notably, the fostering of such assets of Jeremy Bentham's and Lord Palmerston's British Foreign Office as the family of the American traitor Aaron Burr, as also U.S. Presidents Andrew Jackson of "Trail of Tears" notoriety, as also Martin van Buren, Polk, Pierce, Buchanan, and such heirs of Lord Palmerston's Confederacy project as Theodore Roosevelt and Ku Klux Klan fanatic Woodrow Wilson.

The problem has not been limited to certain currents of immigration into the Americas. In all nations, it has been, usually, only in times of existential crisis, that truly great men and women of exceptional moral distinction rise to the relatively highest positions of leadership of nations. Such has also been the case with the U.S.A.'s great Presidents (and those among us who should have become Presidents), such as Washington himself, Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Lincoln, and Franklin Roosevelt. John F. Kennedy might have joined such a list, which is probably why he was assassinated and the truth of the assassination officially suppressed by John J. McCloy, et al.

Those among us who have risen to the rank of true statesmen, come, sooner or later, to understand this point. "The best man" rarely wins the post for which he, or she were best qualified for service to the nation's true interest. More often, when the potential of a suitable political or other leader is detected, that prospective candidate has been "snuffed in the political cradle." Nonetheless, win or lose, he, or she should do as I have done, to keep the torch of freedom alive. It were important to have good men in our Presidential residence; whether or not we have leaders who perform as persons who should have been in that office, is an even more significant, existen-

tial issue, as at this very moment of both U.S. national and world crisis.

Thus, the common punishment which a corrupted electorate brings upon itself, as during the U.S. experience of 2000-2007 to date, is that a corrupted majority of the participating electorate inflicts itself with the opportunity to enjoy, shall we say, what it has brought down upon itself by its own choice, as in the U.S.A. over that 2000-2007 interval to date.⁶

This includes not only a U.S.A. afflicted with its current administration, but also the case of a Germany whose middle class had just been wrecked by the hyperinflation of mid-1923; this signaled the effects of that ruin in the emergence of the prospects for a future Hitler dictatorship. Even allowing for margins of fraud in general elections, the mere fact of the election, and then the re-election of an obviously mentally disturbed U.S. President, and a brutish, London-linked morals case as his Vice-President, speaks of something rotten in both the general population and the political class generally, something which already became visible on both sides of the Atlantic in the riotous ferment of 1968.⁷

Yet, at the same time, it takes a time of crisis of a certain quality, to awaken a people and their institutions to take the risk of committing themselves to a great enterprise launched on behalf of what must become the immortal heritage of the best traditions to be found among them. Such, hopefully, might become the situation in the U.S.A. entering the year 2008 general election campaigns.

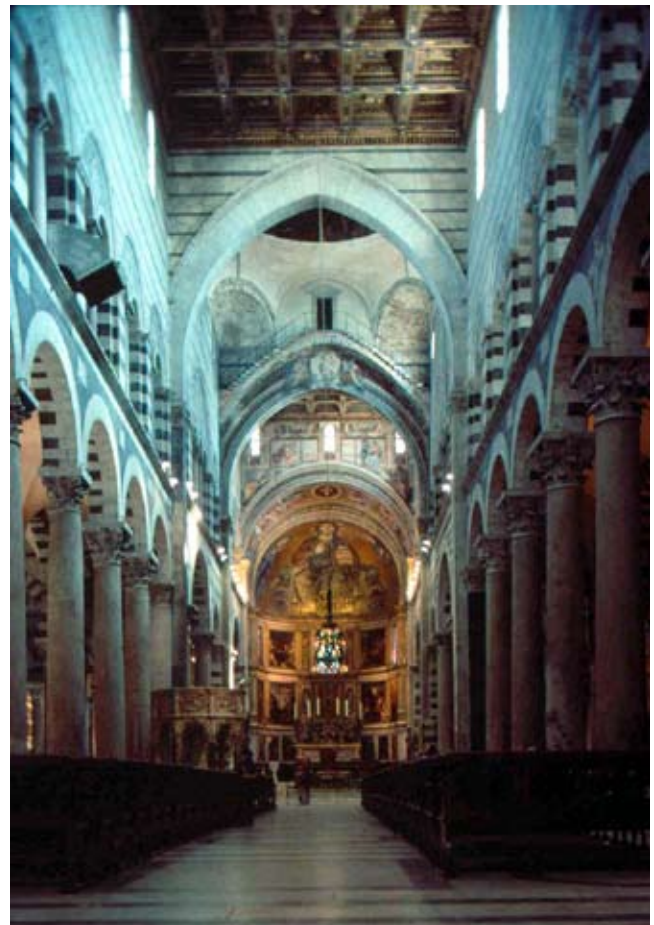
2. Westphalia & the U.S. Advantage

It is that kind of systemic distinction rooted within the U.S. constitutional system expressed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, which as Russia's President Putin appears to have understood in his persistently continuing search for U.S. cooperation, defines the indispensable role to be contributed by a U.S.A. which must now return to its Franklin Roosevelt legacy, for the sake of the world at large today.

We must now recall, that the birth of the modern European

6. The most pathetic sophistry which a candidate might adopt, is that "I must win this election if I am to do some good." What is not needed, as the pathetic state of present Presidential pre-candidacies attest, is a panel of rivals so concerned with winning, that they fail to rally the electorate for the policies on which the nation's continued existence may depend!

7. The crushing of the moderating force of Germany's productively oriented "middle class" (*Mittelstand*) under the Versailles occupation of the early 1920s, was the pre-cultivated condition for allowing the rise of a mass-based fascist movement of the ruined and enraged to power. Now, the combination of the Nixon Administration's wrecking of the Bretton Woods system, and the far worse effects of the reign of the Trilateral Commission, have brought the U.S. itself to the state in which a maddened literal "dictator," called, euphemistically a "decider," reigns over the growing fascist potential typified by the followers of former Vice-President Al Gore, like that of the Nazi party's base, rallied then around figures such as Hermann Göring, in the neo-malthusians of the 1920s, inside the U.S.A., as already in Europe, today.



"The birth of the modern European nation-state republic, was a novel achievement, a product of a great movement whose concentrated expression was the A.D. 1439 great ecumenical Council of Florence." The council was held under Brunelleschi's nearly completed great cupola of the Florence Cathedral, whose interior is shown here.

nation-state republic, was a novel achievement, a product of a great movement whose concentrated expression was the A.D. 1439 great ecumenical Council of Florence. However, we must also recall, that, immediately, even then, there was the massive attempt to destroy that great work, through such means as the Venice-centered financier oligarchy's attempt to destroy the work of the ecumenical Council, through the financier oligarchy's orchestration of the fall of Constantinople. Nonetheless, on the positive side, through the establishment of the first modern nation-states, in Louis XI's France and Henry VII's England, the Venice-led degeneracy in modern European culture was contested, and, in significant part, reversed.

From the fall of Constantinople on, the Renaissance was menaced in two interrelated ways: first, by a medieval, feudalist tradition, associated with the launching of religious warfare against the emerging nation-state forms, and, later, by a

second faction, led by Paolo Sarpi, Sarpi's New Venetian Party. This New Venetian Party of Sarpi, et al. became the founder of modern forms of European irrationalism, forms rooted in the adopted model of the medieval irrationalist William of Ockham, forms which evolved, over the course of Europe's Seventeenth Century, into what is recognized today as Anglo-Dutch philosophical Liberalism.

The first wave of general religious warfare in modern, post-Renaissance Europe, was that associated with the rise of that ominous forerunner of Adolf Hitler, the Spanish Inquisitor Torquemada, with the latter's 1492 expulsion of the Jews from Spain. The second wave was reflected in the emergence to relative supremacy of the rival, new Venetian faction, that of Paolo Sarpi; this latter wave defined the subjects addressed with such brilliant strategic insight by Friedrich Schiller, the Netherlands wars and the subsequent, 1618-1648, Thirty Years War.

With the accession of William of Orange as the brutish tyrant-in-fact of England, the center of political and financial power of Sarpi's New Venetian faction was now expressed in an evolved form, as the rise of the imperial role and power of England: hence, the rise of Anglo-Dutch Liberalism's financier interest to become an imperial power.

This Anglo-Dutch Liberalism established itself as a *de facto* imperialist power through its management of the so-called Seven Years War on the continent of Europe. The Anglo-Dutch Liberals' playing the principal powers of continental Europe against one another, over seven years, resulted in the British East India Company's imperial triumph, in the 1763 Peace of Paris.

The Company's ruffian Lord Shelburne hewed the effects of that Peace of Paris into an empire-in-fact, and did much of this through the instruments, such as the Jeremy Bentham who virtually begat Lord Palmerston, to create the establishment and great power of the new institution known, from 1782 onward as the British Foreign Office, which then, in turn, pre-organized and directed what became, on July 14, 1789, the French Revolution steered initially by British agents, and enemies of Benjamin Franklin and Lafayette, Philippe Egalité and Jacques Necker.⁸

Those European forces effectively opposing these successive expressions of New-Venetian and British imperialism, established the roots of what became known, during the late Eighteenth Century, as *The American System of political-economy*.

8. The announced purpose for which British asset Orleans ("Philippe Egalité") organized and armed the mob for the July 14, 1789 siege of the Bastille, was the appointment of British asset Jacques Necker, the father of the notorious Madame de Staël as Prime Minister of France. Necker was associated, through his wife, with the Edward Gibbon who was the author of the not exactly accurate, but influential myth-making known as *The Decline & Fall of the Roman Empire*. It was an important influence in shaping Shelburne's policies for the transformation of Britain into a world empire comparable to the Imperial Rome of the Caesars.

This *American System*, which is at the core of the U.S. Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution, expresses a central conception which is a reflection of the influence of the leading scientific mind of the late Sixteenth and early Seventeenth centuries, Kepler and Fermat follower, and, later, sometime (1672-1676) protege of Jean-Baptiste Colbert, Gottfried Leibniz. When the influence of Leibniz is taken into account in the shaping of those U.S. conceptions of constitutional law on which the U.S. republic was founded, we are suddenly enabled to view the trans-Atlantic development in the light needed to comprehend the profoundly existential issue confronting European civilization's hopes for continued existence today.

All modern European civilization worthy of that title, is rooted chiefly in two great religious reforms of that civilization's political and scientific foundations: 1.) The A.D. 1439 great ecumenical Council of Florence, and 2.) The A.D. 1648 Peace of Westphalia. The first of these two revolutions in the conception of the modern nation-state, is to be centered, for purposes of reference, in three most crucial designs presented by Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa's *Concordancia Catholica*, the modern sovereign nation-state, the founding of modern physical science, launched with his *De Docta Ignorantia*, and the ecumenical design which was to become the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia, Cusa's *De Pace Fidei*.

The actually first modern European nation-states were launched, during the later Fifteenth Century, under France's Louis XI, and England's Henry VII. Taking the important role of Cusa's follower Leonardo da Vinci into account, the founder of all competent modern European science was the Johannes Kepler who came to be esteemed by Albert Einstein as the originator of the principled organization of all that competent modern European science, as expressed by Einstein's acknowledged debt to such among his own outstanding predecessors as Kepler and Bernhard Riemann.

Leibniz's historical role in both science and statecraft is that, explicitly, of a follower of Kepler in physical science, and of the principles of modern ecumenicism specified by Cusa⁹ and the Jean-Baptiste Colbert, the latter of whom was the protege of that Cardinal Mazarin whose role in the 1648 Peace of Westphalia has been crucial for all civilized expressions in European statecraft and civilization since that time.

Westphalia As Such

The most essential feature of the 1648 Peace of Westphalia, is seldom acknowledged today, even in the highest-ranking circles of historians generally, or in the actual, current practice of statecraft. The crucial principle of that treaty, without which the peace would have been impossible, was the powerful, but little understood statement of all-subsuming principle, a single phrase which is, in English: "... the advantage of the other." This was directly an expression of the argu-

9. *De Pace Fidei*.

ment of Cusa's *De Pace Fidei*.

This Westphalian principle, which takes the theme of Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa's *De Pace Fidei* as its precedent, can not be properly understood without reference to the common meaning of the Classical principle of *agapē*, as that meaning of that Classical Greek term is located with one and the same intention in the use of that term by Plato, and, later, by such outstanding Jewish intellectuals, and intellectual associates of Philo, as the Christian Apostles John and Paul. In that view of the matter, the insertion of *agapē* as the premise of the entire 1648 Treaty, does not imply any degree of denial of the right of national sovereignty, but, quite the contrary. It adopts recognition of that higher, universal principle which unites, and binds all national sovereigns under the protection of a higher principle. That higher principle is the common quality of all humanity, the specifically *noëtic* quality of human mental life and of all valid physical science, the immortal agency of what Russia's great Academician Vernadsky identified as the *Noösphere*, called the human soul, which places the common interest of all mankind above the status of the beasts.

Each people travels by a different pathway of its own specific language-culture, to a common destiny of all mankind, such that that higher form of common destiny is the fundamental interest of each part of all mankind. Yet, if the people who should compose a nation of their own, were deprived of a specific sovereignty of their own, they would be stupefied as the Biblical image of a Tower of Babel emphasizes, and as present-day pursuit of "Globalization" intentionally "dumbs down" to a state of bestiality, and thus ruins civilization at large today.

Failure to grasp that set of distinctions which I have just uttered here, would, as much experience of modern diplomacy of late has shown us, degrade mankind as a whole to the moral level of territorial peace-seeking negotiations among perpetually quarreling troops of baboons.

The essential issue so posed concerns the essential, axiomatic distinction of man from an hypothetical talking beast. The essential, functional form of principled distinction of man from beast, lies in the creative potential powers of each sovereign human individual mind, as the uniqueness of the discovery of universal gravitation by Johannes Kepler, or the earlier doubling of the cube by construction by the Pythagorean friend of Plato, Archytas, illustrate the distinction of creative mentation from mere learning.

It is the way the sharing of the experience of such qualities of discovery occurs, through the medium of a specific quality of development of higher qualities of a language-culture's potentials, that a people is enabled to progress from generation to generation, as no species of beast could do this by its own will. It is that aspect of specific language-cultures, which is of decisive importance in the functional considerations underlying the development and exercise of national sovereignty.

It is essential, that this progress within national cultures be efficiently interactive among them. Not only must such ben-

efits of knowledge be made available to the benefit of others, but the progress of mankind as a whole depends upon promoting the raising of the level of competence of *the other* through promoting the sharing of these achievements in culture with one another, to the intended advantage of the other.

Humanity's nations are, as has often been said, all in one boat, and it is the primary sovereign interest of each, that that boat, of humanity as a whole, not sink. We must jointly bail, lest we all sink.

Let sundry horrifying, or merely disgusting performances of most of today's practice of foreign policy among nations warn us, that there is no morally excusable place for the carrying of the habits of competitive, bodily-contact or related games of sports, into diplomatic relations among actually civilized nations. British agent Alexander Helphand's (and Samuel P. Huntington's, and Fabian asset Mrs. Lynne Cheney's husband's practice of) "permanent warfare, permanent revolution," is "permanent whore-fare," with diseases to match.

The present world economy's breakdown-crisis, presents the implied challenge of these, my foregoing observations, to us now, with great force.

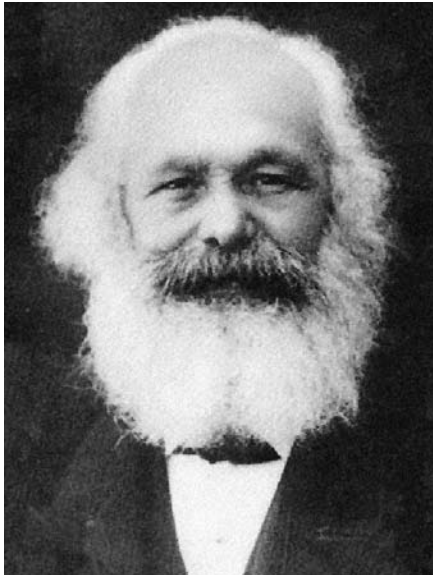
3. The Continuing Tragedy Of Karl Marx

It can, and it is important that it be said here and now, that Karl Marx was essentially a tragic figure of the kind who did not like God very much, and therefore preferred to believe in the existence of a silly universe, rather than the real one. Such is not peculiar to the unfortunate Marx; it is the essence of all true tragedy.

After all, if you decide to reject God, who will take over the office you have declared vacant—self-proclaimed dictator (i.e. "decider") George W. Bush, Jr., perhaps? Or, in Marx's own case, the chosen substitute for God was his true employer, of whose control over him Marx himself was curiously, hysterically unwitting: the ghastly British Foreign Office's Lord Palmerston. Ah! One must ask: but who, or what (In Hell, perhaps?) controlled Palmerston!?

Like all Classical tragedy, as distinct from the silly opinions of the Romantic school and its progeny, whether we refer to the ancient Greek stage, or that of Shakespeare, or Schiller, there are no truly individual tragedies, but, as my wife, Helga, an expert in this matter, would show you, Schiller demonstrates the true secrets of modern history in his *Wallenstein* trilogy; but, rather, societies which imagine that the apparent universe is represented by the cultural cage in which they believe, as if blindly, do as did the actual Karl Marx.

So, the tragic society and its member lives, as presented on stage in such subjects as Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, or *Julius Caesar*. Each dwells in a dream-world of his adopted culture, while knowing nothing of the real world within



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In his Bonn, Berlin student years, and later, in a universe called “Young Europe,” Marx’s (left) inner mental life was molded under the life-long direction of the British Foreign Office’s Lord Palmerston.

Karl Marx As Such

Thus, the documented tragic aspect of Karl Marx’s role as an economist, was that he was caught up chiefly in the dream-world of Urquhart’s British Library. There, in fact, he was a captive of a fantasy world which had been created for dupes like himself, an illusion which had been created prior to Marx’s arrival there, by Lord Shelburne’s Foreign Office tool, and Palmerston’s personal ungodfather, Jeremy Bentham. In his Bonn, Berlin student years, and later, in a universe called “Young Europe,” Marx’s inner mental life was molded under the life-long direction, in fact, of the British Foreign Office of Bentham’s successor, Lord Palmerston.

That was the core of Marx’s tragedy. The tragedy of Marx was not, essentially, what he did, but what lay within what he believed the foundations of his belief to be. This fact is typified by considering the fact of his adopted substitute for a “religion,” so to speak, in figures such as those of the Haileybury School, and the pair of virtually mated scoundrels, Metternich correspondent and anti-science fanatic G.W.F. Hegel and Carl Schmitt forerunner Savigny.

Many justifiable actions were taken by nominally, and avowed “Marxist” associations; these were not tragic in themselves; they were sometimes both necessary and even morally beautiful, as one who is not silly must act with the appropriate means available, as I can attest with force from my own experience of the span of more than sixty-five years of adult life.

Marxist doctrine served as a map for action for those caught up in such associations, a map with only symbolic relationship to the world of action. There were nominal Marxists who understood the irony of that fact, and used the map with an insight into its unrealities; and, there were those unfortunate “true believers” who did not understand this, and therefore remained foolishly blind believers, or turned with hatred against the map itself, when they awakened to the fact that its utility had been symbolic.

However, at core, Marxism as such was thus akin to the U.S. Democratic Party’s belief in the alleged decency of scoundrels of the like of President Andrew Jackson. There is, after all a distinction between cooperating with the victim of a disease, and adopting the disease itself, especially when that is done in defiance of the relevant clinical evidence obtained. The tragedy prevalent among Marxists who deserve the discomfort of what I am saying about them, especially the so-called “theoreticians,” was that they, at the relative best, submitted more or less blindly to the influence of denying the fact, that, in fact, Marx’s “creative, independent intellect” was only a myth.

which he or she wanders. He wanders, believing blindly in his obligation to obey the rules of the game he is habituated to play. They are the “underlings” of Shakespeare’s tragedy of *Julius Caesar*.

In the history of European civilization, the type of tragic folly, the containment within which Karl Marx’s mind wandered, was a realm of Classical Sophistry, a realm typified by the arbitrary (i.e., “self-evident”) definitions, axioms, and postulates, like those shared by the Sophist Euclid and his follower Claudius Ptolemy. Karl Marx’s case, as referenced here, has special importance for insight into what Professor Hankel has, in fact, pointed out, already, in his book’s prefatory remarks, as the tragic elements in the heritage of Germany still today.

This kind of pathetic error, as only typified by the common features of the Sophistry of Euclid, Claudius Ptolemy, and their duped followers, creates belief in a universe which does not actually exist. The habits which the duped believers acquire through the practice of such delusory beliefs, will, sooner, or later, bring them to a tragic consequence. The source of the tragedy lies, thus, in the way their beliefs in a non-existent universe lead them, in effect, as in the cases of today’s typical U.S. Presidential pre-candidates, or western European leaders of today, leading both the principal, fantasy-ridden players and nations, as by the nose of their personal fears and ambitions, toward a tragic collision with the reality of the universe in which they dwell.

That is the Classical principle of Tragedy, contrary to the sundry Romantic obsessions of such as the Nineteenth and Twentieth centuries’ all-so-typical academic classrooms.

The Myth of Marx: Interpolation

Since the rise of the Soviet Union, the issue of the myth of Karl Marx has been no joking matter. The Soviet Union and its reverberations throughout world history, can never be fully erased. Nor can we discard the principal, German predecessor in adoption of Marxist doctrine, the German Social-Democracy. However, we must not overlook the highly significant historical fact that Karl Marx himself was already doubly dead (as a mortal person and as a marginal political factor of his times) until the British Fabian Society asset, Frederick Engels of “Anti-Dühring” notoriety, recreated a synthetic Marx blown up to mythical size, a Marx who, in his real life, had already fallen out of the pages of modern history.

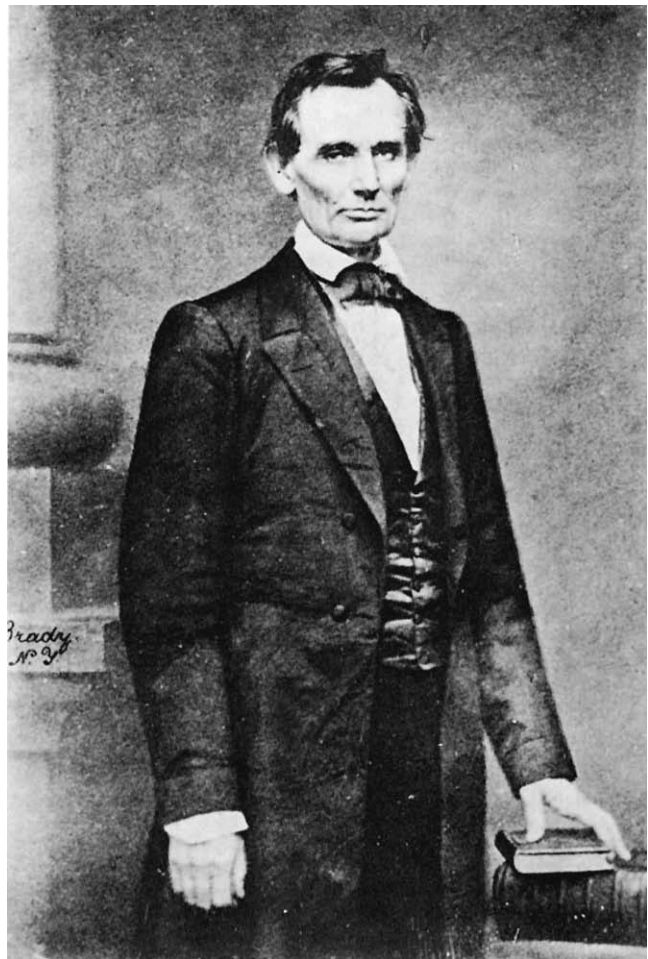
The influence of the still-living Karl Marx had died in the despondency of the aftermath of the Prussian military forces’ siege of Paris. In 1865, Lord Palmerston’s own personal legacy had been eviscerated by both President Abraham Lincoln’s victory over Palmerston’s created instrument, the Confederacy, and the ensuing further defeat of Palmerston by the effects of the U.S. intervention to expel the French and Austrian elements of Palmerston’s operation against the Mexico of President Benito Juarez. What was crucial in all this for Palmerston’s policies, was the fall of Britain’s puppet Napoleon III; but, with the fall of Palmerston, and with Palmerston’s agent Mazzini’s dumping his former protege Marx in favor of the anarchists, Marx’s influence over events collapsed in combined effects of the fall of British puppet Napoleon III and the desperation-driven failure of Marx’s adventure with the Paris Commune. Then, Karl Marx simply died in a pitiable state of retirement.

British heir of U.S. slave-produced cotton, and Palmerston agent, Frederick Engels, one of Marx’s most significant sometime controllers, set into motion a cosmetized version of Marx’s political corpse, and marched him onto the stage of modern political mythologies.

The key to understanding what has underlain all those and related developments since the President Abraham Lincoln’s victory over Palmerston, is the implications of that sweeping change in the course of modern world history which occurred as a consequence of, or reactions to the victory, orchestrated by President Abraham Lincoln, over Palmerston’s Confederacy-gambit against the continued existence of the United States.¹⁰

The most crucial expression of John Quincy Adams follower Lincoln’s strategic genius was expressed in an incident in Boston, Massachusetts during the campaign for the 1860 U.S. Presidential election. The incident, and its sequelae went as follows, an incident which is of the most crucial historical importance for understanding the mechanisms operating in the world crisis of the present moment, today.

10. Some people who are not thinking clearly, will contest this view of the role of Engels. On this account, note my reference to the Boston question to Lincoln. Palmerston’s intention in launching the Confederacy, was to divide the U.S.A., while, like Engels personally, enjoying the profit of slave-produced cotton.



Matthew Brady

Abraham Lincoln changed world history by defeating Lord Palmerston’s Confederacy. Lincoln understood, as he expressed it at a campaign event Boston in 1860, that his highest priority was to preserve the Union; he knew that doing so, was the only way to abolish the slave system, which he despised. Shown, Lincoln, following his Cooper Union speech in February 1860.

Lincoln was presented, in Boston, with a trick question, the same trick question repeated to me during an international webcast in early 2006. Lincoln was challenged, would he prefer to preserve the Union, or abolish slavery. Lincoln responded wisely, as I echoed him in 2006: The Union. By saving the Union, Lincoln was able to abolish slavery, Had he been fool enough to say, “Abolish slavery,” he would have ensured the immediate disintegration of the Union and the preservation and spread of black slavery, and import of African slaves into North America by Spain’s monarchy, through the division of U.S. territory into perpetually quarreling tyrannies.

Lincoln’s decision, as expressed in his reply to the Boston questioner, changed world history. The U.S. was consolidated as Secretary of State and President John Quincy Adams had prescribed earlier, consolidated as a continental republic, from Atlantic to Pacific oceans, and between Canadian and Mexican borders. This was effected through the development

of today's equivalent of transcontinental magnetic-levitation systems, transcontinental railway systems, and inviting floods of farmers from Germany and elsewhere in Europe, to settle as citizens within the U.S.A.

The explosion of the success of the U.S.A. which had been launched under Lincoln's distinctive quality of leadership, produced a world-wide economic and cultural revolution, especially in both South and Central America and Eurasia, as typified by the late 1870s Bismarck reforms in Germany and related patterns to similar effect in Russia and other parts of Europe. Even years before 1877, the very existence of the U.S.A. as a continental republic, was regarded in the London of the Palmerston-trained Prince of Wales as the "geopolitical" enemy to be destroyed, by subversion in the U.S.A., and by war setting the continental European powers against one another's throats. Two so-called "World Wars" of the Twentieth Century, as also the London-directed Japan warfare against China during the 1894-1945 interval, and also the so-called "Cold War," were typical, leading results of that British imperial policy.

The "Maastricht" agreements, with the poison pill of the Euro embedded in the package's design, inserted under malicious threats of warfare from Thatcher and Mitterrand, were also a continuation of the strategic acts of geopolitical hatred of London and its puppets against the system of sovereign nation-states on the continent of Eurasia—from that time to the present day of former Prime Minister Tony Blair and present Gordon Brown.

The real-life Karl Marx of the period leading through the U.S. Civil War, and the other, cosmetic, London "wax-works museum" Karl Marx concocted in British interest through aid of Frederick Engels, were different entities, specific to entirely different periods of Nineteenth-Century world history.

The force of tragedy specific to the real Marx's own case, is pin-pointed with exquisite precision by his silly rages against his actual master, Lord Palmerston.

Actually, Palmerston owned Marx's very soul; Marx was one of the numerous pieces of ideological property collected by Bentham heir Palmerston under the rubrics of Palmerston's agent Mazzini, for Palmerston's "Young Europe" and for the "Young America" plot which led in producing the North American slave-owners' Confederacy. Marx was a property of "Young Europe" from approximately the same moment he stepped into Savigny's classroom in law, thus into what had been the partnership of Savigny and Metternich's asset G.W.F. Hegel in control over the university in Berlin, until 1832, and Savigny until later. As such a piece of intellectual chattel of Palmerston's ideological-strategic "zoo," Marx, in due course, had come to report directly to Palmerston's corresponding secretary for the "Young Europe" organization, Urquhart, based at the British Library where Haileybury School-trained economist Marx spent much of his time cultivating both his personal intellectual and bodily carbuncles.

Yet, the poor, real-life, silly Russia-hater Marx authored a

book devoted to denouncing his actual master, Palmerston, as "a Russian spy"¹¹ There you have the virtual essence of the tragic character of Karl Marx, that he was employed as the instrument of the same Palmerston he idolized as Satan, or, should we say that the figure of Palmerston was his chosen substitute for playing the part of the ghost of Hamlet's father. For our purposes in this report, that is a useful illustration of the proper, Classical use of the term "Tragedy."

Marx believed, essentially, that the world of political economy of his lifetime was a universe which has been designed by the British East India Company's Haileybury School. So, when Marx considered a phenomenon which had actually occurred in the real world, he assumed that the laws which ruled "cause and effect" in that world were those forms of Liberal Sophistry taught by creatures such as Quesnay, Mandeville, Adam Smith, and David Ricardo. He was tragic in the same sense as were the poor fools who believed devoutly in the astronomical hoax concocted by Claudius Ptolemy.

Marx as Economist

The popular view, that the economics of Karl Marx is an alternative to the British system of political-economy, is essentially a hoax which some who wish to believe play upon their own credulities. The British system, more fairly labeled the Haileybury School's Benthamite tradition, is the species from which Marxism differs only as a variety of that same species. Indeed, Karl Marx himself insisted, quite fairly, that his *Das Kapital's* first volume was a faithful derivative of the axiomatic features of Jeremy Bentham's Haileybury school of Adam Smith, et al., the one variety differing from the other, even in the case of Thomas Malthus, only in matters of detail.¹²

All of this same species, including the Physiocrats Quesnay and Turgot, from both of whom plagiarist Adam Smith derived much of the underlying assumptions of his *The Wealth of Nations*, are derived, as if axiomatically, from the axiomatic features of both the systemic irrationalism which Paolo Sarpi's Liberalism adopted from the medieval teachings of William of Ockham, and from the influence of the kind of irrationalism specific to Rene Descartes, Mandeville, and Voltaire, and to the neo-Cartesian dogma of de Moivre, D'Alembert, et al. These, in turn, subsume the later, still more wildly insane trends toward Twentieth-Century positivism, as expressed by the marginal utilitarians, and the wild-eyed ex-

11. Aha! The property denounces its property-owner!

12. On these matters, it is indispensable to compare a certain superiority in the method of Rosa Luxemburg (*The Accumulation of Capital*), relative to utter failures on the definition of imperialism by both V.I. Lenin and the German social-democrats of the pre-1914 interval. Luxemburg's case can be profitably assessed in light of the later work by a U.S. State Department specialist, Herbert Feis. Neither the relevant social-democrats nor Lenin grasped those essential features of either medieval nor modern finance-capital which must be the point of reference for dealing with the presently ongoing global breakdown-crisis of the present monetary system.



EIRNS/Connor Soules

The London-steered wrecking of the world economy led, as well, to the post-Soviet destruction of Russia under the leaderships of Andropov, Gorbachev, and Yeltsin. Shown: St. Petersburg street vendors, November 1999.

tremes of the relevant social theory of such extremist followers of the scientifically dubious Bertrand Russell, Aleister Crowley, and H.G. Wells as Professor Norbert Wiener and John von Neumann.

Notably, virtually all academically certified and related social theory for economics, especially in the domain of the pseudo-science of radically positivist mathematical forecasting, such as those of the ill-fated Myron Scholes, represent offshoots of the same radically reductionist interventions into the domain of social theory. Also, we must include in this the case of the ruinous impact on the late phase of Soviet economic dogma by the influence of the radically positivist offshoot of the Cambridge Systems Analysis and Club of Rome current, as expressed as the Laxenberg, Austria, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). Moscow under the reigns of Andropov and Gorbachev was no longer Marxist in any meaningful sense of its physical characteristics as an

economy, but, via the Cambridge school of systems-analysis, a branch of the British system; it had not only lost the map, but would not have able, any longer, to read the once-familiar old map, even if it had remembered where it had been buried.

4. Physical Economy as Science

Focus attention for the moment, on the deeper implications of the shift in the essential character of the U.S. economy which occurred as a consequence of the 1929-like, October 1987 “crash” of the New York stock-exchange. Also consider the significance of the change of management in the U.S. Federal Reserve System, from Chairman Paul Volcker, to the hyper-inflationary loose-and-looney money practices of then incoming Chairman Alan Greenspan, whose role as notoriously an exponent of the right-wing cult of the deceased Ayn Rand, was neither rational nor humane.

Those facts are true, and are to be stated as such, and no more than that. There should be no temptation to exaggerate Greenspan’s role. He did not, specifically, cause today’s global economic problem by himself; but, the role he played suited the relevant New York’s and London’s financier interests, and, the factor which Greenspan came to represent on that account, became ultimately very bad news for the post-1987 U.S. and European economies, especially since the added factor of the introduction of those complementary Thatcher-Mitterrand Maastricht measures which have ruined western and central Europe itself since that time.

Before getting into the proverbial meat of the matter, the following relevant background, bearing on Greenspan’s specific role, should be considered.

By October 1987, over the sixteen years since President Richard Nixon’s August 1971 collapsing of the remains of the Bretton Woods, fixed-exchange-rate system, the U.S. economy had undergone what were to prove to have been two disastrous kinds of systemic changes in its character.

The first of these measures was taken largely under the guidance of President Nixon’s George Shultz, the principal U.S. bureaucrat figuring in the wrecking of the Bretton Woods system itself, and a key figure, together with such notable, continuing accomplices as Felix Rohatyn, in the U.S. Nixon Administration’s installation of the neo-Nazi dictator Pinochet in Chile.

That action in the matter of South America’s Southern Cone, an action in which Shultz played the leading role for that Administration, prepared the way for a second, even more catastrophic change, a change which was that injected under incoming President Carter’s National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski.

Prior to the selection of Carter as a Presidential pre-candidate, Brzezinski was already a principal figure in the launching of what was to become the disastrous program of the Tri-lateral Commission, which was already identified, prior to



Today's monetary and financial practices eerily recall those of the Lombard bankers, which plunged mid-14th-Century Europe into the "New Dark Age." Shown: three scenes from Hans Holbein's "Dance of Death" (1538): Death comes to the "Bones of All Men," "The Miser," and "The Senator."

Carter's nomination and election, as a program of "controlled disintegration of the U.S. economy." That Trilateral Commission program featured the role assigned to Federal Reserve Chairman Volcker over the period of his tenure, from late 1979, through the time of the 1987 crash.

Briefly, Shultz & Company, operating under the Nixon Administration, had already wrecked the international monetary system. The Trilateral Commission, in its turn, operating under President Carter's National Security Advisor Brzezinski, *proceeded from the stated intention* of wrecking the physical economy of the U.S.A. The Commission's massive production of books of documentation of the Commission's avowed intentions, had shown no shame in declaring that specific intention, to anyone who cared to read published documents even prior to Carter's election.

Later, Federal Reserve Chairman Greenspan, operating under methods which were essentially copied from the model of Europe's Fourteenth-Century Lombard banking system, was the keystone player, together with the City of London, in carrying forward the ruinous 1977-1987 effects of the Trilateral Commission's wrecking operation, in injecting the radical monetarist practices which have brought the world economy to the brink of its presently hovering, threatened plunge into an abyss.

These combined changes represented two phases of a general commitment, steered, chiefly, from London, to destroy that leading role in the world's economy which the U.S.A. had accumulated during the span of the two so-called "world wars" of the 1914-1945 interval. The setting in which this lunatic, London-steered behavior took root, were the accumulated effects of a post-Kennedy, long U.S. war in Indo-China, as followed by the new direction in the economy introduced during 1969-1981 under Presidents Nixon, Ford, and Carter.

That latter series of developments, launched under President Nixon and the Trilateral Commission's measures, wrecked not only the economy of the U.S.A., but, in due course, the economies of both the Americas and western and central Europe. The result was not only a wrecking of the

world's monetary system, but also steered the parallel, savage looting and wrecking of what became the former Soviet economy, under, most notably, the misguided leaderships of Andropov, Gorbachev and Yeltsin. This combination of 1989-2000 developments, has been a crucial, leading factor of axiomatic cultural change in transforming the principal trans-Atlantic economies of Europe, Africa, and the Americas, into the ruined state which was virtually completed at the moment of George W. Bush, Jr.'s entry into the U.S. Presidency.

Since then, the nearly two Presidential terms completed under a U.S. Bush-Cheney Administration, have transformed the economic disaster which existed at the point of the January 2001 Bush inauguration, into the existential catastrophe which grips the U.S.A. and western and central Europe, in particular, today. However, when all of that has been taken into account, the crucial feature in creating the setting which Wilhelm Hankel's book describes, the setting, for Europe, of the specifically U.S. element in this now global economic catastrophe, has been the role of the Federal Reserve since Paul Volcker left office, in the wake of the October 1987, 1929-style, stock-market crash.

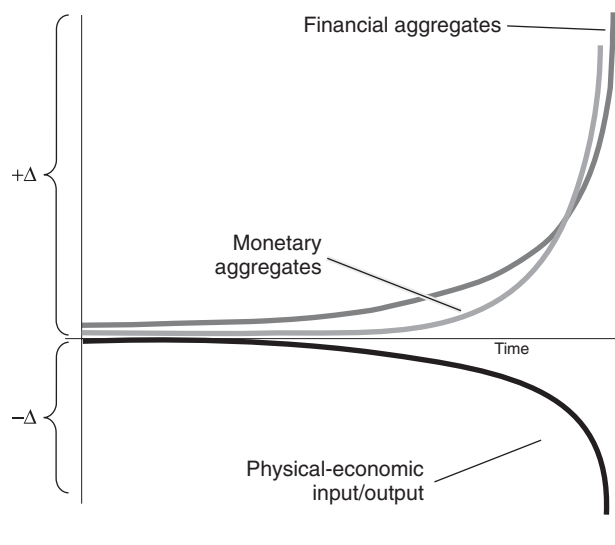
In summary, the monetary and financial practices which those developments represented, have wrecked the physical economy of Europe and the Americas, that through methods of monetary and financial practices which, in essential features, echoed those Lombard banking practices which plunged mid-Fourteenth-Century Europe into what has become known in the pages of modern history as a Fourteenth-Century "New Dark Age."

A Matter of Checks & Balances

Briefly, it has become the lately conventional Sophistry of the leading monetary and financial institutions of the U.S.A. and of western and central European practice, to presume that actions of a form of practice which gratify currently prevalent monetarist dogmas, are the best option for the economy over the medium to long term (if we were able to live long enough, under these conditions, to discover how these practices "worked out in that end which is now very nigh").

Figure 1

LaRouche's Typical Collapse Function



In that monetarists' ideological view of matters, the effect of current monetary and related policies of practice, is not to be subjected, in the interim, to any standards of actual physical-economic evidence which are displeasing to those reigning monetarist ideologues. In short, leading governments and most declared economists of today have become the victim of the same sort of swindle associated with the propaganda of the true believers in the early Eighteenth-Century John Law and related financial bubbles.

This fact is illustrated in the simplest of truthful ways, by a pedagogical illustration which I have named my "Triple Curve" (Figure 1). Although my Triple-Curve illustration is *pro forma*, conceptual summation of the detailed evidence, evidence over more than a decade to date has shown, that there is no error, nor exaggeration in that which it purports to illustrate.

The hypothesis which needs to be considered, if we are to understand the present strategic situation accurately, is the following:

Are the minds behind this currently reigning monetarist dogma as completely stupid as some innocent, but duped observers of the actual performance of the world economy might believe the data to seem to show? Or, is it the case, that the ruinous state of the world economy currently, has been the kind of effect, like the comparable effects of the Maastricht agreements, which the authors of these policies had actually intended to bring about? If the latter, who (looking beyond the well-documented predatory actions of Thatcher and Mitterrand themselves¹³), or, what is that somebody of relevant great influence who has intended to reap what he, or she considers

13. As by former Germany Chancellor Helmut Kohl's published memoir.

to be such a desired harvest of ruin?

European and related history since about 4,000 B.C., shows two ways in which to build, or maintain an empire. One approach, is to seek to build up great physical wealth, and share the benefit so produced with those whose willing submission one wishes to cultivate. That is what the U.S. has often been accused of doing during times prior to the effects of the U.S.A.'s long, wasting war in Indo-China. That is an implication of the need for remedies modeled on the Peace of Westphalia.

The alternative approach to winning global influence, is the British alternative: simply to ruin everyone else, even by setting fire to one's own house as part of the scheme for burning down the town. We should be familiar with that British imperial strategy from the experience of both two so-called "world wars" of the last century, and also the long "cold war" which followed. That has been the intended effect of the Anglo-American Peloponnesian War-style periods of long warfare in both Indo-China and Southwest Asia.

The effect of the latter course, is, of course, precisely the clear intention and effect of the policies thrust down the throats of the victims of the Maastricht agreements. It is precisely the effect on the entire U.S. economy, in particular, of what the Trilateral Commission stated as its motive, "controlled disintegration of the economy" of the U.S.A., which was precisely the intention, the practice, and the effect of the implementation of the Trilateral Commission's policies under President Carter and over the course of the 1980s.

That, for example, has been the stated intention in the implementation of the Maastricht agreements, and in shoving of the intentionally ruinous Euro, in particular, down the throats of Germany's citizens.

The simplest way to identify such policies of practice as these is "rule through ruin." This was the explicit intention and practice of those ancient empires organized according to what is known as "the oligarchical principle," as in the Middle East today, as by the Delphic policies of Lycurgan Sparta, by the Roman Empire, and by the Venetian masters of the process of Norman military rule, rape, and ruin, up through the Fourteenth Century Lombard system of usury which produced the Fourteenth-Century New Dark Age in Europe. This has been the intention behind the launching of the infamous policy of Thomas Malthus under Jeremy Bentham, and is the policy of former U.S. Vice-President Al Gore and, his crony, the Prince of Wales, today.

Blood & Gore

This present, neo-Malthusian policy of virtual genocide by the hoaxster Al "No Belle" Gore, has its proximate origins in the influence of the infamous Venetian economist, Giannaria Ortes, from whose London work, originally published in 1790, Thomas Malthus plagiarized the English translation of that work by Ortes in Malthus's own mass-murderous policy of *On Population*. The utter fraud of the "Global Warm-



The utter fraud of the “Global Warming” propaganda, such as that issued by hoaxster Al Gore’s movie “An Inconvenient Truth,” renders the general population resistant to the impulse of scientific and technological progress.

ing” propaganda associated with the fraud by hoaxster Al Gore today, is a copy of the intention expressed by the “machine stormers” of early 19th Century England. It was, then, and remains, today, a policy which had been originally intended to keep the English labor-force stupid, if often sullenly rambunctious, through aid of promoting technological and scientific backwardness, as Gore does today, thus making the victimized general population resistant to the impulse of scientific and technological progress supplied, then, from the continent.

Today’s revival of that currently ongoing, mass-murderous, Malthusian policy which I have just summarily described as traceable to the Venetian Ortes, or to the 1588 work of Venetian agent Giovanni Botero’s doctrine for the state, is to be traced back to the post-World War II policies of Winston Churchill and the U.S. Harry Truman Administration, from the moment of the death of President Franklin Roosevelt.

The first expression of the policy which Al Gore touts today, came at a time, at the close of the war, when President Roosevelt’s avowed intention had been to bring the existence of the British Empire to an end, and to use the to-be-converted great industrial war-machine of the U.S.A., at the end of that war, to promote both the freedom and economic progress of conditions of life of the peoples subjected to colonial, or semi-colonial forms of European exploitation. The policies of Churchill’s and the British Empire were to waste those U.S. economic means, and to prevent that development, which would have been a clear, and Roosevelt-intended threat to the continued existence of that empire. That is the clearly implied, genocidal intention, expressed as the import of the Nobel award to hoaxster Al Gore now.

That is the policy of those who share the policy-outlook of

the London-Truman alliance to the present day. Scientific and physical-economic progress of the people of our planet, is a deadly adversary of that oligarchical principle which Anglo-Dutch Liberalism and kindred sentiments represent. That is key to the pivotal lie which lurks within the entirety of Al Gore’s Nobel prize-winning fraud. The question is, why did so many manifestly silly, hysterical people from among the ranks of the white collar tribes of the “Baby Boomer” generation, seize so passionately on what was to be seen so readily as false by any competent scientist: the utterly decadent Al Gore’s spreading of one more of those kinds of lies to which Professor Hankel has referred in the prefatory chapter of his current book?¹⁴

Look back to 1944. Once the breakthrough on the Western Front by Allied forces had occurred, it was clear, as the actions of the relevant leading German generals recognized, that the Nuremberg fantasy called the Hitler regime, was doomed to fall in Hitler’s own, adopted

Wagnerian fashion, and a revolt by the generals could have rescued a Germany otherwise foredoomed to a crushing kind of defeat, which would, and did occur, if the war were continued. Such was the relevant impulse of all sane German military commanders, and others. However, Winston Churchill and his gang were determined to prevent that attempted surrender from occurring “prematurely.” Churchill’s gang took active measures to assure that the surrender would be prevented at that time, as the “Market Garden” swindle of Churchill’s Montgomery attests.

With the breakthrough on the European western front, the danger, as viewed from the British side top-down, was no longer Hitler; the target was now Roosevelt, as it is, still, for George Shultz’s long-standing crony, pro-fascist Felix Rohatyn today.¹⁵ The case of the creation of the so-called “Baby Boomer” generation recruited from the ranks of those born to “white collar” social orientations between 1945 and 1958, typifies the methods employed by the Churchill gang and its U.S. fellow-travelers, to the purpose of ruining what had been President Franklin Roosevelt’s intentions for the post-war world.

14. It were useful to look back to Gore’s radically right-wing associations, as with Newt Gingrich, in Georgia, back during the 1970s, and to see the direct link to Vice-President Gore’s savage apology for Gingrich’s right-wing policies, which set up President Clinton’s Administration for such effects as the right-wing Gore-Lieberman efforts to dump Clinton in 1999. Whatever actually happened in Florida in counting the Presidential votes in 2000, Gore had already blown the election, in favor of George W. Bush’s candidacy during that year’s campaign.

15. As Rohatyn has openly, and repeatedly attacked me, since Spring 2005, as the threat of a potential “new Franklin Roosevelt” today, and through his puppet Nancy Pelosi today.

Two principal elements of strategy for wrecking the FDR legacy, were emphasized by the Churchill-Truman faction. First, what later became known as “the Cold War” strategy of the post-Truman period; second, to pit the new-born “white collar” generation, born between 1945 and 1958, the so-called “Baby Boomer” generation of both the U.S.A. and Europe, as a future striking force against the inherently pro-American, and what were culturally, if not always politically, largely pro-Roosevelt scientists, industrial and agricultural social strata of my own generation.

The ideology of the “Cold War” had the function of preventing the powerful agro-industrial-scientific machine built up for the conduct of the 1939-1945 war, from being used for the peace-time mission for which Roosevelt had declared his intention openly, including to Churchill and others. The further intention was, that by the time those progeny of a generation born between 1945 and 1958, from households with the “white collar” orientation we associate, retrospectively, today, with the 1950s ideology of “White Collar” and “Organization Man,” had reached into adolescence and young adulthood, that new generation, which might be called “The Al Gore Generation” exemplified by the cases of the U.S.A. and Britain today, would be used as a weapon of social hatred against both genuine science and the “blue collar” tradition of American progressive industry and modern family-farm agriculture.

This “white collar” social strategy of the anti-FDR currents, has gained its most hate-filled harvest in Germany today. For both the “traditional” reasons expressed by both Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the Mitterrand whom Britain of the 1970s and 1980s considered its crucial French asset, Germany has been, as has Russia, one of the principal nations most feared, for its cultural-scientific potential, by the relevant, anti-FDR Anglo-American Liberal factions of today. Germany’s “1968er” generation was subjected to the most savagely administered dose of ideological targeting by the enemies of the Franklin Roosevelt legacy. The Congress for Cultural Freedom and the sheer evil of the lies propagated by authors Theodor Adorno and Hannah Arendt of *The Authoritarian Personality*, are examples of the root of the new, more wildly irrationalist, existentialist mode in fascism which menaces trans-Atlantic civilization globally today.

Al Gore, a present-day caricature of the Malthusian machine-breakers of the early Nineteenth Century, and with a certain frankly fascist character of his own, is a prime example of that specific moral degeneration.

British imperialism has two most notable cultural characteristics. First, destroy its own people, culturally, and spread the infection of the decadence so fostered, like an infestation



Library of Congress

British imperialism has two notable cultural characteristics: First, destroy its own people, culturally, and spread the decadent infection, like an infestation of the creepy-crawly Beatles, to other shores. Second, induce the destruction of every part of the world from which the seeds of a future Renaissance might be sown. The Beatles are shown here in 1964, arriving at Kennedy Airport.

of the creepy-crawly cultural Beatles, to other shores. Second, to induce the destruction of every part of the world, including East Asia, from which the seeds of a future Renaissance might be sown. *These are Fabian intentions; they are Fabian methods, as the stench of the recent Tony Blair war regime attests.*

5. Beyond the Delusions Of Fabianism

As I have just emphasized, the essence of Fabian methods, as the image of the Roman strategy for weakening of Hannibal’s forces, illustrates the concept, is to win wars or kindred conflicts by sado-masochistic methods of inducing the targeted party to destroy himself, in greater or lesser degree, as by “scorched earth” tactics, even by aid of sacrificing significant elements of one’s own forces to aid in inducing this intended effect. Strangely, or, perhaps, not, the British Empire’s intended victims, including those members of its own population, seem seldom capable of actually understanding this point, even though they tend to come around to practice that same, induced policy upon one another.

The ever-loving, half-drunken lout lumbers in to abuse the wife, and give the kiddoes a salutary whack or two, up to the day she is waiting by the door to whack him with a heavy iron skillet, or a smiling dose of arsenic in his tea. To develop one’s own population as a source of the corruption one intends to spread against civilization more broadly, one must induce one’s own people to degrade themselves, as British influences have led in the corruption of the political-cultural processes spread, through our own mass-media, and, as by the witchy

British agent Mrs. Lynne Cheney's influence on our educational institutions, into our U.S.A. itself.

The point which it is essential to grasp, on this account, is that it is childishly absurd to believe that, since the reign of William of Orange's trained puppet, George I, the British Empire was ever really a charitable association. There may have been worthy exceptions, even sometimes numerous ones from within the ranks of the British population, but the system under which they were ruled as an empire, made certain that the rotten element of the Venetian Liberal tradition of Sarpi, Galileo, and Hobbes, ruled from the top.

The empire does not intend to enrich those over which it intends to rule, but to make them more fearful, and more dependent, by becoming less capable of sustaining themselves, or of mustering the will to defend themselves. The British system pursues that course by keeping most of its subjects about as sex-crazed as minks, fearful, and hungry, and by use of kindred aversive methods, much as they employ the same approaches to the victimized populations of their current and intended colonies, alike. A life without meaning, suicide, or killing one's own children, or both, is the ultimate weapon into which the coward flees ("game ending"! all in expressing a perverted impulse to punish his, or her imagined foe.

In a pinch, the doctors of the monetarist persuasion, especially the British persuasion, would rather defend the market-price of the afterbirth, rather than the life of the child.

Uproot the Monetarist Delusion!

The essential difference between the economic policies underlying the intrinsic superiority of the U.S. economy, when it follows its own Federal Constitution, over its European rivals, as it did under President Franklin Roosevelt, is that the crafters of the U.S. system premised their constitutional design upon the notion of physical economy associated with Gottfried Leibniz, as opposed to the inherently usurious, Venetian monetarist cults predominant still in western and central Europe today. It must be fairly said, that the problem with European economic doctrines is that they are essentially symbol-minded. A mere symbol, a conception of money rooted in the history of usury, has been substituted by today's continuing European customs for the physical reality of actual wealth.

In a certain manner of speaking, Europe came by its monetarist delusions fairly.

We can trace the calculable history of Eurasian monetar-



Dr. Frederick Guggenbuhl

It was the influence of the Delphic cult of Sophistry on the Athens of Pericles and his followers, which not only induced the self-inflicted ruin of the Athens of that time, but typifies, again, for us, today, the form of recurring, long-ranging corruption threatening the now globally extended reach of European civilization. Shown: the temple ruins at Delphi.

ism from the decline of the bow-tenure systems of ancient southern Mesopotamia, when the practice of usury was introduced, repeatedly, into Sumer and its successors. Similarly, descending from the hills where the site of the ancient cult of Delphi was situated, to the port from which Delphi usury spread its reign, as a rival of Tyre, around the targets of the Mediterranean coasts, we encounter, again and again, the substitution of usury, as a standard of economic value, for the concept of the physical-productive powers of labor which a civilized current in modern Europe and North America adopted as, largely, the product of a science of physical economy developed by and around the influence of Gottfried Leibniz.

As I have said, Europe came by its present, delusory conception of monetary systems fairly. Tyre, Rome, Byzantium, the Venetian-Norman medieval system, and the new Venetian model expressed as the practice of modern Liberalism, all locate the presumed notion of economic value in the symbol-mindedness of an essentially fetishistic delusion known as the belief in some intrinsic value of money as such: *usury*.

It is precisely here, in one very simple, elementary notion, that my definitive intellectual advantage over my putative contemporary rivals among putative economics specialists has lain; that I do not share their usurious, monetarist delusions.

For me, as for any scientist examining the matter competently, monetary systems can be simply replaced, as by organ transplants, whenever the continued health of the patient requires. The means for bringing off such a translation, is the proper understanding of a law of bankruptcy: it is sufficient to know how to replace a bankrupt monetary-

financial system, through rational proceedings in bankruptcy: as if to save the child at the expense of the afterbirth—contrary to the presently incumbent U.S. Treasury Secretary, who clings up to the present date, to a contrary, extremely foolish conception.

The essential problem inside the U.S.A. today, is that we have been habituated to the experience of destroying real wealth, that of agriculture, industry, infrastructure, and the development of the creative powers of the individual human mind; we have allowed this to occur for the benefit of the nominal valuation attributed to property-titles as such. We have wiped out our independent, productive farms and industries, and looted our essential basic economic infrastructure, for the purpose of defending the nominal riches of a shrinking class of nominally super-rich financial parasites, as typified by a predatory class of virtual criminals, known as “hedge funds.” This class of parasites has concentrated both financial and political power, top down, in the purely speculative financial holdings of a class of locusts, a class which has no kinship with what was formerly considered the productive physical capital of agriculture, industry, skilled crafts, and infrastructure. This class of parasites, merely typified by cases such as that of Felix Rohatyn, becomes the yardstick for the kind of political power which has become a replacement for what had been formerly considered our nation’s interest.

We have come, thus, to a point in modern history which mimics the time, during Europe’s mid-Fourteenth Century, when the world political system of that time virtually disintegrated in the aftermath of the bankruptcy of the Lombard banking house of Bardi. If we do not rid ourselves, our nations of these usurious “locusts,” the political system which fails to make that purge of the present system will disintegrate, plunging the planet as a whole, very soon, into a kind of chain-reaction collapse marking the onset of a prolonged new dark age.

You can not say that this is impossible. It has happened before, and it is now in the process of happening again.

The 2008 phase of the U.S. election-campaign will be the test which determines whether or not the U.S.A. itself is capable of returning to a former, protectionist tradition which would enable our republic to survive.

The Science of Physical Economy

The essential incompetence of the doctrines called “economics” taught in university today, lies, hereditarily, in the delusions expressed as the beliefs associated with the teaching and practice of financial accounting as a substitute for an actual science of economy. It is not that orderly financial accounting is not necessary. The point is, that it has nothing to do, intrinsically, with the physical principles of real economy.

By real economy, we should signify the essential difference between apes and people. In the simplest terms of reference, that difference is located, functionally, in what Academician V.I. Vernadsky identified as the distinction of the

Noösphere from the *Biosphere*. The root of this distinction is located, functionally, in those creative mental powers of the human individual which are not to be found in any form of ordinary animal life. The possibility of any science of physical economy depends upon the function of those creative powers of the individual human mind whose expression is typified, for modern physical science, by Johannes Kepler’s uniquely original discovery of that universal physical principle of gravitation which regulates the internal organization of the Solar system. That is the same principle expressed by Gottfried Leibniz’s unique translation of Kepler’s discovery of the universal principle of gravitation into a general principle of the infinitesimal calculus. The science of economy depends upon those conceptions.

Over the course of the development of modern physical science, since Nicholas of Cusa’s *De Docta Ignorantia*, through Bernhard Riemann’s elimination of the last rotting vestige of the reductionist’s Sophist tradition of Euclidean geometry, and through the related, consequent discoveries of such as Vernadsky and Einstein, it should have become clear to us, that the typical action of mankind, by means of which the potential relative population-density of the human species is increased per capita and per square kilometer of territory, is the transformation of the applied practice of physical science to the effect of increasing man’s power to live through the combined effects of man’s development of himself, as human, conjoined with mankind’s transformation of the planet in which we live.

Hence, the only true economic value, is a physical-economic value of that nature. The American System of political-economy expressed that Leibnizian view in the terms of Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton’s definitions for the American System. Our American tradition of protectionism was premised on the knowledge that prices must be regulated according to the considerations of national interest. Free trade, or globalization, was always virtually a policy of treason. It is the physical effect of production and circulation upon the creative economic powers of a people, as expressed per capita and per square kilometer of total territory, which is the basis for defining a notion of true economic relative value. It is the development of the individual in society, and of the relations among those individuals, which is the active principle of economic value.

The practice of the American System of political-economy, as President Franklin Roosevelt worked to revive this, was, in effect, a system of experimental approximations which took the notions of value to which I have just pointed into account.

In contrast, all attempts to define a notion of a function of economic value which is premised on monetarist assumptions, are insane, and, ultimately, murderously so. As for globalization, it is a form of treason, not only against some particular nation, but as the Biblical account of a Tower of Babel implies, against the human species.

The Planned Killing Of Benazir Bhutto

by Ramtanu Maitra

The gruesome killing of Benazir Bhutto in the evening hours of Dec. 27 in Pakistan's garrison town of Rawalpindi is yet another step in the process of weakening, and eventual break-up, of Pakistan.

Despite the crocodile tears shed in Washington and London over Bhutto's assassination, it was a disaster waiting to happen and therefore, was altogether expected. Those who believed, naively, that Bhutto's mission was to reinstate democracy in Pakistan and put its usurpers, the Pakistani military, in the background, do not realize why she was inserted into the scene, which was already rife with violence. The truth is that the British imperial circles, with their stooges in Washington, set up Bhutto's execution, to advance their scheme to break up Pakistan, and create chaos throughout this strategic region.

Bhutto, no doubt, was a mass-based political leader, but she was a woman (an excuse used by the puppet Islamic jihadists to commit violence against a person), and she was goaded into the scene by the United States—perhaps now the most hated nation among Muslims in general—to serve Washington's purpose, which was to put the Pakistani military on the defensive and force it to share power with a democratic politician. According to the master strategists in Washington, that is the best of both worlds—the Pakistani military stays friendly, while the United States shakes off its guilt of backing a military dictator.

It is not known what transpired in the telephone call between U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Benazir Bhutto that led to Bhutto's decision to return. What promises were made will not be known unless Rice can shake off the national security garb and tell the truth. The one who knew, and could tell others, is gone.

The 9/11 event had enticed a weak-in-the-head Bush Administration to embark on a journey, the path of which was paved by the British colonialists. The vestiges of British colonial aspirations exist not only at Buckingham Palace, but even more so in the power of the intrigue and secrecy-ridden City of London.

Britain and the Muslims

The partition of India, and the formation of Pakistan, a Muslim nation, by the British Raj, was not done because the British liked Muslims. They had slaughtered them by the thousands in 1856, when the Hindus and Muslims joined hands under the last Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar, to drive out the *firenghee* (white-skinned foreigners). Those who remember that untold part of the history of the Indian independence movement, talk of the piles of bodies lying in the streets of Delhi slaughtered by British soldiers. Most of them, like Benazir Bhutto and her colleagues who died on Dec. 27, were Muslims. The Muslims were "traitors" aspiring to reinstate the "despicable" and "corrupt" Mughal dynasty, London screamed.

The key to the British Empire's financial success was its ability to manipulate Islam. The British Empire-builders eliminated the Islamic Caliphate, created nations out of deserts, eliminated some nations, and partitioned others to create Islamic nations. Britain was aware that the oil fields of Arabia would be a source of great power in the post-World War II decades. The western part of British India bordered Muslim Central Asia, another major source of oil and gas, bordering Russia and Muslim Afghanistan. British India also bordered Islamic Iran and the Persian Gulf—the doorway to the oil fields of Arabia. In order to keep its future options open, Balochistan, bordering northeastern Iran, and the tribal Pushtun-dominated areas bordering Afghanistan, remained as British protectorates.

So, when the break-up of British India was planned by Churchill and others, Balochistan was not a problem. The problem was the Pushtun-dominated North West Frontier Province (NWFP), which was led by a pro-Congress Party leadership, and had voted in the last referendum before partition, to join Hindu-majority India.

What London wanted was that the large Hindu-dominated India must not have common borders with Russia, or Central Asia. That could make it too powerful and, worst of all, energy independent. Pakistan was created by the gamesmen in

LaRouche Assails British Role in Bhutto Murder

Within hours of the Dec. 27 assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, Lyndon LaRouche offered the following blunt assessment.

LaRouche characterized the assassination as a “chaos operation,” and emphasized that he sees the British intelligence hand all over it, citing, for example, recent revelations of MI6 operators negotiating with Taliban leaders in Afghanistan, behind the backs of the U.S. and the Karzai government. The British, LaRouche elaborated, are operating within many groups—in all factions, on all sides of the conflict. They work towards both parallel and contradictory objectives, to maintain maximum leverage.

LaRouche emphasized that the motives behind the Bhutto assassination are global, not regional. There are factions of the British oligarchy who are out to make the entire global situation into an unwholesome mess. This has more

to do with the global financial crash than anything internal to the politics of Southwest or South Asia. There are factions in the City of London and allied financial oligarchy, who understand that the present financial system is doomed—is already collapsing at an accelerating rate. They see this as endgame, and are committed to determining who survives, and who goes down. They are using terrorism as a weapon of chaos, to secure their survival through the collapse, and to pave the way for dictatorship in many regions.

LaRouche explained that he is not referring to the House of Windsor. The issue is the London-centered Anglo-Dutch financial oligarchy, which is out to consolidate its imperial control over the world, under conditions of a total breakdown crisis. The issue is: Who will come out of the crash intact?

To unearth the specific British assets behind the Bhutto assassination, the appropriate question is: Which British assets in the South Asia region hate the prospect of any rational outcome to the situation? That is the starting point. As early evidence indicates, the Bhutto assassination was an “inside job,” run through British and allied operatives within the inner circle of Mrs. Bhutto, including within her security entourage.

London because they wanted a weak Muslim state that would depend heavily on the mighty British military. The Cold War period held this arrangement in place, to the satisfaction of the British. The Kashmir dispute, triggered from London to cut off Indian access to Afghanistan, served the British policy-makers well.

But the post-Cold War days are different. China is rising in the north and seeking entry into the Persian Gulf and Central Asia through the western part of Pakistan bordering Afghanistan. China has a long-term plan to build, and build, and build, infrastructure in this area, to bring resources into its vast but thinly populated western sector that extends from bordering areas of Kazakstan under the shadows of the Tien Shan mountains in the West, to the Shaanxi province deep inside China.

What is the connection of this history to the gruesome incident that happened in the darkening shadows of Liaquat Ali Bagh in Rawalpindi? It is important for the Pakistanis, as well for the other citizens of the Indian subcontinent, to know and assimilate.

Britain wants another partition of Pakistan. Whether Washington wants it, or not, it is playing second fiddle to this absurd policy. This time, a new nation is supposed to emerge—a weak and disoriented nation, born out of violence, just like the partition of British India. This nation will consist of Push-tun-dominated North West Frontier Province (NWFP), Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), and Balochistan—all situated west of the Indus River and bordering the British-drawn disputed Durand Line that allegedly separates Afghanistan from Pakistan.

Why Bhutto?

The purpose of inserting Benazir Bhutto into the scene, after eight years of self-imposed exile, at a time when law and order had completely broken down, and even the Pakistani military was coming under serious attacks from the Islamic militants, was two-fold. The first objective, which Bhutto achieved in no time, was to put the Pakistani military on the defensive and generate demands in the street for the military to get back to barracks.

It is understood by the majority of Pakistanis, that despite the corruption that envelops the military, it is the only force in the nation that could, in the short term, maintain law and order, and fight the secessionists.

Once she put the Pakistani military on the defensive, Benazir did not become irrelevant. She became the designated *qurbani* (sacrifice). The killing of Benazir Bhutto has already unleashed domestic violence. In the midst of grieving Pakistan People's Party (PPP) activists and workers, who feel betrayed and orphaned, will be the killers whose objective is to challenge the military and postpone the Jan. 8 elections. They would provoke the military to shoot at the people.

It is to be noted that the international Islamic radicals, who dip heavily into the British and other foreign intelligence sources, have infiltrated over the years into the Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and the lower echelons of Pakistan's military. That makes the task of keeping Pakistan together even more challenging.

The death of Bhutto was a step to breaking up Pakistan. She, however, wanted to unify the country. The Pakistani people must see to it that her death was not in vain.

LaRouche: Syria-Israel Peace Would Defeat British Chaos Plan

by Michele Steinberg

Diplomatic activity between the United States and *both* Iran and Syria is intensifying, exactly along the lines called for by Lyndon LaRouche beginning in 2004 with his “Strategy for Southwest Asia: The LaRouche Doctrine,” which was then picked up in the bipartisan Iraq Study Group in December 2006. Now, after the Annapolis meeting in November, which included Syria in the talks for the first time under the George W. Bush regime, and after the release of the National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on Iran, these diplomatic channels are operating quietly, but at levels higher than ever, reported a well-informed Washington source.

However, nothing short of open talks, as described by Syria’s ambassador to the U.S., Imad Moustapha (see next page), will lead to a comprehensive and permanent peace.

On Dec. 24, speaking to a widely watched media network based in Southwest Asia, LaRouche summed up the events of 2007 in the region by focussing on the importance of Israeli-Syria peace. Such a settlement could defeat the British Empire’s plan to blow up the region in chaos—the most recent example being the assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

Since mid-September 2007, LaRouche has given his full support for Israeli-Syrian talks, which would cause momentum toward the “doable,” after Israeli President Shimon Peres had told foreign journalists that “the nervousness in relations between ourselves and Syria is over. We are ready to negotiate directly.” Later, LaRouche insisted that the only way to ensure any progress at the Annapolis conference was to include Syria, which was finally decided by the administration only three days before the conference began.

As LaRouche forecast, the Israel-Syria track holds the most promise for immediate success, and since Christmas, mediated peace diplomacy went into high gear, according to reports from Israel.

On Dec. 27, key to this effort, was the arrival in the region of U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.). In Israel, he met Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, and he planned to travel to Damascus to meet with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad a day later. Olmert reportedly gave Specter a message to deliver to Assad.

According to the Israeli daily *Ha’aretz*, Olmert told Specter, “I am still examining the Syrian track and Damascus’ seriousness. I have not finished examining the issue, but I have

yet to receive a clear answer [from Syria] and am therefore still waiting.” *Ha’aretz* quotes “Jerusalem sources” saying that, “Despite the fact that Olmert did not explicitly request that the message be transferred to Assad, we assume that the issue will be raised in [Specter’s] talks in Damascus. It was obvious that this was his intention.”

In an interview with an Israeli TV station that was reported in the Dec. 28 *Jerusalem Post*, Specter “said that if Israel and Syria were to replace intermittent messages passed through third parties and the media with serious, direct negotiations, U.S. President George W. Bush was not unlikely to change his determination to ignore Syria on regional matters and would probably express support for peace talks between Jerusalem and Damascus.” Specter has also criticized the White House after Annapolis for not including Iran.

Meanwhile, in an interview in the *Financial Times Deutschland* Dec. 28, Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Faisal Mekdad, who attended the Annapolis talks, said that he hoped Bush would intervene in Syrian-Israeli talks, as “it would be very difficult to reactivate the peace process without the U.S.” Mekdad said he shared the view of President Bill Clinton, that 85% of all issues have been agreed upon, and the remaining issues could be solved in 35 minutes if the political will were there.

Hope for U.S.-Iran Relations

U.S. government sources report a significant renewed signal from Tehran of an interest in talks toward a “global agreement” with Washington, and the critical first step involves continuing the talks in Baghdad, led by Ambassador Ryan Crocker for the United States.

These talks are taking place, as members of Congress from both parties are pressing to stop Dick Cheney’s faction from starting an Iran war, and are working for fundamental change in U.S.-Iranian relations. On Dec. 22, the *Baltimore Sun* reported that Rep. Wayne Gilchrest (R-Md.) is organizing the Dialogue Caucus, a bipartisan group promoting direct talks with Tehran. According to the *Sun*, last Autumn, Gilchrest met privately with Iran’s United Nations envoy, Mohammad Javad Zarif. Since then, he has communicated by letter with the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament (Majlis), and, according to Congressional sources, in early December 2007, Gilchrest met with Iranian parliamentarians at a conference in Lisbon, Portugal.

Gilchrest, a Vietnam War Marine veteran, told the *Sun* that he prefers “sending old men to talk before we send young men to die.” The Congressman is redoubling his efforts in the wake of the NIE that revealed that Iran halted work on a nuclear bomb in 2003. “You get this kind of momentum, we will begin a dialogue with Iran,” he said. Former Rep. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), who co-chaired the Iraq Study Group, called Gilchrest’s efforts “exactly what is needed.” Gilchrest says he is keeping President Bush informed of his discussions with the Iranians.

Syrian Ambassador to U.S.: We Want Open Talks With Israel

Dr. Imad Moustapha, Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United States, gave a one-hour live webcast presentation to the Middle East Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars on Dec. 17, 2007, entitled, "U.S., Syria and the Old New Middle East: Confrontation or Cooperation?" The webcast can be viewed at www.wilson-center.org.

Here are the remarks of Dr. Moustapha, including excerpts from the subsequent discussion, transcribed by EIR. Subheads have been added.

Of course, discussing Syrian-U.S. relationship is not an easy issue, taking into account the difficulties those relations have faced in the past four years. I always, always like to remind my audience, whenever I start a talk, about the fact that relations between Syria and the United States were not confrontational in the past. Yes, we have always had issues with the United States, and the United States had always issues with us, mainly because of the ongoing Arab-Israeli conflict and the core issue of that conflict, the Palestinian issue. Just a reminder: Despite past difficulties between Syria and the United States, two major landmarks of cooperation should be mentioned, as an example. One of them has to do with the Second Gulf War: When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, our troops were next to your troops in the fight for the liberation of Kuwait. Syrian troops were actually allies to U.S. troops. Sometimes this surprises people, when I tell them this story, because Syria is supposed to be an enemy to the United States, we are supposed to be a "rogue state," not a state that will be in alliance with the United States in one major conflict.

Another important landmark that I always try to remind my audience of, when I discuss U.S.-Syrian relations, has to do with the tragic events of Sept. 11, and the fact that Syria provided a wealth of information and intelligence to the United States, about al-Qaeda. And there is a famous letter, addressed by Secretary Powell, to the United States Congress, in which he "thanks Syria for helping save American lives."

This sort of cooperation was deemed important and vital for the Syrian national interest, for one very important reason, from our perspective: We understand that without the United States of America's involvement in the Middle East peace process, there can be no Middle East peace. The United States happens to be the only country in the whole world that has any



Dr. Imad Moustapha

sort of leverage on Israel, because of the tremendous military, financial, political, and diplomatic assistance and aid, support that the United States gives to Israel.

We, in our part of the world, consider this support as being blind, flagrant, and totally, totally biased. And sometimes, we even consider it to be contradictory to the national interests of the United States, and even to Israel itself! Taking into account that Israeli society is divided into what we would call the

"peaceniks" and the "Likudniks," or the war camp and the peace camp, or those who believe a Zionist ideology about the divine right given to Israel to expand, to grab more and more land, to build more and more settlements; as opposed to the other camp in Israel, a constituency for peace, in which many Israelis believe that in order for Israel to be accepted by its neighbors, and in order for the grandchildren of the Israelis to live in peace with our grandchildren, they need to understand that they cannot continue their policies of occupation, of oppression, and of humiliation, to the occupied people under their reign.

So we, in Syria, understood that it is of paramount importance to have a good relationship with United States. Because, as you all remember, Syria has a part of its territories occupied, the Golan, and Syria has embraced the pan-Arab peace initiative, based on the fair principle of land-for-peace, we realized in Syria that maintaining a solid, practical working relationship with the United States will help serve our national interests. But also being realistic, we understand that this should also reflect on the national interests of both the United States and its allies.

Iraq War: The Tipping Point

Of course, it is needless to remind everybody that the war on Iraq, the invasion and occupation of Iraq, was the tipping point, after which bilateral relations between Syria and the



State Department/Michael Gross

Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem (left) met with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice at Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt in May 2007, and again in Istanbul in November 2007. Syria insisted that if it is to be a party to peace discussions, Israel's occupation of Syria's Golan Heights must be on the agenda. This was finally agreed to by the U.S., allowing Syrian participation at Annapolis: a step forward.

United States dramatically deteriorated. It is known to everybody that Syria has opposed this war on Iraq, understanding that it would create many more problems than it will resolve; it will fuel extremes and fundamentalism across our region; and most importantly, it will further destabilize our region, and probably have terrible repercussions on all neighboring countries, not only on Iraq. The issue of the Iraqi refugees in Syria, in Jordan, and elsewhere in the Middle East, is just one small reminder of the so-called “collateral damage” that has befallen other neighboring countries of Iraq, but there are many other issues that the war on Iraq, the occupation of Iraq, has created.

Back to Syrian-U.S. relations: As I have said, once the war on Iraq started, relations between Syria and the United States deteriorated dramatically, and the current, present administration started using terms to describe Syria that it has never used before, such as Syria being a “rogue state,” or Syria becoming the most eligible candidate to join the official list of the “axis of evil.” (We have not joined that yet, but we are always reminded of it.)

Having said this, and despite the difficulties, we in Syria realize that the U.S. presence in Iraq has become a reality. Whether we like it or not, today the United States is the occupying authority in Iraq and it has the upper hand in whatever goes on in Iraq. And because it is in our own national interest to find a solution to the ongoing conflict in Iraq, and to help stabilize the situation in Iraq, we started offering cooperation with the United States as early as 2004. Of course, at that point, the U.S. administration would flatly reject any attempt by the Syrians to help stabilize the situation in Iraq. And whenever they would raise an issue with us, like allegations concerning the infiltration of insurgents from Syria into Iraq,

our response would not only be to refute these accusations or deny them, but to tell the United States, “Look, if you think there is a problem there, let us work together on this problem.”

I remember, that as far back as April 2004, I was instructed by my government to meet with top officials from the Pentagon and tell them, that while you continue repeating those allegations about Syria allowing insurgents to infiltrate those borders, and while we are telling you this is untrue, we don't want to waste time and energy on this; I am here to officially offer the U.S. administration actual cooperation, actual engagement on securing the Syrian-Iraqi borders. And I remember well, I started by offering the officials from

the Pentagon—two Assistant Secretaries of Defense, at the time—as a starter, joint, trilateral patrols, exchanging information, sharing intelligence, field meetings between officers on both sides of the border. But of course, all our attempts were rejected.

By August 2004, a large U.S. official delegation visited Damascus, and discussed with us the possibility of restarting engagement on Iraq. And because, as I have said, it is in our own national interest to help stabilize the situation in Iraq, we thought, this offers a common ground. And at least apparently, the United States claims to want to stabilize the situation in Iraq, so why not? Why not help the Iraqis? We were not offering actual help to the United States, but help to the Iraqis, because we in Syria believe, that as long as violence continues in Iraq, as long as bloodshed and sectarian strife continue in Iraq, the U.S. administration will have a pretext to remain in Iraq.

And let me be honest and candid with you: It's of a paramount national interest for Syria, 1) to preserve the territorial integrity of Iraq; 2) to see all foreign armies withdraw from Iraq. Because of our understanding of this situation, we thought that if we can actually help stabilize the situation in Iraq, and put an end to the ongoing situation of bloodshed and violence, on the one hand, we will be doing a great service to our Iraqi sisters and brothers; but on the other hand, we will not give the U.S. administration or any other power, a pretext to continue its military presence in Iraq.

So, as of August 2004, we agreed to resume cooperation with the United States on Iraq. This cooperation lasted for a very short period of time, till January 2005, when Under Secretary of State Richard Armitage visited Damascus and came to us with a list of requests concerning Iraq, and to

prove our goodwill, we fulfilled everything that we had promised Richard Armitage at the time, and I think you can always verify our side of the story, because Richard Armitage is still around. And we thought that that would be a restarting point, in which United States and Syria can re-engage diplomatically.

The Annapolis Conference

However, this did not happen: As you all know, the whole team changed at the State Department in January 2005, and the new team came in. And for reasons that are not clear to us today, any attempts to engage diplomatically and politically between the United States and Syria stalled completely. And this continued to be the case until seven months ago, when an unprecedented meeting between Secretary Rice and our Foreign Minister took place in Sharm el-Sheikh. In that meeting, Secretary Rice asked our Foreign Minister to resume the past cooperation Syria used to have with the United States on intelligence, military, and security issues. We told the United States at that time that it is impossible for us, in Syria, to re-engage on those issues with the United States, while the United States continues to refuse to talk to us, to engage with us diplomatically and politically. We do not believe that Syria is a charity, in which we would give, give, and give, and take nothing back in return.

That meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh ended with our understanding that the ball is in the American court: If they want us to cooperate with them, on the security, military, and intelligence level, they also have to engage with us diplomatically, and politically. We're not going to do this, while the top U.S. leaders and officials continue to bash and lambaste Syria at every available occasion.

So, nothing happened after Sharm el-Sheikh, till a couple of months ago. Another meeting took place in Istanbul, also between Secretary Rice and our Foreign Minister, Walid al-Moallem. This time Secretary Rice asked Syria to be present, to attend the Annapolis conference. And we told the United States at the meeting in Istanbul, that it will be practically impossible for us to attend Annapolis if we will not be allowed to discuss our occupied Golan. It's preposterous that Syria would go and attend a peace conference, when Syria has a part of its territories occupied by Israel, and sit there, listen to the speeches, applaud the speakers, and not even be allowed to discuss its occupied territories: It doesn't work this way.

Secretary Rice said to her Syrian counterpart, that it would be impossible to include the Golan, because the agenda was already set. And we told her, "Well, if the Golan will not be included, then Syria will not be able to attend."

To make a long story short, lots of discussions and inter-mediations took place, and three days prior to Annapolis, the United States informed Syria that it is pleased to tell us that a special session on the Israel-Syrian track would be included;

of course, a session on the Lebanese-Israeli track also would be included. And thus a comprehensive peace in the Middle East would be discussed during Annapolis, so we decided to join.

In one way or another, we believed that that was a minor, but a positive improvement in U.S.-Syrian relations, and we hope that this will lead to more and more diplomatic and political discussions, and engagement, that might lead to the resumption of the fully fledged sort of cooperation we used to have with the United States on all levels and in all fronts.

Of course, there are many skeptics about Annapolis, and also there are many people who believe that Annapolis was something great, it was good and great it has happened. The skeptics look at the lack of any preparations prior to Annapolis, and consider it as just a forum in which foreign ministers and leaders of states gave public speeches. They consider the whole exercise in Annapolis as a grand photo opportunity. Those who are more on the optimistic side, think that, regardless of everything else, Annapolis did create momentum for the peace talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians, that desperately needs some sort of new blood, or a push here, or a push there. And it did create a paradigm in which all parties, everybody involved, agreed that there is a need for a comprehensive approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict and to help bring peace to the Middle East.

As far as we are concerned, the Syrians, I would say, here was this international forum, and there was for us an opportunity to come, to participate, and to remind the whole world, that a part of Syria is occupied, also a part of Lebanon is occupied, and there is a need to address all issues, not only the Israeli-Palestinian issue—taking into account, of course, that the Palestinian issue is the core issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict. We are not belittling the Palestinian issue: We still, in Syria, believe that it has precedence over everything else. But having said this, we also need to remind the world that peace cannot be universal, comprehensive, and cannot prevail in the Middle East, as long as the Israeli occupation of the Syrian territories and the Lebanese territories continues. And of course—of course—as long as there is no independent sovereign, viable Palestinian state, then our region will really not enjoy the benefits and fruits of the peace that all parties dream of.

Future Prospects

I would say, that reading the situation on the ground after Annapolis, is not very encouraging. Israel has resumed its plans to expand its illegal settlements in Har Homa and elsewhere, and the Israeli government is now thinking, thinking of changing the status of the so-called illegal "legal posts" in the occupied Palestinian territories, into what *they* would consider "legal" settlements. And you know, they consider them legal from their viewpoint, regardless of the fact that *all* Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories are il-

legal, according to international law, and to what is accepted as legitimate behavior and accepted norms of political behavior by any occupying party in the world

Also, the so-called “targetted assassination” policy continues, in Gaza and elsewhere, in Palestine, occupied territories. Only yesterday, the Israeli forces captured and imprisoned about 32 Palestinians from the West Bank, not from Gaza itself.

So the prospects are not that encouraging, that positive, reading the situation as it is on the ground. However, on the other hand, just to be realistic, we happen to know that meetings are taking place in Paris, and Palestinian and Israeli officials are discussing all issues.

Now, if we come back to the Syrian-U.S. track, let me say the following to you: Today in Syria, we believe that the Syrian-Israeli peace track will not be re-launched as long as there is no U.S. administration that fully and enthusiastically supports peace talks between the Syrians and the Israelis. Now, in the past, let me remind you, that it was Vice President Bush, Sr., who convened the Madrid peace conference, and who actually played an important role in brokering Syrian-Israeli peace talks; and then it was President Clinton, during his eight years of term, that worked so hard with his team, trying to bring the Arabs and the Israelis to a peace agreement, but also, as far as we are concerned, who worked also very hard on the Syrian-Israeli peace track.

Now, the situation with the present administration has changed from its nonchalance, in the beginning, saying that they don’t want to spend any energy, time, or effort on trying to negotiate peace between the Arabs and the Israelis, or to play the role of the broker of peace; but then, they evolved into a position in which the U.S. administration has become ferociously opposed to any peace talks between, at least—let me say this—the Syrians and the Israelis. In many occasions, the United States, whenever it would discuss the possibility of reviving peace talks between Syria and Israel, the U.S. administration would always be adamant about opposing such peace talks.

Now, what we are told, is that the U.S. administration has gone back to a situation, in which, on the one hand, they do not actively support peace talks between the Syrians and the Israelis, but on the other hand, they are not interested in playing any role in trying to bring the Syrians and the Israelis together to the negotiation table. At least, this role—as we are being told by our Russian friends—this role will be attempted by the Russians [inaudible], and the Moscow peace conference they are planning to convene, as a follow-up to the Annapolis peace conference.

We look at this situation today, between Syria and the United States, and we still believe that it is vital for us to re-engage politically and diplomatically with the United States. The difficulties are there, we cannot deny them; but what we believe is, when two countries have difficulties between each other, then they need more than anything else, to sit together,

and to address all the issues. Put all the issues on the table and address all the issues. We will have a common ground, upon which we can build and move forward. Is there a possibility to improve relations with Syria and the present administration in its last year, in its lame-duck year? Yes, there is, both theoretically speaking and potentially, such a possibility. We do not believe that dramatic improvements will take place, but it has already considerably improved in the past six months, relatively speaking, of course. We don’t hear the sort of accusations about Syria we used to hear in the past four years from the Bush Administration. However, we are still regarded as a negative player in the Middle East. And despite that the Europeans and most of the world considers Syria to be part of the solution, not a part of the problem, the U.S. is still hesitant, reluctant, and probably divided within administration itself, about the role it should play towards Syria, and whether they should engage, or otherwise, with Syria.

Only yesterday, I heard an astounding statement by President Bush, when he was meeting with some Jewish leaders, because of Chanukah, and he told them that the Jews have fled Syria because of oppression. This surprised me, and astounded me a lot. And in a way, it is educational. The level of misunderstanding and lack of knowledge they have about Syria: There is a prosperous, thriving Jewish-Syrian community that lives in Brooklyn that enjoys the best possible relations with their motherland, with Syria. They visit there regularly; I attend all their occasions—I am always the guest of honor at every wedding, every bar mitzvah they have, and they have maintained the best possible, warmest relations with Syria. And they *didn’t know*—till yesterday, when President Bush told them—that they were oppressed when they used to live in Syria.

So, in a way this little story reflects a lot about the misunderstanding, and the totally, totally wrong perceptions the Bush Administration has got about my country.

Thank you very much, and I hope we can move to the Q&A session.

Discussion

Q: My name is Raphael Cohen-Almagor, I am at the Woodrow Wilson Center. Thank you very much, Mr. Ambassador for these words, and I listened to you very carefully.

There are three stumbling blocks between the United States and Syria, that might interfere with the relationship in the creation of good, solid relations that you like to envisage:

One is the issue of the connections between Syria and North Korea. If you can elaborate on this for a while.

Second issue is the relationship between Syria and terrorist organizations. You are hosting the notorious Khaled Mashaal [of Hamas] for some time now. If you can elaborate on this issue?

And then, the third stumbling block is your relationship



White House Photo/Chris Greenberg

At the Annapolis Conference, Nov. 27, 2007, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas addresses the delegates from nearly 50 nations and organizations. Dr. Moustapha notes that the situation since Annapolis has not been very encouraging, and U.S. officials continue to make provocative statements against Syria; but diplomacy is continuing.

with Lebanon. How you foresee the future between Syria and Lebanon? What kind of relationship would you like to see between the two countries?

And another issue between Israel and—

Moustapha: Well! Very long question. This will take half an hour to address all three issues, okay?

Moderator: I ask you to ask short questions, please.

Moustapha: First, we were never, ever told—this is a big surprise to me, and it's a good educational experience for me—we were never told that relations between Syria and North Korea are an issue between Syria and the United States. Actually, the United States is diplomatically engaging with North Korea. I think this is very good! This is the sort of advice I would like to give any country in the world: You have a problem with a country, engage with this country, and in a way, I think the relations between the United States and North Korea are maturing up to a certain practical liberty. I hope all the best for both countries, and I hope they will have good relations with each other.

Nobody has ever discussed with us, relations between Syria and North Korea, that are normal relations. Now, if you are referring to the hype in the U.S. media—*U.S. media*, not by even the Israeli government, or the American government—about the *alleged*, alleged Syrian-Korean nuclear link, or cooperation, or program, well, I think nobody is discussing this any more.

I would tell you the following: I can't disclose a lot publicly, but even here in the United States, at a highly classified

hearing that was presented in the U.S. Congress a couple of weeks ago, key officials from the U.S. administration had to say, behind closed doors, that there are no Syrian nuclear projects, no Syrian-Korean nuclear cooperation.

So, this is the sort of silly, absurd, ridiculous hype that reminds us of the sort of stories we used to read when the Iraqi WMDs were discussed prior to the war on Iraq, or even the more absurd stories about the links between Saddam Hussein and al-Qaeda! It's so easy to fabricate stories, if you are ideologically motivated, and if you have a gullible audience that does not critically read and analyze the sort of information they are being fed or told.

Now, as far as Khaled Mashaal living in Syria: Let me remind you, that Khaled Mashaal is a Palestinian who used to live in his own homeland, Palestine. Then the Israelis kicked him out, to Jordan. And then, the Jordanians made a deal with the Israelis—I'm not going to deal with [that]—and today he lives in Syria. He's a human being, he's a Palestinian person. Not only him: Half a million Palestinians living today in Syria. We did not invite them to come to Syria; they were expelled, they were kicked out from their homeland. If Israel would allow the half a million Palestinians from Syria, half a million Palestinians from Lebanon, I don't know how many other millions of Palestinians, to go back to their occupied territory, we have no problem.

But, the other alternative is, to throw, with due respect, Khaled Mashaal in the sea? What is this! And people sit here and say, "Why do you host Khaled Mashaal...?" We did not invite him to come to Syria.

When the Israelis realize that they cannot continue to occupy the Palestinian territories, and to humiliate them and to push the Palestinians into conditions of despair and suffering, then I don't think that the Palestinians will remain in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and elsewhere. They will go back to their territories. And when the Israeli state realizes that the Palestinians are also human beings, equal to the Jews of the world, and they have a right to return to their homes and villages, then the whole issue will be resolved—and nobody will be discussing Khaled Mashaal with Syria any more.

However, if you know of a better solution, to allow Khaled Mashaal and the half-million Palestinians, refugees who live today in Syria, to go back to their occupied territories, then we will be very glad to address this issue.

The Lebanon Crisis

Moving to Lebanon: Syria recognizes Lebanon as a sovereign, independent state. When we entered Lebanon, we entered Lebanon to end the civil war there, invited by the Lebanese government. Our military presence was endorsed by the Arab League, by the European Union, by the former Soviet Union, and most importantly, by the government of the United States of America—that never, *ever* described our presence in Lebanon as an “occupation,” till after the fall-out between Syria and the United States, because of Iraq!

Suddenly, within a very short period of time, the U.S. officials started to describe our so-called “presence” in Lebanon, as an evil occupation of Lebanon. Very good! The United Nations Security Council passed the resolution demanding that Syria, all foreign troops, withdraw from Lebanon. We withdrew from Lebanon.

I hope that this will give a good example to the other people who occupy other territories. Like, can you imagine the Palestinians demonstrating in the streets of Jerusalem, demanding that the Israelis withdraw, and within a couple of months, the Israeli troops say, “Okay, our presence has become controversial in the Palestinian territories. Let us withdraw”?

The fact that anyone, anyone can compare our presence in Lebanon to the U.S. occupation of Iraq, or the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories, is not even being realistic.

We were in Lebanon. Our presence was endorsed, as I have said, by world powers, by the official government of Lebanon. And a United Nations resolution passed, demanding that we withdraw from Lebanon—we withdrew from Lebanon. End of the story!

If you are asking about the terrible, horrible crime, the assassination of Rafik el-Hariri, fair enough: There is an ongoing investigation about this assassination of Rafik el-Hariri. The United Nations is investigating this assassination. It is considered to be the largest investigation team in the history of mankind: Forensic scientists, criminal investigators, policemen, Interpol experts, you name them, they are there, working hard to reveal the truth about this terrible crime. As far as we are concerned, Serge Brammertz, the lead investigator from the United Nations, has submitted at least four reports to the United Nations Security Council. Those reports are available online; please go and Google them. In *each* report, he praises the Syrian cooperation with his investigation.

From our viewpoint, we are committed to help reveal the truth about this crime, and it helps Syrian national interest, to actually reveal the truth about this terrible crime, so that nobody will point fingers in a baseless way, and accuse this party or that party for politically motivated reasons. . . .

The Israel-Syria Track

Q: Michele Steinberg from *Executive Intelligence Review*. Mr. Ambassador, I read, as part of my job, almost every day, all of the English-language Israeli press, and there

are often quotes, including from the President, Shimon Peres, saying, “We must make peace with Syria at some point.” I’d like you to elaborate, if you can, how that is reflected in back channels, [or] directly, and elaborate what you said about Russia playing a role in pursuing the Israel-Syria track.

Moustapha: Thank you for reminding me and the audience, that actually the Israeli leaders, themselves, say what I have just been saying: “It is inevitable, at one point we will make peace with Syria; at one point, we will allow the Palestinians to have their independent state.” When this will evolve and when it will happen, I’m afraid to tell you; this has become a hostage of *purely* internal, domestic Israeli policies. It’s the inside political fights, and occurring inside Israel itself, that have taken the more important issue of peace between Israel and the Arabs as a hostage.

Now, about back channels, there are no very important back channels. There are just countries and individuals, who discuss the possibilities of restarting peace talks between Syria and Israel: They discuss this with us, they discuss this with the Israelis—they try to come to understanding, they are hopeful.

As far as we are concerned, we in Syria oppose secret talks between Syria and Israel. What we want, is to talk under the Sun. We have a very clear position in Syria: The moment Israel is willing to start peace talks with Syria, we are willing to start peace talks with Israel—but not in a secretive way. We think that there is nothing secretive about peace talks between Syria and Israel. The Syrian position is a very clear one, so why should we go into secret channels to discuss peace between us and the Israelis?

Of course, I’m not telling you, that we should negotiate in front of the TV cameras! I’m telling you that the event itself, the peace process itself, should be a public event, but the negotiations should take place behind closed doors, naturally—I’m not implying otherwise.

So, many back channels come to us, and explore with us the possibility of conducting some sort of track to diplomacy, or secret peace talks between Syria and Israel. We always tell them, “We don’t believe in Track 2 diplomacy, we believe in Track 1 diplomacy. This is our policy! We want to make peace. You want to make peace—sit with us! You don’t want to make peace, everything else is a pretext. Everything else!” Whatever you hear about “why we don’t want to sit with the Syrians,” is a pretext, because they know that once peace is achieved, and all those issues will go into their right place, and will fit into the larger framework.

Please do remember, that Nelson Mandela used to be described as a terrorist, when he was imprisoned by the South African apartheid regime. For years and years, he was described as a terrorist. So, using negative terms, accusations, leads to nowhere. It’s whether it’s about the desire, and how serious you are about whether you want to address the issues or not.

Who Is British Imperialism?

Dispatches from the London *Economist* on the subject of the succession to South Africa's President Thabo Mbeki, warn us that Princess Diana's legacy still haunts British Africa policy today. The seemingly perpetual state of uncertainty, whether swindler Al Gore's choice, the current Prince of Wales, or a son of former Princess Diana, shall inherit the succession to the British throne, underscores the fact that a Queen, or even a King, may be the designated British monarch; but, the more essential fact remains, that it is the den of financial thieves represented by the Anglo-Dutch Liberal financier oligarchy which considers itself the real emperor of not only the British Empire as such, but the whole world, today.

The problem is that the recent decades, the current U.S. pre-presidential campaigns remind us, since the death of U.S. President Roosevelt and the assassination of President Kennedy, have been a span of increasing mediocrity in both our public and private life, now reaching that state of moral as much as intellectual imbecility and outright fraud typified by computer games and Wikipedia. So, it is asked: "What is happening in Africa?" instead of how rotten are the forces now dominating what is every part of the planet considered in the large.

There is presently, one crucial problem of this planet, for which what is crucially important in any part of this planet is only a reflection. That problem is typified by the profound moral and intellectual decay pervading the planet as a whole, as a result of a neo-malthusian pestilence of lying called "globalization."

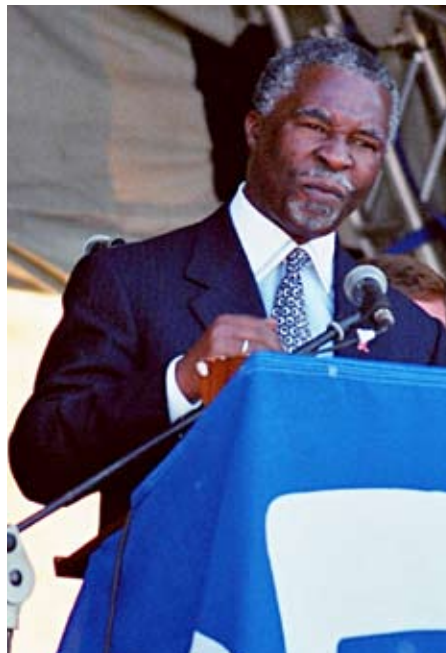
So, for example, the Anglo-Dutch Liberal financier cartel behind the imperial practices of the BAE, are launching campaigns intended to spread genocide through maximizing available options for spreading the internal conflicts within Africa, among other places.

So, in an editorial run before the recent leadership election of the African National Congress (ANC), the Dec. 15 London *Economist* stated that both candidates, South African President Thabo Mbeki, and ex-Vice President Jacob Zuma, were deeply flawed, and that neither should be running the ANC, or the country. "A split in the movement might be welcome," said the *Economist*, "because the country should be moving to a new era of pluralist democracy," and complained that many in

the ANC do not see Mbeki's autocracy as bad. The *Economist* lamented that the favorite candidates of the British, Tokyo Sexwale and Cyril Ramaphosa (a lawyer, trade union organizer, and politician, before he turned to business) didn't have a chance because the ANC's authoritarian traditions prevented them from even being considered as candidates.

The British are not happy with the strategic role that South Africa has played in Africa. The latest example of this role was at the EU-African summit in Lisbon, where South African President Mbeki was widely recognized for playing a critical role in preventing the EU from getting African nations to agree to a free-trade agreement that would have opened them up to more looting. Peter Mandelson, the EU Trade Chief who is trying to force the free-trade agreement on the African nations, singled out Mbeki as one of the key opponents, who was influencing other African nations to oppose the EU plan. Mbeki's efforts to mediate the situation in Zimbabwe, as well as South Africa's peace-keeping interventions into other conflicts in Africa, are also not appreciated by the British and the EU more generally, as they are concerned by growing Chinese influence in Africa. If African countries are destabilized, it will be more difficult for China to increase its influence through aid to development projects, and trade.

South Africa's agreement, at the time of independence, to play by IMF rules, has now led to Mbeki's popularity falling because of continuing, or worsening poverty. Among the general population, Zuma is not so popular either. A poll cited by the *Economist*, indicates that half the population in the big cities in South Africa think a Zuma Presidency (of South Africa) would be disastrous. In this context, the British seem to be angling for one of their favorites, Sexwale or Ramaphosa, to become the next President of South Africa.



GCIS

The British Establishment is not happy with the strategic role South Africa is playing on the continent, and, through its mouthpiece the Economist, is attempting to divide the African National Congress, between President Thabo Mbeki (left), and ex-Vice President Jacob Zuma.

International Intelligence

Britain's MI6 in Secret Contact With the Taliban

Officers from Britain's MI6 foreign intelligence service have engaged in peace talks with up to a dozen Taliban officials in Afghanistan, the London *Daily Telegraph* reported on Dec. 26.

The officers were understood to have sought peace directly with the Taliban, "with some of them coming across as some sort of armed militia," the *Telegraph* quoted a source as saying. "The British would provide mentoring for the Taliban."

These secret British contacts undermine American efforts to put the country under control of President Hamid Karzai. The larger British objective is to create a separate nation along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, to undermine both Islamabad and Kabul.

On Dec. 24, Afghanistan ordered a top European Union official and a UN staffer, both British citizens, to leave the country for threatening national security, government and diplomatic officials said. The two were declared *persona non grata*, apparently after allegations that they had met with Taliban insurgents, a European diplomat said.

The report of the expulsion came out the day that President Karzai travelled to Islamabad to discuss reduction of terrorist acts committed by the Taliban and other radical Islamist groups.

These developments, and the leaking of the story, play back into British politics. In mid-December, Brown had pledged to the House of Commons that there would be "no negotiations with terrorists." But the *Independent's* lead headline on Dec. 27 read, "Diplomats to leave Afghanistan as new 'Great Game' played with tribal leaders. . . . For spies, diplomats and soldiers in Afghanistan are playing the Great Game today as much as their forefathers ever did." The Great Game was the prolonged 19th-Century covert warfare between Great Britain and Russia for domination of the Indian Subcontinent, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia.

On Dec. 12, Brown announced a policy of "tribal engagement." Such "engagement"

has been the policy of Britain's ambassador Sir Sherard Cowper Coles, and of Brig. Andrew Mackay, commander of British forces in Afghanistan's Helmand province, according to classified documents quoted in the *Independent*. "Great Britain's long association with Afghanistan has shown that we got ourselves into this country by forming tribal alliances. Equally we will get ourselves out, over time, by forming tribal alliances that support the government of Afghanistan," Brigadier Mackay wrote in a classified document on Oct. 30.

Russia Tests Missile, Warns Against U.S. ABMs

Russia successfully tested a new type of ballistic missile on Dec. 25, which converts into a cruise missile in the descent phase, making it almost impossible to intercept with conventional anti-missile systems.

The launch was a clear signal of Russia's continuing displeasure with U.S. plans to station anti-missile defense systems in Poland and the Czech Republic, and of Moscow's stated intention to develop asymmetric systems in response. Russian officials also said a land-launched RS-24 missile with multiple warheads had been successfully test-fired from the Plesetsk range in northern Russia, and that a rocket carrying the last three satellites for a mapping and navigation system to rival the U.S. Global Positioning System had been launched.

The new hybrid missile, known as the RSM-54, or Sineva, was launched from the Russian nuclear missile submarine Tula in the Barents Sea, and hit a target on the Kura shooting range on the Kamchatka peninsula in the Far East.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Kamynin lambasted once again the U.S. plans to build anti-missile systems in Poland and the Czech Republic. Kamynin responded to an interview by Czech Foreign Minister Karel Schwarzenberg, published at the end of the previous week, in which the Czech official said he wanted the U.S. radar to guarantee surveillance of Russian terri-

tory. Kamynin said this was more proof that the U.S. missile defense system in eastern Europe is being built solely to disrupt the strategic balance and gain the edge over Russia, not to defend against a non-existent threat of Iranian missiles (as the Bush Administration has claimed).

Russian President Putin made an offer last Summer for the United States to participate in joint U.S.-Russian radar defense at a base Russia leases from Azerbaijan. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, in an interview published in *Vremya Novosti* on Dec. 26, emphasized that the Russian President "proposed a qualitatively new approach, implying mutual trust and complete openness regarding intelligence data gathered by each side using its most advanced technologies."

Operation Condor: Italy Arrests Suspect

Jorge Nestor Fernández Troccoli, a retired officer of the Uruguayan Navy, was arrested in Salerno, Italy on Dec. 24. He was wanted in Uruguay, because of his role in Operation Condor, the extermination of political opponents of military dictatorships in South America in the 1970s. Troccoli wrote the book *The Rage of the Leviathan* to justify Operation Condor.

Operation Condor was born in the office of the Chilean secret police, DINA, in 1975, under Gen. Augusto Pinochet, the dictator put into power by George Shultz and Felix Rohatyn.

Rome Judge Luisanna Figliola has also issued arrest warrants for 146 citizens of Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Bolivia (four of whom are dead), including former Argentinian leaders Rafael Videla, Emilio Eduardo Massera, former Montevideo dictator Jorge Maria Bordaberry, and former DINA chief Manuel Contreras.

The Rome warrants are the product of a nine-year investigation, upon lawsuits brought by relatives of Operation Condor victims of Italian origin.

Briefed on the actions by Capaldo, London LaRouche asked whether George Shultz

and Felix Rohatyn will be arrested too. After all, it was their sponsorship of the Pinochet coup that overthrew the Allende government in Chile, that was the basis for Operation Condor.

Venezuela's Chávez Stages FARC Hostage Release

Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez announced at a press conference on Dec. 26, that his government had worked out arrangements with the Colombian narco-terrorist FARC, for the imminent release of two women hostages and a child born in captivity, should the Colombian government accept, which it quickly did. Venezuelan Vice Foreign Minister Rodolfo Sanz announced on Dec. 27 that the timing of the release “is the exclusive competence and authority of President Hugo Chávez.”

The operation is being staged in grandstand fashion, with Chávez suggesting that the next step should be “peace talks” with the FARC—with himself at the center. Although the release of any of the hostages held in their jungle concentration camps is welcome, the Chávez-FARC operation is likely to play into the British policy of legitimizing and granting de facto recognition to the FARC cartel, destabilizing Colombia, and furthering national and regional disintegration.

To be released are Clara Rojas, a Vice Presidential candidate kidnapped in February 2002 along with her Presidential running mate, French-Colombian Ingrid Betancourt; Rojas's three-year-old son; and former Senator Consuelo González de Perdomo, held since September 2001. Dozens of other hostages are held by the FARC.

U.S. Role in International Fusion Program Is Axed

The U.S. Congress cut \$149 million in the fiscal 2008 budget that had been pledged as the U.S. contribution to the construction of the International Thermonuclear Experi-

mental Reactor (ITER), located in Cadarache, France. Thermonuclear fusion power would provide an almost unlimited source of electrical power and high-energy-density process heat, using the deuterium present in ordinary seawater as fuel.

Congress also stipulated that the Department of Energy could not take funds from other programs to give to ITER, but the Administration's science advisor John Marburger told *Science* magazine that he thought that this prohibition would not hold.

This will be the second time that the United States has removed itself from the international fusion project, a collaborative effort funded by several nations.

The U.S.A. was absent from the program from 1999 to 2003. In 1980, with the help of the LaRouche movement, both houses of Congress passed the Magnetic Fusion Energy Engineering Act, which called for an engineering reactor by 1990 and a prototype fusion reactor by 2000. The bill was signed into law by President Carter, but the Reagan Administration never funded it.

Iran's Larijani in Egypt, Seeking Normalization

Ali Larijani, head of Iran's National Security Council, arrived in Egypt on Dec. 25, where he discussed the possibility of renewing diplomatic relations. He met with Arab League Secretary General Amr Moussa, and Egypt's Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit, as well as Grand Sheikh Mohammed Seyed Tantawi and other officials of al-Azhar, one of Sunni Islam's most important religious centers.

“So far, we are on a positive track,” Larijani told reporters in Cairo, according to the *Jerusalem Post*. “The dialogue and the discussions are going on, but we should not be hasty.”

Iran cut diplomatic ties with Egypt after the latter signed a peace agreement with Israel in 1979, and provided asylum for the deposed Iranian Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Relations got even worse when Egypt backed Iraq during the 1980-88 Gulf War.

Briefly

YULIA TYMOSHENKO was returned to the premiership of Ukraine on Dec. 18, by 226 votes in the Supreme Rada, a one-seat majority. She is a demagogue of the U.S.-backed 2004 “Orange Revolution,” and one of her first phone calls after her re-election was to U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney, to discuss “energy independence.” In early 2007, she met Cheney in Washington, after which she trumpeted U.S. support for the agenda of the Orange Revolution—including a fast track to NATO membership.

CHINA AND INDIA held joint anti-terrorism military exercises, “Hand-in-Hand 2007,” in Kunming, Yunnan province, on Dec. 19-27. This was the first joint military operation on land by the two Asian giants since their border conflict in 1962. The next exercises are likely to be held in India.

KURDISH lawmakers agreed on Dec. 26 to a six-month delay in a referendum on whether the oil-rich city of Kirkuk should join the semiautonomous region of Kurdistan, or remain under the control of the Iraqi central government. The vote defuses for now the potentially explosive issue of Kirkuk, which is claimed by both Kurds and Arabs.

BANGLADESH, looking toward its first-ever nuclear power plant, has received a positive response from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The power-starved, impoverished country is seeking to set up a 700-1,000 MW capacity nuclear power plant in Rooppur in the northwest. Further discussions will take place in Vienna later in January.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II broadcast her Christmas Day message this year on YouTube, to make it “more accessible to younger people and those in other countries,” according to a royal spokesman. “I very much hope that this new medium will make my Christmas message more personal and direct,” the Queen said. Archives are at www.youtube.com/theroyalchannel.

The System Is Dead; Now What?

by John Hoefle

The year 2007 was one of remarkable changes in the global financial system, the chief among them, it being the year that the casino of unpayable debts and off-balance-sheet fantasies finally broke down, leaving us to watch as the ramifications of that collapse spread inexorably across the planet. This was the year that financial terms of which most people had never heard, such as “SIVs,” “CDOs,” and “monolines,” became almost household words, the year the so-called “subprime crisis” turned into the so-called “credit crunch,” only to be revealed at the end as a solvency crisis of the international banking system itself. It was the year that the central banks went from talking tough about asserting market discipline and letting speculators take their losses, to launching increasingly desperate schemes to keep the whole system from grinding to a halt.

We now enter 2008 in uncharted territory. The problems we saw in 2007 will only get worse, and there are new horrors to be discovered as the death throes intensify. The losses to the banks in 2007, likely to be on the order of \$100 billion, once the final reports are in, are just the beginning. The entire economy, particularly in the United States, has depended upon the accumulation of vast amounts of debt, with households, businesses, governments, and the financial markets all depending upon the ability to borrow to finance their existence. The ability to finance that debt depended in turn upon the ability of the banks to turn loans into securities that could be sold to speculators, moving the loans off the banks’ balance sheets into what is euphemistically called the investment community. That securitization game is now over, and its demise will wreak havoc with the ability of the economy to finance itself with debt. The wave of losses we have seen thus far is but a glimpse of what is to come, as the collapse eats its way through

the world’s balance sheets and flows relentlessly home to the balance sheets of the commercial banks, the investment banks, the insurance companies and other financial institutions, and to the lives of people.

Battle Royal

While the death of the system plays out before us in the financial press, the soap opera of falling dominoes and dueling pundits is but a cover for a much more profound battle: the battle over the nature of the system which will rise from the ashes. There are those poor fools who are trying to save the current system, to pretend that what has happened did not, to save their illusions of wealth; but they are irrelevant and will simply be swept away by events beyond their understanding and control. The real battle is between those who know the system is gone, and want to decide the nature of its replacement.

On the one side are the forces around Lyndon LaRouche and the American System of economics, who want to put the financial system through bankruptcy, putting up firewalls to protect the General Welfare of the citizenry, stopping home foreclosures and freezing the mass of financial claims until the wheat can be separated from the chaff. The speculative claims and fictitious values can be written off over time, while the elements necessary to protect the proper functioning of the economy can be protected, and the economy rebuilt. The essence of LaRouche’s approach is that the welfare of the population comes first, and must be protected at all costs.

On the other side are the forces of the international financial oligarchy, organized around the Anglo-Dutch rentier-financier model. Their intent is to use the crisis to destroy the

power of the nation-states and to restore the power of the empires, in a world dominated by imperial financiers and their trading cartels. To this crowd, people are but expendable peasants, little more than herds of cattle to be managed, sometimes slaughtered. What motivates the oligarchy is power, the ability to rule the world for the benefit of a small ruling class. In their view, the nation-states, in particular the historic United States, usurped their power, and they intend to reclaim it. They have, in fact, already made large steps in that direction.

There are, to be sure, fights among these jackals which are of interest to those of us who oppose them, but what they have in common is more important than their differences. To the prey, fights among the jackals over who will eat first are of little consequence.

The point which must be clearly understood is that this is a political fight rather than a financial one. The financial system is already gone and cannot be resurrected, and there are no serious attempts to do so. The moves by the central banks and the regulators are not intended to bring back the bubble, but rather to attempt to control its disintegration and buy the time to establish the replacement system. The money is already gone.

British Moves

The center of this global imperial assault is the City of London, which is openly plotting to become the capital of the new order. To do this, it must eliminate or at least severely weaken its rivals, beginning with the United States and its financial center, Wall Street.

The British take the long view of things, and began preparing for this collapse years ago. In 1986, the City of London transformed itself, breaking up its inbred financial system in what was called the “Big Bang,” as London positioned itself to be the center of a new global system based upon trading and speculation. Most of the old-line British merchant banks were sold off to better capitalized partners, with S.G. Warburg going to what is now known as UBS; Kleinwort Benson going to Dresdner Bank; Hambros to Société Générale; and Schroders to Citigroup, to name a few of the more prominent banks. These banks did not leave the City but stayed to help orchestrate a shift which brought foreign banks to London. In this way, London became the financial center of the new derivatives game, while the exposures, and ultimately the losses, were centered in New York, Tokyo, Frankfurt, and Zurich. The City positioned itself as the casino, profiting from the gambling of others and, through its network of offshore centers like the Cayman Islands, it lured its rivals into the trap.

Now the trap is being sprung. The Brits are using their propaganda assets like Rupert Murdoch’s News Corp. to assault Wall Street. Murdoch’s launching of the Fox Business cable television channel and his purchase of the *Wall Street Journal* provide the City with a platform to undermine the credibility of U.S. institutions.

It Began With Citigroup

Illustrative is the crisis which hit Citigroup in November. It began with a report issued by Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce analyst Meredith Whitney, who is also a regular guest on Fox News. Whitney said that Citigroup was in big trouble, in dire need of billions of dollars of new capital, and should probably break itself up into smaller pieces. The *Wall Street Journal* ran with the report, which resulted (or perhaps provided cover for) a sharp drop in Citigroup’s stock. The crisis led to the resignation of Citigroup chairman and CEO Chuck Prince within days.

Citi was hit by yet another British blow when HSBC—the infamous Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank of the British East India Company’s Dope, Inc.—announced that it was taking \$45 billion in SIV (structured investment vehicle) assets onto its balance sheets, putting pressure on Citigroup to do the same. Citigroup has thus far survived, but in a weakened state, and its new chairman is Sir Winifred Bischoff, a British knight who joined Citi when it purchased Schroders.

The British also played a major role in blowing up the subprime lenders. In March, Barclays forced New Century mortgage, the big subprime lender, to buy back mortgages, in effect, throwing New Century under the bus and escalating the meltdown of the subprime lenders. Barclays also played a role in the Bear Stearns hedge fund fiasco which erupted in June, as a major creditor to the bankrupt Bear funds.

The issue is not whether the problems identified by the British were real—they are—but why the British would choose to exacerbate them. In previous financial crises, such problems would have been covered up, the factions more interested in maintaining the illusion of calm, but the nature of the battle has changed. We are now in the endgame, where pushing as much of the damage as possible onto your rivals has replaced cooperation. The jackals are now fighting among themselves, to see who will survive.

Time To Move

What is coming, is something none of us has ever seen before. Were the British plans to prevail, the world would descend into a fascist, Cheneyesque nightmare: governments stripped of what little remains of their abilities to protect their populations from imperial looting, corporate cartels gouging the public in ways that bring to mind what Enron did to California, a veritable new dark age of austerity, population reduction, and utter chaos—with the City of London ruling over whatever pile of rubble is left.

The irony is that the nation-state is far superior to the empire as a political structure, that the levers to reverse this nightmare are within reach, should we choose to grasp them. So, let us make 2008 the year America reasserted itself, beginning with the passage of LaRouche’s Homeowners and Bank Protection Act. When you consider the alternative, it is the only choice.

Transportation Routes in Asia: Opportunities and Challenges for Russia

by Dr. Sergei Uyanayev

This early 2007 article by a scholar at the Institute of the Far East, Russian Academy of Sciences, was provided to EIR by the Institute's director, Academician M.L. Titarenko, on the occasion of the September 2007 conference of the Schiller Institute in Kiedrich, Germany, "The Eurasian Land-Bridge Is Becoming a Reality" (EIR, Sept. 28, 2007). The translation from Russian was done by EIR. Footnotes are omitted.

Many options for economic cooperation among nations are connected in one way or another with transportation routes and modes of transport. Delivery of goods and cargoes is an inherent component of international trade and commodities exchange. There is a separate set of problems related to transshipment fees, when deliveries involve crossing the territory of third countries. The problem of transportation routes may also have a strategic dimension from a political and military standpoint, as well as a purely economic one.

Major transport arteries, whether rail, road, or pipelines, are often a powerful means of effecting the economic development of adjacent areas, as they catalyze the development of production and social infrastructure. As a rule, the most important transportation routes are those that cross the borders of many countries and connect different regions. It is no accident that the history of the Great Silk Road is legendary, as is that of the ancient route from the North to the South of the European part of modern Russia, known as the road "from the Varangians to the Greeks." In the 20th Century, the Trans-Siberian Railroad ("Transsib") became famous. The so-called Orient Express route from Paris to Istanbul acquired an exotic reputation.

It would be difficult to overstate the significance of such routes, since they are an extremely important factor in international communication, on top of their other qualities.

When we look at transportation routes in Eurasia today, especially those that may be important for Russia, it is readily apparent that they include, first and foremost, transcontinental transport routes between the European Union and the Asia-Pacific Region (APR). This is not surprising, insofar as the economic weight of those centers, especially the rapidly growing APR, is well known. There has also been a noticeable increase in the volume of trade between these centers. These circumstances define growing opportunities for Russia, since our country's geographic location makes it one of the main natural choices for a **transcontinental transport bridge**

between East Asia, especially China's major east coast ports, and Europe.

Another striking aspect of the issue is that the various options discussed in recent years for the increased use, modernization, and upgrading of APR-Europe transportation routes are taking shape along the already well-known historical routes. Besides the Transsib, there is the route from China's east coast and the other countries of Northeast Asia into Central Asia, going on to Europe and back, either across the Caucasus and Russia, or through Iran, Turkey, and the Balkans. It is no accident that arteries along this route, both roads and rail, are called the New Silk Road.

The development of transport infrastructure related to Iran is of growing importance in its own right. As a key link in the "southern option" for the New Silk Road, which is oriented towards India inclusively, Iran is seeking ways to diversify. In 2002, Iran, Russia, and India signed an agreement on the North-South Transportation Corridor, designed to increase the use of longitudinal transport connections, particularly between West Asia and Northern Europe.

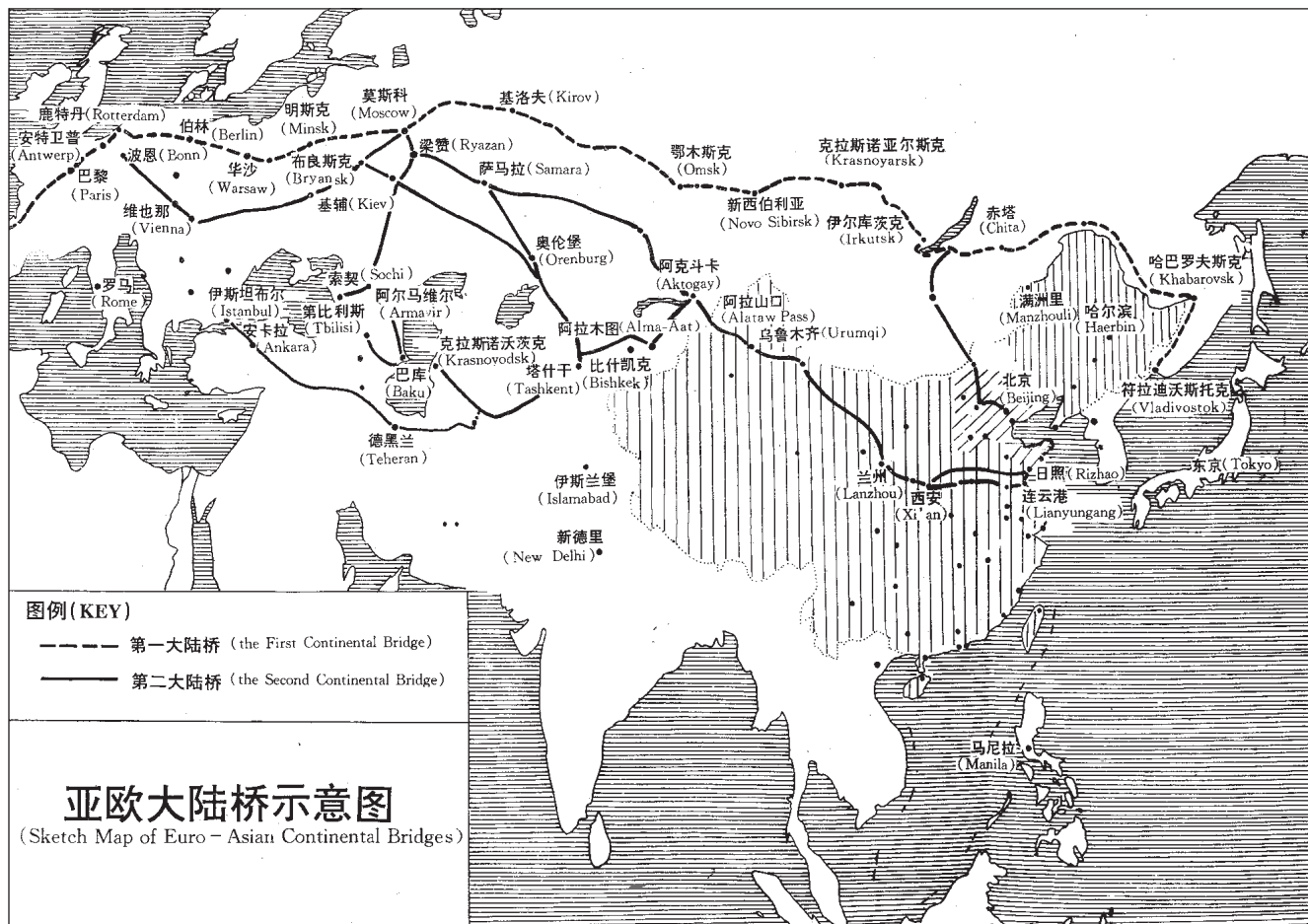
Specialists are also interested in a number of other inter-regional routes, such as the route from southeastern China into Southeast Asia, projects for roads from Southeast Asia to India, and the development of a number of routes in Central Asia. It is important that these frequently involve pipelines, alongside roads and rail lines.

New Routes and Old

Let us discuss some essential aspects of the above-mentioned routes.

As is well known, the aforementioned **Trans-Siberian Railroad** was the only land route between Europe and East Asia for most of the 20th Century. The TSR began full operation in 1916, and remains the longest railroad in the world, to this day. It would be difficult to overstate the importance of the Transsib. The President of the Russian Federation, speaking some years ago at an APEC business summit in Shanghai, remarked that the further development of railroad infrastructure associated with the Transsib "will make it possible to take a qualitative step in developing the transportation system in the APR." V.V. Putin also emphasized that Russia is prepared "to think about taking part in transportation projects that would involve the construction of railroads and automobile highways from Northeast and Southeast Asia to Europe."

Primary Railway Connections of the Eurasian Land-Bridge



Courtesy of Gao Zhengang, ed., "A Study on the Strategic Significance of the New Euro-Asian Continental Bridge"

At the same time, plans of this type entail substantial challenges and problems. It is no secret that the Trans-Siberian Railroad has been operating close to capacity for some years. For this reason, serious work to reconstruct and expand the capacity of this proven, reliable route is on the agenda. Particularly acute is the problem of introducing modern managerial methods, especially logistics.

Realizing the importance of this main line, Russia is working on an appropriate development strategy. The leadership of the company Russian Railways, which is the head organization for the national railroads, has stressed repeatedly that an important component of this strategy is transshipment—the ability to offer the countries of the APR, especially the north-eastern regions of China, the opportunity to ship cargoes to Europe across Russia. Russian Railways CEO Vladimir Yakunin has noted that the company regularly holds talks on this question with its partners in APR countries, and that work is under way to establish a transport logistics company specializing in transshipment.

These factors mean that the potential of the Transsib, despite the existing difficulties, is far from exhausted. A good

example is recent years' steady growth of rail shipments of oil to China. To no small degree, that process resulted from work on improving the relevant infrastructure, and substantial capital investment.

Regarding other transcontinental routes, it should be mentioned that, in 1993, the European Union took the initiative to create a West-to-East transport corridor across the Caucasus, the Black Sea, and the Caspian Sea into Central Asia—the **TRASECA** project. By 2002, the EU had invested over 100 million euros into this program, with more than half of the funds being in the form of grants to participating countries.

The rebirth of the ancient Silk Road routes is proceeding in parallel. This was discussed already during the Soviet period, in 1954, when an agreement was signed between Moscow and Beijing on construction of a railroad that would cross the Soviet-Chinese border in the area of the settlement of Druzhba in Kazakhstan. The U.S.S.R. had built its segment by 1965. In China, construction was delayed, but the link was completed in 1990: **the segment between Druzhba and the Chinese city of Alashankou was built. As a result, the internal railroad systems of China and Central Asia were**

effectively united into a single network.

At the same time, the road network in western China is being upgraded, along the route of the so-called “middle road” of the ancient Silk Road. Options have also been proposed for other, even shorter routes from China into the nations of Central Asia—through linking up the Chinese and Kyrgyzstan railroads in the region of the Torugart or Irkeshtam passes, then extending them to the cities of Andijan and Tashkent in Uzbekistan, or to the Kazakstan system.

The View From Russia

It is obvious that the routes mentioned above mean a wider choice of transcontinental freight routes, opening up additional possibilities for the development of economic cooperation between China and the nations of Central Asia. They facilitate the development of areas adjacent to the transportation lines, and represent good potential for the development of transportation and economic infrastructure in the region, particularly in Shanghai Cooperation Organization member countries.

Of course, the optimal way to exploit these opportunities would be to take into account the interests of all parties involved to the greatest degree possible.

How do Russia’s interests look in this context? Russia is interested in preserving and strengthening its traditional, historical ties with the nations of the region, which should include the development of the important area of transportation cooperation. Furthermore, it is in Russia’s direct economic interest to be a full-fledged participant in creating the region’s transport infrastructure. The question of transshipment is not a matter of indifference to Russia: On what route to Europe and back will cargoes from the Central Asian countries and transshipment cargoes from China and other countries in East Asia be traveling?

For this reason, the Russian government has devoted a lot of attention to integrating Russia’s transportation infrastructure with intercontinental connections. Already, in May 1999, at a conference on Problems of Developing a Europe-Asia Transport Bridge, the Russian Ministry of Transportation put forward its alternative to the “southern” (Iran-Turkey-Balkans) option for the New Silk Road. The proposal was the Tashkent-Moscow-Brest route. This route already has developed infrastructure, as well as the advantage of crossing fewer national borders.

Russian analysts produced interesting results when they compared three transportation routes (the Russian route, TRASECA, and the Iranian route), using points of origination from major cities in each of three Central Asian countries (Alma-Ata, Tashkent, and Ashgabat), to Frankfurt-on-Main in Germany.

While TRASECA and the so-called Iranian route had almost identical shipping times in all three cases, the Russian route turned out to be shorter than the other two—cutting the travel time from Alma-Ata and Tashkent almost in half, and

from Ashgabat by 10-20%. The route across Russia from Alma-Ata and Tashkent is also shorter in distance.

Nonetheless, for any given transport bridge route to be the most attractive in reality, a large number of diverse factors needs to be taken into account, which means a good deal of work. According to the experts, intermodal container shipments are the priority. These involve the utilization of various types of transport on the route, guaranteeing door-to-door containerized shipment of cargoes. Mixed road-rail shipping is increasingly used for this purpose, as well as trailer-on-flatcar trains. Equally important is the improvement of customs preparation technologies and information support. Although there are significant difficulties on the pathway to modernization, Russian transport experts are taking aim at them, setting themselves the objective of being competitive in the Asian-European transshipment market.

Bilateral Ties

It needs no proof, that bilateral ties often serve as a good basis for multilateral cooperation, including in transportation. It therefore makes sense to briefly discuss bilateral transport relations in the region, particularly between the Russian Federation and China, as well as a number of other countries.

As in Russia and China, people in other APR countries are aware of the importance of transport infrastructure. It is being constructed on a large scale, both within these countries, and for international freight shipments.

In China, the total track length of the railroad system will reach 100,000 km by 2020, of which half will be electrified. Its highway system is currently 40,000 km in length, ranking second in the world. One hundred forty international road connections have been built, while China has transport agreements with ten adjacent countries.

Currently, 65% of total freight shipments between Russia and China are carried by rail. This is why one of the priorities of the Russian-Chinese Commission on Transport, at its regular meetings, is to provide for the growing flow of Russian oil shipments to China by rail—about 9 million tons in 2006, with a target level of 15-20 million tons in the near future. Substantial resources are being put into railroad and equipment modernization for this purpose, especially around the Zabaykalsk-Manchouli and Groskovo-Suifenhe border crossings.

Transport cooperation between Russia and China is important not only from the standpoint of the need to improve the condition of the mainlines between the two countries and to increase the carrying capacity of the border checkpoints, which means an increase in goods exchange. Implementation of such cooperative projects as, for example, construction of a bridge across the Amur River in Chita Region near Blagoveshchensk-Heihe would make it possible to complete a unified rail transport ring linking the Russian Far East, northeast China, and North Korea, with a potential connection to the major industrial centers of South Korea.

The creation of such a rail ring is entirely realistic, given the network already existing in these regions. Building a bridge at the Blagoveshchensk-Heihe border crossing would also play a noticeable role for the **Europe-APR Trans-Siberian Container Bridge** project. In that case, China, which has growing trade with the EU, would gain a new, efficient access route to the Transsib, while Russia would acquire additional opportunities to fully exploit its advantages as a transshipment corridor.

Plans for two more bridges between Russia and China across the Amur, one in Chita Region and the other in the Jewish Autonomous Region, are in various stages of preparation.

The development of **highways** between the two countries also has great potential. Traffic has been opened up in recent years between important border-area centers (Harbin-Vladivostok, Mudanjiang-Ussuriysk). An important project for a road through the Kanas pass on the western end of the border is in the design and study stage; it would link western Xinjiang Province with Russia's Altay Region.

India's Role

India devotes much attention to transportation infrastructure. The total length of the railroads in India, one of the biggest countries of Eurasia, is over 63,000 km, ranking second in the world. Delhi is actively developing its international transportation ties. The executive committee of the International Rail Union met in India in October 2005. India is cooperating with Russia and Iran on the North-South corridor, where a number of problems remain to be solved. It has several bilateral projects with Iran. Construction of a trans-regional railroad from India to Vietnam is under discussion, while work is ongoing on a plan to reconstruct the highway from China's Hunan Province through Myanmar to India, which was built 60 years ago.

Cooperation in the area of transportation has made a palpable contribution to the overall process of normalization and development of Indian-Chinese relations in recent years. An important event, both for the expansion of bilateral ties and the development of Sino-Indian trade, took place in July 2006. After an interruption of more than 40 years, traffic through the mountain (elevation over 4700 miles) **border crossing at Natu-La** between China's Tibetan Autonomous Region and India was renewed. At one point, as much as 80% of their bilateral border trade went through this cross-point. After an agreement was reached during the 2003 visit of the Chinese prime minister to India, the two sides did a significant amount of work to improve the road networks on both sides of the border. It is anticipated that this event will influence not only cross-border trade, but also the development of the adjacent regions in both countries. Estimates project that trade through Natu-La could reach \$3 billion by 2015. In parallel, India and China are studying options for laying modern highways and rail lines on the ancient caravan routes through the mountains, which would take transportation links to a new level, not only

between these two countries, but on a broader international scale.

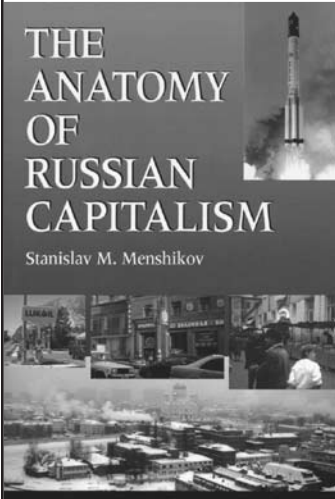
Thus, the development of transportation within the countries of Eurasia, as well as a significant number of interregional transport routes (the Transsib, the North-South corridor, the revived Silk Road, and lines between South and Southeast Asia) present great opportunities for mutually beneficial international cooperation.

Another important area could be cooperation on transport security, especially for vitally important sea, river, and land routes that cross national borders.

Thus we may conclude that the intensification and diversification of Asian transport routes, along with internal transport construction and the growth of economic ties, are opening up broad opportunities for international cooperation in the area of transportation, and, in some cases, are necessitating it.

Such cooperation may take the form of joint road and rail construction projects, as well as building pipelines, investment projects, and security measures.

Transportation cooperation can also be a catalyst for the overall development of economic ties, while the construction of new routes and modernization of old ones, can be a powerful stimulus to growth in adjacent areas, advancing toward implementation of the concept of a global transcontinental transport bridge that draws peoples and nations closer together.



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Book Review

The Chicago Boys' War on Nation-States

by Paul Gallagher

The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism

by Naomi Klein

New York: Metropolitan Books, 2007

466 pages, hardcover, \$28.00

This new book is an encyclopedic chronology of the worldwide scourge of privatization, forced by “shock and awe,” since the 1971-73 global turning-point marked by the London-organized breakup of Franklin Roosevelt’s Bretton Woods system, and Gen. Augusto Pinochet’s fascist coup in Chile, instigated by London and Washington.

Canadian author Naomi Klein’s thesis is that the march of radical privatization and deregulation around the world since Pinochet’s Chile coup, has repeatedly been done by shock: brutal military coups, wars, huge natural disasters, and/or horrifying acts of terrorism. She shows that this has been the conscious strategy of the circles of “free-trade” privatizers, which she centers on Milton Friedman and the University of Chicago networks, including Friedman disciples and admirers George Shultz, Henry Kissinger, Donald Rumsfeld, Paul Wolfowitz, Jeffrey Sachs, et al. No nation has been privatized and globalized as a free democratic republic; it has always been accompanied by the suppression of political and economic freedom—as in the most important case of 1990s Russia, where “freedom” required that President Boris Yeltsin in 1993 dissolve Parliament, send tanks to destroy the Parliament building with its members inside, and take control of the press. Writes Klein, “This book is a challenge to the central ... claim in the official story—that the triumph of deregulated capitalism has been born of freedom. ... Instead, I will show that this fundamentalist [post-1960s] form of capitalism has consistently been midwived by the most brutal forms of coercion.”

Klein’s new contribution is that she links this 35-year experiment with “shock capitalism,” to a pre-existing, immediate post-World War II outburst of experimentation with shock psychology—electroshock, drug-shock, and torture—arising out of CIA chief Allen Dulles’s and collaborators’ Cold War operations, the so-called Congress for Cultural Freedom, and

what President Dwight Eisenhower warned of as the “military-industrial complex.”

The lunatic intention of this psychological experimentation, Klein shows, was a chimera: breaking human individuals’ minds down to a *tabula rasa*, from which their personalities could be rebuilt from scratch—supposedly for the better! Her treatment of the infamous 1950s McGill University psychological experiments of Dr. Ewan Cameron and others—including interviews with survivors—makes clear that their aim was to demonstrate the possibility of eliminating the human personality entirely by forced regression, à la George Orwell’s *Animal Farm* and *1984*. And, that the MK-Ultra and other follow-ons to these experiments were aimed not at spreading LSD to an unsuspecting public, but at using torture-induced personality regression as a method of interrogation—“the Kubark manual”—and a weapon of political control.

Then, says Klein, the likes of Friedman’s “Chicago Boys,” the Berkeley Mafia which took over Indonesia after Suharto’s brutal coup, Harvard’s Jeffrey Sachs, et al., applied this *tabula rasa* doctrine to imposing “shock capitalism” on nations.

Requiring the “blitzkrieg” elimination of the sovereignty of elected national institutions, political parties, constituency groups, unions, etc.—erasing the “national personality”—the results have been a series of national economic disasters, each more and more massively profitable, in the short-term financial-bubble sense, to multinational banks and corporations.

Sachs, the supposed Keynesian whom Klein interviewed, and whose “shock therapy” role in Bolivia, Poland, Russia, and elsewhere is reviewed very closely, will be particularly unhappy with *The Shock Doctrine*. It is a real shock to Sachs’ recent, retooled image as a saint of international aid to poor nations, clubbing with Bono and Al Gore. Klein makes brutally clear how many more poor and oppressed people Sachs’ policy advice has created, than he has “helped.”

Indictment of a Global System of Looting

Most of what Klein documents in her march of chapters, from Pinochet’s coup to Hurricane Katrina, is not new economic history. But she has it well and exhaustively organized to show, at the center of every intervention of the Friedmanite “Chicago Boys” and their collaborators in post-1971 “free-market economics,” the clear intention to destroy nations and loot national economies, on an ever-larger scale. The book could be considered a much more thorough and systematic treatment of the ground broken by John Perkins’ *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man* four years ago. And it will be compared to the 2001 *Globalization and Its Discontents* of former World Bank chief economist Joseph Stiglitz; but Stiglitz described globalization as a *new system of investment* which had gone fundamentally wrong, and which he wanted to guide back to the right track with his *Making Globalization Work* of 2005; Klein describes globalization as a *new system of looting and destruction* brought to power by irrational, evil financial and economic circles.

It's a mark of the author's lack of an international strategic overview, however, that the role of the City of London in the past 35 years' destruction of national economic sovereignty, is absent from her volume, even in Klein's hard-hitting chapter on the 1990s destruction of Russia, which was British-run. Tracking the Russian "shock therapists" who brought chaos and depopulation in the Yeltsin period, Klein simply omits that they were trained and launched not from Chicago but from Lord Harris of Highcross's Institute for Economic Affairs.

In another mark of that strategic shortcoming, she does not discuss at all the breakup of FDR's post-War Bretton Woods monetary system by President Richard Nixon under Friedmanite director of the Office of Management and Budget George Shultz's direction in August 1971. This created a global financial casino, a floating-exchange-rate system which Shultz imposed on Europe and Japan as well as the United States by 1974. It was Shultz's most poisonous economic act. Yet while Klein documents his role in setting up Pinochet's fascist dictatorship, she does not discuss what he was imposing on the world economy in the same years.

And although many elements of the imperial-fascist "Revolution in Military Affairs" are documented, piecemeal, including the mass-scale creation of private armies to replace military functions, Klein does not trace at all the clear conspiracy of George Shultz and "Democratic" fascist banker Felix Rohatyn—with the circles of Dick Cheney and Halliburton—in pushing this. And she omits to discuss Rohatyn's prominent role in the Pinochet coup.

The Shock Doctrine is, above all, a fully deserved indictment of Milton Friedman for crimes against humanity. Lyndon LaRouche, with co-author David Goldman, published *The Ugly Truth About Milton Friedman* more than two decades ago. The polemical truth about the most dangerous *current* influentials of radical privatization is not wielded here—the notable cases of Sachs, Chile's and the Cato Institute's José Piñera, and a few references to Kissinger aside.

But there is extraordinary documentation of the intentions, and all of the crimes, of privatization and globalization—with especially exhaustive treatment of the destruction of the South Korean and Indonesian, as well as other major Asian, economies by use of the 1997-98 "Asian financial crisis," a completely artificial manufacture of 18 months of continuous currency panics using the floating-exchange-rate system.

Economics and War or Peace

And there are some very provocative chapters. Her final section is on Iraq and the Mideast—war and privatization—including Israel. The disastrous role in destroying Iraq, of a Henry Kissinger aide turned Homeland Security contractor and lobbyist, turned Iraq proconsul—Paul Bremer—has been described before. Bremer decreed a basic law that Iraq's central bank, under occupation, could not extend any credit to Iraqi state companies, only to foreign private ones.

But Klein's discussion of Israel's economy since the end

of the Cold War, for example, is unique, and bears directly on the current embryonic revival of Middle East peace negotiations. Many have claimed, since the assassination of Israel's courageous Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in 1995, that the failure of the Oslo Accords, showed that peace could not be based on projects of mutual economic benefit; "security agreements" had to come first. Klein's analysis overturns that false idea. She shows that Israel's retreat from peace after Rabin's death comes from "two reasons related to the ways that the Chicago School free-market crusade played out in Israel.... The mass influx of Soviet Jews, which was a direct result of Russia's shock-therapy experiment, [and] the flipping of Israel's export economy from one based on traditional goods and high technology, to one ... dependent on selling expertise and devices related to counterterrorism."

Israel suddenly and massively expanded settlements in violation of Oslo, because what had been done to Russia under Yeltsin inundated Israel with Russian refugees and ballooned its poverty rate; and Israel lost interest in economic cooperation in the Mideast region because it became reshaped as an exporter to Europe and the United States of the "homeland security" privatized military sector of the Revolution in Military Affairs, and the so-called Global War on Terrorism. Economics did "come first," Klein argues, but it was not the economic projects of mutual benefit planned at Oslo (and sabotaged by the World Bank), but a Friedmanite economic shock which drastically weakened Israel and cut off the Palestinians and Israel's neighbors completely.

Klein's chapters on "disaster capitalism" in the United States since 9/11 are also provoking, although the ground is largely familiar. Not only Dick Cheney, but Donald Rumsfeld as well, simply refused to divest themselves of holdings directly in conflict-of-interest with their positions, the first Cabinet officers ever to do so. Rumsfeld actually claimed to be recusing himself from a wide variety of policy meetings in his own Pentagon, because he would not sell his biotech and military stocks! Federal payments to private military/security contractors (including intelligence and interrogation) grew by 170% from \$154 billion in 2001, to \$421 billion in 2006.

Finally, Klein shows, when Katrina and the "immigration/border crisis" came along, the U.S. government was contracting out the very jobs of hiring and overseeing contractors, and could not even make a policy plan for border security without hiring Blackwater to do it. In New Orleans, Milton Friedman personally editorialized in the *Wall Street Journal*, in November 2005, that Katrina was an opportunity to replace the city's entire public school system with charter schools and vouchers; within weeks, the White House set this in motion. Within 18 months, the change was complete; New Orleans, which had 123 public schools, now has only four public, and 61 charter schools, no teachers union, and only a few of the 4,700 pre-hurricane public school teachers. Some Mississippi townships contracted out their entire governments, retaining only a mayor and two or three other public employees.

Business Briefs

R&D

Japan Announces Fusion Cooperation With China

On the eve of a four-day visit to China, Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda said on Dec. 26 that the Japanese government wants to conclude its first nuclear fusion agreement with China, the daily *Yomiuri Shimbun* reported.

Thermonuclear fusion energy, which uses the heavy hydrogen (deuterium) in ordinary seawater as its fuel, is the key to continuing world economic growth, as Lyndon LaRouche has emphasized for the past 40 years.

China and Japan will soon add a clause on nuclear fusion research to their existing bilateral agreement on science and technology cooperation. A joint working group of senior scientists and officials will be established, to carry out scientific exchanges and other cooperation between the Japan Atomic Energy Agency's JT-60 tokamak nuclear fusion facility in Naka, and China's Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST) of the Institute of Plasma Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, which is located in Hefei, capital city of east China's Anhui Province.

State Budgets

Schwarzenegger To Declare Emergency

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) will announce a "fiscal emergency" on Jan. 10, just after his Jan. 8 State of the State address, where he will make privatization of infrastructure a central feature of his administration. Schwarzenegger's commitment to this policy has been steered by his fascist controllers, Felix Rohatyn and George Shultz, who have led the privatization of infrastructure and government services going back to their role in installing Chile's dictator Augusto Pinochet in 1973.

With an estimated budget deficit now at \$14.5 billion, Schwarzenegger will start

with at least 10% across-the-board cuts, hitting hardest at education, health care, social services, and the prison system.

Lyndon LaRouche asked: Will Republicans agree with Schwarzenegger, or will they denounce him as a terrorist? LaRouche explained that a declaration of any economic state of emergency for California is tantamount to a declaration covering the entire United States, given the size and importance of the California economy for the country.

In effect, LaRouche explained, if Schwarzenegger goes ahead with the declaration of economic emergency, the Governor will be publicly admitting that the Bush Presidency has had a more calamitous impact on the U.S. economy and the living conditions for the majority of Americans than Al Gore would have had, had he won the 2000 elections. The current phase of the crisis for the U.S. economy, LaRouche elaborated, began at the tail end of the Clinton Presidency, when Gore ran against Bush.

What Schwarzenegger is saying, LaRouche concluded, is that the Bush Presidency is a total failure. G.W. goes home without a legacy—except for the near-universal contempt in which he will be held by the American people.

LaRouche asked: How will the Bush White House and other Republican Party honchos deal with such a condemnation of the present Administration, coming from one of Shultz and Rohatyn's favorite sons?

Nuclear Power

Japan Seeks Enriched Uranium from Kazakstan

Japan's Kansai Electric Power Co. and the Japanese trading house Sumitomo Corp. will link up with Kazakstan's state-run energy company to obtain enriched uranium for nuclear power fuel. The agreement is one of many signs that Japan, and Asia as a whole, are making plans for a nuclear-powered future.

Under the plan, state-owned Kazatomprom will handle the reconversion stage of the nuclear fuel cycle at a facility in Kazak-

stan, to turn enriched uranium into powder, a spokesman for Kansai Electric said. Kansai Electric and Sumitomo will provide expertise and funding for necessary modifications of the plant, which is capable of producing roughly twice as much nuclear fuel as needed by Japan.

Kansai Electric, which provides about 8,000 megawatts of nuclear power out of Japan's present 50,000 megawatts of nuclear-generated electrical power, uses enriched uranium as nuclear fuel in all its dozen-plus reactors. The Japanese decision to link up with Kazatomprom is to ensure supply of enriched uranium in the future.

Japan's Toshiba Corp. announced in August that it had agreed to sell 10% of its U.S. nuclear power plant manufacturer Westinghouse to Kazatomprom for \$540 million, as part of a wider collaboration between the two firms.

Transportation

Japan Rail To Build 290-km Maglev Line

The Central Japan Railway Co. (JR Tokai) confirmed on Dec. 25 that it will build the world's first long-distance magnetic levitation train, connecting Tokyo and Nagoya, by 2025, despite a lack of government support.

The railway had already announced plans for the 290-km route in April 2007. The company has now made the decision to fund the \$45 billion project itself, since the government has not helped subsidize the project.

The route will parallel the railway's Shinkansen bullet train, a conventional high-speed rail line which will need replacement in the coming decades. Japan's maglev technology, which employs onboard superconducting technology, set the international speed record of 581 kilometers per hour in 2003. The new maglev should run at about 500 kph, Tokai spokesmen said. The Chinese maglev, using the German Transrapid system, runs at about 430 kph over a 30.5-km route.

The railway has estimated that the mag-

Briefly

THE DOLLAR “might no longer be the source of the U.S.A.’s power, but instead a factor in its decline,” cheered commentator David Dombey in the London *Financial Times* on Dec. 28.

RUSSIA’S Energia Space Corporation is designing a project to send a manned mission to the orbit of Mars in 2020-22. The crew will study the planet using automatic probes, controlled from orbit. Landings are envisaged for future missions.

ACA FINANCIAL Guaranty Corp., an insurer of corporate bonds, and a unit of ACA Capital, announced in a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission filing, that it had agreed to give control to Maryland state insurance regulators to avert bankruptcy. A press release by the Maryland Insurance Administration had called for a “targeted financial examination” of ACA Financial Guaranty” to determine its financial exposure to delinquencies and loan defaults in the subprime mortgage loan market, after it had been put on a credit watch by Standard & Poor’s.

ITALIAN foreclosures are reaching astronomical proportions. There are 1.25 million homes undergoing foreclosure proceedings, with an increase of 33% in Rome and 28% in Milan in 2007. This figure was reported by Francesco Petrino, a professor of banking law, at a Dec. 20 event in Rome. Petrino also said that 18.5 million Italian borrowers are rated as having bad credit, even if they are just one day late on payments. This means that about 50% of the economically active population cannot get credit.

EUROPE must increase nuclear energy production in order to decrease its dependence on petroleum products, said Umberto Quadrino, CEO of Edison, Italy’s second-largest energy provider, in an interview with the *Financial Times* on Dec. 28. “If you look at the supply of gas to Europe over the next 15 years, we have to be scared,” he said.

lev technology will be profitable enough to pay off the debt incurred in building the project after 8-10 years, railway vice president Yoshiomi Yamada said. The company is projecting a pre-tax profit of around 70 billion yen in fiscal 2026, which should rise to double that by 2035.

Japanese “market forces” are being as stupid as the government: Many investors sold stock in the railway company on the news, sending the price falling 8.9%, the biggest one-day drop in ten years.

Agriculture

China Invests in Rural Areas, Fights Inflation

The Chinese government made clear that developing national agriculture to ensure the food supply, raise the incomes of the huge rural population, and lower the risk of food price inflation are among its top priorities, at the annual national “Rural Work Conference” held in Beijing Dec. 22-23. Measures to be taken include more agricultural subsidies, and development of rural infrastructure. About 75% of China’s 1.4 billion people live in the countryside, and are directly dependent upon the agricultural economy for their livelihood.

Agriculture Minister Sun Zhengcai announced on Dec. 22 that farmers’ annual per-capita net income had grown, but only by 7%, to 4,000 yuan (\$540), largely due to price rises for farm produce, a larger number of rural migrant workers who send help back to the villages—and more government subsidies for agricultural production.

But while it is urgent to keep raising incomes, Beijing is on the horns of a dilemma in urgently needing to control inflation. There were huge increases in grain, pork, and cooking oil prices in recent months, sending inflation up to an 11-year high of 6.9%, so the central government has decided that “to prevent current price increases from becoming evident inflation.”

The government wants to keep raising rural incomes, which are much lower than urban incomes, while preventing extreme

price fluctuations, the final conference document announced. The income of urban residents in 2006 was 3.28 times that of rural ones, up from 3.22 in 2005, and 3.21 in 2004, *China Daily* reported. Just 29.08 million rural people get minimum sustenance allowances so far, out of China’s 737 million rural population. Farmers get no real pensions, and medical coverage is almost nonexistent.

Beijing will “strive to promote farm produce production to ensure supply and actively make efforts to raise income of farmers” in 2009, the conference announced. Even after a grain crop of over 500 million tons in 2007, production still fell short of demand. Now, “grain production would be put at a more prominent position” on the government agenda. Measures will include grain subsidies for farmers, and local government measures to support meat, eggs, milk, vegetables, and fruit production.

The other big priority is infrastructure: Investment in irrigation facilities, protection of farmland and subsidies will be raised “to a great extent.” But there are big challenges: The rural labor force is shrinking, as more and more workers go to the cities, and China, which has a very small proportion of arable land relative to its population, is losing farmland.

Illegal land grabs, to satisfy industrial and urban demands, are compounding the problem, Resources Minister Xu Shaoshi told the *China Daily* on Dec. 26. A survey released in March 2006 by China’s Ministry of Land and Resources revealed that the country had lost 8 million hectares, or 6.6%, of its arable land in the past decade. There were 130,000 cases of illegal land grabs last year, an increase of 17.3% from 2005, according to official figures.

Production costs are rising, since high energy prices are making fertilizer and pesticide more expensive. Water infrastructure especially is in bad shape. Some 30 million peasants are still short of drinking water, and the rural population consumed less than 100 kilowatt-hours of electricity per capita in 2006, just 25% of urban consumption. The rural banking system is primitive, making it very hard for farmers to get loans of more than 5,000 yuan.

Financial Crisis Puts HBPA On State Legislative Agenda

by Nancy Spannaus

Within the first three days of January 2008, legislatures will be gavelled into session in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island. At the top of their agendas will be the devastating budget shortfalls facing nearly every state of the Union, due to the ongoing home mortgage meltdown and banking crises. In New Hampshire and Pennsylvania, however, thanks to the LaRouche political movement, legislators will also have legislation appropriate to *solving* the crisis before them, the Homeowners and Bank Protection Act (HBPA) put together by Lyndon LaRouche.

The LaRouche Political Action Committee (LPAC), led by the LaRouche Youth Movement, is currently on an all-out mobilization to pass memorials for the HBPA in these states, in four others where it has been introduced (Florida, Illinois, Maryland, and Michigan), and in the remainder of the 36 states which go into session early in 2008. These memorials represent demands by states and localities that the U.S. Congress take immediate emergency action to erect a firewall of protection for homeowners and local banks, by freezing mortgages, halting foreclosures, and putting chartered banks under Federal protection while letting the speculative hedge funds take their deserved losses.

In most cases, local officials will be reminding their Congressmen that they are all up for re-election in 2008—and had better act to deal with the life-or-death issues of their constituents, or else.

Pressure is building on the state legislators in places such as Michigan, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, as numerous city councils have taken up and passed memorials for the HBPA. Most dramatic is the activity in Pennsylvania, where, over the last month, 19 city councils have passed resolutions demanding that the legislature enact H.R. 418, the bipartisan bill introduced by state Rep. Harold James (D-Philadelphia) that calls for Congress to implement the HBPA measures.

An Ear to the Ground

Elected officials of states and localities are being hit by waves of tax and other revenue losses, as well as angry citizens who are facing foreclosures at a rate equal to, or greater than, that during the 1930s Depression. Foreclosure repossessions are at almost 2,500 a day, two and a half times the rate of the 1930s. Under such pressure, many of these officials are greeting representatives of the LaRouche Youth Movement with open arms, and even putting aside their prejudices against LaRouche, because the HBPA is the *only* proposal on the table that addresses the crisis.

The largest city to take action in late December was Indianapolis, Ind., whose city-county council passed the resolution by a 15-9 vote on Dec. 18. In concluding the debate on the resolution, which had passed the resolutions committee with a 5-3 vote, sponsor and council vice president Joanne Sanders, told the council: “When we take the oath of office, we swear to support the general welfare. And I personally believe this is part of promoting the general welfare.”

During the debate, Sanders told the Council the HBPA is being circulated nationwide, and that it is a “different kind of idea to deal with both homeowners and bank protection.” Republican Lance Langsford next argued that “[A]s a Federal issue, it shouldn’t be before the Council,” and, that the proposed moratorium on foreclosures constitutes “a slap in the face to those who do pay their mortgages.” Councillor Ron Gibson responded that foreclosures “affect middle-class people ... even President Bush understands this, and has proposed a bill [although] it would ... only aid one in eight people.... If we don’t stand up for our own people, who will?” Gibson asked. Councilman William Oliver urged the council to support the HBPA, pointing to many causes for foreclosures and bankruptcies, including runaway jobs and outsourcing—which have occurred all across the spectrum. Council-



EIRNS/Joanne McAndrews

Resolutions in support of LaRouche's "firewall" legislation have been introduced in states throughout the country, aimed at getting Congress to act now to stop mass evictions. Here, LaRouche Youth Movement organizers campaign for the HBPA in the nation's capital.

man Robert Lutz, a Republican, raised the issue that the resolution was from "the LaRouche group," about which "I have serious concerns." He said that it was "a good idea," nonetheless, and he would support it: "We have to do something," Lutz said. Councilman Philip Borst said he would vote against it, because "I'm not sure it's the right idea," and the council can't even understand local issues, let alone this Federal issue.

In her final motivation, Sanders acknowledged that she too had concerns about the origination of the resolution, but she believed the council had to defend the general welfare. Council member Rozelle Boyd noted that similar resolutions had been passed in numerous other cities. The resolution passed 15-9, with support from three Republicans, and now goes to the mayor.

A Surge in Action

On Dec. 16, the city of Irvington, N.J. passed support for the HBPA. Afterward, the president and second vice president of the city council presented representatives of LaRouche PAC with a framed copy of the resolution, with the city's gold seal. Nine of the council members expressed their appreciation for the efforts of LaRouche PAC, especially its work in going from city to city with the HBPA. The resolution has now passed in three New Jersey cities: Newark, East Orange, and Irvington. It is notable that Irvington is near the circulation base of the Bergen County *Record*, which ran articles targetting a New Jersey state legislator,

who supported the HBPA, for election defeat. The legislator won, with the same vote margin as in his previous election.

On Dec. 18, Lawrence, Mass. became the first town in that state to vote up support for Congress to enact the HBPA. That same day, the city of East Cleveland became the first Ohio municipality to have the HBPA introduced for consideration.

Meanwhile, support in the state of Pennsylvania continues to grow. The town councils of Farrell, Bradford, Conshohocken, Norristown, and Nesquehoning endorsed the HBPA during the week before Christmas, bringing the total of localities in support to 19. Supporting councils include those from the state's major cities—Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Harrisburg. In all, elected representatives for more than 2 million Pennsylvanians have endorsed the emergency measure.

Breaking the Roadblock

There is no doubt that the pressure building for the HBPA is already being felt in Congress. *EIR*'s sources reliably report that enormous pressure is being exerted on members of Congress by the financial community, and other friends of fascists Felix Rohatyn and George Shultz, to try to *prevent* any effective action, for which LaRouche might get credit. Insane, fly-by-night measures are being put up to pretend to deal with the crisis, simply in order to serve as roadblocks to the HBPA.

Exemplary of the fight behind the scenes was the brawl that occurred at the National Caucus of Black State Legislators' (NBCSL) national conference in Little Rock in mid-December. A pro-HBPA resolution by Rep. Juanita Walton of Missouri was rewritten by the NBCSL leadership, in an attempt to bury the issue. This action provoked a heated political debate in the Housing Committee, which concluded with the saboteurs walking out, and the resolution, which had been amended to include all the relevant measures prescribed in the HBPA, passed nearly unanimously.

But when the resolution was taken up by the full convention, the opposition took new measures to bury it, sending it "back to committee" to be rewritten again. Why the frenzy to prevent action on behalf of suffering homeowners, many of them African-Americans, and chartered banks? It was openly stated that the NBCSL had to be careful not to "offend" the Congressional leadership, which is, of course, dominated by fascist Felix Rohatyn's close friend, Nancy Pelosi.

From the Congress

Impeach Cheney! 'A Case for Hearings'

U.S. Representatives and Members of the House Judiciary Committee Robert Wexler (D-Fla.), Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.), and Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisc.) are circulating this commentary column for publication and endorsement. After it was turned down by the New York Times, Washington Post, and Miami Herald, Wexler announced, on Dec. 14, 2007, that he was launching an Internet campaign to force the Judiciary Committee to hold hearings on H.Res. 333, Rep. Dennis Kucinich's (D-Ohio) resolution to impeach Dick Cheney.

On November 7, the House of Representatives voted to send a resolution of impeachment of Vice President Cheney to the Judiciary Committee. As Members of the House Judiciary Committee, we strongly believe these important hearings should begin.

The issues at hand are too serious to ignore, including credible allegations of abuse of power that if proven may well constitute high crimes and misdemeanors under our constitution. The charges against Vice President Cheney relate to his deceptive actions leading up to the Iraq war, the revelation of the identity of a covert agent for political retaliation, and the illegal wiretapping of American citizens.

Now that former White House press secretary Scott McClellan has indicated that the Vice President and his staff purposefully gave him false information about the outing of Valerie Plame Wilson as a covert agent to report to the American people, it is even more important for Congress to investigate what may have been an intentional obstruction of justice. Congress should call Mr. McClellan to testify about what he described as being asked to “unknowingly [pass] along false information.” In addition, recent revelations have shown that the Administration including Vice President Cheney may have again manipulated and exaggerated evidence about weapons of mass destruction—this time about Iran’s nuclear capabilities.

Some of us were in Congress during the impeachment hearings of President Clinton. We spent a year and a half listening to testimony about President Clinton’s personal relations. This must not be the model for impeachment inquiries. A Democratic Congress can show that it takes its constitutional authority seriously and hold a sober investigation, which will stand in stark contrast to the kangaroo court con-

vened by Republicans for President Clinton. In fact, the worst legacy of the Clinton impeachment—where the GOP pursued trumped up and insignificant allegations—would be that it discourages future Congresses from examining credible and significant allegations of a constitutional nature when they arise.

The charges against Vice President Cheney are not personal. They go to the core of the actions of this Administration, and deserve consideration in a way the Clinton scandal never did. The American people understand this, and a majority support hearings according to a November 13 poll by the American Research Group. In fact, 70% of voters say that Vice President Cheney has abused his powers and 43% say that he should be removed from office right now. The American people understand the magnitude of what has been done and what is at stake if we fail to act. It is time for Congress to catch up.

Some people argue that the Judiciary Committee can not proceed with impeachment hearings because it would distract Congress from passing important legislative initiatives. We disagree. First, hearings need not tie up Congress for a year and shut down the nation. Second, hearings will not prevent Congress from completing its other business. These hearings involve the possible impeachment of the Vice President—not our commander in chief—and the resulting impact on the nation’s business and attention would be significantly less than the Clinton Presidential impeachment hearings. Also, despite the fact that President Bush has thwarted moderate Democratic policies that are supported by a vast majority of Americans—including children’s health care, stem cell research, and bringing our troops home from Iraq—the Democratic Congress has already managed to deliver a minimum wage hike, an energy bill to address the climate crisis and bring us closer to energy independence, assistance for college tuition, and other legislative successes. We can continue to deliver on more of our agenda in the coming year while simultaneously fulfilling our constitutional duty by investigating and publicly revealing whether or not Vice President Cheney has committed high crimes and misdemeanors.

Holding hearings would put the evidence on the table, and the evidence—not politics—should determine the outcome. Even if the hearings do not lead to removal from office, putting these grievous abuses on the record is important for the sake of history. For an Administration that has consistently skirted the constitution and asserted that it is above the law, it is imperative for Congress to make clear that we do not accept this dangerous precedent. Our Founding Fathers provided Congress the power of impeachment for just this reason, and we must now at least consider using it.

For more info on this campaign go to www.WexlerWantsHearings.com.

Virtual Illiteracy: Electronic Media Is Replacing Reading at All Age Levels

The National Endowment for the Arts on Nov. 11 released a devastating report on reading trends in America, comparing the current quantity and quality of reading by different age groups, and these with results from earlier decades. While the most dramatic declines are among teenagers, all age groups showed declines (with the sterling exception of nine-year-olds!). Unfortunately, the studies on which the report is based do not include specific data on time spent with video games, instant messaging, social-networking chatrooms, and other endlessly time-consuming and even addictive brands of “virtual reality.” Television is included, as well as a general category of “computer use for leisure.”

Here are excerpts from the report, To Read or Not To Read: A Question of National Consequence, produced by the National Endowment for the Arts’ Office of Research & Analysis, November 2007. Footnotes and graphics have been renumbered, and some have been omitted. The full document is at www.nea.gov/research/ToRead.pdf.

Chairman’s Preface

To Read or Not To Read gathers and collates the best national data available to provide a reliable and comprehensive overview of American reading today. While it incorporates some statistics from the National Endowment for the Arts’ 2004 report, *Reading at Risk*, this new study contains vastly more data from numerous sources. Although most of this information is publicly available, it has never been assembled and analyzed as a whole. To our knowledge, *To Read or Not To Read* is the most complete and up-to-date report of the nation’s reading trends and—perhaps most important—their considerable consequences.

To Read or Not To Read relies on the most accurate data available, which consists of large, national studies conducted on a regular basis by U.S. federal agencies, supplemented by academic, foundation, and business surveys. Reliable national statistical research is expensive and time-consuming to conduct, especially when it requires accurate measurements of various subgroups (age or education level, for example) within the overall population. Likewise, such research demands formidable resources and a commitment from an organization to collect the data consistently over many years, which is the only valid way to measure both short- and long-term trends. Few organizations outside the federal government can manage such a painstaking task. By comparison, most private-sector or media surveys involve quick and iso-

lated polls conducted with a minimal sample size.

When one assembles data from disparate sources, the results often present contradictions. This is not the case with *To Read or Not To Read*. Here the results are startling in their consistency. All of the data combine to tell the same story about American reading.

The story the data tell is simple, consistent, and alarming. Although there has been measurable progress in recent years in reading ability at the elementary school level, all progress appears to halt as children enter their teenage years. There is a general decline in reading among teenage and adult Americans. Most alarming, both reading ability and the habit of regular reading have greatly declined among college graduates. These negative trends have more than literary importance. As this report makes clear, the declines have demonstrable social, economic, cultural, and civic implications.

How does one summarize this disturbing story? As Americans, especially younger Americans, read less, they read less well. Because they read less well, they have lower levels of academic achievement. (The shameful fact that nearly one-third of American teenagers drop out of school is deeply connected to declining literacy and reading comprehension.) With lower levels of reading and writing ability, people do less well in the job market. Poor reading skills correlate heavily with lack of employment, lower wages, and fewer opportunities for advancement. Significantly worse reading skills are found among prisoners than in the general adult population. And deficient readers are less likely to become active in civic and cultural life, most notably in volunteerism and voting. . . .

All of the data suggest how powerfully reading transforms the lives of individuals—whatever their social circumstances. Regular reading not only boosts the likelihood of an individual’s academic and economic success—facts that are not especially surprising—but it also seems to awaken a person’s social and civic sense. Reading correlates with almost every measurement of positive personal and social behavior surveyed. It is reassuring, though hardly amazing, that readers attend more concerts and theater than non-readers, but it is surprising that they exercise more and play more sports—no matter what their educational level. The cold statistics confirm something that most readers know but have mostly been reluctant to declare as fact—books change lives for the better. . . .

Dana Gioia

Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts

Executive Summary

In 2004, the National Endowment for the Arts published *Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America*. This detailed study showed that Americans in almost every demographic group were reading fiction, poetry, and drama—and books in general—at significantly lower rates than 10 or 20 years earlier. The declines were steepest among young adults.

More recent findings attest to the diminished role of voluntary reading in American life. These new statistics come from a variety of reliable sources, including large, nationally representative studies conducted by other federal agencies. Brought together here for the first time, the data prompt three unsettling conclusions:

- Americans are spending less time reading.
- Reading comprehension skills are eroding.
- These declines have serious civic, social, cultural, and economic implications.

A. Americans Are Reading Less

Teens and young adults read less often and for shorter amounts of time when compared with other age groups and with Americans of the past.

1. Young adults are reading fewer books in general.

- Nearly half of all Americans ages 18 to 24 read no books for pleasure.
- The percentage of 18- to 44-year-olds who read a book fell 7 points from 1992 to 2002. (Table 1)

2. Reading is declining as an activity among teenagers.

- Less than one-third of 13-year-olds are daily readers.
- The percentage of 17-year-olds who read nothing at all for pleasure has doubled over a 20-year period. Yet the amount they read for school or homework (15 or fewer pages daily for 62% of students) has stayed the same.

• Voluntary reading rates diminish from childhood to late adolescence. (Tables 2-3))

3. College attendance no longer guarantees active reading habits.

- Although reading tracks closely with education level, the percentage of college graduates who read literature has declined. (Table 4)

• 65% of college freshmen read for pleasure for less than an hour per week or not at all.

• The percentage of non-readers among these students has nearly doubled—climbing 18 points since they graduated from high school.

• By the time they become college seniors, one in three students read nothing at all for pleasure in a given week. (Figure 1)

4. Teens and young adults spend less time reading than people of other age groups.

- Americans between 15 and 34 years of age devote less leisure time than older age groups to reading anything at all.

• 15- to 24-year-olds spend only 7-10 minutes per day on voluntary reading—about 60% less time than the average American.

• By contrast, 15- to 24-year-olds spend 2 to 2½ hours per day watching TV. This activity consumes the most leisure time for men and women of all ages.

TABLE 1

Percentage of Young Americans Who Read a Book Not Required for Work or School

Age Group	1992	2002	Change	Rate of Decline
18-24	59%	52%	-7 pp	-12%
25-34	64%	59%	-5 pp	-8%
35-44	66%	59%	-7 pp	-11%
All adults (18 and over)	61%	57%	-4 pp	-7%

pp = percentage points

Source: National Endowment for the Arts.

TABLE 2

Percentage of Students Reading for Fun

Reading frequency	Age 13			Age 17		
	1984	2004	Change	1984	2004	Change
Never or hardly ever read	8%	13%	+5 pp	9%	19%	+10 pp
Read almost every day	35%	30%	-5 pp	31%	22%	-9 pp

pp = percentage points

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics

TABLE 3

Percentage Who Read Almost Every Day for Fun

	1984	1999	2004
9-year-olds	53%	54%	54%
13-year-olds	35%	28%	30%
17-year-olds	31%	25%	22%

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics

TABLE 4

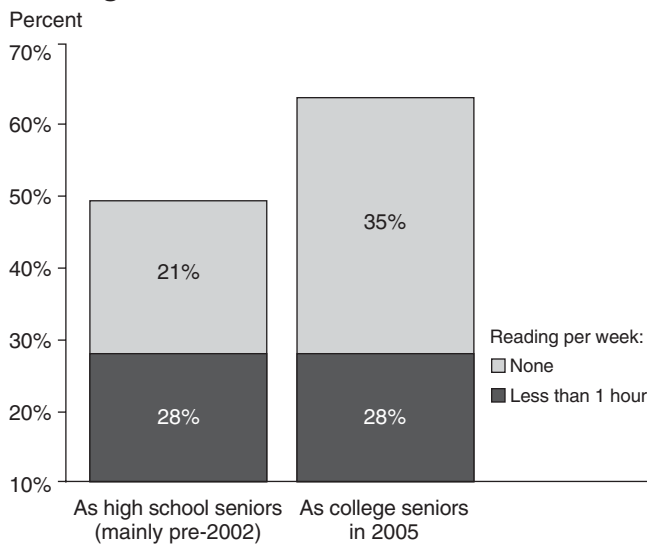
Percentage of Literary Readers Among College Graduates

1982	1992	2002	Change 1982-2002	Rate of Decline 1982-2002
82%	75%	67%	-15 pp	-18%

pp = percentage points

Source: National Endowment for the Arts.

FIGURE 1
U.S. College Seniors Who Read Little or Nothing for Pleasure



Source: University of California, Los Angeles, Higher Education Research Institute

- Literary reading declined significantly in a period of rising Internet use. From 1997-2003, home Internet use soared 53 percentage points among 18- to 24-year-olds. By another estimate, the percentage of 18- to 29-year-olds with a home broadband connection climbed 25 points from 2005 to 2007.¹...

B. Americans Are Reading Less Well

As Americans read less, their reading skills worsen, especially among teenagers and young males. By contrast, the average reading score of 9-year-olds has improved.

1. Reading scores for 17-year-olds are down.

- 17-year-old average reading scores began a slow downward trend in 1992.
- For more than 30 years, this age group has failed to sustain improvements in reading scores.
- Reading test scores for 9-year-olds—who show no declines in voluntary reading—are at an all-time high.
- The disparity in reading skills improvement between 9-year-olds and 17-year-olds may reflect broader differences in the academic and social climate of those age groups. . . .

2. Among high school seniors, the average score has declined for virtually all levels of reading.

- Little more than one-third of high school seniors now read proficiently.² (Tables 5-6)

1. U.S. Census Bureau, Computer and Internet Use in the United States, 1997 and 2003, and Pew/Internet & American Life Project, Home Broadband Adoption 2007.

2. For 12th-graders, “Proficient” corresponds with a reading score of 302 or greater (out of 500).

TABLE 5
Percentage of 12th Graders Reading at or Above the Proficient Level

1992	2005	Change	Rate of Decline
40%	35%	-5 pp	-13 pp

pp = percentage points

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

TABLE 6
Change in 12th-Grade Reading Scores, by Percentile: 1992 and 2005

Percentile	1992	2005	Change
90th	333	333	0
75th	315	313	-2
50th	294	288	-6
25th	271	262	-9
10th	249	235	-14

All score changes from 1992 are statistically significant.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

TABLE 7
Average 12th-Grade Reading Scores by Gender

	1992	2005
Female	297	292
Male	287	279
Male-female gap	-10	-13

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

- From 1992 to 2005, the average score declined for the bottom 90% of readers. Only for the very best readers of 2005, the score held steady. . . .

- The reading gap is widening between males and females. (Table 7)

3. Reading proficiency rates are stagnant or declining in adults of both genders and all education levels.

- The percentage of men who read at a Proficient level has declined. For women, the share of Proficient readers has stayed the same.³
- Average reading scores have declined in adults of virtu-

3. For adults, “Proficient” corresponds with a prose literacy score of 340 or greater (out of 500).

ally all education levels.⁴

- Even among college graduates, reading proficiency has declined at a 20%-23% rate....

C. The Declines in Reading Have Civic, Social, And Economic Implications

Advanced readers accrue personal, professional, and social advantages. Deficient readers run higher risks of failure in all three areas.

1. Employers now rank reading and writing as top deficiencies in new hires.

- 38% of employers find high school graduates “deficient” in reading comprehension, while 63% rate this basic skill “very important.”

- “Written communications” tops the list of applied skills found lacking in high school and college graduates alike.

- One in five U.S. workers read at a lower skill level than their job requires.

- Remedial writing courses are estimated to cost more than \$3.1 billion for large corporate employers and \$221 million for state employers....

4. Good readers play a crucial role in enriching our cultural and civic life.

- Literary readers are more than 3 times as likely as non-readers to visit museums, attend plays or concerts, and create artworks of their own.

- They are also more likely to play sports, attend sporting events, or do outdoor activities.

- 18- to 34-year-olds, whose reading rates are the lowest for any adult age group under 65, show declines in cultural and civic participation.

5. Good readers make good citizens.

- Literary readers are more than twice as likely as non-readers to volunteer or do charity work.

- Adults who read well are more likely to volunteer than Basic and Below-Basic readers....

- 84% of Proficient readers voted in the 2000 presidential election, compared with 53% of Below-Basic readers. (Table 8)...

6. Deficient readers are far more likely than skilled readers to be high school dropouts.

- Half of America’s Below-Basic readers failed to complete high school—a percentage gain of 5 points since 1992.

- One-third of readers at the Basic level dropped out of high school.

- For high school dropouts, the average reading score is 55 points lower than for high school graduates—and the gap has grown since 1992.


- This fact is especially troubling in light of recent esti-

4. Exceptions are adults still in high school and those with a GED or high school equivalency. In both cases, score changes from 1992 to 2003 were not statistically significant.

TABLE 8

Percentage of Adults Who Voted in the 2000 Presidential Election, by 2003 Reading Level

Reading Level	
Proficient	84%
Basic	62%
Below Basic	53%



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics

mates that only 70% of high school students earn a diploma on time.

Conclusion

Self-reported data on individual behavioral patterns, combined with national test scores from the Department of Education and other sources, suggest three distinct trends: a historical decline in voluntary reading rates among teenagers and young adults; a gradual worsening of reading skills among older teens; and declining proficiency in adult readers.

The Department of Education’s extensive data on voluntary reading patterns and prose reading scores yield a fourth observation: frequency of reading for pleasure correlates strongly with better test scores in reading and writing. Frequent readers are thus more likely than infrequent or non-readers to demonstrate academic achievement in those subjects.

From the diversity of data sources in this report, other themes emerge. Analyses of voluntary reading and reading ability, and the social characteristics of advanced and deficient readers, identify several discrepancies at a national level:

- Less reading for pleasure in late adolescence than in younger age groups

- Declines in reading test scores among 17-year-olds and high school seniors in contrast to younger age groups and lower grade levels

- Among high school seniors, a wider rift in the reading scores of advanced and deficient readers

- A male-female gap in reading proclivity and achievement levels

- A sharp divide in the reading skills of incarcerated adults versus non-prisoners

- Greater academic, professional, and civic benefits associated with high levels of leisure reading and reading comprehension

Longitudinal studies are needed to confirm and monitor the effects of these differences over time. Future research also could explore factors such as income, ethnicity, region, and race, and how they might alter the relationship between voluntary reading, reading test scores, and other outcomes. Critically, further studies should weigh the relative effectiveness and costs and benefits of programs to foster lifelong reading

and skills development. For instance, such research could trace the effects of electronic media and “screen reading” on the development of readers in early childhood.

Recent studies of American time-use and consumer expenditure patterns highlight a series of choices lurking in the question “To read or not to read?” The future of reading rests on the daily decisions Americans will continue to make when confronted with an expanding menu of leisure goods and activities. The import of these national findings, however, is that reading frequently is a behavior to be cultivated with the same zeal as academic achievement, financial or job performance, and global competitiveness. . . .

[From the body of the report, EIR selects a few points for elaboration (Tables 9-13):]

TABLE 9
Percentage of Adults Who Read a Book Not Required for Work or School by Age Group

Age	1992	2002	Change
18-24	59%	52%	-7 pp
25-34	64%	59%	-5 pp
35-44	66%	59%	-7 pp
45-54	64%	61%	*-3 pp
55-64	59%	58%	*-1 pp
65-74	55%	54%	*-1 pp
75+	42%	44%	*+2 pp

pp = percentage points

*- no statistically significant change from 1992

Source: National Endowment for the Arts, Survey of Public Participation in the Arts.

TABLE 10
Hours and/or Minutes per Day Spent on Leisure and Sports Activities, by Activity
(2006 Annual Averages)

Ages 15 years and over	Weekends and Holidays	
	Weekdays	Holidays
Participation in sports, exercise and recreation	0:16	0:20
Socializing and communicating	0:36	1:07
Watching TV	2:21	3:06
Reading	0:20	0:26
Relaxing and thinking	0:17	0:20
Playing games and computer use for leisure	0:18	0:22
Other leisure and sports activities, including travel	0:24	0:41

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE 11
Hours and/or Minutes per Day Spent Watching TV or Reading

(2006 Annual Average)

	Hours/Minutes Spent Watching TV		Hours/Minutes Spent Reading	
	Weekdays	Weekends and Holidays	Weekdays	Weekends and Holidays
Total, 15 years and over	2:21	3:06	:20	:26
15 to 24 years	1:57	2:33	:07	:10
25 to 34 years	1:55	2:51	:09	:11
35 to 44 years	1:53	2:39	:12	:16
45 to 54 years	2:07	3:02	:17	:24
55 to 64 years	2:35	3:35	:30	:39
65 years and over	3:56	4:10	:50	1:07

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE 12
Weekly Average Hours and/or Minutes Spent on Various Activities by American Children

(Ages 6-17, 2002-2003)

Leisure activity 2002-2003	
Visiting, socializing	4:47
Sports	2:59
Outdoor activities	0:50
Hobbies	0:12
Art activities	0:48
Television	14:36
Other passive leisure	2:46
Playing	8:05
Reading	1:17
Being read to	0:05
Computer activities	2:45

Source: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Institute for Social Research.

TABLE 13
Percentage of Adults Proficient in Reading Prose, by Highest Level of Educational Attainment

Education Level	1992	2003	Change	Rate of Decline
Less than/some high school	1%	1%	0	0
High school graduate	5%	*4%	*-1 pp	*-20%
Vocational/trade/business school	9%	5%	-4 pp	-44%
Some college	14%	*11%	*-3 pp	*-21%
Associates/2-year degree	23%	*19%	*-4 pp	*-17%
Bachelor's degree	40%	31%	-9 pp	-22%
Graduate study/degree	51%	41%	-10 pp	-20%

* No statistically significant change

pp = percentage points

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

EIR Is the Devil in Your Laptop?

HOW WIENER ATTEMPTED TO KILL SCIENCE

Only Diseased Minds Believe in Entropy

by Creighton Cody Jones, LaRouche Youth Movement

Editor's note: *These articles should be read in the context of the LaRouche PAC's November 2007 pamphlet, "The Noösphere vs. the Blogosphere: Is the Devil in Your Laptop?" (www.larouchepac.com). One article from that pamphlet, Peter Martinson's "Where Your Computers Really Came From," is summarized in this section, since it forms a conceptual unit with the other two presented here.*

The Cult of Cybernetics

To cure the patient, we must first diagnose society. Thus, we start by examining one of its chief contagions, Norbert Wiener (1894-1964), "pioneer" of information theory and coiner of the term *cybernetics*; a creature whose vision for the cyber-future is not much different from that of the evil H.G. Wells, that is, one of "One World Government."¹ Wiener writes, "Very many of the factors which previously precluded a *World State* have been abrogated. It is even possible to maintain that modern communication, which forces us to adjudicate the international claims of different broadcasting systems and different airplane nets, has made the *World State* inevitable." It is precisely this fantasy of a "world state" that Wiener's work took strides to produce. He was joined in this endeavor by many of the leading social engineers of the counterculture movement, including the famed sex-crazed anthropologist Margaret Mead, and the Grateful Dead creator, psychiatrist Gregory Bateson, both of whom were among the many "social scientists" who participated in the Cybernetics Conferences of the 1940s,

hosted by the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation.² It was Wiener's notion, that the computer was a perfect mimic of the human brain, that these social engineers found particularly useful, and they thought that computers could play a similar role as LSD for use in mind control. To create "concentration camps without tears." But perhaps the most sinister of those who clustered with the likes of Wiener was John von Neumann, whose "Theory of Games" became the economic-social construct that cybernetics plugged into, and is the theoretical basis for much of the fascist, economic mass-murder, policies of globalization today.

The Devil Flies the Union Jack

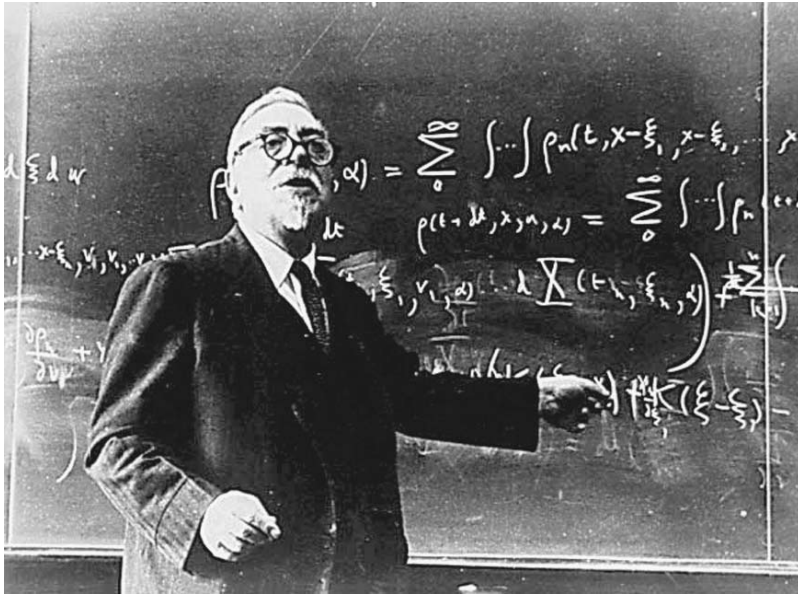
But first, to understand Norbert, you must come to know his own personal Dr. Faust, the man Lyndon LaRouche has dubbed "the most evil man of the 20th Century," Bertrand Russell.³ Here we speak of a man, who under the abusive hand of his grandfather, one-time British Prime Minister Lord John Russell, was bred to be an embittered defender of oligarchic racialism, whose only love became the hatred of mankind, and its principal defender, the United States.⁴ His devilish pessimism oozes out of his book *Impact of Science on Society* (1953), where he wrote, "Life is a brief, small and transitory

1. See Matthew Oden, "The Noösphere vs. the Blogosphere," *Is the Devil in Your Laptop?*, LaRouche PAC pamphlet, November 2007. Also published in *EIR*, Dec. 7, 2007.

2. See David Christie, "INSNA: 'Handmaidens of British Colonialism,'" LaRouche PAC, *ibid*.

3. Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., "How Bertrand Russell Became an Evil Man," *Fidelio*, Fall 1994. Available at www.schillerinstitute.org.

4. Lord John Russell's role as an anti-American shows roots in his role as foreign secretary, at one time serving under Lord Palmerston. He met with Confederate Commissioner James Murray Mason, and organized across Europe for support of the Confederacy. See A.R. Tyrner-Tyrnauer, *Lincoln and the Emperors* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, 1962).



Norbert Wiener's goal was to impose his entropic view of the universe on mankind, by building it into his artificial "information society."

phenomenon in an obscure corner . . . not at all the sort of thing one would make a fuss about if one were not personally concerned." And later, in discussing the threat to the aristocratic way of life posed by human progress and population growth, Russell wrote, "The danger of a world shortage of food may be averted for a time by improvements in the techniques of agriculture. But, if population continues to increase at the present rate, such improvements can not long suffice. There will then be two groups, one poor with an increasing population, the other rich with stationary population. Such a situation can hardly fail to lead to war. . . . War may become so destructive that, at any rate for a time, there is no danger of overpopulation, or the scientific nations may be defeated and anarchy may destroy scientific technique. . . ."

Thus, Russell took it as a personal mission to complete the job begun by Venice's Paolo Sarpi (1552-1623): to destroy scientific progress and its generator, creative thinking. Sarpi must be recognized as the man, who in the 16th-17th Century, faced with the annihilation of the Venetian oligarchy by the hand of scientific progress that had emerged out of the Renaissance, developed the virus of empiricism, spread by his lackey Galileo, as a means of embracing science with one hand, and stabbing it in the back with the other.

So Russell began early in his academic life, by sophisticatedly attacking two of the primary contributors to modern science: Gottfried Leibniz, the founder of the calculus, whose concept of the immortality of the soul Russell took particular issue with, and Bernhard Riemann, discoverer of the principle of higher-order, transcendental, upward development in mathematical physics; the man Einstein acknowledged, along with Johannes Kepler, as being the bookends to the creation of

modern physics. It was in his *Hypotheses That Lie at the Foundations of Geometry*, that Riemann broke the silence on the suppressive role that Euclid, an Aristotelian deployment against the work of Plato and the Pythagoreans, had played in the history of science. Riemann attacked the notion of approaching the investigation of reality with an *apriori* set of axioms, from which our interpretation of events was to be logically derived. Riemann proved, rather, that the universe was one characterized by progressive change, from lower, to higher order states of existence. Yet, despite these discoveries grounded in experimental truth, Russell insists, as in his *Principia Mathematica*, on an *anti-creative* description of a closed Euclidian universe, one of fixed logical consistency. One, of course, devoid of human progress and beauty.

... It Will Be a Cold Life in Hell

It is from the teat of this swine, that Wiener suckled, and, therefore, contracted the Sarpi virus, with the corresponding evil world view of pessimism. To this effect Wiener writes, in *The Human Use of Human Beings*, "Sooner or later we shall die, and it is highly probable that the whole universe around us will die the heat-death, in which the world will be reduced to one vast temperature equilibrium in which nothing really new ever happens. There will be nothing left but a drab uniformity out of which we can expect only minor and insignificant local fluctuations." It is this Gnostic belief in an entropic universe, with its subsuming purposeless, and bestial view of man, that Wiener sets to impose on society, through building it into the fabric of his artificial society of information. Here we see, in the form of that axiom of *entropy*, built into the system as truth by Wiener, what Lyndon LaRouche dubbed "The Force of Tragedy" (*EIR*, Nov. 9, 2007). A belief acting as a kind of "invisible fence" of the mind, herding those who, in this case, would hook the fate of their nation to that belief in the truthful representation of reality by "information systems," to their own inevitable heat-death.

Governed by this belief himself, Wiener begins the preface to the 2nd edition of his principal work, *Cybernetics*, where his wicked ancestors had left off: with a sinister attack on the epistemology responsible for mankind's development and survival. In trying to convey the state of affairs of science at his time, he indicates what side of the battle he's on, by maliciously disregarding scientific revolutionary Johannes Kepler, focussing rather on those whom Kepler himself had refuted, saying that "the result was that the study of non-linear electrical engineering was getting into a state comparable with that of the late stages of the Ptolemaic system of astronomy, in which epicycle was piled on epicycle, correction upon



Bertrand Russell followed in the footsteps of Venice's operative Paolo Sarpi, in his mission to destroy scientific progress and its generator, human creativity. It was from Russell, that Wiener contracted the Sarpi "virus."

correction, until a vast patchwork structure ultimately broke under its own weight. Just as the Copernican system arose out of the wreck of the over-strained Ptolemaic system, with a simple and natural heliocentric description of the motions of the heavenly bodies instead of the ... complicated Ptolemaic geocentric system, so the study of non-linear structures and systems, whether electrical or mechanical, natural or artificial, has needed a fresh and independent point of commencement."

Thus we see, consistent with his state of mind throughout the book, and his life's work, Wiener, in classic sophist style, chooses to misdirect the audience to the formal, mechanistic distinction between Ptolemy and Copernicus, as opposed to the principled, physical contribution of Kepler. That Wiener would conveniently do so, should come as no surprise to anyone familiar with Kepler's *The New Astronomy* and *Harmony of the World*, where Kepler proves the anti-entropic nature of the universe, contrary to Wiener's politically imposed assertion of a world headed for heat-death (entropy).

Information Theory Is Not Cognitive Power

Wiener then truly betrays his motives, and spells out the doom of those who buy into his *Cybernetics* crap shoot. He says, "It turns out that the overwhelming importance of a trigonometric analysis in the treatment of linear phenomena does not persist when we come to consider non-linear phenomena," and then, "What it amounts to in practice is that the appropriate test input for the study of non-linear systems is rather of the character of the Brownian Motion than a set of trigonometric functions."

To understand the deeper epistemological, and conse-

quently existential implications of what might otherwise appear to be a matter of formality, one need reflect upon the true arc of development of modern science, with its ancient roots in the Egyptian and Greek investigation of ante-Euclidian spherical geometry. For, to know the history of science is to know the history of civilization, and to "own" a proof as to how man has survived, and must continue to do so.

It is with this understanding that Lyndon LaRouche constituted the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM) "basement teams," in an effort to breathe life back into the great ideas on which man's survival has been contingent, and, to give a glimmer of hope to our posterity. These are teams of young adults, tasked with rigorously working to rediscover the great paradigm-changing discoveries of the past, so as to lawfully communicate how to provoke such discoveries of principle in the minds of peers and future generations.

To that end, the LYM begins in the penumbra of Pythagoras and Plato, with the revolutionary discovery of the founder of modern science, Nicolas of Cusa: that the circle has a "transcendental" relationship to the polygon, and that quadrature of the circle is an ontological absurdity. In other words, the circle is of a higher species, and has its generative origin in a domain above and beyond "knowability" from the domain of the Euclidian "straight." From here the journey continues, on its way to the enigmatic C.F. Gauss and his superior student Bernhard Riemann, through a student of Cusa, the discoverer of universal gravitation, Johannes Kepler, whose challenge to future mathematicians, to discover the appropriate mathematical language for properly investigating the characteristic change of that elliptical geometry corresponding to his discovery (what would become known as the calculus), brings us to our next scientist, Gottfried Leibniz, and the point of current emphasis. As a colleague, and current member of the LYM "basement team," pointed out, Johann Bernoulli, friend and collaborator of Leibniz, the discoverer of the calculus, hypothesized that since he and Leibniz had solved the problem of finding the functions that express the characteristic change of circular and hyperbolic transcendental action, all one need do to solve the integral of any curve, is to find the right combination of circles and hyperbolas that construct the curve, and apply the rules already worked out. Again, Leibniz deemed these integrals "transcendental." This work gave way to the discoveries of Gauss (the complex domain) and Riemann, who discovered the principle of "higher-transcendentals," beyond even the simple circular transcendental of Cusa and Leibniz, what might be call hyper-spherical geometries.

The point to be gleaned from this brief sketch of the curve of development of real science, is that a certain "trigonometric" (sine, cosine, etc.), or better, circular/spherical invariant, persists at every step along the way. It is precisely this history,

the history of the increasing power of mankind, and corresponding method, not simply the formality of choosing one mathematics over another, which Wiener is attacking when he says that “trigonometric analysis” loses its importance with his new science of “communication.” Thus, similar to the Southern slaveowner, Norbert Wiener would put to death those who would free slaves’ minds by teaching them how to read.

To this point, of the primacy of circular and higher transcendental functions, inspired by the art of *Sphaerics*, Lyndon LaRouche writes:

At first impression, the starry universe appears to be spherical. Why is that so? Does that appearance not imply that a quality of “sphericalness” bounds the universe? If so, does something else, of a still higher authority, bound that apparently spherical quality of boundedness? These are not merely coincidental questions; these questions imply a different question of deadly seriousness: How was this stubbornly persistent appearance of spherical boundedness generated for the mind of man?

Two great questions are implied in that set of questions. The first of these questions, is expressed in the form of the elementary notion of an anti-Euclidean geometry of the type underlying the physical science of the Pythagoreans and the related circles of Socrates and Plato. The second, deeper question, which is also implied in certain features of their work, as also the famous argument of Heracleitus, is, to what degree is the way in which we acquire reliable scientific knowledge, itself a reflection of the “architecture” of what appear to be the specifically biological conditions under which all valid human knowledge of the universe is organized?⁵

To go further as to the true existential question being posed in exposing the fraud, and evil intent of Wiener and the “true believers” of cybernetics and digital information theory, we must look at the essence of what Wiener says is the “appropriate” mathematics to be used. In saying that we will construct a system that uses functions derived from investigations of Brownian Motion, he is saying that our world will be one that is fundamentally random, therefore ontologically unknowable, and only capable of being analyzed by infinite approximations, and statistical analysis. This means that the transcendental will be eliminated, and replaced with an approximation. That is, we will construct a system that maintains total mathematical consistency, to the effect that the sort of paradox that arose in attempting to “square the circle,” which thus gave rise to Cusa’s discovery of the transcenden-

tal, and the subsequent unleashing of humanist science, is eliminated.

Consider further the idea of compound circular action as a projection of compound least-action processes. Where we understand least action, as a universal characteristic, of each and all of an array of universal physical principles, which themselves reflect a bounding universal intention of upwardly developing change (i.e., anti-entropy). In mathematical physics, each higher-order discovery of principle will be of a “transcendental form,” recognized only as a paradox from the viewpoint of the lower state of understanding, yet knowable as a new principle by the mind that discovers it. The integrating of that newly discovered principle into our cognitive map of the universe has the dynamic effect of transforming all the internal relations of thought, such as to account for the newly discovered, everywhere-acting (universal) principle, to the effect that what was “true” becomes an infinitely distant parody of our now more appropriate understanding of the “real” universe. This is characteristic of the calculus, where at various inflection points in the history of that branch of science’s development, integrals were found as expressions of newly investigated physical curves or actions, such as Leibniz’s investigation of the catenary curve, or Gauss’s work on the lemniscate curve, whose solutions did not correspond to the mathematical rules developed up to that point. These new unsolvable curves became known as higher-transcendental, as, for example, the elliptical integral.

I Find No Reason in Your Logic

Against what has just been said, read from chapter five of *Cybernetics*, “Computing Machines and the Nervous System,” where Wiener equates the human brain to a logical binary system. He writes:

A proof represents a logical process which has come to a definitive conclusion in a finite number of stages. However, a logical machine following definite rules need never come to a conclusion. It may go on grinding through different stages without ever coming to a stop, either by describing a pattern of activity of continually increasing complexity, or by going into a repetitive process like the end of a chess game in which there is a continuing cycle of perpetual check. This occurs in the case of some paradoxes of Cantor and Russell. Let us consider the class of all classes which are not members of themselves. Is this class a member of itself? If it is, it is certainly not a member of itself; and if it is not, it is equally certainly a member of itself. A machine to answer this question would give the successive temporary answers: “yes,” “no,” “yes,” “no,” and so on, and would never come to equilibrium.

Bertrand Russell’s solution of his own paradoxes was to affix to every statement a quantity, the so-called type, which serves to distinguish between what seems

5. Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., “On Vernadsky’s Space: More on the Calculus,” *EIR*, Oct. 5, 2007, p. 34.



Arnold Schwarzenegger's portrayal of a cyborg in the movie Terminator typifies Wiener's notion of a learning-capable, self-reproducing machine (an ontological absurdity).

to be formally the same statement, according to the character of the objects with which it concerns itself—whether these are “things,” in the simplest sense, classes of “things,” classes of classes of “things,” etc. The method by which we resolve the paradoxes is also to attach a parameter to each statement, this parameter being the time at which it is asserted. In both cases, we introduce what we may call a parameter of uniformization, to resolve an ambiguity which is simply due to its neglect.

In Wiener's flat world of information, paradox is reduced to a simple formality, to be resolved as such. For example, Wiener demonstrates this ontologically flawed “squaring of the circle” approach to the “transcendental” elliptical function, writing, “When it comes to equations of the elliptical type, where the natural data are boundary values rather than initial values, the natural methods of solution involve an iterative process of successive approximation.”

Thus, the very element of paradox and irony which has been the historic key to provoking the creative mind, to dis-

cover the previously unknown principles of reality, has been eliminated. Hence, progress has been eliminated; it is an “end of history” paradigm. Here lies the true threat to mankind's continued existence: Entropy has been built into the system as a controlling factor, guiding it to an inevitable “Doom.” Therefore, to the extent that current society and economy has attached itself to cybernetics and information theory, civilization is fated to the tragic heat-death Wiener sadistically lusts for.

Let's go just one more, crucial step further, in understanding the existential nature of the problem.

Cyborg Existentialist and the Economics of Doom

The fantasized pinnacle of Wiener's world provides us with the clearest view of its deadly ends, when seen through the eye of physical economy. In the concluding chapters of *Cybernetics*, Wiener states the possibility of a future with learning-capable, self-reproducing machines, much like that depicted by George Shultz's cyborg wind-up governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, in the apocalyptic movie *Terminator*. But, like all computers or logical systems, all the decisions and policy of those machines will be nothing more than a logical deduction—however clever and complicated it may be—from a set of rules and axioms of its initial programmer. There is no possibility for discovery of a new universal principle of science, with its manifest array of new higher-power (i.e., transcendental) technologies.

Therefore, if, for example, the programmer of the system had never programmed into the computer, the newly discovered principles associated with the organization of the subatomic nucleus, then, even given an infinite amount of time, the computer would never itself generate that principle and its implications for itself. For each new discovery, relative to its predecessors, is of a higher-transcendental quality (precisely that quality that has been eliminated by Wiener), and not susceptible to discovery through either logical deduction or induction, but only through the uniquely human act of fundamental discovery. It has been precisely this process of discovery and integration of new universal principles, that has enabled mankind to continue to grow in population and increase its living standards, through the creation of new, more efficient and power-intense technologies, such as nuclear power, with the corresponding increase in production potential, utilizing newly defined resource-bases, such as uranium to supersede coal or oil.

So it will be, that that futuristic world of “flabimators,” who lack the power to discover new universal principles, and will be forced to “reproduce” in an entropic world of fixed and diminishing resources, eventually cannibalizing each other for spare parts. So would be the dismal future of us humans, were we to continue to deny that in ourselves which truly makes us uniquely human, and tie our future to that tragic belief in the flat, logical world of “information theory.”

Analog, Digital, and Transcendental

by Sky Shields, LaRouche Youth Movement

A review of the development of the human species—in particular, the radical steps forward taken during the period of Franklin Roosevelt’s economic recovery policies—provides us with a unique angle from which to approach the disease represented by the modern “post-human” hoaxes being pushed today. Rather than twirl ’round and ’round, attempting to parry every sophistry in the arguments underlying the cybernetics fraud, we ought to ask ourselves the obvious question: What, exactly, is a human being?

The reductionist’s argument on this point hangs on a single sophistry, which is the same sophistry he wields when asked the question, “What is life?” He proceeds to examine everything about the human being which is not characteristically human, and then to conclude from that, that the human being is simply a rather sophisticated animal. The silly reduction of the uniqueness of the human species to physiological differences such as cranial capacity, posture, physiology of the throat, or an opposable thumb, is an intentional evading of the issue. It is no less silly than trying to define life from the standpoint of organic chemistry or molecular biology: The reductionist reduces the living organism to its non-living parts, before asking what makes it alive. This is akin to attempting to understand the idea underlying a great poem by analyzing the letters of the alphabet used, and how they interact with one another. At this point in the dissection, the idea under consideration ceases to exist.

As we will see below, there is an infinitesimal—a unit building block—in language, but these are not the letters, any more than the fundamental elements of a living process are its atoms—at least not atoms as they are currently understood. Similarly, once you reduce the analysis of human activity to its animal functions, it is no longer possible to discuss what a human being actually is at all.

We will take the opposite approach, and view the human being as any great composition ought properly to be considered: as a coherent whole. Taking our cue from Plato in *The Republic*, we will examine the human individual as that which takes part in the organization of human economy.

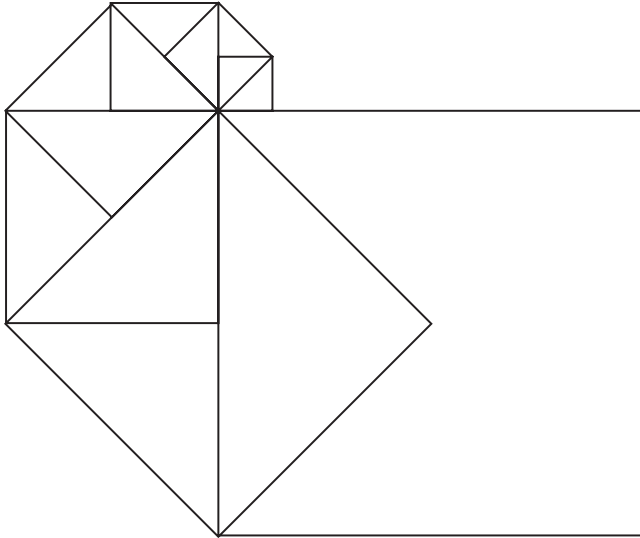
Human economy—the progress of the development of the human species on the planet—is characterized by rapid and sudden upshifts in the rate of growth of the human population. These sudden upshifts correspond to periods of social reorganization, on the basis of scientific and technological progress, clearly corresponding to the 15th-Century Italian

Renaissance, for example. If the periods between these singular moments are recognized as “units” of human development, it can be seen that this type of constant, anti-entropic development of the human species depends entirely on the discovery and social implementation of new scientific and cultural ideas. That is, this type of characteristic growth, not seen in other species outside of objective changes in their environment, or physiological evolution, depends entirely on the creative powers of the human individual, expressed in the areas of both physical science and Classical artistic culture. The question thus becomes, whether this characteristic type of creative capability is replicable by any non-cognitive (abiotic, or even simply biotic) process. The answer, is that the human mind transcends such biotic and abiotic notions in the same way that a circle transcends an infinite polygon; and the human mind is no more composed of its living and non-living parts than a circle is composed of infinite straight lines. Jumps of the type which would normally be attributed to genetic shifts within an animal species, occurring on a timescale so large as to never have been directly observed to this day—changes in life-expectancy, resource usage, social organization, and the like—are, for humanity, compressed into the lifetimes of individual, creative human beings. The human individual, like the circle, is a single idea which is outside of, and guides and directs the parts which give it expression.

Exemplary of this characteristic of the human mind, is its ability to discover, and wield, new transcendental conceptions; conceptions which are defined solely by the fact that they transcend entirely—infinately—the logical systems which preceded them. The model for this transcendental relationship is found in Nicholas of Cusa’s quadrature of the circle.

A later transcendental relationship, discovered by Gottfried Leibniz, provides us with a unique window into the methods used during Franklin Roosevelt’s return to the principles of the American Revolution, and an insight into the methods by which such transcendental notions are incorporated into the development of human economy—in particular the work of American scientist Vannevar Bush (see box, in this section)—in extending the cognitive capabilities of mankind as a whole. The exponential curve, or its inverse, the logarithmic curve, is the curve constructed on the basis of constant, continuous, self-similar growth. Its familiar expression is found in the form of Leibniz collabo-

FIGURE 1



rator Johann Bernoulli's *Spiral Mirabilis*, or logarithmic spiral (Figure 1).

In the logarithmic spiral, equal, arithmetic angular divisions thus correspond to radial lengths increasing in geometric progression. The same thing can be expressed along a horizontal line, by simply producing a series of lines in geometric progression, spaced at equal intervals. In this case, the progression is:

$$1:2 :: 2:4 :: 4:8 :: 8:16 \dots \text{(Figure 2).}$$

Obviously, in both of these cases, neither progression is actually a continuous curve. The question becomes: What continuous curve has this property of self-similar growth over every interval, and not merely at discrete steps? Let's begin by looking at any line connecting two discrete points on the curve, such as the ones we have just drawn (Figure 3). Here, the triangle *aAs* is similar to the triangle *AWT*—having the same angles. That is, we have the proportion:

$$as : As :: AT : WT.$$

Or, letting $WT = k$; $OT = x$; $AT = y$; $As = Tt = dx$; and $as = dy$:

$$dy:dx :: y:k$$

If the points *A* and *a* on the curve are *adjacent*, that is, if there is no distance between them, the line *AW* will be the tangent to the exponential curve at the point *A*. Also, since this curve was constructed using powers of 2, if $OT = x$, $AT = y$ will be 2^x . Also, if $Tt = dx$, at will be 2^{x+dx} . Therefore our ratio becomes

$$(2^{x+dx} - 2^x) : dx :: 2^x : k$$

or, which is the same

$$2^x(2^{dx} - 1) : dx :: 2^x : k \text{ or } y(2^{dx} - 1) : dx :: y : k$$

FIGURE 2

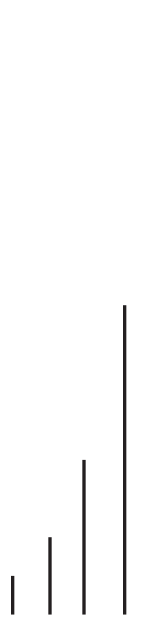
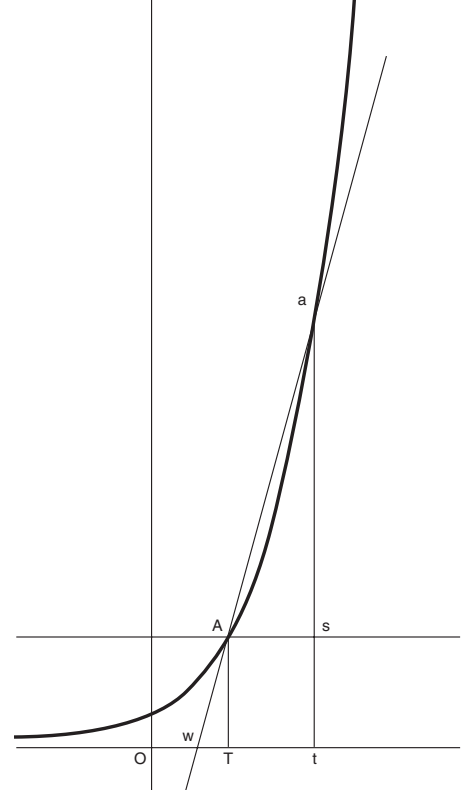


FIGURE 3



or

$$(2^{dx} - 1) : dx :: 1 : k$$

That is, if dx is taken as constant everywhere on the curve, the distance k will be a constant equal to

$$\frac{dx}{2^{dx} - 1}$$

“But,” you might object, “if the points are adjacent, both the ratios $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and $\frac{dx}{2^{dx} - 1}$ are equal to $\frac{0}{0}$.” But remember! This is simply an empiricist's object fixation. For the empiricist, as soon as all of the objects disappear, what is left must be equal to 0. But for the human being, who “is not of the flesh, but rather of the spirit,” and for whom objects are simply the shadows of principle, it is only *after* all of the objects disappear that we can see what that truth actually was which lay behind them all the while. The example Leibniz used in a letter to his friend Pierre Varignon, in defense of this idea, was to imagine the triangle *MmO*, in Figures 4-7.

There is a constant proportion between the sides of triangle, even as it becomes smaller and smaller, and regardless of which side of *O* the triangle is located on. But what happens at the moment the triangle is passing from one side to the other? At that moment, the sides become smaller than anything imaginable, but nothing has changed about the angles to destroy the proportion. Therefore, the sides have vanished, but the *proportion* still exists!

FIGURE 4

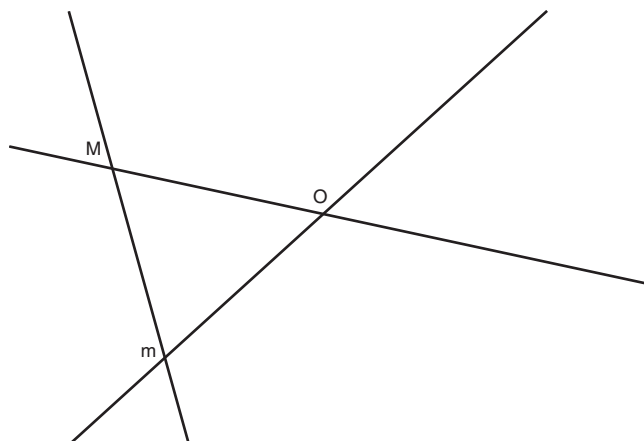


FIGURE 5

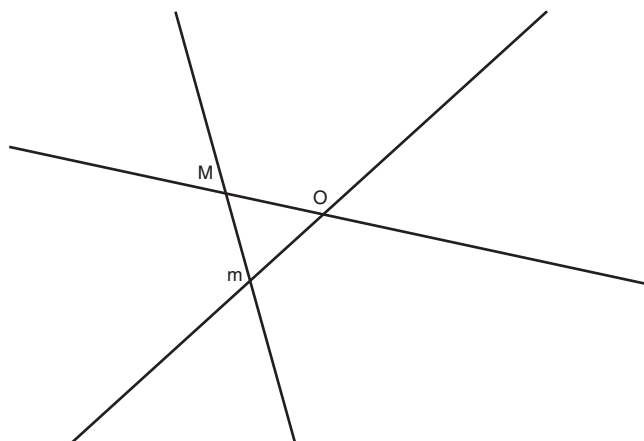


FIGURE 6

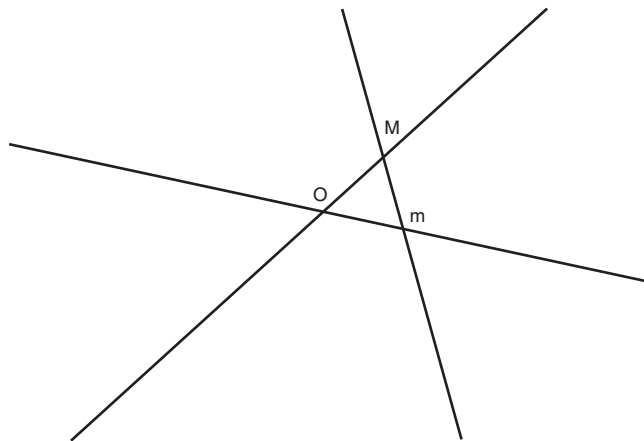
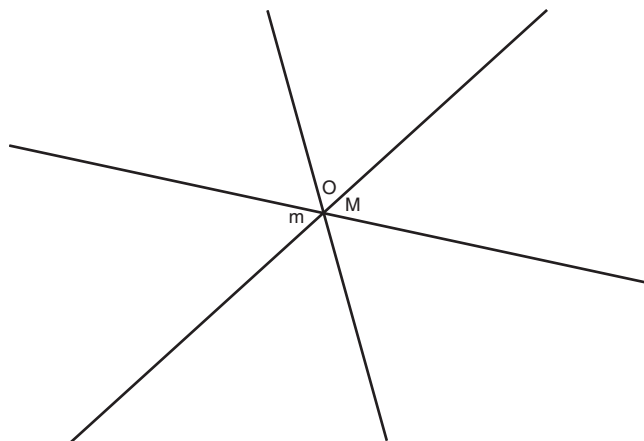


FIGURE 7



Put in somewhat simpler terms: If you have a sleeping dog, and the dog vanishes, you will no longer have a sleeping dog. If you have a running dog, and the dog vanishes, you no longer have a running dog. In neither case will you be left with “a running” or “a sleeping” for a pet. This does not mean, however, that there is no difference between a sleeping dog, a running dog, and a dog. But where, then, is the difference located? What do a running *dog*, a running *gazelle*, and a running *emu* have in common? If the noun vanishes, where is the verb? With respect to the noun, the verb is =0. However, no sane person would argue that verbs do not exist.

If you keep this in mind, you’ll easily find that the ratio given for k is exactly equal to the ratio of the height and base of the triangle where x is equal to zero.

Speaking of Verbs

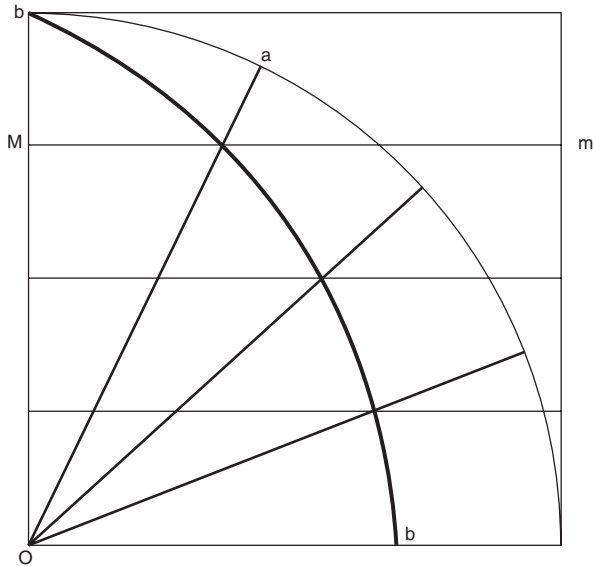
When Descartes banned transcendental geometric relationships from his mathematics, as something it could not comprehend, what he actually said was that “mechanical” curves would not be included. By “mechanical,” he meant

the various types of transcendental relationships investigated by the Greeks, which were embodied in physical, mechanical constructions, and which transcended the simple algebraic expression to which he, like a digital computer, was limited. These included the quadratrices of the various conic sections, the cycloid, and the catenary (Figures 8-9).

Calling these transcendental curves “mechanical” makes a significant point, whose significance was lost on Descartes himself: The construction of these curves constituted the first occurrence of what later came to be referred to as an “analog computer,” a reflection of one of the fundamental principles of human economic progress.

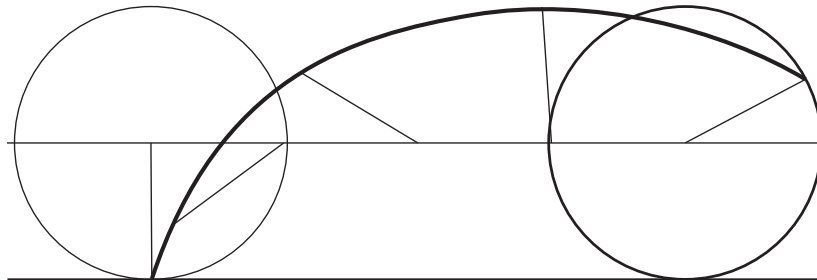
The principle involved here is one referred to often by economist Lyndon LaRouche as the “machine-tool principle.” That is, we have taken an essential, experimentally determined property of this type of constant, self-similar, geometric growth, and embodied it (incorporated it) whole, in a man-made, physical process. The principle already existed, as part of the “shape” of physical space-time. It is necessary, however, to reorganize the shape of man’s interface with that physical space time—the physical economy—to reflect that

FIGURE 8



The quadratrix of the circle, *ab*, is the path produced by the moving intersection of a rotating rod, *Oa*, and a sliding bar, *Mm*, when both move at a constant rate.

FIGURE 9



The cycloid is the curve produced by tracing the motion of a point on the surface of a rolling disk.

FIGURE 10

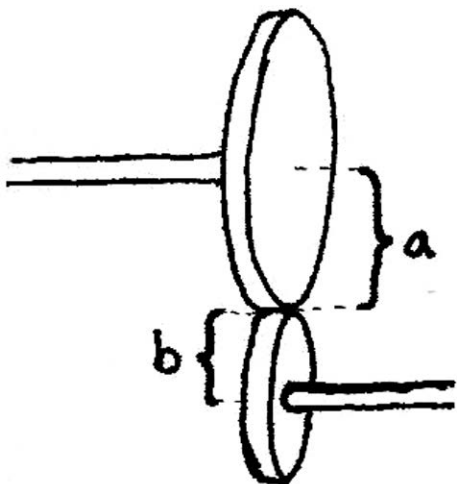
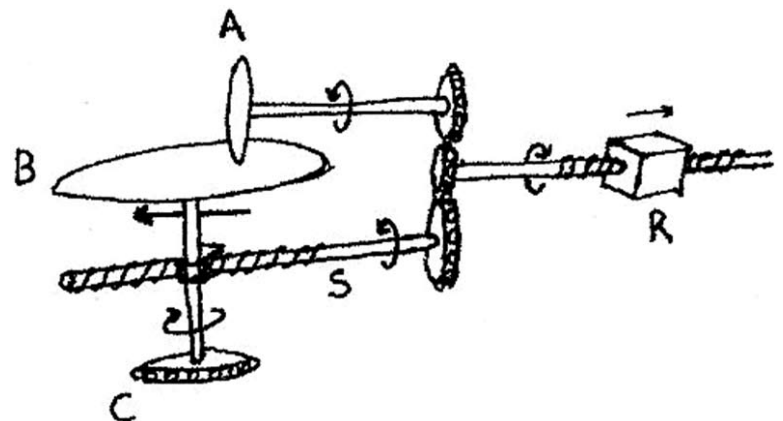


FIGURE 11



discovered form. The point of intersection of these two physical geometries—that of physical space-time, and that of the physical economy—is the machine-tool sector, where the possibility of implementation of a given discovered, physical principle, in a whole array of technology, is realized. Because the method of generating this type of implementation is by creating “analogous” processes in the physical economy, such that they reflect the underlying, invisible structure of physical space-time, such a method is called “analog.” This method is the characteristic form of human creative activity, and the basis for all human economic progress.

As chairman of the President’s National Defense Research Committee, and later director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development during the economic explosion generated by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s reforms, Dr. Vannevar Bush gained firsthand experience with this principle. His role in the 1940s fight against fascism—and its subsequent subversion by the twin revival of the menace of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Norbert Wiener and John von Neumann—has been documented elsewhere. (See articles in this section.) Here, we will apply his method to a consideration of the exponential curve.

Picture two gears, transmitting motion from one to another (Figure 10). If the ratio of the two radii is a to b , then b rotations of gear A will correspond to a rotations of gear B. This means also that a tiny change in gear A—call it dA —will have the same ratio to tiny change, dB , in B, will be the same as a to b . This ratio of rates of change, dA/dB , is called the “gear ratio” of the two gears.

Therefore if, as in the device pictured, the two gears A and B can move relative to each other, their gear ratio is variable. If we let gear A = y , and gear B = x , that variable gear ratio will be equal to the ratio dy/dx . If that variable

gear ratio is governed by the motion of the gear y , transferred by means of a screw threading, S , our variable gear ratio becomes equal to the horizontal displacement of that screw threading, which will be equal to the rotation y . If the rotation at C of x is maintained constant, we will have the relationship $dy/dx = y$ expressed by our exponential curve above.

If now (Figures 11-12), that same motion y is transmitted to a carriage, R , by means of another screw threading, and the same constant motion, x , which drives the gear B at C is attached to another carriage, riding on the carriage R , but moving vertically, we will obtain the curve produced by the horizontal motion y , and vertical motion x , such that $dy/dx = y$. That is to say, we will have our desired exponential curve, for the case where the distance k is equal to one. The reader is left to devise means to determine the remaining cases.

Squaring the Circle, Again (And Again and Again and Again...)

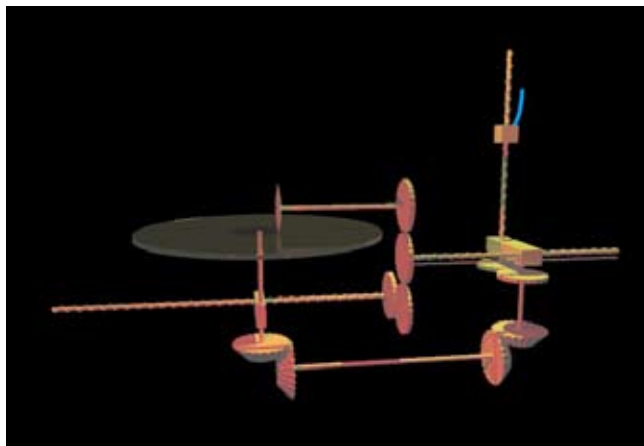
So now, what relationship, if any, does a digital computer have to that process? To begin with, we'll have to figure out how to communicate that type of transcendental relationship to a digital computer, in terms of the basic logical operations of addition and subtraction which it is capable of understanding. If it is desired to draw the curve itself, we must figure out how to translate the process given above into the types of algebraic relationships our poor digital computer can comprehend.

Since it is not possible to discuss any actually continuous process with our computer, we will have to talk to it in terms of points. We know that our curve $y = e^x$ is equal to 1 at the point where $x = 0$. The simplest algebraic equation with this property is

$$y = 1$$

but, since we also know that

FIGURE 12



Carriage mechanism designed by Daniel Yule of the LaRouche Youth Movement. Animation is at <http://tinyurl.com/37qv51>.

$$y = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

and thus dy/dx is also equal to one at the point $x = 0$, we have to pick a more complicated algebraic equation

$$y = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2}$$

which is still equal to 1 where $x = 0$, but for which dy/dx is also always equal to 1. However, since, again, $dy/dx = y$, we have to find a curve for which

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2},$$

or

$$y = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{2 \cdot 3}.$$

Hopefully, you can already see that the process of trying to fit this round peg into a square whole will continue forever, giving us

$$y = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{x^4}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4} + \frac{x^5}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5} + \dots$$

which will never become equal to e^x —though, if you have something dumb enough but fast enough—like a digital computer—it will eventually produce something that bears the same relationship to our curve as the multi-sided polygon bears to the circle.¹

So then, is it possible that the type of transcendental activity expressed by the human mind—and which drives the anti-entropic growth of a human economy—could ever be replicated by a digital process? After all, it could be argued that a many-sided polygon really does make a passably good circle, can't it?

The sophistry here, is that without having a circle to begin with, there would be nothing for the many-sided polygon to imitate in the first place! The circle is an elementary unit—a monad in the sense of Leibniz. It is generated as a single idea, by a single simple process of circular action. In that sense it, like the human personality, has no parts. It is a one—a whole. Therefore, from the standpoint of the polygon, the circle is actually infinitely far away. This type of transcendental relationship is the same as that which holds between human activity, and that lower behavior of the animals. It is also the same sort of infinite gap which lies between the living and the non-living. The human individual must be regarded as a single, living, cognitive whole, and not merely as the “sum of his parts” because, in reality, he has none.

1. This process is often inappropriately called the “Taylor” expansion, though it was earlier discovered by both Gottfried Leibniz and Johann Bernoulli.

The Typical American Scientist: Vannevar Bush

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt understood the necessity of scientific advancement for national security. The involvement of science in the war effort was not only required for the development of new, more powerful, and longer-range weaponry, but also for aiming the new ordnance. Accurate trajectory charts for the various ballistic weapons were in high demand, but required astronomical scales of calculation to produce.

Vannevar (pronounced like “achiever”) Bush (1890-1977) had already been concerned about producing number crunchers, in the tradition of Leibniz and Babbage. Just before the war broke out, the Army Ordnance Department had commissioned him to apply his machine shop at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to the calculations of ballistics trajectories. He had been working on improving his Differential Analyzer since 1931, and was assembling a new, more powerful version. This analog computer, which performed calculations by physically acting out the principles, opened up the prospect of applying mechanical calculation to problems involving the integral calculus.

Bush had built his first machine, the Profile Tracer, to obtain his doctorate in engineering. This machine was slung between two bicycle tires and pushed like a lawnmower. As it moved, a pen inside would continuously draw the changing elevation of the land onto a rotating drum of paper, producing a virtual photograph of the cross section of the land traversed. The mechanism formed the basis for his next machine, the Product Integrator. This device, built with his student Herbert Stewart, was the key

to performing integral calculus using an array of rotating wheels. The Differential Analyzer used more than a dozen of these Product Integrators, in a structure half the size of Bush’s laboratory. By the end of the war, it was the most important calculating machine in the United States, as it was the fastest and most accurate producer of trajectory tables.

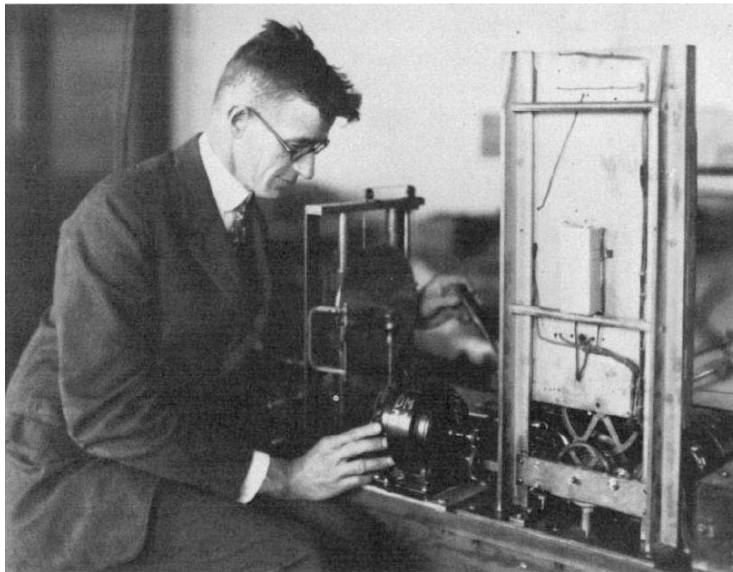
The development of the principles governing analog computers lost all funding after the death of Roosevelt. At that point, the new program of Cybernetics, driven by London through Columbia University, had virtually taken over. Norbert Wiener, Bush’s former student,¹ had been installed as the head of MIT’s Research Laboratory for Electronics (RLE), and all research was now directed towards development of the digital computer.

In Wiener’s recommendations for development of the computer, he specified: “That the central adding and multiplying apparatus of the computing machine should be numerical, as in an ordinary adding machine, rather than on a basis of measurement, as in the Bush differential analyzer.”²

Today, Bush’s Differential Analyzer sits in a museum case in

the basement of MIT, while the digital computer has become the false symbol of “technological advance.” Each somewhat faster component is advertised as a breakthrough, though the principles remain the same. Let us break this cycle, and return to true scientific advancement, using scientists such as Vannevar Bush, as an inspiration.

—Peter Martinson, *LaRouche Youth Movement*



Vannevar Bush with his Product Integrator, 1927.

1. Wiener, who got his start when Bush appointed him to head up the anti-aircraft ordnance department, faced the problem of targeting a German Luftwaffe dive bomber, which moved as fast as the bullets used to shoot it down. His innovations included his concept of feedback loops, modeling the targeting of a weapon after the mind’s control over the body. He then went off the deep end, when he started modeling the mind after weaponry control systems.

2. Norbert Wiener, *Cybernetics* (New York: MIT Press, 1961).



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"The mobilization and development of the 18-30 age group, as a force of leadership to inspire the rest of the population to move to necessary actions and decisions, is the future of humanity. {Nothing else will work.} Everything else will fail, without that factor." - Lyndon LaRouche

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Medical Isotopes In the 21st Century

Robert E. Schenter, Ph.D., reviews the diagnostic and therapeutic applications for all major diseases, in a paper for a Schiller Institute conference on Sept. 15-16, 2007.

Radioactive isotopes should and will play a major role in the advancement of 21st-Century medicine. These medical isotopes are currently showing outstanding results in both diagnostic and therapeutic medical applications, which should continue to expand for application for essentially all the major diseases (cancer, heart, Alzheimer's, arthritis, et al.) for the rest of this century. There have also been promising research results in killing the HIV virus with medical isotopes.

This paper briefly presents examples of these developments and their future promise for two forms of cancer (breast and liver), Alzheimer's disease, and HIV. The promise of treatment with radioactive isotopes can be seen from one patient who was told, "You have three months to live" four years ago. Now, as a result of treatment with the medical isotope yttrium-90, applied using what are called Y90 microspheres, the patient not only is alive, but works out with her personal trainer every other day, and is living life to the fullest.

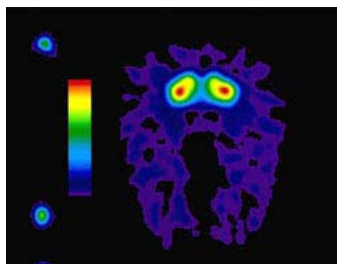
Introduction

Diagnostic and therapeutic medical isotope applications have made major advances for the past 50 years, and these advances should accelerate as we continue through the 21st Century. In the United States, and probably in the rest of the world, the aging of the World War II Baby Boomers will create an exponentially increasing demand for the medical application of these isotopes, as people live longer and acquire the



DOE Photo

Brookhaven National Laboratory scientists preparing for a Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scan of a patient. The PET technology uses the radioisotope fluorine-18 in combination with glucose (together called FDG or fluorodeoxyglucose). Cancer tumors overutilize glucose, and the PET scan identifies the metabolic difference between normal tissue and the tumor, thus identifying tumors.



DOE Photo

This PET scan shows the chemical uptake in a monkey's brain, to test the effectiveness of a Parkinson's disease treatment. The research is being carried out by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in collaboration with Somatix Therapy Corporation. By restoring levels of important brain chemicals in animals, the hope is to develop a similar treatment for human Parkinson's patients.

diseases of aging.

A good example of this increase in demand is the explosion in the diagnostic application of Positron Emission Tomography (PET) for essentially all major diseases.

The PET application uses several radioisotopes, which have a whole range of half-lives, predominantly led by fluorine-18. The list of isotopes used with PET and their half-lives and applications is given in **Table 1**.¹

In the area of therapy, the isotopes of iodine-131 and yttrium-90 are applied very effectively in treating follicular non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. They are used in Food and Drug Administration-approved radiopharmaceuticals called BEXX-AR (I-131) and Zevalin (Y-90). This procedure is called radioimmunotherapy, or RIT, where the goal is to kill all the cancer cells without harming the healthy cells. This is also known as cell-directed therapy.

Four additional examples of medical isotope application for both diagnostic and therapeutic procedures are presented below, for two types of cancer (breast and liver), Alzheimer's disease, and HIV.

Examples of Medical Isotope Applications

- *Breast Cancer*

Forty thousand women currently in the United States die each year as a result of breast cancer. That number could double as the Baby Boomers age. Consequently, better treatments for this devastating disease should be aggressively pursued.

An important method of treating breast cancer is the application of brachytherapy. This procedure involves placing a tiny radioactive seed inside the breast, up against tissues harboring the breast cancer. The radiation is focussed on the breast tumor area, which significantly reduces the destruction of

TABLE 1
Major PET Isotopes and Their Applications

Isotope	Half-Life	Diagnostic Applications
Bromine-76	16.0h	Anti-Carcinoembryonic Antigens, Anti-CEA Antibodies, DNA Studies, Nerves of the Heart, Quantitative Imaging
Carbon-11	20.3m	Cancers: Chest, Chronic Lymphocytic, Glioblastoma, Liver, Multiple Myeloma, Prostate, Urinary Tract Diseases: Alzheimer's, Brain, Epilepsy, Heart, Parkinson's Alcohol Addiction, Amphetamine Release, Drug Addiction, Neuropsychiatric, Nicotine Dependence, Pain Processing, Schizophrenia, Small Animal Imaging, Tobacco Addiction
Copper-62	9.74m	Cerebral and Myocardial Perfusion, Colorectal Cancer, Human Biodistribution, Liver Cancer, Renal Blood Flow, Renal Injury
Copper-64	12.70h	Cancers: Cervical, Colon, Colorectal, Lymphoma, Melanoma, Pancreatic, Prostate Diseases: Angiogenesis, Brain, Hypoxia, Parkinson's, Wilson's Stem Cell Research
Fluorine-18	1.83h	Cancers: Adrenal Gland, Anal, Bone, Bone Marrow Transplants, Bowel, Breast, Cervical, Chest, Colorectal, Esophageal, Gastric, Head & Neck, Hodgkins Disease, Laryngeal, Leukemia, Liver, Lung (NSCLC), Lung(SCLC), Melanoma, Multiple Myeloma, non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Osseous, Ovarian, Pancreatic, Prostate, Rectal, Rhabdomyo Sarcoma, Squamous Cell, Thyroid, Urinary, Vocal Cord Diseases: Alcohol Addiction, Alzheimer's, Anorexia, Atherosclerosis, Brain, Depression, Diabetes, Heart, Herpes, HIV, Hypoxia, Infection, Liver, Muscle, Kennedy, Narcolepsy, Lung Inflammation, Osteomyelitis, Parkinson's, Pneumonia, Ulcerative Colitis, Schizophrenia, Tourettes Syndrome Infection: Pen-Prosthetic, Hip-Prosthetic, Joint-Prosthetic Small Animal Imaging, Chemotherapy Research
Gallium-68	1.13h	Breast Cancer, Heart Imaging, Immunoscintigraphy, Molecular Imaging, Neuroendocrine Tumors, Pancreatic Cancer
Iodine-124	4.18d	Apoptosis, Cancer Biotherapy, Glioma, Heart Disease, Mediastinal Micrometastases, Scouting of Therapeutic Radioimmunoconjugates, Thyroid Cancer
Iron-52	8.28h	Anemia, Human Bone Marrow
Nitrogen-13	9.97m	Ammonia Dog Studies, Coronary Artery Disease, Diabetes, Gamma Camera, Heart Disease, Imaging of Heart, Pancreas and Liver, Lupus Erythematosus, Myocardial Perfusion, Pulmonary Ventilation
Oxygen-15	122.s	Acute Brain Injury, Arterial Blood Flow, Brain Cancer, Oxygen Utilization, Brain Studies, Cerebral Blood Volume, Cerebral Responses, Coronary Artery Vasospasm, Coronary Reserve, Heart Disease, Ischemic Stroke Disease, Kinetics of Oxygen, Liver Cancer, Myocardial Viability, Oxygen Metabolism, Pain Control, Venous Ulceration
Rubidium-82	1.26m	Heart Disease, Myocardial Perfusion, Sarcoidosis
Yttrium-86	14.74h	Distribution of Y90, Lung Cancer, Melanoma, Renal Cell Carcinoma
Zirconium-89	3.27d	Brain Tumors, Head and Neck Cancers, non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Source: Dr. Robert E. Schenter, Ph.D.



Northshore Medical Accelerator
A similar radioactive "seed" treatment is used for prostate cancer. This shows the actual size of a prostate seed implant.

Radiological Society of North America

An ultrasound-guided breast brachytherapy procedure, in which a radioactive "seed" is inserted into a tiny balloon, placed at the site of the surgically removed tumor. The seed delivers the prescribed dose of radiation directly to the site where cancer recurrence is most likely, minimizing exposure to healthy tissue in the breast, skin, ribs, lungs, and heart. This outpatient treatment can be for one to five days. No source of radiation remains in the patient's body between treatments or after the procedure is completed.

the healthy breast cells.

The isotopes irridium-192 and iodine-125 are used for this application.

Robert R. Kuske, M.D., a radiation oncologist with Arizona Oncology Services, discussed advantages of Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation (APBI) at the July 2004 meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA).² APBI combines surgery with brachytherapy as a breast conservation therapy.

- *Liver Cancer*

A medical breakthrough called microsphere brachytherapy is giving new hope to patients with liver cancer.³ This therapy works by delivering radiation from the medical isotope yttrium-90 through a catheter tube, directly to tumors inside the liver. The yttrium-90 is contained in tiny glass bead microspheres. Several million of these Y-90 microspheres are used in a single treatment.

According to Dr. Andrew Kennedy of Raleigh, N.C., the Y-90 microspheres are delivered into the liver, where they reside permanently in the tumors, and the radiation is designed to penetrate only about one-quarter of an inch into the tissue. So, as the tumor is being destroyed, the nearby normal liver

tissue is not being affected. The outpatient procedure takes about one hour.

- *Alzheimer's Disease*

Currently, more than 5 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease. Symptoms vary considerably, but usually begin with a tendency to forget, which becomes so severe that it affects the patient's social life, family life, work, and recreational hobbies. Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia and is the result of brain aging.

The two major methods of diagnosing Alzheimer's disease both use medical isotopes: Single Photon Emission Tomography (SPECT) and Positron Emission Tomography (PET).

With SPECT, a small amount of gamma-ray-emitting isotope (for example, technetium-99m or thallium-201) is bound to neuro-specific pharmaceuticals and then injected into a patient's vein, from where it is taken into the brain tissue. The isotope fixes itself onto the brain with proportional flow, emitting a gamma ray which is picked up and detected by a SPECT gamma camera.

PET is a way of getting three-dimensional images or maps of functional processes of the body. For Alzheimer's disease, PET scan images use the isotopes carbon-11 or fluorine-18, to compare normal brain activity to reduced brain activity. A PET scan can show the brain's biological changes attributable to Alzheimer's disease earlier than any other diagnostic test can provide this information. Alzheimer's disease can even be detected several years earlier than the onset of symptoms.⁴

The application of PET for Alzheimer's disease is rapidly spreading in use at medical clinics and hospitals all over the world. There were 25 papers on this presented at the 2006 Society of Nuclear Medicine meeting in San Diego.

- *HIV*

Twenty-five years from the start of the epidemic, HIV is still an incurable disease. It is clear that something completely different needs to be done to eradicate it, commented Dr. Ekaterina Dadachova of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City.⁵

Using radioactive antibodies, as is done in many successful cancer treatments, Dr. Dadachova and her colleagues have been doing research directed towards killing HIV-infected cells. This involves treating mice infected with HIV and has been reported in the online journal PLOS MED3.⁶

Dadachova's team linked radioactive bismuth-213 and rhenium-188 to antibodies designed to stick to two HIV proteins (gp4) and (gp20), displaced on the surface of the infected cells. The initial results reported showed significant killing of HIV cells in the mice, providing support to

the concept that radioimmunotherapy could work against HIV/AIDS.

Conclusions

Major medical advances in the 21st Century should occur through the application of medical isotopes. This paper presented several examples of the diagnostic and therapeutic applications of essentially current results and indicate promise for future significant developments.

For more information on the medical isotope/disease connection for the examples presented here and several other examples, please contact the author at 2521 SW Luradel St., Portland, Ore., U.S.A. 97219, or via e-mail: reschenter@comcast.net.

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Dr. Robert E. Schenter is one of the leading U.S. experts on fission reactor production of isotopes. Based on his 39 years as an expert on neutron cross-section and decay data information, he has become a world authority on isotope production. Now the chief science officer of the Advanced Medical Isotope Corporation, Schenter previously worked as the site director and deputy site director in the Isotope Program Office at the Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC) and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). In 1991, he was responsible for the relief of a world shortage of gadolinium-153, which is used in instruments for early detection of osteoporosis. He also defined the project and directed the production in the Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF) in Richland, Washington.



Courtesy of Dr. Robert Schenter
Robert Schenter

Nuclear Medicine

Technologies We Can't Afford To Ignore

by Marjorie Mazel Hecht

Nuclear medicine, the use of radioactive isotopes in diagnosing and treating disease, has a proven track record of saving lives, and saving money, by providing faster and better diagnostic results and cancer treatment with almost no unpleasant or dangerous side-effects. But although many nuclear medicine techniques were pioneered in the United States, today this country lags behind in research, development, training, and treatment.

In Europe, where nuclear medicine is overtaking standard chemotherapy treatment for certain types of cancer, a patient is more likely to find the most advanced treatment, using radioisotopes.

Every aspect of nuclear medicine is underfunded and underdeveloped here. Most striking is the fact that the United States must import over 90% of the medical radioisotopes used. When you consider that 20 million diagnostic and treatment procedures are performed annually here with radioisotopes, this level of "outsourcing" is staggering.

Eighty percent of the medical radioisotopes used in the United States come from Canada, with the rest coming from Europe and Russia. When Canada's Chalk River reactor, which is dedicated to isotope production, was shut down for a safety upgrade in November, it meant that patients in Canada and elsewhere would have to go without their needed tests and treatment for several weeks. The situation was so dire, that the Canadian Parliament met in an unprecedented special session to mandate the reopening of the reactor and the postponement of the upgrade. The Parliament judged, correctly, that the immediate risk to human lives was far greater than the hypothetical risk for which the reactor was being upgraded. On Dec. 16, the 50-year-old Chalk River reactor, which supplies half of the world's radioisotopes, went back on line.

The Chalk River event points up the frustrating situation of nuclear medicine in the United States. Both the Congress and the Executive for years have ignored the many government reports advising more Federal funding for nuclear medicine research and facilities for isotope production. Perhaps as the generation of Baby Boomers ages, and suffers from the diseases of aging, their desire for advanced medical treatment will overrule their knee-jerk opposition to anything nuclear,

and these programs will get the support they need.

Academy of Sciences: More Funding Needed

The most recent of a series of scientific reviews of the nuclear medicine situation is a National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report “Advancing Nuclear Medicine Through Innovation,” issued in September 2007.¹ This report comprehensively describes the promise of nuclear medicine and concludes: “In spite of these exciting possibilities, deteriorating infrastructure and loss of federal research support are jeopardizing the advancement of nuclear medicine. It is critical to revitalize the field to realize its potential.”

But although the NAS report accurately characterizes the present dismal state of U.S. infrastructure in nuclear medicine, its recommendations for isotope production are far too modest. It recommends merely that “a dedicated accelerator and an upgrade to a nuclear reactor should be considered.”

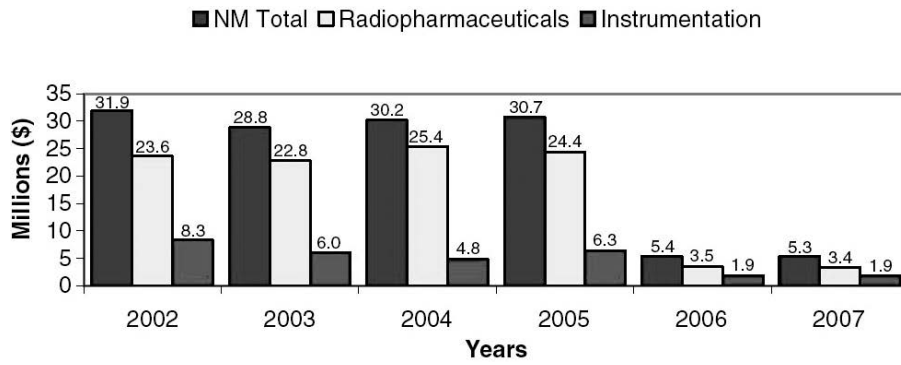
The glaring omission in the NAS review is that it never mentions the Fast Flux Test Reactor (FFTF) at Hanford, Washington. This 400-megawatt sodium-cooled fast reactor was designed to test fusion and fission materials, and to produce isotopes. Yet, for no good reason, and despite a lack of domestic facilities to produce large amounts of medical isotopes, the Department of Energy (DOE) decided to shut it down in 1993, and deactivate it in 2001. In 2005, the DOE made a decision to disable the reactor, just months before the same Department announced its new Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) program, which calls for a sodium-cooled fast reactor facility.

Fortunately, the FFTF could be reactivated, faster and at a lower expense than building a new facility. According to Dennis Spurgeon, DOE Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, the FFTF “continues to be a potential option” for the GNEP program (see interview with Spurgeon in *EIR*, Nov. 23, 2007). Restarting the FFTF to produce isotopes would be a step toward meeting the current demand domestically, but an even greater capability is needed.

One of the U.S. suppliers of radioisotopes is the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR) at the Idaho National Laboratory. This is the largest research reactor in the United States, but it was not designed to produce isotopes with short half-lives. As the NAS report notes, there is a plan to upgrade it next year.

1. Committee on State of the Science of Nuclear Medicine, National Research Council, “Advancing Nuclear Medicine Through Innovation” (Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, September 2007).

Funding for Nuclear Medicine Research (2002-07)



Source: National Academy of Sciences, “Advancing Nuclear Medicine Through Innovation.”
Declining funds, dramatically visible in this graphic, translates into declining research progress.

Other sources are the High Flux Isotope Reactor (HFIR) at Oak Ridge National Laboratory; the Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer (BLIP), at Brookhaven National Laboratory; and the Isotope Production Facility, at Los Alamos Nuclear Science Center (LANSCE), at Los Alamos National Laboratory. All of these machines date back to the 1960s and 1970s, and were designed primarily for physics and materials science. According to the NAS report, they cannot “meet the demands of the research community for regular and continuous availability of these radionuclides,” and they are limited by “age-related degradation of the facilities and extended shutdowns for facility maintenance.”

There are a few research reactors at universities, which have helped in the supply of medical isotopes for research, most prominently the Missouri University Research Reactor (MURR). But many university research reactors have been shut down since the anti-nuclear decade of the 1970s, and those remaining have a limited capability for isotope production.

Without an increase in the domestic supply of radioisotopes, the United States will continue to be dependent on other countries and the vagaries of transporting short-lived isotopes over long distances.

Other Resources Lacking

The deterioration in the field of nuclear medicine is not limited to domestic production of isotopes. The nation also lacks the reservoir of students in the necessary fields and the infrastructure to ensure that there will be trained personnel in the future. The report states: “[T]here has been a substantial loss of support for the physical sciences and engineering basic to nuclear medicine. There is now no specific programmatic long-term commitment by any federal agency for maintaining high-technology infrastructure (e.g., accelerators, research reactors) or centers for instrumentation

and chemistry research and training, which are at the heart of nuclear medicine research and development.”

The NAS report spells out how the isotope program is “not now meeting the needs of the research community.” Public Law 101-101, the report says, “requires full-cost recovery for DOE-supplied isotopes, whether for clinical use or research [and] [t]he lack of new commercially available radiotracers over the past decade may be due in part to this legislation.” In addition, the report notes, the lack of appropriate guidelines of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for manufacturing radiopharmaceuticals hinders the development and use of new radionuclides.

The NAS report describes the research areas in need of upgrading, stressing the obvious: that there must be long-term financial commitments in order to reap the assured benefits. The report states: “There is an urgent need for the

further development of highly specific technology and of targeted radiopharmaceuticals for disease diagnosis and treatment. Improvements in detector technology, image reconstruction algorithms, and advanced data processing techniques, as well as development of lower cost radionuclide production technologies (e.g., a versatile, compact, short-lived radionuclide production source), are among the research areas that should be explored for effective translation into the clinic. Such technology development frequently needs long incubation periods and cannot be carried out in standard 3- to 5-year funding cycles.”

In summary, the NAS report aptly states, “We have arrived at a crossroads in nuclear medicine.” The question now is whether the nuclear medicine program will take the high road to expansion, or whether it will continue to devolve, costing America both lives and money.

What Are Radioisotopes?

Radioisotopes or radionuclides are artificially produced, unstable atoms of a chemical element, which have a different number of neutrons in the nucleus, but the same number of protons and the same chemical properties. Many live for only minutes. Their existence is measured in “half-lives,” how long it takes for half of the isotope to disappear.

To produce radioisotopes, a stable isotope is bombarded with fast neutrons that are produced in a nuclear reactor or a particle accelerator. The stable isotope is transmuted into an unstable isotope of the same element.

Smaller proton linear accelerators (linacs), which can be located near a medical facility are also under development, such as that of the Advanced Medical Isotope Corporation in Washington State. The fusion program of the University of Wisconsin at Madison is investigating a new method of producing isotopes in a small fusion reactor. A 1-watt fusion source has already demonstrated that it could provide very short-lived radioisotope doses for use with a PET (positron emission tomography) scanner.

From the time of the Manhattan Project, scientists had realized that nuclear fission would provide an unlimited amount of “tracer and therapeutic radioisotopes.”¹ The first major use of a radioisotope was iodine-131, for diagnosis

and treatment of thyroid disease. It was found that the thyroid specifically absorbs iodine.

Now, five decades later, isotope technology has developed to a high degree, defining which unique properties of radioisotopes are best at particular tasks. There are now about 200 radioisotopes in use.

Diagnostics and Treatment

Radioisotopes which emit gamma rays are used today in medical diagnostics, to provide information about how certain organs—the thyroid, bones, heart, liver, and so on—are functioning, without surgery. Radioisotopes can also be used to image the progress of certain treatments, such as shrinking tumors. The radiation does not stay in the body, and there are no side-effects.

The most frequently used radioisotope in medicine today is technetium-99m, which has a half-life of six hours. It is supplied to hospitals in a lead container of its more stable precursor, molybdenum-99, which has a half-life of 66 hours and decays to technetium-99m. The hospital extracts the technetium-99m as needed, and the container is replaced as needed.

Radioisotopes are also used in disease treatment, especially cancer, where gamma-emitting isotopes are attached to some kind of carrier, such as a monoclonal antibody, which targets particular cancer cells. The carrier delivers the radioisotope to the cancer site, where the gamma rays destroy the cancerous cells, with minimal damage to surrounding tissue.

As noted in the accompanying article, research is ongoing into the use of radioisotopes in treating AIDS and other diseases.—*Marjorie Mazel Hecht*

1. See “Availability of Radioactive Isotopes: Announcement from Headquarters, Manhattan Project, Washington, D.C.” *Science*, June 14, 1946, Vol. 103, No. 2685.

Six Months Into the Crash

On Jan. 17, 2008, Lyndon LaRouche will deliver his next international webcast from Washington, D.C. The event will take place six months into the greatest financial crash in modern history, one that has already seen well over \$1 trillion in credit wiped out. We have not even come close to hitting bottom, and the world is set to plunge into a full-scale dark age, unless the emergency measures, spelled out by LaRouche, beginning with his Homeowners and Bank Protection Act, are adopted by the United States, and then by other leading world powers, in the immediate days and weeks ahead.

On July 25, 2007, LaRouche, in another Washington, D.C. webcast, had announced that the crash had *already* occurred. After warning the international audience that Vice President Dick Cheney was going ahead with plans for a military attack on Iran, unless stopped, LaRouche delivered the following assessment:

“The world monetary financial system is actually now currently in the process of disintegrating. There’s nothing mysterious about this; I’ve talked about it for some time, it’s been in progress, it’s not abating. What’s listed as stock values and market values in the financial markets internationally is bunk! These are purely fictitious beliefs. There’s no truth to it; the fakery is enormous. There *is* no possibility of a non-collapse of the present financial system—none! It’s finished, *now!* The present financial system can not continue to exist *under any circumstances, under any Presidency, under any leadership, or any leadership of nations.* Only a fundamental and *sudden change* in the world monetary financial system will prevent a general, immediate chain-reaction type of collapse. At what speed we don’t know, but it will go on, and it will be *unstoppable!* And the longer it goes on before coming to an end, the worse things will get. And there is no one in the present institutions of government who is competent to deal with this. The Congress, the Senate, the House of Representatives is not currently competent to deal with this. And if the Congress goes on recess, *and leaves Cheney free*, then you might be kissing the United States and much more good-bye by September.”

Before laying out the needed financial and monetary reorganization, LaRouche addressed a critical, re-

lated issue: the need for immediate removal of Vice President Cheney.

During that July 25 webcast, LaRouche also issued a public call for an immediate freeze on home foreclosures, across the board.

Within days of LaRouche’s webcast, he was proven absolutely correct. On July 28, Countrywide Financial Corp., America’s biggest mortgage lender, announced a 33% drop in profits. Two days later, American Home Mortgage, another major mortgage lender, specializing in “Alt-A” mortgages, collapsed. By July 31, the subprime mortgage crash spread internationally, with the announcement that the German Industrial Bank, IKB, had barely averted bankruptcy, through an \$11 billion emergency loan from a consortium of German banks. IKB had heavily invested in U.S. mortgage-backed securities.

LaRouche was 100% right, in July 2007, when he called this the greatest financial crash in modern history. He was also 100% right that the leadership of the U.S. Congress, particularly Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, had failed the American people, by refusing to impeach Vice President Cheney, and by failing to act responsibly, by passing LaRouche’s Homeowners and Bank Protection Act.

Pelosi’s folly has been compounded by insane, desperate actions by Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson, and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, who have responded to the banking collapse by resorting to hyperinflationary efforts to flood the banking system with a new “wall of money.” This approach, endorsed by the European Central Bank, the Bank of England, and other major central banks, is the same approach taken in Weimar Germany in the Summer and Autumn of 1923, leading to the greatest hyperinflationary explosion in modern history, up to the present moment. LaRouche has warned that these kinds of measures, under the present circumstances, will only accelerate and deepen the crash.

LaRouche’s Jan. 17, 2008 webcast, coming days after Congress returns to Washington, and 11 days before President George Bush’s last State of the Union Address, will be an historic event that no one can afford to miss.

See LaRouche on Cable TV

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- LAROUCHEPUB.COM Click *LaRouche's Writings*. (Avail. 24/7)
- RAVITELEVISION.COM Click *Live Stream*. Mon & Thu 11 am; Wed & Fri 10:30 pm
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- WUWF.ORG Click *Watch WUWF-TV*. Last Mon 4:30-5 pm (Eastern)

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- ANCHORAGE GCI Ch.9: Thu 10 pm

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- COSTA MESA TW Ch.35: Thu 5:30 pm
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- LONG BEACH CH Analog Ch.65/69 & Digital Ch.95: 4th Tue 1-1:30 pm
- LOS ANGELES TW Ch.98: Wed 3-3:30 pm
- LOS ANGELES (East) TW Ch.98: Mon 2 pm
- MARINA DEL REY TW Ch.98: Wed 3 pm; Thu/Fri 4 pm
- MIDWILSHIRE TW Ch.24: Tue 4:30-5 pm
- ORANGE COUNTY (N) TW Ch.95/97/98: Fri 4 pm
- SAN FDO. VALLEY (East) TW Ch.25: Sun 5:30 pm
- SAN FDO. VALLEY (NE) CC Ch.20: Wed 4 pm
- SAN FDO. VALLEY (West) TW Ch.34: Wed 5:30 pm
- SANTA MONICA TW Ch.77: Wed 3-3:30 pm
- WALNUT CREEK CO Ch.6: 2nd Tue 7 pm; AS Ch.31: Tue 7:30 pm
- VAN NUYS TW Ch.25: Sun 5:30 pm

CONNECTICUT

- GROTON CC Ch.12: Mon 5 pm
- NEW HAVEN CC Ch. 23: Sat 6 pm

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- WASHINGTON CC Ch.95 & RCN Ch.10: Irregular Days/Times

FLORIDA

- ESCAMBIA COUNTY CX Ch.4: Last Sat 4:30 pm

ILLINOIS

- CHICAGO CC./RCN/WOW Ch.21: Irregular
- PEORIA COUNTY IN Ch.22: Sun 7:30 pm

- QUAD CITIES MC Ch.19: Thu 11 pm

IOWA

- QUAD CITIES MC Ch.19: Thu 11 pm

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- BOONE/KENTON COUNTIES IN Ch.21: Sun 1 am; Fri Midnight
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- KENT COUNTY (South) CC Ch.25: Wed 9:30 am
- LAKE ORION CC Ch.10: Mon/Tue 2 & 9 pm
- LANSING CC Ch.16: Fri Noon.
- LIVONIA BH Ch.12: Thu 3 pm
- MT. PLEASANT CH Ch.3: Tue 5:30 pm; Wed 7 am
- PORTAGE CH Ch.20 Tue/Wed 8:30 am; Thu 1:30 pm
- SHELBY TOWNSHIP CC Ch.20 & WOW Ch.18: Mon/Wed 6:30 pm
- WAYNE COUNTY CC Ch.16/18: Mon 6-8 pm

MINNESOTA

- CAMBRIDGE US Ch.10: Wed 6 pm
- COLD SPRING US Ch. 10: Wed 6 pm
- COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CC Ch.15: Wed 8 pm
- DULUTH CH Ch.20: Mon 9 pm; Wed 12 pm, Fri 1 pm
- MINNEAPOLIS TW Ch.16: Tue 11 pm
- MINNEAPOLIS (N. Burbs) CC Ch.15: Thu 3 & 9 pm
- NEW ULM TW Ch. 14: Fri 5 pm
- PROCTOR MC Ch. 12: Tue 5 pm to 1 am
- ST. CLOUD AREA CH Ch.12: Mon 9:30 pm

- ST. CROIX VALLEY CC Ch.14: Thu 1 & 7 pm; Fri 9 am
- ST. LOUIS PARK CC Ch.15: Sat/Sun/M/T Midnite, 8 am, 4 pm
- ST. PAUL CC Ch.15: Mon 10 pm
- ST. PAUL (S&W Burbs) CC Ch.15: Wed 10:30 am; Fri 7:30 pm
- SAULK CENTRE SCTV Ch.19: Sat 5 pm
- WASHINGTON COUNTY (South) CC Ch.14: Thu 8 pm

MISSOURI

- ST. LOUIS CH Ch.22: Wed 5 pm; Thu 12 Noon

NEVADA

- WASHOE COUNTY CH Ch.16: Thu 2 pm

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- MANCHESTER CC Ch.23: Thu 4:30 pm

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- HADDON TWP CC Ch.9: Sun 10 am
- MERCER COUNTY CC Trenton Ch.26: 3rd & 4th Fri 6 pm Windsors Ch.27: Mon 5:30 pm
- MONTVALE/MAHWAH CV Ch.76: Mon 5 pm
- PISCATAWAY CV Ch.22: Thu 11:30 pm
- UNION CC Ch.26: Irregular

NEW MEXICO

- ALBUQUERQUE CC Ch.27: Thu 4 pm
- LOS ALAMOS CC Ch.8: Wed 10 pm
- SANTA FE CC Ch.8: Thu 9 pm; Sat 6:30 pm
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- IRONDEQUOIT TW Ch.15: Mon/Thu 7 pm
- JEFFERSON/LEWIS COUNTIES TW Ch.99: Irregular
- ONEIDA COUNTY TW Ch.99: Thu 8 or 9 pm
- PENFIELD TW Ch.15: Irregular
- QUEENS TW Ch.35: Tue 10:30 am; TW Ch.572: Mon & Thu 11 am; Wed & Fri 10:30 pm
- QUEENSBURY TW Ch.71: Mon 7 pm
- ROCHESTER TW Ch.15: Sun 9 pm; Thu 8 pm
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- MECKLENBURG COUNTY TW Ch.22: Sat/Sun 11 pm

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- CUYAHOGA COUNTY TW Ch.21: Wed 3:30 pm
- OBERLIN Cable Co-Op Ch.9: Thu 8 pm

OKLAHOMA

- NORMAN CX Ch.20: Wed 9 pm

OREGON

- LINN/BENTON COUNTIES CC Ch.29: Tue 1 pm; Thu 9 pm
- PORTLAND CC Ch.22: Tue 6 pm. Ch.23: Thu 3 pm

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- STATEWIDE RI I CX Ch.13 Tue 10 pm

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- KINGWOOD CB Ch.98: Wed 5:30 pm; Sat 9 am

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- LOUDOUN COUNTY CC Ch.98 & FIOS Ch.41: Wed 6 pm
- ROANOKE COUNTY CX Ch.78: Tue 7 pm; Thu 2 pm

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- TRI CITIES CH Ch. 13/99: Mon 7 pm; Thu 9 pm
- WENATCHEE CH Ch.98: Thu 1 pm

WISCONSIN

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WYOMING

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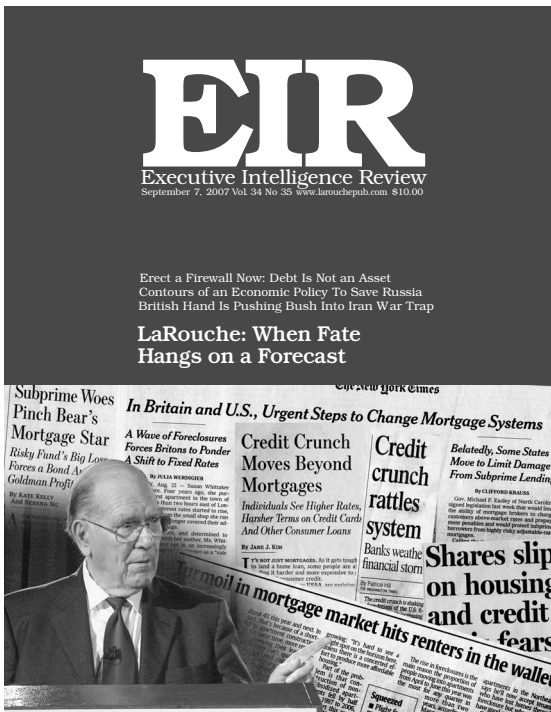
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