

Editorial

Serious Consideration of Nuclear Option Must Be Highest-Level Priority

Serious consideration for the design and tailoring of a peaceful nuclear explosive (PNE) to seal the British Petroleum (BP) well spewing poison into the Gulf of Mexico, must now be a highest-level priority. On the basis of information available in the public domain, such preparation is mandatory.

According to the latest information, there is no end in sight to the spewing of oil from British Petroleum's damaged Deepwater Horizon well. Estimates of the daily flow have risen to the level of 40,000 to 100,000 barrels per day, and engineers are talking about the likelihood that the substrate under the well is breaking up—which could lead to the blowout reaching 150,000 to 200,000 barrels per day. Under such conditions, it's beginning to look as though only a seal of the well-bed, which PNEs could uniquely accomplish, could stop the spewing.

Nuclear physicist Dr. Milo D. Nordyke is the leading U.S. expert on peaceful nuclear explosions. He is a scientist emeritus of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and a veteran of the U.S. Operation Plowshare program for peaceful use of nuclear explosions. He authored a 100-page study of the Soviet program for peaceful explosions, which included use of nuclear devices to seal four runaway gas wells and reduce pressure in a fifth.

On June 14, Alli Perebikovskiy of LaRouche PAC-TV interviewed Dr. Nordyke in Livermore, Calif. In his interview, excerpts of which are available on the LPAC and *EIR* websites, Dr. Nordyke described the procedures used by the Soviet Union to stem some spewing gas wells. The use of the explosives in those cases, where the escaping gas was on the surface of the Earth,

shut off the flow, and resulted in *no* detectable radioactivity in the aftermath. To set up such an explosion deep underwater, probably through the relief well channel, would be a straightforward proposition.

With this testimony from the leading U.S. expert on peaceful nuclear explosions, a pathway is publicly clear. Evaluations of the probable compromised condition of the well bore and seafloor come from reliable professional sources, which can be checked. BP's presentation of the situation must neither be believed nor tolerated.

The political problem is that we have a President who is not in the real world. The very existence of the United States is endangered by the President's determination not to offend the British Empire, Wall Street, or both. But we can't let that stop us from saving the United States from a horrible fate. We can't wait two elections to save the United States from an incompetent President.

The prospect of massive flow of oil into the Atlantic within as early as 18 days, according to a projection by the National Center for Atmospheric Research, will soon make this a global disaster. There might be debatable features of such estimates, but lying by BP and its apologists is so severe that we cannot base policy on such vast and portentous cover-ups. At the point this massive oil leak enters the Atlantic, it is a point of no return for North and possibly South America, and will rapidly move on to become a European and a global crisis.

This has become an urgent national security question, the only one more dangerous being the President himself.