

The Threat of Thermonuclear Extinction Grows

by the Editors

Dec. 19—On their way out the door for holiday recess, the U.S. Congress has delivered a devastating Christmas message to the world: London has been given the green light from Capitol Hill to launch thermonuclear Armageddon.

The Congress not only rolled over for British puppet President Barack Obama and passed the National Defense Authorization Act with an embedded Nazi-style *Ermächtigungsgesetz* (enabling act), authorizing the U.S. military to detain American citizens indefinitely and without due process, thus creating the preconditions for a Hitlerian dictatorship, mass arrests, and killings. Within that same bill, the Congress also targetted the relations of the Iranian Central Bank with any other foreign central bank, seeking to impose sanctions on other nations purchasing oil from Iran.

The House of Representatives, by an overwhelming majority, also passed severe new sanctions against Iran, Syria, and North Korea, which were tantamount to declarations of economic warfare; the measures are now before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

These acts of shameless capitulation to the British/Obama agenda put the world that much closer to nuclear extermination. In effect, Israel now has the go-ahead from Washington to launch a preventive attack against Iran, that is certain to unleash military confrontation on a global scale. While the United States, Russia, and China have a tacit understanding that nuclear war is unthinkable, and that they will work together to assure that there is no nuclear confrontation among them, no such constraints exist for Israel, and it is widely believed among top U.S. strategists that Israel is prepared to launch a nuclear retaliatory strike against Iran.

Both Pentagon and Israeli military sources have confirmed that Israel has recently removed some of its nuclear warheads from deep storage and placed them near mobile missile sites. The Israeli estimate is that

Iran has a substantial conventional missile capability for retaliating against an Israeli assault on Iranian nuclear facilities, including longer range solid-fuel missiles to be launched from inside Iran, as well as shorter-range missiles already in place in Southern Lebanon, Syria, and possibly in Gaza.

Thus, London holds the trigger for nuclear Armageddon, and British tools Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Ehud Barak are oblivious to the fact that they are the hand grenades that will be used to trigger a process that will wipe Israel off the face of the Earth.

Russia and China Under Threat

In addition to London's Israeli trigger, President Obama has done everything in his power to break the institutional understandings among Washington, Moscow, and Beijing for thermonuclear war avoidance. Recent visitors to Beijing have reported a dramatic deterioration in U.S.-Chinese relations, the result of Obama's recent nine-day Asia trip, in which he all but declared war on China.

The Chinese leadership is fully aware that President Obama has overturned 40 years of understanding between the two nations, and is embarked on a hard confrontation course. The National Security Council has ostensibly begun a "top-down review" of past U.S. policy towards China, which was anchored in the belief that China's economic liberalization would gradually lead to political reforms as well. Under the goading of a faction of "humanitarian interventionists," led by U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice and Presidential advisor Samantha Power, the President has psychologically turned against China, and is operating from the false idea that China is moving towards totalitarianism and must be the target of destabilization and confrontation.

A similar shift has been engineered with respect to Russia. The Obama Administration abruptly cut off

ongoing negotiations on a joint missile defense shield for parts of Eurasia within striking distance of Iranian missiles. Instead, Washington has gone ahead with a unilateral missile defense deployment on Russia's southern border. Moscow is viewing this as a direct threat, and in recent weeks, both President Dmitri Medvedev and top Russian generals have made clear that they are deploying against an anticipated U.S. attack.

Both Russia and China have also come in for intense verbal attacks by Ambassador Rice, for having blocked measures that would give Syria's President Bashar al-Assad the "Qaddafi treatment."

The British have, thus, created the conditions for a thermonuclear war among the United States, Russia, and China, by exploiting their Nerobama pawn in the White House.

Durable War Avoidance

As the result, the options for durable war avoidance now come down to one: President Obama must be removed from office in the immediate days ahead, or all bets are off for the survival of humanity.

Obama has committed numerous impeachable offenses, from his illegal war in Libya, launched without Congressional authorization under Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution; the assassination of Libyan head of state Muammar Qaddafi, after he was disarmed and in custody; the extrajudicial assassination of Anwar al-Awlaki, an American citizen, without due process; and the passage, under harsh White House pressure, of the authorization for indefinite military detention of American citizens on American soil.

In addition to these high crimes and misdemeanors, Obama is also insane, and should be removed from



DoD photo/R.D. Ward

The Obama Administration's push toward a thermonuclear war confrontation has recently been reflected in the statements of Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta on Iran's alleged closeness to having a nuclear weapon—statements which increasingly converge with Israel's bellicose stance. Here, Panetta arrives at the Pentagon July 1 for his first day on the job.

office immediately, under the terms clearly spelled out in Section 4 of the 25th Amendment to the Constitution, providing for the ouster of a President who is unfit to serve.

Lyndon LaRouche, in a discussion with colleagues on Dec. 17, did not mince words in the following assessment of the strategic situation, going into the year end:

"We're actually on the verge of a crash of the entire system, and mass death throughout the planet is, at this moment, the most likely prospect for the weeks ahead. We're headed for Hell. The system is coming down."

Sanctions as Prelude to War

Step by step, the United States has imposed an almost complete economic embargo on Iran over the past 30 years. It has sanctions on companies doing business with Iran, a ban on all imports originating from Iran, sanctions on Iranian financial institutions, and an almost total ban on the sale of aircraft parts to Iran. In November of this year, Obama used Executive authority to impose sanctions to prevent anyone from

being involved in providing oil refining capabilities for Iran.

And the United States has insisted that other nations, such as those of the European Union, do the same—particularly those nations that buy a lot of oil from Iran. There is still resistance to an oil embargo in Europe, however.

The clear intent is to bring Iran to its knees economically, in preparation for “regime change” or military action. No nation, and certainly not Iran, is likely to submit to such murderous measures without fighting back.

The House of Representatives’ bills leave no room for doubt on this intent, and not only against Iran. One of the bills also targets what’s left of U.S.-Russia space cooperation, unless Russia were to fully adopt U.S. policy towards Iran, Syria, and North Korea. The two bills also target third-country commercial firms that are deemed to be trading with those three countries in violation of U.S. policy to economically crush Iran and otherwise halt weapons proliferation by North Korea and Syria.

Both bills were products of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, chaired by the super-hawkish Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla.), with the equally bellicose Rep. Howard Berman (D-Calif.) as the ranking Democrat. The first bill, H.R. 1905, the “Iran Threat Reduction Act of 2011,” came to the floor with 364 co-sponsors, making its passage a certainty. The second bill, H.R. 2105, the “Iran, North Korea and Syria Nonproliferation Reform and Modernization Act,” only had 46 co-sponsors, but it, too, was passed.

Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) was one of only two members to speak out against both bills. During debate on H.R. 1905, he inserted eight articles into the *Congressional Record*, from various reputable sources, that make the case that 30 years of sanctions against Iran have failed; have likely made the region less stable, not more; and that even tighter sanctions on Iran’s oil industry and central bank are not likely to produce the behavior change that the bill’s proponents claim is needed from Iran. Furthermore, the legislation restricts U.S. diplomacy with Iran to the point that no U.S. official could talk to any Irani official without a Presidential waiver 15 days prior to exercise of that waiver authority.

Given that U.S. and Iranian naval vessels encounter each other in the Persian Gulf on a regular basis,

this would seem to be a set-up for a Gulf of Tonkin-type incident, a possibility that Kucinich implied when he noted that the proponents of the bill claim it to be a last ditch effort to prevent war, “Yet this bill takes away the most effective tool to prevent war—diplomacy.” Kucinich also challenged the constitutionality of the bill. Among other things, the bill, Kucinich said, violates the speech and debate clause, violates the Constitution’s separation of powers, and challenges the President’s power to conduct foreign diplomacy.

War Avoidance Moves

Russia and China, of course, are well aware of the war-intention behind these U.S. government measures—and, although they don’t often say it, the British imperial intent to destroy their nations. While refusing to buckle under to the sanctions demands, both nations are moving to try to put blocks in front of the war drive, particularly regime-change in Syria.

On Dec. 16, Russia apparently surprised the war-hawks in the United States, Great Britain, and France, by introducing a resolution in the UN Security Council on the Syria question. The resolution calls on the Syrian government to institute democratic reforms in negotiations with popular oppositional groups, but equally calls on all other parties to obey international law: Among other things, foreign governments must prevent arms from reaching Syrian groups that attack the police and army, and must encourage all opposition organizations to enter into negotiations with the government.

The Anglo-American alliance for World War III, which now includes a prominent role for Germany and France on the Syria issue at the UN, declared the resolution unacceptable. However, within days, the Russian resolution had gained the support of China and a number of other nations, such as India and Brazil.

At the same time, according to the Syrian government, the Russians advised the Assad regime to come to an accommodation with the Arab League on the pending agreement to deploy League observers into Syria, as a means of trying to reduce the violence. The agreement was announced Dec. 19. How long it will last, in the face of ongoing counterinsurgency by agents of France, Great Britain, and the U.S., who are explicitly intent upon removing the Assad government, remains to be seen.