

Japan: Sanity, Not Anti-Nuclear Suicide

by Mike Billington

June 15—Fifteen months after the Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami struck Honshu Island, killing nearly 20,000 people, and triggering a meltdown at the Fukushima nuclear facility, the Japanese government finally declared that it will not follow the suicidal path demanded by the British-sponsored anti-nuclear Green fascists. With the trans-Atlantic financial system in its final stages of disintegration, the role of Japan's industrial and scientific capacities is crucial in bringing about the required global infrastructure-based recovery—especially in regard to Japan's potential contributions to the ambitious Russian plans for the development of the “new frontier” in the Russian Far East.

Despite an insane anti-nuclear policy which has dominated the ruling Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) since the Fukushima crisis, the nation's leaders have been forced to announce an about-face in favor of re-opening the nuclear power plants that have passed safety inspections—forced by the reality of industrial collapse, economic breakdown, and an incalculable number of deaths that would have resulted from a decision to forgo nuclear power in a nation which was 30% dependent on its 54 nuclear power plants.

Following the March 11, 2011 tsunami, the DPJ government declared that all the nation's nuclear plants, when they reached the required maintenance shutdown (on 13-month cycles), were to remain closed pending safety checks, political debate, and approval of the local populations—usually meaning that the international anti-nuclear NGOs centered in London could prevent any plants from being reopened.

The anti-nuclear lobby, run by the British Crown through its Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) and related Green fascist outfits, has spread outrageous lies internationally about the nuclear accident, with claims of radiation spreading death and destruction in Japan, and even as far away as the United States. The truth is that the nuclear accident killed no one, while the tsunami and earthquake killed thousands. No one is known to have been exposed to a level of radiation that is con-

sidered dangerous by the World Health Organization; of the nine workers who have died in the clean up of the reactors, none of the deaths were related to radiation.

Nonetheless, the last functioning Japanese nuclear plant was closed down in early May. Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda did not declare himself opposed to nuclear power, but hid behind the demand that “popular opinion” must approve before plants could be reopened. Economy Minister Yukio Edano was less subtle, saying, “I'd like to see the reliance on nuclear energy cut to zero. I'd like to have a society work without nuclear as early as possible.”

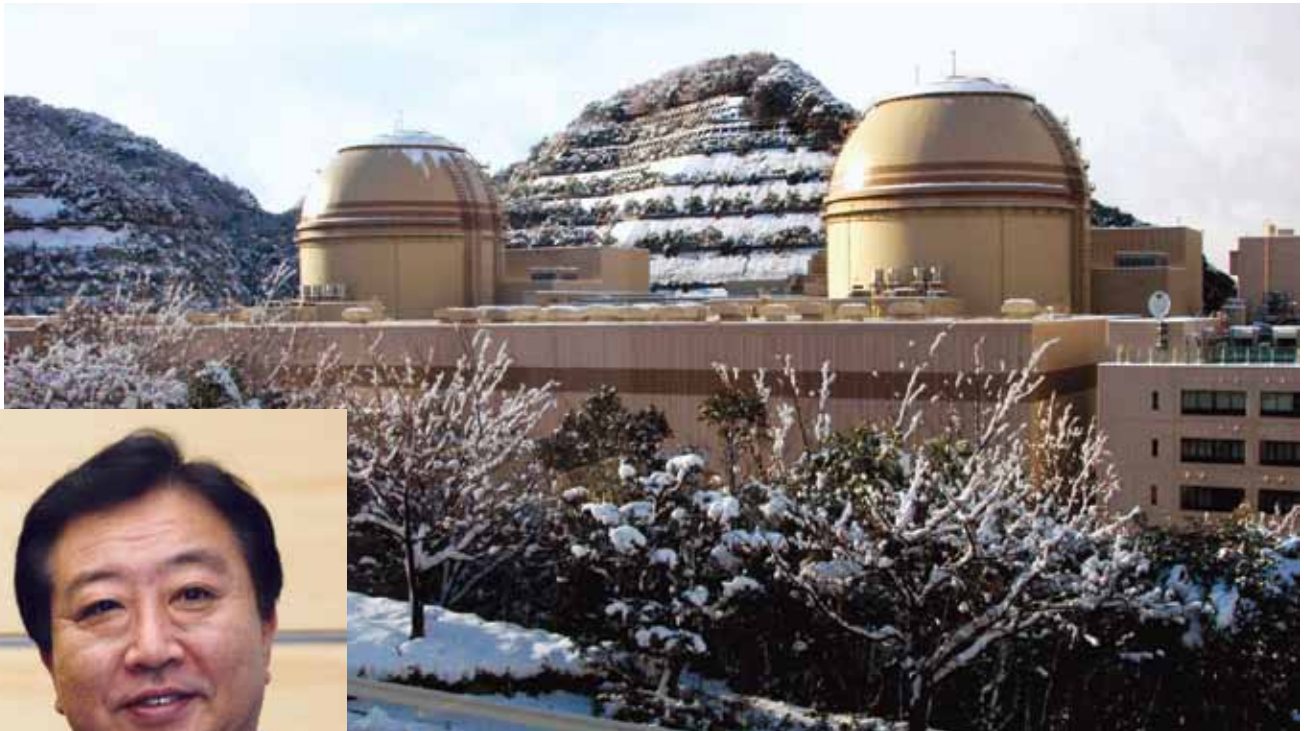
However, as the severe Japanese Summer heat has set in, threatening to devastate the cities, which are built around reliable power supplies and air conditioning, political leaders realized that they would be held responsible for the horrendous suffering and ensuing death toll. The industrial sector, and most of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) leaders, demanded a rapid return to nuclear. The first public break came from the populist Mayor of Osaka, Toru Hashimoto, a fanatic opponent of nuclear power (and considered a potentially dangerous demagogue). In a surprise announcement on May 31, Hashimoto reversed himself, announcing that, “If we absolutely need them this Summer, I think we need to accept a restart.”

Then on June 8, Prime Minister Noda pointed directly to the murderous consequences of ending the use of nuclear power: “Cheap and stable electricity is vital. If all the reactors that previously provided 30% of Japan's electricity supply are halted, or kept idle, Japanese society cannot survive.” He added: “Livelihoods should never be threatened by failing to restart nuclear reactors. . . . If a sudden blackout happens, some people's lives could be jeopardized.”

American System vs. British System

Lyndon LaRouche has often noted that there are two Japans—the tradition represented by the late-19th-Century Meiji Restoration, heavily influenced by the American System of political economy as developed by Alexander Hamilton, based on national credit for industry, infrastructure, and scientific development; and, on the other hand, the British imperial, free-trade, oligarchical system, which destroyed the Meiji tradition and dragged Japan into imperial wars with Russia, Korea, China, and eventually, with the United States.

The American System influence was restored after World War II, with help from Gen. Douglas Mac-



DoD/Tech. Sgt. Jacob N. Bailey, USAF

Prime Minister Noda (inset) has made an about-face on nuclear power, after shutting down all Japan's plants following the Fukushima disaster; he now says, "Cheap and stable electricity is vital." Pictured here are Units 3 and 4 of the Ohi Nuclear Power Plant, the first reactors to be restarted.

Arthur's leadership of the postwar occupation.

The battle over nuclear power captures the essence of those two Japans—scientific and technological development vs. zero growth and anti-human environmentalist idiocy. A parallel battle is taking place over trade, as the British, through their agent in the White House Barack Obama, are demanding that Japan give up its historic protectionist policy of self-sufficiency in rice, as a condition for being part of Obama's Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), an effort to create an anti-China free-trade alliance in the Pacific basin. If Japan is to continue its historic dedication to sustaining the livelihood of its people through technological development and export of high-technology goods, it must restore its nuclear commitment, including the export of its nuclear power technology, and reject the free-trade mantra of the British Empire.

Developing Asia's New Frontier

This past January, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov visited Japan, reversing a period of strained relations, and setting in motion the huge potential for

Japan to contribute to President Vladimir Putin's ambitious plans for the development of the Russian Far East. During the visit, Lavrov agreed to ease restrictions on Japanese business ventures in Russia, and the two countries further consolidated plans for Japanese involvement in the development of the massive Chayanda gas field in the Russian Far East, as well as a nearly 3,000-kilometer pipeline from the Chayanda field to Vladivostok, and joint construction of a liquefied natural gas plant in that Russian city.

With Russia's development plans for the underpopulated but resource-rich Far East, including the construction of a tunnel under the Bering Strait connecting the United States and Russia by rail, Japan, like China and Korea, can and must play a leading role in this new frontier for all mankind. That potential will be dramatically increased as Japan's nuclear industry is restored, along with its historic dedication to research on fusion power and other scientific frontiers facing mankind.

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