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# EIR

## From the Managing Editor

Our leading stories this week present a keen contrast between the bankrupt trans-Atlantic system (the government shutdown in Washington) and the optimistic future-orientation of the Asian-Pacific countries (shown in Chinese President Xi Jinping's diplomacy and far-reaching development proposals).

When President Obama talks about an "Asia Pivot," he means shifting U.S. military forces from Southwest Asia to the Pacific, creating a ring of offensive weapons and BMD systems around China. But our friends at LaRouchePAC have put together a totally different concept of an Asia pivot, in the video on the Kra Canal that we feature as our cover story. The proposed canal across Thailand's Isthmus of Kra, which would significantly cut the shipping distance from eastern Asia via the Suez Canal to Europe, for example, has been on the drawing boards for centuries. But in 1897, the British Empire secured an agreement with Siam (now Thailand) specifying that no such canal could be built without British consent! This was explicitly reaffirmed by treaty in 1946, and remains the de facto policy of the London-centered global imperial forces today.

Our *Counterintelligence* section addresses another "arm" of that imperial octopus: international terrorism. EIR has long documented the role of the British empire and Saudi Arabia in sponsoring and steering terrorism, and this week we have hot new intelligence regarding the Saudi supply of chemical weapons to radical neo-Salafist rebels fighting in Syria. So much for Obama's arrogant claim that it's "obvious" that President al-Assad was responsible for the deaths by chemical weapons in a Damascus suburb in August. We also provide a dossier on Saudi Arabia's former ambassador to the U.S., Prince Bandar bin Sultan, erstwhile buddy of George W. Bush, and current chief of Saudi intelligence.

What would it take to get the United States to break with imperial policies and return to the outlook of President Franklin D. Roosevelt? Lyndon LaRouche's *Feature*, "Contemporary Pseudo-Morality," approaches the issue from the standpoint of William Shakespeare. The latter's work, LaRouche writes, "continues to be ominously prophetic still, from the presently living, unquieted moment, in comparison with the impassioned torment of successive, self-inflicted follies, upon our nations now."

