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EIR

From the Managing Editor

President Franklin D. Roosevelt reflected in 1941 on how his Social Security system was constructed: “We put those payroll contributions there so as to give the contributors a legal, moral, and political right to collect their pensions and their unemployment benefits. With those taxes in there, *no damn politician can ever scrap my Social Security program.*” Or so he thought. After all, the funds you pay into Social Security (and Medicare), deducted from every paycheck you receive, are supposed to be there for you when you get old; they are not part of a “kitty” that “damn politicians” can grab to pay the bills. But FDR didn’t reckon with the Obama Administration and the 113th Congress.

In the aftermath of the government shutdown and with the beginning of Obamacare on Oct. 1, the way is paved for Hitlerian cuts in health care and Social Security. Our *Economics* section provides a fact sheet on the destruction of health care, as well as EIR’s testimony to Congress in 2009, warning of what would happen. In *National*, we report on the drive to kill off the elderly, by dismantling the Social Security system, on Wall Street’s orders.

Much of the rest of this week’s issue is composed around the theme of LaRouche’s *Feature*, “Art, Science & Sense-Perception.” Denouncing the prevalent epistemology that relies on sense perception and “practicality” rather than creative imagination, he writes, “Creation works as if from above: creation is, actually, nothing less than the uniquely human prescience and passion of the actual future!” And a truly human existence “proceeds as if from action on the future, toward what had been a view from one’s re-examination of the past.” We also include a discussion of the concept of the energy-flux density plus a review of a recent exhibit on the work of that greatest of all non-“practical” artist/scientists, Leonardo da Vinci, whose work appears on our cover.

In *Science*, we report on the 64th annual International Astronautical Congress, held in Beijing. Exciting space exploration achievements and plans were reported by notably Chinese, South Korean, and Indian specialists, in stark contrast to the unfortunate lack of participation by the United States and Russia.

