

Russia Says Good Riddance to McFaul

by Rachel Douglas

Feb. 5—Many in Russia were glad to read in U.S. Ambassador Michael McFaul’s blog yesterday that he is leaving Russia soon, after only a two-year stint at the Embassy (the average term is around four years). Commentator Dmitri Babich gave expression to these feelings in a Voice of Russia commentary today, saying that McFaul’s “tenure in Moscow was extremely unfortunate, extremely unsuccessful,” and made a terrible contrast to the professionalism of his predecessor, career diplomat John Beyrle. In particular, Babich said, people remember that McFaul as Ambassador tweeted that Russia was a “savage” place, and that earlier, as a representative of the National Democratic Institute and then the Carnegie Center, he cultivated the Russian extra-parliamentary political opposition.

The Associated Press reported on Feb. 4 that McFaul said “his biggest frustration after two years as ambassador is ‘our inability to dispel this myth that America and the Obama administration and me personally are seeking to foment revolution in Russia.’”

British Controllers

Indeed. Part 2 of *EIR*’s 2012 dossier on the “White Revolution” attempt to destabilize Russian President Vladimir Putin quoted McFaul’s 2011 interview with Slon.ru: “Most Russia-watchers are diplomats, or specialists on security and arms control. Or Russian culture. I am neither. I can’t recite Pushkin by heart. I am a specialist in democracy, anti-dictatorial movements, and revolutions.” That Feb. 3, 2012 *EIR* article, “The ‘Democracy’ Agenda of Michael McFaul and His Oxford Masters,” was republished in Russian on nearly a hundred websites and linked to in scores of forums and tweets.

In that dossier, we documented the Oxford training of McFaul and of current National Security Advisor **Susan Rice**, as well as Oxford’s patronage of **Gene Sharp**, author of the key handbook for the

“color revolutions” of the past two decades. Several of the dossier’s features are relevant to the current crisis in Ukraine, which threatens to detonate world war:

- Rice’s mentor **Sir Alan Roberts** and his younger colleague **Timothy Garton Ash** led Oxford’s “Civil Resistance and Power Politics: Domestic and International Dimensions” project. Ash is currently hyper-active around Ukraine, last month signing an appeal of so-called “world intellectuals” in support of the Euromaidan protests. On Feb. 2, in his regular column in the *Guardian*, Ash advised not getting overly worked up about what he termed the neo-Nazi “fringe” of the Ukraine street action. Most of the right-wing activists, he reassured readers, “see themselves as national revolutionaries fighting for independence from Russia.”

- Our exposé of McFaul’s Oxford trainers also demonstrated that the violent neo-Nazi paramilitary groups and the orchestrators of the supposedly peaceful “color revolutions” are not two separate species; rather, each is a form of irregular warfare. The financial sponsor of Gene Sharp’s color revolution play-book was Harvard Prof. **Thomas Schelling** (later to become a Nobel laureate “for having enhanced our understanding of conflict and cooperation through game-theory analysis”), using funds from the Defense Department’s Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA).

Wrote Schelling of Sharp’s *The Politics of Nonviolent Action*: “The original idea was to subject the entire theory of nonviolent political action, together with a full history of its practice in all parts of the world since the time of Christ, to the same cool, detailed scrutiny that military strategy and tactics are supposed to invite. Now that we have Gene Sharp’s book, what we lack is an equally comprehensive, carefully study of the politics of violent action. . . . It is too bad that we haven’t that other book, the one on violent action. It would be good to compare the two in detail.”

Back in 1961, Schelling ran elaborate nuclear-war simulation games at Camp David with Henry Kissinger, National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy, and others. As researcher Esther-Mirjam Sent put it, the war theory developed by Schelling—that is, by one of McFaul’s intellectual grand-daddies—“consisted of nuclear deterrence, crisis management, limited war, arms control, and coercion and compellence.”