

Editorial

Celebrate 'national Americanism'

On September 17, Americans will remember with pride the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. On that date in 1787, the convention which had been called to reform the weak Articles of Confederation, concluded its labors under the leadership of Benjamin Franklin and George Washington by shaping a new Constitution, capable of preserving the great republican experiment and making the United States a "beacon of hope and Temple of Liberty" for the entire world.

The creation of the American republic receives a peculiar commemoration in the July issue of the journal of the Soviet foreign ministry, *International Affairs*. This official mouthpiece of the Russian Empire blasts "national Americanism," which it correctly describes as rooted in the 17th-century Puritan settlers' belief that the new colonies were "a city on the hill" which would set an example for all nations.

Author Kamaludin Gadjiev interprets this in his own fashion:

" 'Americanism,' which constitutes the fabric of ordinary and ideological bourgeois consciousness in the United States, has become what it is today as a result of intricate interplay of various elements, some of which seem incompatible. It includes: confidence in progress and in Man's power of creation and firm belief that the existing social and political institutions should not be changed. . . .

"But in whatever combination, the central element of 'Americanism' is invariably the myth about 'American exclusiveness,' which has gone through a long evolution and degenerated in its extreme form into 'national Americanism.' Even as early as the 17th century, Puritans and the religious leaders of the English pioneers, who established the first colonies in North America, described America as the 'promised land' allegedly chosen by God as a place for building a 'new Zion,' 'a city on the hill' which would set an example for other nations of the world to follow. . . .

"The belief in the superiority and in a special mission of America provided conditions for turning the legitimate sense of pride in the country's attainments into chauvinism and narrow-minded jingoism, which

have taken the form of 'national Americanism,' the ideological groundwork of the foreign-policy strategy adopted by the more aggressive and expansionist-minded factions of the country's ruling class. . . . To back up the idea of American 'exclusiveness,' the Monroe Doctrine was proclaimed as early as 1823, to substantiate the dominating and leading position of the United States in the Western Hemisphere. . . .

"A task like that is still more unrealistic in our day and age for the aggressive forces of U.S. imperialism, which look forward to establishing world hegemony under slogans of national-Americanism. . . ."

Regular readers of *EIR* will recognize, filtered through the purple Soviet prose, an attack on this publication and its founder, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. For who else has so upheld the heritage of the Puritan fathers and the Monroe Doctrine, as the foundation for shaping a new republican foreign policy today?

Contrary to *International Affairs*—and to the U.S. ideologues of the Heritage Foundation and "Project Democracy"—the Monroe Doctrine was never a plan for U.S. domination of the hemisphere; it was conceived as an alliance for development among sovereign republics, in defense against the marauding imperial powers of Europe. The "national Americanism" in which the Founding Fathers believed, was expressed by the German poet Friedrich Schiller as the concept of the patriot who is at the same time a world citizen, who desires republicanism in all sovereign nations.

The outpouring of bile from Moscow against "national Americanism" must be seen in the light of the recent Soviet reaffirmation that the U.S.S.R. still upholds the 1939 treaty with Nazi Germany. Indeed, Sept. 17 is also the occasion for a sadder anniversary: the Soviet invasion of Poland in 1939, according to the secret protocols of the Hitler-Stalin Pact—17 days after the Nazis invaded Poland.

Today this Nazi-communist alliance is crushing freedom in Iran, in Afghanistan, and in the captive nations of Eastern Europe. Its greatest foe, is the alliance among free nations LaRouche is building. Knowing this, Moscow has targeted him for elimination.