

Editorial

The Summer of Our Discontent

The Summer of 2008 promises to feature maximum turmoil globally. The question is whether, by September, the world will be on the pathway toward a recovery, or a New Dark Age.

On the one side, there is no question but that the Anglo-Dutch financial oligarchy has suffered some stinging defeats. The oligarchy has been unable to ram through their new level of “free trade” through the Doha Round, in the face of the worst food crisis in decades. They have been unable to sell their new European Union dictatorship, known as the Lisbon Treaty, as well. They continue to run up against sovereign nation-states determined to defend their very existence, ranging from China and Russia, to India and Myanmar, and to the embattled Zimbabwe.

On the other side, there is no immediate potential for a grouping of leading nation-states to come together to *stop* the financial and political disintegration now ripping nations and lives apart. While France and Italy might do something interesting in defiance of the globalization push, the necessary combination of nations to establish a new world monetary system—Russia, China, India, and the United States—cannot be constituted while the current political situation prevails in the United States.

Certainly, nothing good is going to come from the Bush Administration, and its Idiot-in-Chief. And the situation around the Presidential candidates in both major political parties remains in flux until the conventions have been held—i.e., until early September. Not until the candidates have been officially nominated, will there be the potential, no matter how limited, for a candidate to respond appropriately to the global crisis.

Thus, given the utter bankruptcy of the financial system, one can only expect the situation to get dramatically worse over the coming months. Hyperinflation, physical infrastructure breakdowns, and shortages of essential commodities are going to be the name of the game.

On the one hand, these developments will further build up a mass constituency for the measures which LaRouche alone is proposing, to deal with the global

crisis. On the other, there will be no coherent leadership during the Summer of 2008.

Under these circumstances, the repeated reports of planned Israeli strikes against Iranian nuclear sites, must be taken very seriously, in LaRouche’s view. The British imperial enemy is determined to keep its planned destabilization plans in operation, and an Israeli strike against Iranian targets would do just that. LaRouche was especially concerned about the effect of these reports on Israel, given the early June maneuvers by the Israeli air force in the eastern Mediterranean, and given the push inside Israel to oust Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, which could come up in the Knesset at any point.

Some intelligence specialists reached by *EIR* on the Israeli threats against Iran said they could not yet tell whether there is an active strike plan, or whether the reports are elaborate “psychological warfare.” LaRouche responded that, at this point, “it doesn’t matter,” because the planning is now so elaborate that it adds up to planning for the attack, and because the oligarchy’s strategic desperation is so great.

Yet, under these conditions, it is not an “anti-war” mobilization which is required, but a blow directly at the heart of the British imperial enemy. A spotlight must be shone on the British role in creating the current crisis—starting with the economic disaster that now threatens to devastate the world’s populations. British cartel control, British control of the speculative markets, British political manipulation—all must be exposed, on the way to being shattered. Most importantly, a mass constituency must be built for the alternative system of finance and government that is required.

Can the world’s population, particularly in the United States, be rallied to demand the necessary program of action? Can it break through the mass insanity represented by the Gore-led genocidal movement for deindustrialization and depopulation, which lies behind the “religion” of global warming? Can it respond to current disasters, such as the food shortage and hyperinflation, by returning to the sanity of an FDR approach?

That is the question which *you* must answer by your activity during the Summer of Our Discontent.