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Take Back the Bailout; Reorganize the System!
South Africa Prepares for World's First Commercial PBMR

Helga Zepp-LaRouche Declares For Chancellor of Germany



Helga Zepp-LaRouche
Internetkonferenz

ΔYNAMIS

THE JOURNAL OF THE LAROUCHE-RIEMANN METHOD OF PHYSICAL ECONOMICS

DECEMBER 2008 ISSUE

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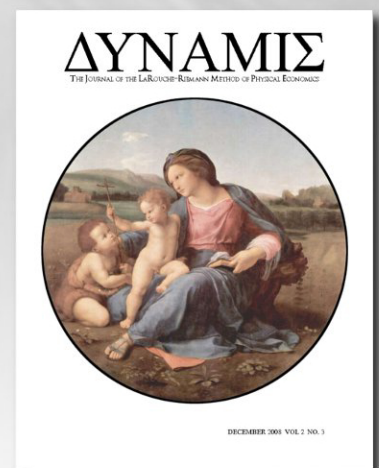
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EIR

From the Managing Editor

We are delighted to announce that Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the chairwoman of Germany's Civil Rights Solidarity Movement (the BüSo), has launched her campaign for the Chancellorship of Germany. She did so at the BüSo's first-ever webcast, at which she gave a strategic briefing on how the world ended up in the current breakdown crisis of the financial system, what reforms are now required to restore the physical economy, how Germany fits in to the bigger picture, and what cultural and political changes are required. The webcast can be viewed, in German, at www.bueso.de.

We publish her campaign statement—a preview to the webcast—as our cover feature. Particularly inspiring is the section titled “Germany, the Land of Poets and Thinkers?” There, Mrs. LaRouche, the founder of the Schiller Institute, presents her new research about the influence on Friedrich Schiller—Germany's greatest poet and dramatist—of philosopher Jakob Abel. Four months after the signing of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, Abel gave a lecture to Schiller and his classmates, “A Discourse on Genius: Are Great Spirits Born or Educated?” The speech had a profound effect on Schiller, and resonates with many things that Lyndon LaRouche has said on this topic, and with the work of LaRouche's “Basement Team.”

Zepp-LaRouche says bluntly, however, that until Europe's nations junk the EU's supranationalism, nothing that continent does can fundamentally reverse the global crisis: hence the importance of Mr. LaRouche's proposed Four-Power alliance of the United States, Russia, China, and India. But there are nonetheless significant initiatives to report from Italy, as well as between Germany and Russia (see *International*).

The United States is essential to bring about the necessary changes. But the Obama Administration has gone so far down the wrong track—indeed, the “slippery slope”—that LaRouche now says that Obama is impeachable (see *Feature*). Among certain Congressmen, the realization is dawning that LaRouche's charges against Obama are true: The President is a narcissist, a sophist, and his health-care “reform” is modelled on Hitler's euthanasia program. Backing this up, EIR's Ned Rosinsky, M.D., takes apart the “Dartmouth Atlas,” a report that provided the pretext for Obama's plan to slash one-third of spending on Medicare.

LaRouche's next webcast, on Aug. 1, is titled “The Fall of the House of Windsor.” Join in at www.larouchepac.com, to find out why.



Cover This Week

Helga Zepp-LaRouche gives a webcast address from Berlin, Germany, on July 21.



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23 Germany Needs Another Policy: Why I Am Campaigning for Chancellor

Helga Zepp-LaRouche has announced her candidacy for Chancellor of Germany, to lead the fight against the oligarchy's attempt to replace the nation-states of Europe with a supranational dictatorship, as called for in the Lisbon Treaty. Only a return to the beautiful ideas of Germany's great poets and thinkers, can provide the means to win.

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4 LaRouche: 'Obama Is Now Impeachable' for His T4 Plan

Lyndon LaRouche stated that President Obama crossed the line when he pushed for legislation calling for an "independent board of experts" to determine who will get health care, and who will die; this is a copy of Hitler's T-4 euthanasia program, for which Nazis were condemned at Nuremberg. LaRouche called the Obama proposal an "impeachable offense."

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LaRouche: ‘Obama Is Now Impeachable’ for His T4 Plan

by Nancy Spannaus

July 24—When President Barack Obama delivered his nationally televised press conference on July 22, in which he pressed for legislation that called for an “independent board of doctors and health-care experts” to be established as a means of cutting health-care costs, he crossed the line. Lyndon LaRouche, America’s leading economist and statesman, who has been warning of the dangers of the President’s Nero complex with ever-greater urgency since his April 11 webcast, responded immediately, with the following statement:

“President Obama is now impeachable, because he has, in effect, proposed legislation which is an exact copy of the legislation for which the Hitler regime was condemned in the post-World War II trials. It is an impeachable offense to propose such a thing in this time. With this statement from him, the President now deserves impeachment.”

What the President, and his cost-accounting henchmen, like budget chief Peter Orszag, are now insisting on, as the centerpiece of their health-care “reform,” is precisely what LaRouche had identified weeks before. Having adopted the view of the British financier oligarchy, that society cannot afford to put its resources into maintaining what Nuremberg Trial veteran Dr. Leo Alexander called the “non-rehabilitatable sick,” the Obama Administration has concluded that there are some (i.e., many) lives “not worthy to be lived.” They have thus fixed on a mechanism to make the decisions as to who will get the scarce resources. Not surpris-

ingly, they came up with the same approach that Hitler did in 1939—setting up a board of experts to determine who shall live, and who shall die. The program, which killed hundreds of thousands of Germans even before the mass killing of Jews began, was called T4.

Starting on July 16, when they saw their bill was in trouble, the White House has made such an “independent” board the centerpiece of their demands for action. But don’t believe for a second, that this proposal is the result of pressure from Congress to cut costs. Such a dictatorial agency is what Obama’s closest advisors, including Ezekiel Emanuel and Tom Daschell, have wanted all along.

But, the all-out attempt to ram the reform through has run into a huge roadblock. Many Congressional offices who previously told LaRouche PAC organizers that they thought the Nazi comparison was “over the top,” are now stunned to find that the President is openly pushing such a Hitlerite program. Others in Congress, and in the health-care profession, are reacting instinctively against what they smell as a fascist cost-cutting regime against the poor and the sick, a regime totally antithetical to the principles upon which the American system of government is based.

Their instincts are right. As LaRouche has emphasized, the President’s proposal spits on the General Welfare clause of the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution, not to mention the Declaration of Independence’s commitment to the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit



White House/Chuck Kennedy

The unstable President Barack Obama has crossed the line, by acting in violation of the Constitutional mandate to protect the general welfare, and therefore, says LaRouche, is impeachable.

of happiness. If the President were to be successful in ramming through his dictatorial board, it would be the equivalent of a Reichstag Fire coup against the Constitution, and lead to crimes against humanity in the form of avoidable deaths of millions of Americans.

For this reason, LaRouche PAC has escalated its battle to crush Obama's health-care "reform," and replace it with the program of FDR-style public-health measures, which LaRouche outlined in his LPAC video reply to Obama on July 17 (see box).

A Nazi Mentality

Before looking at the battle, as it has emerged over the past week, let us focus, once again, on the glaring Nazi mentality which characterizes the Obama Administration's approach to health care.

It begins with the rejection of the *sacredness of every human life*, substituting for that, an idea of how "useful" a life is, generally measured in how much money should be spent to save it. The Nazis were relentless in pressing this point, beginning early in their reign, when they complained vigorously about spending money to save "cripples," when it should be spent on vigorous young workers instead. Money spent on the chronically ill—and obviously on the elderly, as well—was considered "wasteful," because the individual could not be expected to contribute to the economy, in the way they wanted.

Contrast this anti-human approach with that of

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, for example, a "cripple" himself. Roosevelt waged a vigorous campaign in favor of research to cure diseases (e.g., the March of Dimes), and to help those who were limited by physical incapacities to overcome them, and play a role in society. Rather than seeing the expenditure as a drain on society's resources, he saw it in terms of what the individual who was helped could contribute to society, which perhaps could be measured financially, but not necessarily.

The Nazi mentality, however, takes the Social Darwinist approach, and deplores spending money on the weak. It's not "cost-effective," they say today.

This outlook was on exhibit at the Obama press conference July 22, when the President *lied* that the major cause of the fiscal problems of the United States was spending

on Medicare and Medicaid (the old and the poor). Even the President's perverted economists have to know that this is a lie: The rampant speculation and looting of the casino economy of the past 40 years makes a mockery of the statement. Yet, Obama chose to scapegoat the old and the poor, and target them for massive cuts, in his alleged attempt to solve the health-care crisis.

Another hallmark of the Nazi mentality, of course, which maps onto the President's own Neronic egomania, is the propensity to use force, not reason, to work one's will. This approach shows up in the Obama health-care "reform," in its drive to set up a council to circumvent Congress, imposing the cuts in health-care spending, in combination with the financier sponsors of the Administration's program. Like Hitler, Obama seeks to set up an executive agency which will wield power without being subjected to challenge—the Constitutional provisions for Congressional responsibility be damned.

One major difference, of course, between the Obama approach and that of Hitler, is that Obama is pursuing his fascist assault on the elderly and the sick in public. Hitler, when he issued his infamous 1939 order setting up Dr. Karl Brandt and Reichsleiter Philipp Bouhler to decide who should live, and who should die, felt compelled to act in secret, because he feared opposition from the German people.

The Death Bill

As we reported last week, the President launched

his public campaign, on July 16, for an independent commission to exercise life-or-death power over medical care. Taking a leading role was Peter Orszag, the “behavioral economist” and soulless accountant who heads Obama’s Office of Management and Budget. Orszag sent a letter to Congressional leaders, to which he appended a piece of draft legislation called the “Independent Medicare Advisory Council Act of 2009,” a law which he repeatedly has characterized as “the most significant aspect” of the pending legislation. Its transparent intent is to cut care for those on Medicare.

Orszag’s bill would set up a council (IPAC) of five physicians, who, like the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MEDPac) established in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, would issue two rulings a year on reimbursement rates for various medical procedures. But that’s not all.

First, the bill specifies, under the title “No Increase in Aggregate Medicare Expenditures,” that the rulings could only freeze or lower total Medicare/Medicaid spending, not increase it.

Second, once the rates are sent to the President and approved, they could only be voted up or down *in toto* within 30 days by the Congress. Should this not happen, they would go directly into effect.

But there’s another telltale aspect. The proposed legislation says that “the Chief Actuary of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)” would get the final review of each of the commission’s detailed regulations, after the President and Congress signed off. This appointed bean-counter, if deciding that any of the regulations would overpay for medical treatments, could simply “declare them null and void,” and tell the “commission of doctors” to start over, and cut deeper.

In fact, the CMS is, right now, about to issue a ruling that Medicare and Medicaid will issue “bundled payments for kidney dialysis” from January 2011 onward. Reuters notes correctly, in reporting the ruling: “Under the bundled system, dialysis providers will receive a fixed payment [per patient] for all services and drugs. The dialysis center would effectively profit by spending less money on each patient.”

The President goes ape

Following the release of Orszag’s proposed bill, Obama went into a non-stop campaign on its behalf. His Saturday radio address July 18, his press appearances in New Jersey and in the Rose Garden, and his public meetings, all featured the call for the “independ-

ent” commission to cut costs.

In an interview with the *Washington Post* published on July 23, the President elaborated on the policy under the heading of “delivery system reforms.” He wrote:

“At this point, I am confident that both the House and the Senate bills will contain what we’ve been calling ‘MedPAC on steroids,’ the idea that you continually present new ideas to change incentives, change the delivery system, understanding that, because this is such a complex system, we’re not always going to get it exactly right the first time, and that there have to be a series of modifications over the course of a series of years, and we have to take that out of politics and make sure than an independent board of medical experts and health economists are providing packages that are continually improving the system. So I think there’s general consensus that that is one of two very powerful levers to bend the cost curve....”

Obama repeated this concept July 23 at his town hall meeting in Shaker Heights, Ohio, saying that an empowered MedPAC would “eliminate waste and save money.”

The point of the President’s remarks was crystal clear: Health-care decisions should be made by technocrats who are not responsible to the political process—just as they were under Hitler’s T4 Program. Orszag was even more explicit at a Nw York Council on Foreign Relations event July 23 when he said: “But moving more decisions into the hands of medical professionals and out of the political process will enable us to continually update the system to reflect new information and changed circumstances....”

Among those “changed circumstances,” of course, is the reduction of monies being allocated to health care for those whom the “professionals” believe are not “helped” by the care—the old and the chronically ill.

The Revolt Mounts

As of this writing, Obama’s steamroller has run out of steam, and a brawl has broken out in Congress over health-care “reform.” Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has declared that the Senate will not vote on Obama’s bill until the Fall—although the President had insisted it go through before the August recess. And a large number of House Members, Democrat and Republican alike, are in revolt against the House leadership’s attempt to ram through the bill there.

On July 22, top members of the House Ways and Means Committee objected to the Obama IMAC policy,

warning that it would shift too much power away from lawmakers, and give the White House the power to make decisions reserved to Congress, under the Constitution. “You’re outsourcing Congressional responsibility,” said Rep. Richard Neal (D-Mass.). Rep. Pete Stark (D-Calif.) called the idea “unworkable” and “stupid, at best.”

According to *Politico*, Rep. Frank Pallone (D-N.J.), a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said, “We should resist that,” referring to Obama’s program. “They’re the imperial Presidency, just like Bush. . . . You have this appointed body, with no essential accountability to anyone, making these very important decisions. We should make the decisions. Essentially what they’re saying is, the Congress is either incompetent or corrupt. In fact, we are competent, we are honest, and we know more, because we get input from the public.”

LaRouche said that the Congressmen are right, that the transfer of decision-making to the White House, in this case, is “just like Hitler.” There would be “no accountability to anyone, but to a mentally and morally defective President.”

In addition to the Congressional uproar against the imperial council idea, some Republicans are raising the substantive issue of Obama’s intent to slash care for the poor. Most notable, was a press statement issued by House Republican Minority leader John Boehner (R-Ohio) and Republican Policy Committee chairman Thaddeus McCotter (R-Mich.), which blasted a provi-

sion in the House bill that attempts to mandate counseling on “end-of-life” care options for senior citizens, a transparent attempt to pressure older people to refuse treatment. They wrote of Provision 1233:

“This provision of the legislation is a throwback to 1977, when the old Department of Health, Education and Welfare proposed federal promotion of living wills for cost-savings purposes described as ‘enormous.’ At that time, the late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin of Chicago decried this effort by saying: ‘The message is clear: government can save money by encouraging old people to die a little sooner than they otherwise would. Instead of being regarded with reverence, and cherished, human life is subject in this view to a utilitarian cost-benefit calculus and can be sacrificed to serve fiscal policy and the sacred imperative of trimming a budget.’

“With three states having legalized physician-assisted suicide, this provision could create a slippery slope for a more permissive environment for euthanasia, mercy-killing and physician-assisted suicide because it does not clearly exclude counseling about the supposed benefits of killing oneself.

“Health care reform that fails to protect the sanctity and dignity of all human life is not reform at all.”

Exploding the Fraud

The reason the President’s backers, especially among the British, were insisting he ram the reform through before August is clear: The more the people know about it, the less chance it has of going through. This has been demonstrated with a vengeance.

The same is true of the lies that have been used to sell the Obama health-care fraud, especially those generated by the Dartmouth Institute, one of the prime “authorities” for those who argue that 30% of U.S. health-care expenditures are “waste,” and can be cut. The Dartmouth studies use comparisons between expenditures in one part of the country, against another, to argue that areas of high cost are just ripping off the system, and should be forced to lower them. The methodology of these studies, especially those which compare end-of-life care, perpetrates a hoax, simply by deliberately eliminating from the studies those who are successfully treated.

We include below a thorough refutation of the Dartmouth fraud, whose premises mirror those of Orszag and Obama: namely, the less you spend, the more efficient you are—even if the patient dies!

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LaRouche’s Alternative

On July 16, President Obama called for anyone who might have an alternative to his (Hitlerian) health care reform, to come forward. On July 17, Lyndon LaRouche produced a video, posted on LaRouchePAC, and gave an interview, outlining his three-point program:

1. Abolish the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) system;
2. Revive the principles and implementation of the 1946 Hill-Burton Act;
3. Implement the Single-Payer plan (Medicare for all), as the key means of financing adequate health care for all.

Physicians Expose Wennberg Dartmouth Atlas Hoax

by Ned Rosinsky, M.D.

July 21, 2009

Dr. Rosinsky, a psychiatrist, has long studied the relationship of socio-economic status to general health and welfare.

Introduction: Get Out of the Box

We are bombarded daily by complaints funneled through the mass media that health care is too expensive, that the cost of health care has been rising at twice the rate of overall inflation, and that there is inefficiency in the health-care system that accounts for one third of the current cost of health care. Solutions proposed for these supposed problems, such as the policies embedded in the Obama health-care initiative, would only deteriorate the quality of health care, and worsen the health status of the very poor and socially isolated.

The truth is that it is overall collapsing economic conditions that cause an apparent high expense and high inflator for the price of health care. Alongside these, one must place the last 30 years history of insertion of for-profit managed health care, into increasing echelons of the government and private systems. And it is true that the great majority of what is identified as inefficiency, is actually intensive care, which is required to keep poor, socially isolated, and vulnerable people alive.

Let us look at these two issues in turn.

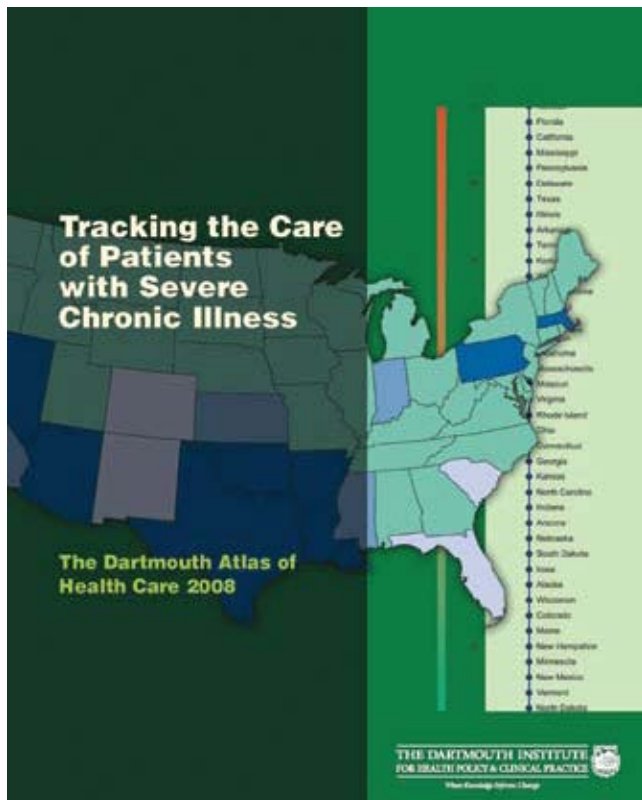
The economy in a technologically advanced culture depends on the impetus of science drivers. A prime example is the Kennedy space program, which was centered on manned space flight, including colonizing the Moon and beyond. The space exploration program was expensive, but paid back more than double what it cost, through technological spinoffs, applications of basic and applied science initially developed for the space program, which were then utilized by other areas of the economy. These spinoffs included computer develop-

ment; materials science, such as new alloys (and other materials such as Teflon); the hydrodynamics of air flow used for rocket and civilian plane development, but also useful for the design of medical devices that interact with blood flow, such as ventricular assist units; and even direct medical applications, such as using the astronaut medical status monitoring technology for the development of hospital intensive care units. NASA put out a publication entitled "Spinoffs," that documented thousands of such applications.

A second science-driver example is nuclear energy development, both fission and fusion. The fission technology involves both basic science research in materials, as well as producing abundant energy which cheapens the cost of production of any other economic sector that uses energy (i.e., nearly the entire economy). Fusion research involves the basic science of understanding high energy plasmas (ionized gas) as generated either through laser heating in inertial fusion, or in self-contained geometrical configurations in magnetic confined fusion.

Both of these areas of research have enormous potential for deepening our understanding of basic physics, as well as revolutionizing all energy-dependent technologies, such as hydrogen fuel and efficient water desalination.

When the overall economy is benefiting from science drivers such as the above examples, every sector of the economy is more efficient, and costs less to function. However, after the death of President Kennedy, the above two crucial science drivers were crushed by funding cuts. These cuts were started under Presidents Johnson and Nixon, and the economy has never recovered. We have had a progressive decline in science-driver spinoffs for the past 50 years. This has combined with other economic policy disasters, such as allowing the merchant and speculative investment sections of banking to merge, and allowing unregulated derivatives



Dr. John Wennberg's "Dartmouth Atlas": Its conclusions and recommendations form the basis for the Obama/Orszag Nazi health-care plan's proposals to slash one-third from Medicare and related costs. Nowhere in Wennberg's calculations, or those of the Obama team, is the bloated overhead of the HMOs, or the collapse of the physical economy, considered.

trading to explode.

We have also allowed, through tax policies, for the exportation of our major industrial production capabilities to areas abroad that have cheap labor, gutting our industrial production capacity here at home. Since Richard Nixon launched the HMOs with his 1972 legislation, we have allowed our health-care infrastructure, such as numbers of hospital beds per thousand population, to rapidly drop far below the levels of the previous Federal Hill-Burton standard. The pharmaceutical giants have gained enormous power. We have extensively deregulated health care, while allowing managed care to displace fee-for-service throughout most of the private sector and much of the government sector. Private, for-profit hospital chains have taken over, and often shut down, public community hospitals.

Effects of the Collapse of Science Drivers

The end result of all these disastrous economic policies is a collapsed economy. Long before the recent

stock market collapse, we have been living through a decline in our real economy for the past 50 years.

The collapse of science drivers, and the resulting collapse of the real economy, has had an adverse effect on the provision of health care. First, it means that more of the basic science related to health technology must be done by the health industry itself, which increases overhead within this sector. Second, the overall economic breakdown means that there is budgetary strain at all levels, including individuals and government, which makes health care appear to be more out of reach, or relatively more expensive. If health-care providers attempt to do a good job within a collapsing economy, as good as if the economy were healthy, they will have to provide a larger investment. This translates into a higher inflator measure of health-care costs.

The solution to this problem is not to cut health-care costs or simply to dump more money into health care by raising taxes; the solution is to regenerate the functioning of the economy with science drivers, and get rid of useless speculation such as derivative investments, and the associated accumulation of unpayable derivatives debt. We must roll back 35 years of profit-taking managed care and similar developments in health care, and return to previous Hill-Burton standards.

This issue of science drivers goes beyond the well-being of the economy. The issue goes to the core of the idea of progress, upon which this nation was founded. We in these United States used to believe strongly that the human race, by its nature, can solve problems by increasing our understanding of the universe, that progress is always possible if we put our scientific minds to it, and that our children will be better off than we are due to scientific progress. This progress is typically embodied in great projects, such as the science drivers described above.

Unfortunately, at this late date in the recent economic disaster, there is only one major area of scientific development that still captures the imagination of the great majority of our population, and this area is health research. Most people continue to believe that scientific progress can someday cure the current major causes of death, that there is this hope for the future, if not in our lifetimes, then in the lifetimes of our progeny within several generations. This hope keeps us going, within our mortal limited life span. If the institutions of progress within the health-care sector of our economy are destroyed, then the very idea of progress in our culture will be dealt a mortal blow. This is really what is at

stake in the current debates over health-care reform, and the blaming of inflated health care costs on greedy and incompetent providers.

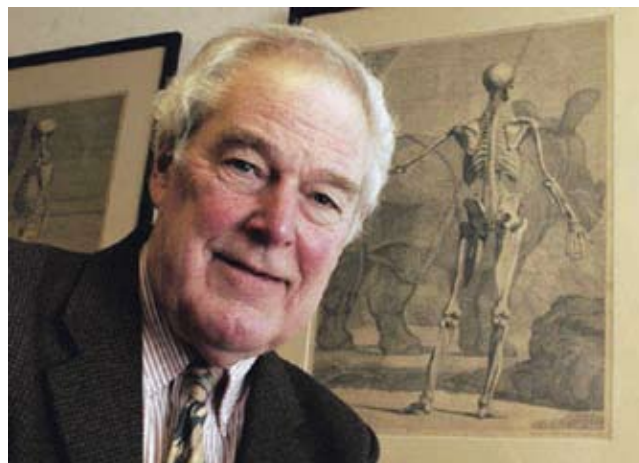
Unfortunately, because many health-care providers and health-policy advocates are not familiar with the issue of science drivers in economic planning, they may be reluctant to consider these wider issues when choosing policy positions. However, they will ignore these issues at their own risk. The “I don’t go there” mentality places such providers and advocates in a box, with limited choices and no good alternatives. And here is the fertile ground for the fraudulent attacks on the health-care professions and institutions by the likes of John Wennberg, the darling of Peter Orszag’s White House Budget Office within the Obama Administration.

It is Wennberg’s claims of vast savings by elimination of inefficient and unnecessary health care, that Orszag and Obama have been using to conclude that we can cut \$500 billion or more from health spending, and use that money to pay for a universal health-care system that is far leaner. However, the result of such a leaner system will be increases in death and suffering for the poorest, weakest, and most socially isolated portions of the population, ironically the very same socio-economic classes that were instrumental in getting Obama elected.

The Wennberg Fraud

The Obama health-care initiative, relies heavily on financing through presumed cost savings. One of the main justifications for this presumption of cost saving is the group of statistical studies by Wennberg and his group at Dartmouth, the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice. (Wennberg is a physician with specialty training in internal medicine and subspecialty training in renal disease. He also holds a masters degree in public health from Johns Hopkins.) He lays out his method in his “Tracking the Care of Patients with Severe Chronic Illness,” which is subtitled “The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care 2008.”¹ It is this Atlas, with its set of conclusions and recommendations, which forms the main basis for Orszag’s advocacy of the potential for enormous savings, in the range of one-third

1. John Wennberg, “Tracking the Care of Patients with Severe Chronic Illness,” The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, 2008.



Wennberg’s (shown here) specious claims have been refuted by a number of physicians, including Peter B. Bach, an oncologist, who exposes the fraud of retrospectively studying the care of dead patients, rather than prospectively studying the care of dying, or seriously ill patients.

of Medicare spending, and, by extension, similar savings in the private health sector and other government health programs.

Wennberg’s main proposition is that various geographical regions of the U.S. characteristically use different amounts of treatment, as quantified by Medicare billings for end-of-life care, and that the areas that use more expensive treatment do not have any significant difference in patient outcome, compared to those that use less expensive treatment. He attributes the more expensive treatments to unnecessary utilization of health-care resources, such as hospitalizations, medical procedures, specialist referrals, and outpatient visits, which, he claims, are motivated by the drive to maximize revenues by greedy hospitals, physicians, and other health-care providers.

He terms the lower spending areas “benchmarks” to be emulated, describing them as more efficient, and recommends remedial measures to bring the higher spending areas down to the benchmark levels, including, financial awards to facilities and practitioners who provide decreased amounts of health care.

Wennberg uses the following method to come to his conclusions regarding regional variations in health-care costs. First, he uses, as his main source of information, the database of death statistics provided by Medicare. All of his cost comparisons are derived from the cases of Medicare patients who have died, not from the ongoing treatment of the living. The cases he considers are limited to the nine most common causes of death, in the 67-

100 age population, namely, congestive heart failure, chronic lung disease, cancer, coronary artery disease (including heart attacks), renal failure, peripheral vascular disease, diabetes, chronic liver failure, and dementia. These nine diagnoses account for over 90% of deaths.

He uses data only from the Medicare patients who are in the fee-for-service program, and not those who have chosen a Medicare HMO to lower their own co-pays, and who are more subject to scrutiny of medical spending by the HMO. He chooses a defined period of time for the study, in the case of the 2008 Atlas, the five-year period from Jan. 1, 2001 to Dec. 31, 2005; and gets a list of all Medicare deaths during that time period. He also obtains associated data for each person who died, including the diagnostic cause of death, age, gender, race, geographical location, and name of hospital or other facility, if the death occurred in a facility.

For the purpose of these statistical studies the United States is divided up into 306 geographical areas, termed Hospital Referral Regions; each such region must have at least one medical center which does both major cardiac surgery and neurosurgery. Notably, he does not utilize data related to the degree of family support, such as marital status, and does not utilize data related to economic status. He also does not utilize data identifying when the diagnosis was initially made. We will see in the discussion below, that these missing categories of information make the studies unreliable and misleading.

Focus on the Last Two Years of Life

Wennberg also obtains a list of all charges billed to Medicare, by date and by type of charge, including daily charges for facilities, such as general hospital bed days, ICU days, nursing home stays and rehab facilities; physician charges by specialty; medications; and all other health services. He then totals all of the Medicare health-related charges billed for the two years prior to the date of death for each case, and classifies these as end-of-life care. He states that he focuses on this period of the patient's life because the majority of Medicare charges occur during the last two years of life, as chronic illnesses frequently worsen during that time.

In order to justify using the death data to compare differences between geographical regions, Wennberg makes the following assertion on page 5 of the introduction to the 2008 Atlas:

“By looking at care delivered during fixed intervals of time prior to death, we can say with assurance that the prognosis of all the patients in the cohort is identi-

cal—all were dead after the interval of observation.” He goes on to state, “By further adjusting for difference in age, sex, race, and primary chronic illness, we believe that we have developed fair measures of the relative intensity of care provided to equally ill patients—comparisons for which differences among patients are an unlikely explanation.”

Wennberg points out that the areas of high and low Medicare end-of-life spending have similar death rates, and concludes that the high-spending regions cannot justify the expenditures on the basis of improved outcomes. He also compares the rates of various diseases among regions, and states that there is no correlation between rates of disease and end-of-life spending. It is noted that the high spending regions are predominantly the urban areas on the East and West coasts. The low spending regions are predominantly in the Midwest and Mountain states.

He also compares major medical centers, where the care would presumably be at a high level of competence. He finds that among these facilities, the least expensive care is at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and in the Intermountain Health Care System around Salt Lake City; while the most expensive care is at New York University Medical Center, which follows the same pattern regarding type of location as seen in the 306 regions.

Wennberg further divides the Medicare expenses into three categories. He terms the first category Effective Care, and defines this as “evidence-based interventions for which the benefits so far exceed the harms that all patients in need should receive the service. Life-saving drugs following a heart attack are examples. Variations in the use of such treatment among eligible patients reflect a failure to deliver needed care, or underuse.”

The second category is Preference-sensitive Care, which “encompasses treatment decisions where different choices carry different benefits and risks, and where patients' attitudes towards these outcomes vary. An example would be the use of bypass surgery for heart disease, where surgery is likely to improve patients' chest pain but carries a small but real risk of causing memory loss. Unwarranted variations in preference-sensitive care reflect both the limitations of current scientific evidence and the failure to ensure informed patient choice.”

Wennberg terms the third category Supply-sensitive Care, that “refers to services where the supply of a spe-

cific resource [for example, the number of specialists per capita—ed.] has a major influence on utilization rates. Physician visits, hospitalizations, stays in intensive care units, and imaging services are all examples of care where the local supply influences the frequency of use. Variations in supply-sensitive care are largely due to difference in local capacity, and a payment system that ensures that existing capacity remains fully deployed.”

The main conclusion of the Atlas is that the great majority of local variation in end-of-life Medicare expenditures is due to variations in the third category, what he terms supply-sensitive costs, and he maintains that this difference amounts to 30% in total spending on end-of-life care among the geographic regions. He attributes this variation to the availability of supply, and shows a high correlation between resource availability, such as the number of beds or specialists per thousand population, and the utilization rate of these resources in end-of-life expenditures.

For example, he states that the availability of a high number of inpatient beds per thousand population motivates hospitals and physicians to admit patients and keep the beds full, in order to maximize revenues. Similarly, the density of medical specialists in a community is correlated with the rate of utilization of specialists by Medicare patients, supposedly due to the physicians being motivated to keep their hours full.

The Gaping Holes in Wennberg's Argument

Let us look at the implications of Wennberg's argument up to this point. First, he claims that all of the patients had the same prognosis two years before they died, because they all died in two years. This assertion implies that all of the chronic illnesses have a relentless and predictable course, which is clearly not the case. This point was elaborated in detail, in the case of breast cancer, in an attack on Wennberg published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, in 2004, entitled, “Resurrecting Treatment Histories of Dead Patients, A Study Design That Should Be Laid to Rest.”² The attack is by Peter B. Bach, M.D., who is an oncologist

2. Peter B. Bach, “Resurrecting Treatment Histories of Dead Patients, A Study Design That Should Be Laid To Rest,” *JAMA*, 2004; 292: 2765-2770.

affiliated with the Health Outcomes Research Group, at the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. In this publication, Bach points out that there is an important methodological difference between retrospectively studying the care of dead patients, and prospectively studying the care of dying or seriously ill patients.

In the case of breast cancer, the prognosis is based largely on whether the diagnosis is made and therapy is begun before the cancer has spread to other areas of the body. Localized breast cancer is given a stage designation as I, II, or III, depending on the invasiveness and degree of localized spread. A Stage IV designation indicates that the cancer has already spread to other areas of the body. Stage IV is termed metastatic, has the worst prognosis, and is invariably fatal though the time from diagnosis to death varies considerably and may be extended by aggressive treatment. Stages I, II and III are potentially curable, and an aggressive treatment is crucial for survival. Bach illustrates the point by using data publicly available from the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) Tumor Registry (available at <http://www.seer.cancer.gov>). This source also provides information regarding Medicare expenditures for these patients. Unlike the data Wennberg chooses to use, this data includes living patients.

Bach points out that the group of patients who are diagnosed with breast cancer and who die within one year of being diagnosed includes more patients with stage I, II and III breast cancer at initial diagnosis, than stage IV. This is not because stage I, II and III are more dangerous, but because they are more numerous. In his example from one of the SEER geographic regions, Bach notes that in one year, 667 women were diagnosed with stage IV breast cancer, which represents 5% of the total breast cancer diagnoses in that area, the other 95% being lower stages. Bach then points out that of these 667 cases, 267 died within one year of the diagnosis. However, of all the cases in the group diagnosed at stage I, II and III, there were 277 deaths within one year of the diagnosis.

As noted above, the reason for this, is that there were many more patients at the early stages—20 times more. Bach concludes that totaling up the cost of care of the group of patients who died, rather than examining the resources used to treat people who are at various stages of serious illness, is incompetent and misleading. To

say, as Wennberg would, that all of the patients in the above breast cancer group who died, had the same prognosis when diagnosed one year earlier, simply because they all died within one year, has no real scientific content, and is simply a tautology which distorts the meaning of the term prognosis.

Medical science is not exact, and prognoses are not exact. When someone has potentially curable disease, it is the responsibility of the health-care professional to aggressively treat it. Anything less is incompetent, unethical and negligent.

The above paper by Bach is footnoted in Wennberg's Atlas, indicating that Wennberg is well aware of the weakness of his approach. He meets the Nuremberg criterion of "knew or should have known." I will revisit this point below.

A second attack on Wennberg, this time in the area of cardiology, was published by Gerald W. Neuberg, M.D., in the American Heart Association's journal *Circulation*, earlier this year.³ The article is entitled "The Cost of End of Life Care, a New Efficiency Measure Falls Short of AHA/ACC Standards." Dr. Neuberg is a cardiologist at the Department of Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City. (AHA refers to the American Heart Association; and ACC refers to the American College of Cardiology, the national professional association of cardiologists). The article notes that, in the Dartmouth Atlas, Wennberg and his group "did not measure or adjust for severity, as they believe that their model involves measures of provider 'efficiency and performance that minimize the chance that variations in the care can be explained by differences in the severity of patients' illnesses.' They further state that 'by looking at care delivered during fixed intervals of time before death, we can say with assurance that the prognosis of all patients in the cohort is identical—all were dead after the fixed interval of observation.'"

The Reality of Medical Practice

Neuberg then discusses the reality of medical practice, as opposed to Wennberg's tautology: "From a clinical perspective, this retrospective logic misrepresents the prognostic and therapeutic uncertainty that we must contend with in real time. What matters in providing

care are the apparent severity and treatability of illness at the time of patient evaluation, not at the time of death. Thus, the fairest way to assess treatment efficiency and efficacy is to assemble cohorts with comparable disease burdens at time zero, and then track subsequent outcome and resource utilization in survivors and decedents. In contrast, looking back at fixed intervals before death identifies patients whose condition at time zero varies markedly, more so for longer intervals, and this alone could explain substantial variation in resource allocation. Furthermore, end-of-life spending does not reveal whether a provider's efforts effectively saved, extended or improved any lives. For example, end-of-life costs cannot distinguish a patient who lives 24 months (on whatever treatment) from a sicker patient who would have lived 12 months on the same regimen, but instead survives 24 months with more aggressive care. From the look-back perspective, care is viewed not as a means to improve health, but as an accumulation of expenses that failed to prevent an inevitable death."

Neuberg continues, "End-of-life spending would be a more straightforward indicator of provider performance if diseases progressed and presented in a uniform fashion, but this is not the case. In patients with fatal CHF (congestive heart failure), at least one third die unexpectedly, whereas most others experience progressive CHF requiring episodic hospital treatment before their demise. By the authors' [Dartmouth group's—ed.] method, if my practice randomly sees a greater proportion of inexpensive sudden deaths, we will be rated undeservedly as more efficient than others who see a higher rate of costly progressive CHF. However, if we prevent sudden deaths by implanting more defibrillators, we will see and treat more progressive CHF (because of the competing risks of these outcomes), and our efficiency rating will decline. If we offer such patients greater access to life-extending procedures like biventricular pacing or cardiac transplantation, our rating will plummet further, because they are sick enough that some will not survive beyond the measured interval after costly treatment, regardless of how appropriately or expeditiously it was provided."

Neuberg acknowledges that there are variations in end-of-life care expenses, but points out that the reason for the variations go beyond the clinical issues discussed above. He notes that variability in care expense may be due to several factors that are not part of Wennberg's statistics, which Neuberg terms social care, de-

3. Gerald W. Neuberg, "The Cost of End-of-life Care, A New Efficiency Measure Falls Short of AHA/ACC Standards," *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*, 2009; 2: 127-133.

fensive care, desperation care, and limbo care. He describes the first category as referring to “extra hospital days accrued by patients whose medical problems would be manageable at home if they had better compliance, follow-up, family support, or home care coverage, and by those requiring nursing home placement. In such cases, hospital discharge delays are common for myriad reasons having little to do with provider performance. In one study of hospital performance, 17% of all hospital days were classified as medically unnecessary ‘delay’ days, and the most important cause was unavailability of postdischarge facilities. Days spent awaiting postdischarge facilities (primarily nursing homes) represented 41% of all delay days.”

The Importance of Social Support

Neuberg’s point regarding social care has far greater implications. The home support he refers to regarding compliance, follow-up, and family support applies to all levels of care. Patients are usually admitted to hospitals from emergency rooms or directly from the physician’s office. The decision to hospitalize is based on the severity of the medical condition and the intensity of care that is provided. The cutoff for the decision to hospitalize is whether the proposed treatment plan can be safely carried out in a less intensive setting, such as at home.

Some cases are clear-cut, such as a new onset stroke or heart attack, which, by their nature, cannot be safely managed at a lower level of care than hospitalization. Others are not so clear-cut, such as high blood sugar or high blood pressure. If the abnormality is on the fence between hospitalization or not, frequently the deciding factor is family support to ensure compliance, such as taking medication regularly, or doing home blood sugar testing, or following up with the next appointment reliably, or calling the physician if a symptom worsens. If the physician feels that in these borderline cases there is sufficient home support, then treatment may continue safely at home. If the physician feels that the patient may become dangerously ill due to not having sufficient home support, then hospitalization may be necessary. A similar decision occurs regarding the timing of discharges from the hospital.

Importantly, the same considerations apply when a patient is seen in the outpatient setting, and, at the end of the visit, the physician must make a decision regarding how long to wait until the next visit. If the home situation is unreliable, then the physician will schedule



EIRNS

The crucial issue of social support for patients, once they leave the hospital, or doctor’s care, is left out of the Dartmouth report. Shown: Dr. Ned Rosinsky confers with a dialysis patient.

the patient to return sooner than otherwise. The level of social support, therefore, influences both level of care determination and frequency of visits.

The relevance of social support on resource decisions has another implication. Consider the case of a recent onset stroke or heart attack, in which the patient has partially recovered and is discharged back to the home. In both of these cases, the outpatient management would be focused on attempting to prevent another episode of stroke or heart attack. A key component to preventing a repeat episode is to control risk factors that are amenable to medical intervention, such as blood pressure or blood sugar. Since these medical conditions are frequently extended in time, physicians generally get to know the reliability aspects of patients under their care, and with experience with each patient, get to know how frequently the patient must be checked in order to achieve adequate control of the risk factors.

For example, if a patient returns for an outpatient

visit one week after discharge from being hospitalized for a heart attack, is with a reliable family member, and has been following the physician's recommendations regarding medication, diet, exercise, and so on, then the next appointment might be safely scheduled for one month. However, if the patient returns for the first appointment after hospitalization, and is found to have been irregular about taking medication, and on examination has an elevated blood pressure, then the follow up visit would be sooner, and the physician may recommend a home health nurse. In this way, the end point of adequate control of risk factors is achieved, but it is achieved with different levels of intensity of care, depending on the patient and the social support status.

Social support not only varies from patient to patient, it also varies from region to region. Social support is a reflection of the cohesiveness of society and culture. In geographical areas where the society and culture are well integrated, there is strong social support. In areas where society is breaking down, there is weak social support. These differences in social support are evident to any physician who moves from one location to another, or who has multiple practice locations. The status of social support can vary dramatically from one neighborhood to another in the same section of the same city. There may be some correlation between socio-economic status and social support, but this is not always the case. Some poorer neighborhoods may have stronger family ties and sense of responsibility than some middle-class suburbs.

The point is, that none of this is considered in the Wennberg analysis. The problem becomes severe in comparisons among major tertiary care referral medical centers, such as the Mayo Clinic and New York University Medical Center. Wennberg points out that the Mayo Clinic has a low utilization of Medicare services, averaging \$53,432 per death, and NYU has the highest in the country, averaging \$105,000. UCLA is also high, at \$93,000. Other low-end spending major hospital centers are Intermountain Health Care at Salt Lake City and Duke University in Durham, N.C. Wennberg argues that all of these centers provide high-quality care, so one would not expect the costs to vary significantly. However, a walk around Salt Lake City compared to a walk around downtown New York, particularly late at night, are two very different experiences. There are enormous socio-economic differences, and attendant social support differences, between these populations.

Senior researchers at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health who have visited the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota have concluded that at least half of the difference in end-of-life care cost found by Wennberg is due to socio-economic factors.

Data on income was used in the statistics of a more limited study by the Dartmouth group, in 2003, which focused on the comparison of costs for treating hip fracture, colorectal cancer, and heart attack.⁴ This study found significant differences in end-of-life spending that was not correlated with income. However, the data used was not the income of the individual patient, but the average income for the zip code of residence, as published in the 1990 census. Zip code areas are usually too large to distinguish income variations by distinct socio-economic neighborhoods, particularly in urban areas. For example, Baltimore has 38 zip codes, but for the national census, the city is divided into 201 tracts. A study of the relation of poverty to death rates by census tract showed a strong correlation, but the same study by zip code showed no correlation, due to the smoothing of data over larger geographical areas.⁵ The Dartmouth group has been frequently criticized for minimizing local variations in patient socio-economic conditions; a prime example will be seen below in the discussion of the McAllen fiasco.

There may be a connection between the social support issue and the finding by Wennberg that the outcomes, as measured by death rates, do not vary much across regions, and that the death rates are not correlated with health spending. In the above example of outpatient treatment of risk factors following a stroke or heart attack, there is general consensus among physicians regarding the target values for blood pressure, blood sugar, body weight, and so on. If one region with good social supports achieves these target values with an average of four outpatient visits per year, while another region with low social supports achieves these target values with twelve outpatient visits per year, then the prognosis of the patients will be similar, but the expenditures very different. This is the likely explanation for the Wennberg findings of lack of correlation of expenditures with outcome; the higher spending regions simply need to spend more to get the same outcome as

4. E.S. Fisher, "The Implications of Regional Variation in Medicare Spending; Part 1: The Content, Quality and Accessibility of Care," *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 2003, Vol. 138, Issue 4, pp. 273-287.

5. Ned Rosinsky, "Poverty Kills," *EIR*, Jan. 6, 2006; pp. 20-24.

the lower spending regions due to other factors such as social supports. Again, it is remarkable that the issue of social support does not enter into Wennberg's model.

A Challenge to Dartmouth's Method

The degree of social support can be approximated for the purpose of comparing health expenditures by region, by using markers of social integration. This approach was illustrated in a rebuttal to Wennberg's conclusions and referenced at testimony to the House Ways and Means Committee on April 1, 2009. Testifying after a committee presentation from the Dartmouth group, Robert Berenson, M.D., a Senior Fellow at the Urban Institute stated, "I would further emphasize the need to focus policy attention on the range of potential approaches to caring for the multiple chronic condition problem, rather than the geographic variations in spending. Colleagues at the Urban Institute are studying this geographic variations issue using an alternative methodology from that used by the Dartmouth group, which has done important work in this area.

"Our preliminary findings cast doubt on both the magnitude of the geographic spending variations and the source of the variations that the Dartmouth researchers found. Analysis of spending for individual patients who live in different geographic areas suggests that variations in individual characteristics, especially patient's underlying health status and a range of socioeconomic factors, including income and the presence of supplemental insurance, account for almost all of the explainable variation. In our analysis, local provider supply—the number of hospital beds and physicians per capita—did not explain the Medicare or total health cost of individual patients. While there still remains unexplained variation, it does not appear to be due to variations in provider supply."

Dr. Berenson—who worked in the Clinton Administration, where he had operational responsibility for provider payment systems at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and was in charge of contracting with Medicare Advantage plans—referenced a study that he co-authored in 2006 to justify his conclusions, which had been presented in 2006 to the annual AcademyHealth meeting.⁶ AcademyHealth is a project of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. That study was criti-

cized by the Dartmouth group in 2007 for using such social support variables as whether the patient was ever married, with the criticism being that the social support variables should be in the second phase of the Urban Institute's study, not the first, which was set up to examine supply variables. The influence of social supports on what Wennberg terms supply-sensitive services, and the ready availability of such data, was not addressed in the 2007 Dartmouth criticism, and evidently Berenson felt that his study had merit despite the Dartmouth complaints, as he referenced it in the 2009 testimony.

The main author of the Urban Institute study, Jack Hadley, Ph.D., is currently working on the second phase of the study.

The avoidance of social support variables by Wennberg is paradoxical. He states that by using only Medicare deaths, he is assured that all the patients had the same prognosis for the two years prior to death. He then states that he corrects his regional data for age, gender, and race. While these three variables certainly have an effect on prognosis, it is not clear why or how he corrected for these variables, since he assumed that all of the prognoses were identical. Any correction for other variables would throw off the initial identical prognoses, if his reasoning is followed. And if he finds it necessary to correct the initial identical prognoses with data on age, gender, and race, why did he not use other variables, such as whether the patient was ever married? And why does his group complain so strongly when Berenson's group does go ahead and use these variables?

A clue to this question may be found in the introduction to the Atlas, where Wennberg states, on page 5 of the introduction, "It is important for the reader to understand that while end-of-life measures raise the question of whether more is better, they do not provide an answer. However, because they are general indicators of care intensity patterns of regions and hospital providers, they can be used to test the hypothesis that cohorts of patients with similar illnesses, followed over time, have better outcomes in regions with greater care intensity." That is, Wennberg admits that his data analyses do not demonstrate causation, but are only correlations.

Later, in the Atlas, Wennberg sharply distinguishes between his empirical correlation findings and his theory of explanation. One question that he never raises, is why the distribution of hospitals is such as it is. If, for example, it were found that there is another factor that is connected causally to both the location of hospitals and the intensity of service utilization, then all of Wenn-

6. Jack Hadley, R. Berenson, T. Waidmann, S. Zuckerman, "Variations in Medical Care Spending Per Medicare Beneficiary: The First Stage of an Instrumental Variable Analysis," The Urban Institute, 2006.

berg's correlations would be merely finding two variables that are both caused by a third factor, and one of the two is not causing the other.

The simple explanation is that hospitals are built where they are needed, going back to the Hill-Burton program, and partially supplemented in some states by certificate-of-need programs. They are needed in greater number where people are poor, where social support is lacking, and where people are crowded, such as in the cities typified by the Northeast coast and the Southwest California coast. There is greater social support and less crowding in the Midwest and Rocky Mountain states. And yes, there is the heritage of racial and economic segregation within the cities, resulting in vastly different quality of care and need for care among closely spaced neighborhoods, such as the Harlem Hospital area compared to the Mount Sinai Hospital areas of Manhattan in New York City, or both of these hospitals compared to Stony Brook on Long Island. This is the everyday reality of any practicing physician, and should be plainly clear to any public health researcher who spends time with physicians and patients.

A Statistical Aside

To illustrate the logical fallacy behind the Wennberg correlations, let us consider the following scenario. Suppose you are the owner of the world's largest producer of raincoats. You notice that for the past few years your sales have been declining, and your marketing staff tell you that people have recently been using more umbrellas and fewer raincoats. You assemble your administrative staff to brainstorm, and come up with the idea of hiring some statisticians to prove the superiority of raincoats. The statisticians arrive, and decide that the strongest approach would be to show that umbrellas are dangerous.

They do some preliminary work on the possibility that using an umbrella can increase the likelihood of being struck by lightning during a rainstorm, but the numbers are just not there. They review police reports of umbrellas used for assaults and find a few, but again the numbers are not really there, and that most of the perpetrators are demented little old men and ladies; yes, there is some criminal activity associated with umbrella use, but not what the statisticians had hoped for.

While scanning police reports with the keyword "umbrella," they notice that, in the detailed investiga-

tions of fatal car crashes, there is sometimes a mention of an umbrella on the front passenger seat. They check police reports of car searches for other reasons, such as cars used in committing crimes, and find that the number of umbrellas found on the front seats of cars not involved in collisions is much lower. They do a statistical calculation for various areas around the country and demonstrate a high degree of correlation: the areas with higher rates of front seat umbrellas are also the areas with higher rates of fatal car accidents. There it is, the proof. They go to legislatures and attempt to get umbrellas banned, get lots of publicity, and are near victory.

However, someone in the umbrella industry reviews the research, and notes that both umbrella use and fatal car accidents are related to a third factor, namely the weather. On rainy days (and in rainy geographical areas), more people use umbrellas, and also more people have fatal car accidents due to road conditions. Because the rate of umbrella use and the rate of fatal car accidents both go up on rainy days, they are strongly correlated statistically, but this does not prove causation, because they in turn are both caused by another factor, the weather.

To complete the analogy, the raincoat manufacturer reacts to the criticism not by apology and expression of chagrin, but by becoming belligerent, attacking the competence and motivation of the umbrella manufacturers, and then attempts to ram through laws banning umbrellas with lengthy legislation that no one understands or has enough time to read or debate, and with the backing of incompetent politicians whose advisors are even more incompetent.

Sound familiar?

Back to Neuberger

Returning to the Neuberger publication, a second category of variation in health-care expenses that is not warranted based on purely medical need is what Neuberger refers to as defensive care. This refers to the determination of level of care and the use of medical procedures, such as diagnostic testing, that is affected by the malpractice environment. The cost of medical malpractice insurance varies enormously from state to state, by as much as tenfold or more, and this variation is due primarily to the local rate and amount of malpractice awards.

The award rates, in turn, are influenced by the population demographics, as well as by state malpractice

laws. People who are desperately poor, or who feel alienated, or cut off from the mainstream of society, may be more likely to initiate a lawsuit if they feel wronged, particularly, if lawyers take the case on a contingency basis, in which there is no payment if the patient loses the case. It is no coincidence that the states with the highest rates of malpractice premiums are also the states with the highest level of end-of-life expenses. Using OB/GYN malpractice insurance premium rates as a marker, the ten top states, starting with the highest, are: Florida, Nevada, Michigan, Washington, D.C., Ohio, Massachusetts, West Virginia, Connecticut, Illinois, and New York.⁷ Every one of these states is in the top half of states arranged by Medicare end-of-life cost.

The ten lowest states for malpractice premiums are, in order from the lowest, Oklahoma, Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, Indiana, Idaho, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Arkansas, and South Carolina. Every one of these states is in the bottom half of states by Medicare end-of-life costs, with the exception of South Carolina, which misses the cutoff by one state. There appears to be a robust separation of the upper and lower quintiles; however, a more precise determination of correlation would have to take into account numerous variables such as the yearly fluctuation of states ranking in the middle of the distribution as well as the dispersion of rankings of other medical specialties.

The general consensus is, that the threat of malpractice increases medical resource utilization in the range of 2% to 5%. Using the more conservative figure of 2%, consistent with Government Accountability Office (GAO) estimates, it appears likely that the variation in malpractice climate contributes in the range of 2% or more to the Wennberg figures, and is particularly evident in the high malpractice premium rates typically found at the county level in crowded urban areas.

Another significant source of cost variation across the country is related to local cost of living variations. Wennberg estimates that one-third of the variation in end-of-life expense is due to local price variations, such as the cost of an inpatient hospital day.

If we now add up the three non-medical factors on end-of-life care discussed so far, we have approximately 50% of the cost due to socio-economic factors,

7. S.B. Ransom, "High Cost of Malpractice Insurance Threatens Supply of OB/GYNs, Especially in Some Urban Areas," *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, 2005, 105: 6; Cited in a press release by Nicole Fawcett at the University of Michigan Health System, June 1, 2005.

such as social supports and income; 33% due to local cost of living variations; and at least 2% due to malpractice environment, totaling approximately 85% of the variation.

The McAllen Fiasco: Lies, Damned Lies, and Statistics

Timed to coincide with Obama's upcoming legislative push for his health-care "reform," the *New Yorker* magazine published a Wennberg-type article on June 1.⁸ The article, purports to show that in the highest-spending Hospital Referral Region in the Wennberg Atlas, an on-site report by a Harvard surgeon, Dr. Atul Gawande, found that the physicians were massively gaming the system with unnecessary hospitalizations and expensive procedures and tests. In "The Cost Conundrum," Gawande reports on his visit to the town of McAllen, in southern Texas, on the border with Mexico.

He writes, "The explosive trend in American medical costs seems to have occurred here in an especially intense form." Gawande states that the end-of-life medical cost in McAllen is twice the national average. He adds that this high cost is not justified by the rates of disease, the rate of poverty, or the outcomes of the treatment. He compares medical costs in McAllen with another Texas border town, El Paso, and states that the two towns "have essentially the same demographics," and then compares medical costs in McAllen with Grand Junction, Colo., but says nothing about the demographics there. He states that El Paso and Grand Junction have much lower medical expenses than McAllen but have similar medical outcomes.

Gawande peppers his article with personal conversations with local physicians, including his subjective impressions of their voice inflections and body language, and quotes several of them as acknowledging the obvious, viz., that there exist significant conflicts of interest when physicians own their own hospitals or labs, and that some physicians take advantage of these conflicts of interest.

According to an article in the *New York Times* of June 9, 2009,⁹ referring to the above piece in the *New*

8. Dr. Atul Gawande, "The Cost Conundrum," *New Yorker*, June 1, 2009.

9. R. Pear, "Health Care Spending Disparities Stir a Fight," *New York Times*, June 9, 2009.

Yorker, “President Obama recently summoned aides to the Oval Office to discuss a magazine article investigating why the border town of McAllen, Tex., was the country’s most expensive place for health care. The article became required reading in the White House, with Mr. Obama even citing it at a meeting last week with two dozen Democratic senators.” The *Times* article continues, “‘He came into the meeting with that article having affected his thinking dramatically,’ said Senator Ron Wyden, Democrat of Oregon. ‘He, in effect, took that article and put it in front of a big group of senators and said, ‘this is what we’ve got to fix.’”

The *Times* article then quotes the Wennberg Atlas, and notes, “The Senate Finance Committee recently suggested that one way to pay for health-care overhaul would be to reduce geographic variations by cutting or capping Medicare payments in ‘areas where per-beneficiary spending is above a certain threshold, compared with the national average.’” The article points out that Wennberg’s research “has become phenomenally influential on Capitol Hill since it was popularized by Peter R. Orszag, as director of the Congressional Budget Office and then as President Obama’s budget director.”

The article states, “Mr. Orszag says health spending could be reduced by as much as 30%, or \$700 billion a year, without compromising the quality of care, if more doctors and hospitals practiced like those in low-cost areas. The supply of hospitals, medical specialists, and high-tech equipment ‘appears to generate its own demand,’ Mr. Orszag said.” The article also notes that there is a fight brewing over this issue. Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) is quoted as saying, “States like Massachusetts are concentrated centers of medical innovation where cutting-edge treatments are tested and some of the nation’s finest doctors are trained. . . . This may cost a little more, but it benefits the entire country.”

The *Times* article ends with references to the work of Drs. Berenson and Hadley, noted above, saying that their research “suggests that much of the geographic variation in health spending can be explained by differences in ‘individual characteristics, especially patients’ underlying health status and a range of socio-economic factors, including income.’”

In a rebuttal to the *New Yorker* article, published in HealthLeaders Media on June 24, 2009, Cheryl Clark interviewed an internist in McAllen, Dr. James Stewart, who said “I am not normally a conspiracy theorist,” but, in researching and writing his article, Gawande “totally brushed off the poverty we live in here.” Stewart went

on to say that by the time many people get to a health provider, they are diabetic, morbidly obese, have some degree of organ failure, and, in some cases, have their first medical encounter in an emergency room.

The Truth About McAllen

A more detailed critique of the *New Yorker* article was published on line at The Health Care Blog on June 29 by Daniel Gilden, entitled “McAllen: A Tale of Three Counties.” Gilden states, “The city of McAllen lies at the center of Hidalgo County, one of the costliest areas for Medicare. The population is racially diverse, low income and exhibits high rates of chronic disease. El Paso is similar to McAllen but with less poverty. Grand Junction is the county seat of Mesa County, a largely white and relatively wealthy region.”



Daniel Gilden

Gilden shows that the annualized Medicare Beneficiary payments are twice as high in McAllen as in El Paso, and three times as high as in Grand Junction (**Table 1**). He next discusses the socio-economic differences between the two populations. “The dissimilarities between the McAllen and Grand Junction county populations are extensive. The socio-demographic characteristics of a population affect its access to care, ability to pay out of pocket for uncovered care and rates of disease associated with diet and life history. The costs of Medicare co-pays and deductibles can be substantial barriers to access, and history of health care coverage and access to preventative care vary substantially based on socio-economic variables. Low-income individuals often reach Medicare enrollment age with a

TABLE 1
Annualized Payments per Medicare Beneficiary by County of Residence, 2006

County	Medicare Enrollees	Medicare Payments
McAllen, Texas	63,770	\$12,384
El Paso, Texas	85,478	\$6,163
Grand Junction, Colorado	22,887	\$4,436

Source: Daniel Gilden, “McAllen: A Tale of Three Counties,” www.thehealthcareblog.com, June 25, 2009.

TABLE 2

Comparative Annualized Payments by County and Need for Premium Assistance, 2006

County	Premium Assistance	
	No (not low income)	Yes (low income)
McAllen, Texas	\$10,012	\$16,518
El Paso, Texas	\$6,709	\$9,374
Grand Junction, Colorado	\$4,853	\$11,425

Source: Daniel Gilden, "McAllen: A Tale of Three Counties," www.thehealthcareblog.com, June 25, 2009.

TABLE 3

Disease and Prevalence by County, 2006

	McAllen	El Paso	Grand Junction
Single Selected Conditions Rate per 1,000			
Diabetes	422	330	145
Ischemic Heart Disease	443	252	211
Heart Failure	168	107	74
Cerebro-Vascular Disease	202	93	56
Chronic Respiratory Disease	266	190	169
Arthritis	405	290	239
Dementia	107	57	51
Parkinson's	20	15	12
Multiple Conditions Population Percentage			
None of the Selected Conditions	23%	36%	46%
One Condition Only	22%	27%	30%
Multiple Conditions	55%	37%	24%

Source: Daniel Gilden, "McAllen: A Tale of Three Counties," www.thehealthcareblog.com, June 25, 2009.

lifetime history of access and cost barriers, a potent mixture. Barriers to access can lead to expensive hospital care for conditions normally treated on an outpatient basis."

Gilden provides the following data: "Grand Junction Medicare enrollees are 98% white and only 11% require assistance in paying for their Medicare Part B premium (a proxy for low income status). In contrast, McAllen and El Paso are both 26% Hispanic and a higher proportion of Medicare beneficiaries rely on Medicaid to pay for Part B—36% in El Paso and 48% in McAllen." McAllen clearly has a higher poverty rate than El Paso, and Gawande's statement that the two populations "have essentially the same demographics," is not consistent with this poverty data.

Gilden then compares Medicare costs for beneficiaries with and without Part B premium assistance (Table 2). "Expenditures are consistently higher for low income beneficiaries, but McAllen is still more expensive than Grand Junction in both income groups—more than 45% more expensive for low-income beneficiaries and more than twice as expensive for those not receiving premium assistance." This partially explains the difference in costs. Gilden then reviews the population disease rates, as indicated in Medicare hospital and physician billing claims. He finds that the rates of disease prevalence is substantially higher in McAllen than in El Paso for each of the major disease categories, and the rates in El Paso are substantially higher than in Grand Junction (Table 3).

For example, per 1,000 population, the rates for diabetes in the three areas are 422, 330, and 145. For ischemic heart disease (not enough blood to the heart muscle, and including heart attack), the numbers are 443, 252, and 211. For cerebro-vascular disease (narrowing of brain arteries, and including stroke) the numbers are 168, 107 and 74. It is also noted that the percentage of patients with more than one of the specified medical conditions is 55% in McAllen, 37% in El Paso, and 24% in Grand Junction.

Gilden then points out that if the patients with diabetes and heart disease are not counted, the monthly payments for Medicare are the same for McAllen and Grand Junction (Table 4). With more sophisticated

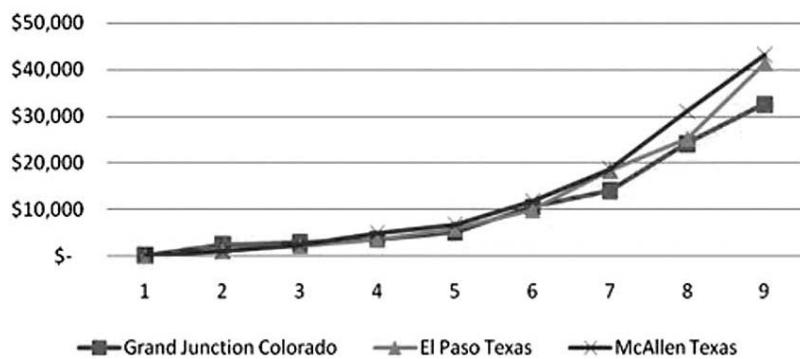
TABLE 4

Medicare Monthly Payments per Patient Without a Diagnosis in the Year for Diabetes or Heart Disease, 2006

County	Medicare Enrollees	Monthly per Person Payments
McAllen, Texas	28,680	\$3,147
El Paso, Texas	47,960	\$2,564
Grand Junction, Colorado	11,160	\$3,307

Source: Daniel Gilden, "McAllen: A Tale of Three Counties," www.thehealthcareblog.com, June 25, 2009.

FIGURE 1
CY 2006 Annual Medical Payments by Risk Score



Source: Daniel Gilden, "McAllen: A Tale of Three Counties," www.thehealthcareblog.com, June 25, 2009.

When patients with equivalent risk are compared, the cost of treatment is very similar in the three indicated towns, with the highest-risk patients varying by only 10% in cost of treatment. This is in stark contrast to the Wennberg calculation of 300%, which does not take risk into account.

techniques of risk assessment based on having multiple conditions as referred to above, the patients with various degrees of risk are remarkably close in their utilization of Medicare services (**Figure 1**), with McAllen at only 10% above Grand Junction, compared with the 300% difference as calculated by Wennberg and quoted in the *New Yorker* article.

In his discussion of the implications of the detailed data, Gilden concludes, "McAllen is different from many areas of the United States: it is sicker and poorer. The observed differences in the rates of chronic disease are highest for those conditions rampant in low income American populations: diabetes and heart disease. Further, Medicare beneficiaries in McAllen have significantly higher rates of co-occurring chronic conditions. As a result the costs of caring for the McAllen Medicare population appears high in comparison to other areas but not abnormally so. McAllen suffers from a tremendous burden, but it is not caused by its physicians: the care they provide leads to costs that are substantially comparable to the other counties in the article once adjustments are made for the magnitude of the health problems they face.

"The disturbing pattern of physician practices uncovered by Dr. Gawande [the conflicts of interests—ed.] sounds a warning not because it foretells a McAllen-like future but because it portrays the ongoing crisis that affects both McAllen and Grand Junction and it is national in scope. Physician culture is only part of the McAllen story. Patients with chronic disease, especially

those with multiple conditions, are extremely costly to treat. Cost savings will not be realized by denouncing and penalizing medical systems because they treat patient populations with high rates of disease. Instead health-care reform must develop policies that support streamlining and coordinating care for beneficiaries with multiple conditions, wherever they reside.

"Policies that support lifetime continuity of coverage, disease prevention and early treatment, could reduce health-care costs for populations who now reach Medicare eligibility with a history of under-service. Physician culture has a role to play: Accountable Care Entities are intended to reduce barriers to access by facilitating care coordination. The high costs of care in places like McAllen will not be dramatically reduced by transforming physician ethics and organization if the roots of the crisis are in the interaction between class, demographics, and chronic disease."

Wennberg's Proposed Fix

Wennberg finds a correlation between resource availability and resource utilization rates. He then proceeds to formulate a model to explain this correlation that involves providers making decisions to maximize utilization in order to maximize revenue. Therefore, his solution to the problem of apparent over-utilization is to cut resources in the areas of high utilization. If his theory were correct, this would make sense. However, his theory is not correct. The actual effect of his proposed cuts would be to withdraw treatment from the most vulnerable part of the population, the part that has the least social supports, the least income, and the least sophistication for working with health-care providers to ensure adequate care.

This is a dangerous proposal. This policy will have an effect equivalent to the Nazi practice of killing off the old and severely ill, what Hitler termed the "lives not worthy to be lived," the "useless eaters." This is not an exaggeration, and this is not a time to pull punches. Real lives are at stake.

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Zepp-LaRouche Declares For Chancellor of Germany

by Our Wiesbaden Staff

The first-ever live webcast by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, national chairwoman of the Civil Rights Solidarity Movement (BüSo), held in Berlin on July 21, delivered the first salvo of the “campaign artillery” with which she will run for Chancellor of Germany. The elections are on Sept. 27, and two more webcasts are to follow in August and September. (The webcast is archived in video in German at www.bueso.de.) It gained attention far beyond Germany, as was evident from numerous questions coming in from viewers as far away as Turkey, but also from other European countries such as Italy, France, Sweden, and Denmark.

Lyndon LaRouche characterized his wife’s webcast as “the best intelligence report on the current strategic situation available from any known public source in Europe.”

Zepp-LaRouche’s candidacy is unique, in that she is the only candidate in these national elections who is directly addressing the character of the present global crisis as a final collapse of the monetarist-imperialist system that has so far dominated (and ruined) world affairs from its banking center in London. She is the only political leader in Germany who has called for bankruptcy reorganization of the insolvent global banking sector, for the creation of a system of sovereign credit, outside the grip of the private banks. As her husband, Lyndon LaRouche, has explained many times, the idea of a *credit* system, rather than a *monetary* system, is at the heart of the American constitutional system, and does not presently exist in Europe. It requires the State to act on behalf of the general welfare, including the

creation of credit for vital infrastructure and other projects for the good of the nation. No private banking system, which places “shareholder value” before the common good, will do this, as the current global catastrophe amply demonstrates.

Mrs. LaRouche has also been the only candidate calling for the development of nuclear power, for the transition of public mass transport to new technologies like the maglev train, and for other aspects of sound development of the real economy.

An Appeal to the Voters

And, most important, she has called on the electorate to stop being so passive and looking on as their elected officials almost succeeded in yielding German sovereignty to the supranational bureaucracy of the European Commission, with the Lisbon Treaty. She has called on the electorate to turn into citizens who really deserve that name, to stand up and vote out all the unprincipled officials, and instead make sure that the newly elected German parliament, the Bundestag, consists of real patriots, prepared to lead their nation to a better future. Too many of the established officials have been complicit in the wrong policies of the past that have led the nation into ruin; so now the nation needs new leaders with a commitment to policies that put an end to the old system and help to rebuild the economy and society.

That is why she is running for Chancellor of Germany, Helga Zepp-LaRouche says in the announcement of her candidacy, which we publish in full below, in English translation.

Germany Needs Another Policy: Why I Am Campaigning for Chancellor

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

The majority?

What is the majority? The majority is nonsense;
Reason requires the efforts of a few.
Does a man who has nothing care about society as
a whole?
Does the beggar have freedom, a choice?
To buy his bread and shoes,
He has to sell his vote to the powerful.
Votes should be weighed, not counted.
Sooner or later, the state will be wrecked
In which majority rules, and ignorance decides.

—Friedrich Schiller, *Demetrius*
Act I, Scene 1, Saphieha

If Germany is to be spared a catastrophic future, we urgently need a fundamental policy change. Although the crisis was caused by the rules of the game of globalization, a system which is completely destroyed, and today is even more bankrupt than the G.D.R. [East Germany] was in November 1989, we only make the situation worse if we continue to subject ourselves to these rules, as the parties that serve in the Bundestag have all been doing, not least in that they voted for the package to bail out the banks' toxic waste.

I am campaigning as a Chancellor candidate because Germany has fallen into the hands of robbers, and citizens feel that there is really nobody to turn to. I am campaigning, because there is a way out.

Why the EU Doesn't Function

However, we have to start out with a realistic assessment of the situation. If we look at the strategic constellation of power in the world, we must, unfortunately, admit that neither Germany nor Europe are decisive factors, when it comes to possible initiatives to solve the crisis. Essentially, we have the policy of Margaret Thatcher, François Mitterrand, and George Bush, Sr. to thank for the fact that Germany, as the price for agreement to its reunification, was forced to give up the



EIRNS/James Rea

Helga Zepp-LaRouche's campaign is demanding that German citizens step forward and help her bring the country out of the calamity that establishment leaders have created. Shown here is BüSo organizing in Berlin. The sign reads, "Obama legalizes mass euthanasia. [German Health Minister] Ulla Schmidt sets up bureaucratic euthanasia. Resist, right from the start!"

deutschemark, and, with it, sovereignty over its currency, and to subject itself to the European Monetary Union and the dictates of the Maastricht Treaty.

But the treaties of Maastricht, Amsterdam, and Nice, as well as the Stability Pact, have had predominantly negative consequences for the other member states of the EU as well. Because the EU Commission, with its dyed-in-the-wool liberal free-trade policy, follows the

demands of the City of London absolutely, and therefore also adheres to the paradigm that is responsible for the crisis. The fact that London wants to define Europe's policies, while refusing to tip its own hand to Brussels, is standard operating procedure for the British Empire.

The nations of Europe have bound and gagged themselves with the Maastricht criteria and the Stability Pact, preventing them from generating state credit for productive investment, and thereby creating unnecessarily high unemployment over a long period of time. There is no question that there was enough money in the till, given that three-digit billions were handed out to the banks and speculators; it's just laughable that they couldn't scrape together the EU 2 or 3 billion needed to build the Transrapid maglev line in Munich.

Meanwhile, the financial crisis has demonstrated the unworkability of this restrictive policy. A great many of the free market's sacred cows were meanwhile slaughtered, yet this failed to stop the free fall of the real economy: Banks were nationalized, stimulus programs were released, rescue parachutes were opened, economic improvement packages were cobbled together, "Bad Banks" were set up, and so forth. All these measures were resorted to by the national governments, not by Brussels.

But as long as the European nations are laced up in the corset that started with all the EU treaties since Maastricht, they deprive themselves of the ways and means to determine their own fates. About 85% of all laws have been made in Brussels for quite some time, rather than in the national capitals. The extent to which the members of the Bundestag see themselves as vassals of an empire, was vividly shown by the April 24, 2008 vote, in which 515 deputies supported a so-called accompanying law "On Extending and Strengthening the Rights of the Bundestag and Bundesrat in European Union Matters," which, far from strengthening these rights, handed them over to Brussels. It took the Federal Constitutional Court's ruling in Karlsruhe on June 30, 2009, to declare the unconstitutionality of this law passed by the Bundestag, and to force the Bundestag to reformulate it! What are we to think about parliamentarians who take their most important function so lightly, namely their duty to represent the people, as spelled out in Article 38 of the Basic Law,¹ that they relinquish it to a supranational bureaucracy that is not

accountable to a single voter?

We are in the midst of a breakdown crisis that has the immediate potential to become the worst crisis in the history of mankind. No solution initiated by Europe can be expected, as long as the governments have surrendered sovereign control over their currencies to an independent European Central Bank, which is, meanwhile, doing just what the Fed and the Bank of England are doing: "quantitative easing"—i.e., "printing money"—and buying up toxic waste. The ECB is strongly committed to Brussels' neoliberal paradigm.

As Chancellor, I would advocate a strong Europe of sovereign republics, which would act jointly to achieve the common aims of mankind.

Who Could Push Through a New Financial Structure?

Therefore, where could an effective initiative come from, to solve the crisis? The most recent conferences of the G8, G20, and the BRIC [Brazil, Russia, India, China—ed.] demonstrated that these combinations of states are simply incapable of working out a solution.

Therefore, despite all the obvious difficulties, Lyndon LaRouche's proposal remains the only solution: that only the four largest nations in the world, namely the U.S.A., Russia, China, and India, could jointly place on the agenda the implementation of a new financial architecture, a New Bretton Woods system, which other sovereign nations could then join. No other combination of states has enough power or the political will to take on the international financial oligarchy. There is very simple proof of this thesis: Despite all the conferences of the G8, G20, and BRIC, the casino economy continues to expand, even though, since the end of July 2007, the collapse has been escalating non-stop. In spite of the enormous declines in the real economy worldwide, nothing has changed; the securitization market, the hedge funds, innovative financial instruments, tax havens, high-risk deals—it's all continuing just as before. Obviously, the governments lack either the power or the will to tackle these financial interests.

The outcome of the conflict in the U.S.A. will mainly determine whether cooperation of the four above-mentioned states will occur. Although 48 of the 50 states in the U.S.A. are effectively insolvent, and the immediate danger exists that the state governments will become dysfunctional due to lack of money, still, if Lyndon LaRouche succeeds in mobilizing patriotic forces to reac-

1. The *Grundgesetz*, or Basic Law, is Germany's Constitution. (All footnotes are added by EIR.)



EIRNS/Guggenbuhl Archive

India's Taj Mahal



EIRNS/Guggenbuhl Archive

St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

The U.S. Capitol



Saad Akhtar

Beijing's Forbidden City

Lyndon LaRouche's proposed alliance of the United States, Russia, China, and India, to initiate a New Bretton Woods system, is the only viable solution to the global crisis. As long as European countries are stripped of their sovereignty by the supranational EU, they cannot act effectively. Return to the sovereign nation-state!

tivate the tradition of Franklin D. Roosevelt, then such a positive perspective would be realistic. Right now, resistance is growing in the United States against the Obama Administration's attempt to ram through brutal cuts in health care, on the British model of NICE (the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence) and QALY ("Quality-Adjusted Life Year"), which, in turn, are modeled on Hitler's Tiergarten-4 euthanasia program.

In Russia, there is a very positive memory of the cooperation with the U.S.A. during the Second World War. Former President Vladimir Putin spoke repeatedly of the necessity of a New Deal for Russia, and in no country was Franklin Roosevelt's 125th birthday com-

memorated so extensively as in Russia itself. If the American administration made Russia an offer to work together in the tradition of Roosevelt, to overcome the world financial and economic crisis, the Russians would certainly accept.

If such cooperation came about between the United States and Russia, no country would be more relieved than China. The U.S. economic collapse has had dramatic consequences for China, due to its dependence upon exports to America; these consequences could only be ended if the U.S.A. and Russia worked together to overcome the economic crisis, using the policies of the New Deal, with which Roosevelt brought the U.S.A. out of the Depression of the 1930s. As I found

out during a visit to New Delhi in December 2008, in many discussions with high-level politicians and institutions, India would immediately join such a combination of the U.S.A., Russia, and China.

Lyndon LaRouche, in his June 27 webcast, underscored that the recent proposals from some politicians, as well as institutions, in Russia and China, to replace the dollar as an international reserve currency with another currency, originate more from desperation about the policies of the Obama Administration so far—policies which, since the G20 summit at the beginning of April in London, are in no way differentiated from those of the British Empire—than from any fundamental policy approach. It is natural that many nations, under these conditions, are desperately looking for ways to survive, and are therefore vulnerable to incompetent advisors.

At the moment that the U.S.A. gives a serious signal of a return to Roosevelt's anti-colonialist intentions, the way would be clear for pursuing a solution.

The fear that is sometimes expressed in Europe, that people don't want to return to a situation in which the U.S.A. wants to run everything unilaterally, reflects a widespread ignorance of history, and especially the history of the American War of Independence against the British Empire, as well as the tradition of the Declaration of Independence of 1776, the touchstone of American history from the Founding Fathers through John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Martin Luther King, to the LaRouche movement today. This policy is based on the idea of an alliance of perfectly sovereign nation-states, bound together in pursuit of the common aims of mankind. It consists of a complete rejection of any form of imperialism and colonialism. If the U.S.A. makes an offer of such cooperation to Russia, China, and India, in the Roosevelt tradition, it would no longer be the America of the Bush Administration and the Obama Administration which is presently on the wrong track, but it would be the America of the American Constitution.

But the fear mentioned above also reflects lack of knowledge of German history, particularly of Chancellor Otto von Bismarck's relationship to Lincoln's economic policy, which transformed Germany from a feudal country into one of the most modern industrial nations. Germany made this leap, to which we owe our current prosperity, because Bismarck's reforms put into effect what [German and American economist] Friedrich List had previously identified as the "American System," as

distinguished from the "British System" of economics.

If the BüSo were represented in the Bundestag, we would work for productive credit creation, such as was used by the KfW,² for example, during the postwar reconstruction period, on the model of Roosevelt's Reconstruction Finance Corporation: State credits were made available for productive investments so as to achieve full, productive employment.

The Breakdown Crisis Escalates

Don't fall for fairy tales: When you hear the same politicians and economists who were so positive about their prior forecasts that turned out to be completely off the mark, now promising with equal confidence that "we've hit bottom" or even that "green sprouts" of an upswing are appearing, you can be sure that this is pure propaganda. Such statements either come from people who want to keep playing the casino economy as before, or from politicians who just want to get through the Bundestag elections on Sept. 27 without upsetting the voters too much. But it is highly questionable whether reality will stick to the election schedule and desires of German politicians.

If the parties that are now represented in the Bundestag stay there, the most brutal austerity policy looms after the election: austerity which will slam every single person's standard of living. The situation on the international financial markets is so tense, that even the tiniest mistake could lead to a new phase of breakdown. The likelihood of avoiding an even bigger crash between now and the end of October is extremely slight. At any rate, soon all the patchwork solutions will be exhausted, ranging from the government's bonuses to people who scrap their old cars, to reduction of working hours ("short work"). We have to expect an increase in unemployment next year, far beyond the officially forecast 5.1 million. Since the orders of the German auto-makers, for machine building and exports, have taken a hit of 30-50% in recent months, the tax revenues of the Federal government, the states, and the municipalities will suffer substantial losses, and many public jobs will either be cut back or will not be able to continue at all.

Expecting precisely that, the executive board of the private Rhön Clinic boasts that it has already put to-

2. The Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, or Reconstruction Finance Agency, was established in 1948 as part of the Marshall Plan, to provide credit for rebuilding Germany's devastated economy after the war. See "How Germany Financed Its Postwar Reconstruction," *EIR*, June 25, 1999.



German Ministry of Finance

State Secretary in the Finance Ministry Jörg Asmussen is determined to keep the global casino economy going, just as it did before the crash.

gether a war chest of EU1 billion (!) for the end of the year, anticipating that if many municipalities no longer have the money to operate their public hospitals, because of falling tax revenues, the Rhön Clinic will buy them up.

Under these circumstances, there will be no rebound, but a dramatic further crash, because the responsible governments have, in the two years (!) since the outbreak of the crisis at the end of July 2007, pumped an enormous quantity of liquidity—approximately \$20 trillion—into the financial system, to prop up the toxic waste, the worthless securities, while doing basically nothing to eliminate the causes of the crisis.

If an airplane crashes or a train is derailed, there is immediately an extensive, often years-long investigation of the causes of the accident, meticulously analyzing what factors played a role, where the weak spots were, and how things could be improved so that similar accidents could be avoided in the future. Yet astonishingly, in this collapse, which is going far beyond the Great Depression and has already destroyed enormous capacities in the real economy worldwide, the officials have still not conducted any competent analysis of the causes.

The reason is, obviously, that some members of the government and Bundestag deputies would have to investigate themselves: to what extent they supported the interests of the financial markets in Germany (and of course, not to their personal detriment!). Meanwhile, the TV programs “Report” and “Monitor” ran identical reports on a person whose career has been synonymous

with deregulation and the opening of the German financial sector to hedge funds and holding companies.

Jörg Asmussen, who is only 43 years old, can already look back on a 13-year uninterrupted career at the Finance Ministry, where he went from being a personal assistant, to becoming State Secretary—and this, regardless of whether the Finance Minister was named Waigel, Lafontaine, Eichel, or Steinbrück. Among his achievements was his work with the True Sale International (TSI) lobby organization, in launching the securitization market in Germany, as well as getting a demand included in the 2005 coalition agreement³ to eliminate “superfluous regulations.” Asmussen sat on the Board of Advisors of TSI, as well as on the Board of Directors of

IKB, which lost over EU6 billion in the American real estate market, and then, after a substantial increase in its capital stock from German taxpayers’ money, was sold for a ridiculously low sum to the American locust fund Lone Star.

He also served as a representative of the Finance Ministry on the Board of Directors of BaFin,⁴ and now is a member of the steering committee of the SoFFin bank-bailout fund, which decides on handing out taxpayers’ money to ailing banks, and of the Wirtschaftsfond Deutschland [German Economic Fund], which decides, with no parliamentary oversight, which businesses receive government credit guarantees. Asmussen was also charged with the preparations for the G20 summit in London, and is now a member of the six-member expert group that is supposed to make proposals on new regulations for the financial markets.

In a contribution to the July-August edition of *The Quarterly Review*, the magazine of the Washington Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Asmussen left no doubt that he wants everything to stay just the way it was: “The future financial system has to continue to be global, interconnected, and reliant on open global trade and free capital flows across jurisdictions. Large, complex financial institutions will con-

3. The agreement to form a “Grand Coalition” government headed by Christian Democrat Angela Merkel, and including her party, its Bavarian partner the Christian Social Union, and the Social Democratic Party. Neither major party had enough votes in the election to govern without the other.

4. The Federal Bank Supervisory Authority.

tinue to operate in multiple jurisdictions in order to meet the needs of their large global clients. . . .”

Even though Asmussen demands “robust regulations,” he definitely is one of those who puts out propaganda about a couple of corrections being needed, but only in order that the system will remain essentially the same.

Could it really be, that Asmussen is an agent of the financial oligarchy? If it walks like a bear, looks like a bear, eats like a bear, and smells like a bear, then is it likely to be a bear?

And so, it is no wonder that the casino economy is going full-steam ahead, when “innovative financial instruments” are seen by the Berlin Finance Ministry just as positively as they were before. Instead of banning hedge funds and holding companies, [Chancellor Angela] Merkel only demands “greater transparency”; the securitization market is again in full swing; and Mr. Ackermann⁵ is once again promising 25% returns on investment—rates that were only achieved previously in the highest-risk parts of the financial bubble. The American insurance company AIG, which swallowed a total of \$180 billion in taxpayers’ money, is now once again paying out multi-digit billions in bonuses, and in London the word is “BAB” (“Bonuses Are Back”). The next, even more dramatic, crash is pre-programmed to occur very, very soon.

If this were all occurring in a “Monopoly” game, one could just say, “Let some people gamble, and the others will work and have a human life.” But, unfortunately, the gambling mentality and the conduct of its sympathizers among politicians have consequences in real life: They destroy our very existence and shorten human lives.

The Need for an Investigatory Commission

At the instant that the BüSo is elected to the Bundestag, it will push for an investigatory commission in the tradition of the Pecora Commission in the United States, which, after the Crash of 1929, looked into the role played by criminal activity such as insider trading, corruption, and market manipulation. Prosecutor Ferdinand Pecora had the authority to subpoena and question the top bankers. He published his report on these hearings in the book *Wall Street Under Oath*. On the basis of this investigation, Franklin D. Roosevelt was then able to get the Glass-Steagall law passed, which made it a

5. Josef Ackermann, the chairman of Deutsche Bank.

crime for public and commercial banks to engage in speculation.

The new Pecora Commission today must, among other things, investigate who was responsible for all the deregulation; whether deals like so-called “cross-border leasing,” e.g., the sale of municipal infrastructure to international investors, were promoted only out of incompetence, or with fraudulent intent; whether German politics also has the “revolving door problem” that exists, for example, between Washington and New York, where politicians move into the financial sector and vice versa. One question that would have to be asked, is whether, in doling out three-digit billions of taxpayers’ money to save banks that are supposedly “systemically relevant,” this systemic relevance consists of the fact that the banks’ toxic waste is wrapped up in certain investments by specific categories of private investors, or was the purpose to keep the “system” of the casino economy going? The investigation must result in laws that put a stop to all of this.

Finance Minister Peer Steinbrück’s zigzag course shows either gross incompetence or actual ill will: On the one hand, he accused [British Prime Minister] Gordon Brown of “crude Keynesianism,” but then he threw billions of tax money to ailing banks, only then to allow the creation of “Bad Banks”; and when none of this helped, he proposed that the State itself should give credits to the banking industry; but then, plagued by worry about inflation, he reported enthusiastically about the anchoring of the “debt brake” in the Basic Law. According to this plan, the individual states would essentially not be allowed to incur any new debt from 2020 on, and the Federal government’s debt would be limited to 0.35% of gross domestic product. Those who are responsible for the bank bailout packages that have incurred Germany’s largest new debt, and other parliamentarians who voted for the debt “brake,” seem to see no problem with the fact that the Federal government would have virtually no more flexibility to extend credits for public projects, infrastructure, investment in education, etc. It is also completely counterproductive, that right before the election campaign, a debate is going on that pits guaranteed pensions for the elderly against justice for the youth: To the extent that politics is now governed by the interests of the financial markets, neither the old nor the young will get anything. These people haven’t got the foggiest idea about the real economy.

The essential point remains whether we can succeed

in overcoming the current crisis, which will depend on the readiness of the above-mentioned countries, and others, to draw the only possible conclusion from the insolvency of the globalization system: that the system must be put through bankruptcy reorganization, to erase the toxic waste from the banks' books, and to replace the bankrupt monetary system by a credit system, dedicated exclusively to building the physical economy.

Interestingly enough, the last prime minister of the G.D.R., Lothar de Maiziere, compared the international economic crisis with the end of the G.D.R. Many west Germans treat this as a crisis within the system, he said, whereas many east Germans conceive of the financial crisis as a crisis of the system. "We feel that this is very similar to what we lived through before," he emphasized. And so it is.

I forecast precisely this, back in 1989-90, when I warned against imposing, on the bankrupt communist economy of that time, the equally bankrupt free-market economy. I warned that it would certainly be possible to gain a couple of years by primitive accumulation, stripping wealth from the former Comecon states and the so-called Third World, as cheap-labor markets, but that this would lead to an all the more dramatic collapse. That is exactly the point at which we find ourselves today.

The Danger of a New Fascism

Meanwhile, various individuals and publications admit that today's crisis far surpasses the Depression of the 1930s in its severity and extent. Therefore, there is nothing more misleading than the formulation, "after the crisis," this or that must happen. Because the question is, with what policy do we react to the crisis? And there are, in principle, the same alternatives which existed in the 1930s, even if with some differences: Either the consequences of the crisis will be shifted onto the population, through a massive reduction in living standards, in the tradition of the process which led from the Müller government, through Brüning, up to Schacht and Hitler; or, we choose the policy of Roosevelt, who led the U.S.A. out of the Depression in the 1930s, with the help of the New Deal.

If the current policy is not changed, the crisis threatens to become dramatically much worse than that in the 1930s, because, due to globalization, all the markets in



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Lothar de Maiziere, who was at the time of this picture the last prime minister of East Germany, gives his government declaration, April 19, 1990. He said recently that many eastern Germans compare the current crisis of the system with the demise of the communist state, whereas western Germans see it as merely a crisis within the system.

the world economy have been closely interwoven. Since the end of July 2007 we have seen how the "cluster risk" of the casino economy has fully come to pass: What was triggered by the collapse of the so-called sub-prime real estate market in the U.S.A., led not only to a worldwide banking crisis, but also to enormous slumps in the real economy and world trade, from which not a single country in the world has been spared.

Thanks to Alan Greenspan's gift of "innovative financial instruments," the banks, internationally, are sitting on approximately \$1.5 quadrillion (\$1,500,000,000,000,000) of toxic waste. At least that was the amount cited by Jacques Attali, the former advisor to the late French President François Mitterrand, who also warned about a planetary "Weimar 1923." The combination of, first, deflation, and then worldwide hyperinflation, with its almost inconceivable consequences for famine and pandemics, of which the swine flu is only the most obvious current example, would lead to ungovernability. Even today, the world's sixth-largest economy, California, isn't far away from that condition, since most banks are no longer accepting the IOUs issued by the government, and essential social programs are being cut. A collapse far greater than the consequences of the Great Depression of the 1930s threatens to throw us into chaos, in which the world population could shrink very quickly to just a few billion people.

There is also a parallel to the 1930s in that then, as

A sign of the times: California, the world's sixth-largest economy, is issuing IOUs to its creditors instead of checks, and essential social services are being cut.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA 92-
 THE TREASURER OF THE STATE WILL PAY OUT OF THE
 IDENTIFICATION NO. 0820 FUND NO. 0001 FUND NAME GENERAL FUND
 This REGISTERED WARRANT will be honored on or after 10/02/2009 unless it's approved for earlier redemption pursuant to Gov Code Section 17221.5
 ISSUE DATE 07/07/2009 DOLLARS \$9510.00 CENTS
 JOHN CHIANG
 CALIFORNIA STATE CONTROLLER

REGISTERED WARRANT

Due to the State of California's severe cash crisis, your payment is being made with the enclosed registered warrant, also known as an IOU.

A registered warrant is a "promise to pay," with interest, that is issued by the State when there is not enough cash to meet all of the State's payment obligations. Registered warrants are legally negotiable instruments that bear a maturity date of October 2, 2009. IOUs may be redeemed, with interest, by the State Treasurer on or after October 2, 2009. If the Pooled Money Investment Board (PMIB) determines there is sufficient cash available for redemption at an earlier date, they may be redeemed earlier than October 2, 2009. These IOUs are issued in the place of regular warrants, or checks. The interest rate, set by the State Pooled Money Investment Board on July 2, 2009, is 3.75% per year.

Some financial institutions may choose to honor IOUs before the maturity date. If your financial institution honors the IOU, you may "cash" the warrant as you would any other check. Contact your financial institution to determine its policy on accepting IOUs.

today, the international cartels and financial conglomerates, the power base of the financial oligarchy, are supporting fascist solutions for the crisis. Then, it was the corporatism of Mussolini and the Schachtian austerity of Hitler. Back in 1971, economist Abba Lerner said in a debate with Lyndon LaRouche at Queens College in New York City: "If the political parties in the 1930s had accepted Hjalmar Schacht's policy, then Hitler would not have been necessary." Today, Schacht has apparently been widely accepted. Indeed, nothing else but that is meant, when the interests of the banks and the speculators have been asserted at the expense of the living standards of the population.

There Is No Life Unworthy of Living!

Under the shock effect of the atrocities committed by the National Socialists, there was, in the first decades after the war, an international consensus that euthanasia would never again be allowed. "Never again!" and "Resist the beginnings" were, for a long time, the slogans which represented this commitment. In the phase of Germany's reconstruction out of the rubble fields, despite the deprivations, there was an optimistic vector of development. An enormous will on the part of the German people to rebuild, and an economic policy based on the right principles, led in a few years to the German economic miracle so admired around the world.

During this period, the German health-care system developed into one of the best in the world. At the same

time, so-called Development Decades were being discussed at the United Nations, combined with the idea that the underdevelopment of the developing countries could be overcome once and for all through the development of agriculture and industry.

But, by the 1960s, the political, cultural, and economic paradigm-shift began, where the causes for today's global crisis are ultimately to be found. In 1968, there emerged not only the movement named after that year, but also one of the most important organizations was founded, which set in motion this shift in values, virtually as a PR firm for the international oligarchy: the Club of Rome. With enormous resources at its disposal, it put books into circulation worldwide, which replaced the former belief that the problem of the so-called Third World lay in underdevelopment, with the idea that overpopulation was the real problem. The thesis of "Limits to Growth" and the alleged scarcity of resources was disseminated.

Although MIT professors Meadows and Forrester, who contributed to this book,⁶ later admitted that their computer models had been written in such a way that the result they wanted had been predetermined, and that they had consciously left out of their model, scientific and technological progress as the element which defines what a natural raw material is, the basis for the establishment of the ecology movement had been prepared. Within a few years, man was no longer seen as a creative individual, who, with the help of scientific discoveries and their application to the production process,

6. Donella H. Meadows, Dennis L. Meadows, Joergen Randers, and William W. Behrens III, *Limits to Growth* (New York: Universe Books, 1972). The book was based on a technique known as systems dynamics, developed by MIT's Jay Forrester.

could steadily raise the level of life expectancy and the quality of life. Step by step, the image of man was transformed into that of a factor polluting the environment, using up resources, a creature whose numbers should best be reduced.

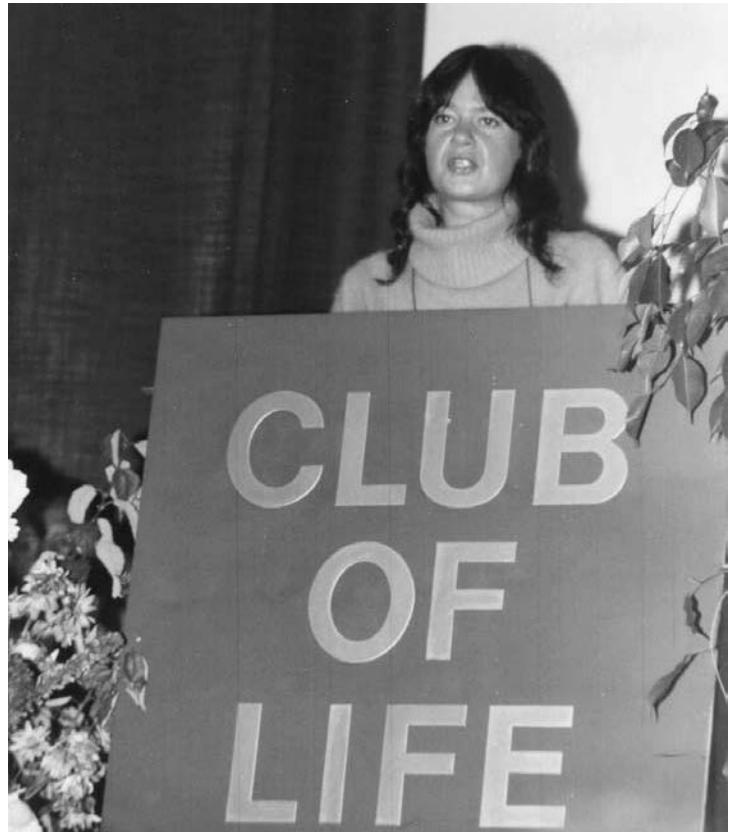
At the UN Population conference in Bucharest in 1974, in which I participated, the thesis of so-called overpopulation put forward by John D. Rockefeller III was ridiculed by all the non-governmental organizations as a “Rockefeller Baby.” But the implementation that same year of National Security Study Memorandum 200, written by Henry Kissinger, then the National Security Advisor to Richard Nixon, went a long way towards manipulating international opinion about this theme. In that Memorandum, the claim was asserted, baldly and simply, that the natural resources of the world were strategic security interests of the United States, and that the United States had the right to coerce the governments in the relevant countries to reduce their populations, if necessary through deployment of the food weapon.

In the early 1980s, the worldwide propaganda crusades of organizations such as the Club of Rome, the World Wildlife Fund, the Trilateral Commission, the Bilderbergers, and an immense number of other oligarchical think tanks had already had such an effect on public opinion, that the principle of the inviolability of human life and dignity for *all* people on this planet, had already widely been pushed aside by cost-effectiveness calculations. The theses of overpopulation and resource shortages had achieved a Darwinian, latently racist outlook in broad sections of the world population.

The Right to Life

In the face of that, in 1982 I founded the Club of Life, explicitly as a counter-organization to the Club of Rome: It had, and has, the goal of defending the Christian-humanist image of man, which distinguishes man by his creative capacity for reason, from all other forms of life. Cardinal Nicolaus of Cusa, whom I highly treasure, the founder of modern natural science and of the modern sovereign nation-state, defined man in his writings as *imago viva Dei*, the living image of God, who emulates the most noble qualities of God the Creator, and thus carries forward the process of Creation.

The inviolable dignity of man results from this unique characteristic, which Nicolas of Cusa calls *vis*



EIRNS

Helga Zepp-LaRouche addresses a meeting of the Club of Life in Germany, circa 1982. She founded the organization specifically to counter the malthusian propaganda of the Club of Rome.

creativa, and which enables men to be *capax dei*, to have the capability of participating in God, through creative activity. For this reason, man is actually the “crown of Creation,” as it is expressed in *Genesis* 1:26, and not the mere steward of nature, or a more highly developed ape. Man is the only form of life that can, through his creative insight into the laws of the physical universe, realize continual scientific and technological progress. When this progress is applied to the production process, the productivity of labor power rises, as do productive capacities, population potential, as well as the quality and span of life.

From this image of man, from which come the capacity of man for selfless love of one’s neighbor—*agapē*—and free will, arises the inalienable right to life for man in all phases of his existence. The only institution that can protect this human right is the sovereign nation-state, which must be committed to defend the general welfare, that is, all its citizens in their essential humanity. Precisely this principle of law, of “inviolable

and inalienable human rights,” is guaranteed in Article 1 of the Basic Law, and fortunately, the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe identified these principles of law as eternal rights, in its decision on the constitutional complaint against the Lisbon Treaty, also citing Article 20, which defines the identity of Germany as a social state.

The Club of Life, in numerous publications and seminars, has, for 27 years, defended this inviolable right to life, at all important inflection points at which there were attempts to abridge or abolish it in subtle ways. Be it the dangerous, sophisticated arguments of bioethicists such as Peter Singer; euthanasia in Holland; pre-implantation diagnostics; withdrawal of food from comatose patients; physician-assisted suicide; flat-rate per-patient payment to doctors; or the “living will,” the Club of Life has always sought to defend the principle of life, and to point out the dangers of setting out down the “slippery slope.”

There was a dramatic worsening of the German health-care system starting in 1992, as a result of a pact between then-Health Minister Horst Seehofer and Social Democratic expert on social issues Rudolf Dressler; the outcome brought about the first step in budgeting, as well as competition between public health insurance agencies. These policies demolished the barriers to thinking in cost-benefit terms. Since then, a scandalous, now life-threatening underfinancing and shortage has developed, such that, for some time, there has been hidden euthanasia, rationing of health care, and “prioritization.” For a certain portion of the population, the same situation with respect to health-care provisioning exists as in the Third World. This is the appraisal of a Catholic nun.

For a long time, there has been a trend toward flat-rate compensation of doctors, so that “expensive patient groups” are simply out of luck: The patient is no longer treated as a person, but as a profitable disease category. All this developed under the CDU/CSU/FDP government, then went further under the red-green [Social Democratic/Green] government, and now under the Grand Coalition.

If the current attack by the locust funds on the health-care sector is successful, and the private clinics and health maintenance organizations snap up the public hospitals and the established doctors’ practices, then accessible neighborhood health care will simply no longer be available for many patients, and for many—first a quarter, then a third, and then even more pa-

tients—this clearly means shortening their life span. If the financial collapse goes into the next, apparently final round, then all of Germany will also soon have a health-care situation like that in Calcutta [Kolkata].

When the president of the German Medical Association, Prof. Jörg-Dietrich Hoppe⁷ pointed out, in his keynote address at this year’s German Medical Association convention in Mainz, that there is already covert rationing of health care in Germany, and that this must be openly discussed, so that a public debate can decide whether more money should be made available for medical infrastructure, or whether there should be professional decision-making on prioritization, Health Minister Ulla Schmidt indignantly puffed herself up, and called this proposal “rather inhuman.”

The reality is, however, that under the aegis of this Mrs. Schmidt and her health-care reform in Germany, there is already a glaring underfunding of the health sector, which *is* inhuman, because the so-called “cap” on costs means that many patients will no longer be adequately cared for, or will be burdened with high co-payments, even though they have paid into the health funds throughout their lives. Self-employed doctors are told to rely on a smaller contingent of profitable patients, and no longer care for those who are expensive, the chronically ill, although there is sometimes no health-care alternative in rural areas. The situation in most hospitals is moving in a similar direction: Beds are left unoccupied because there’s a lack of nursing personnel, and so forth—the examples go on and on.

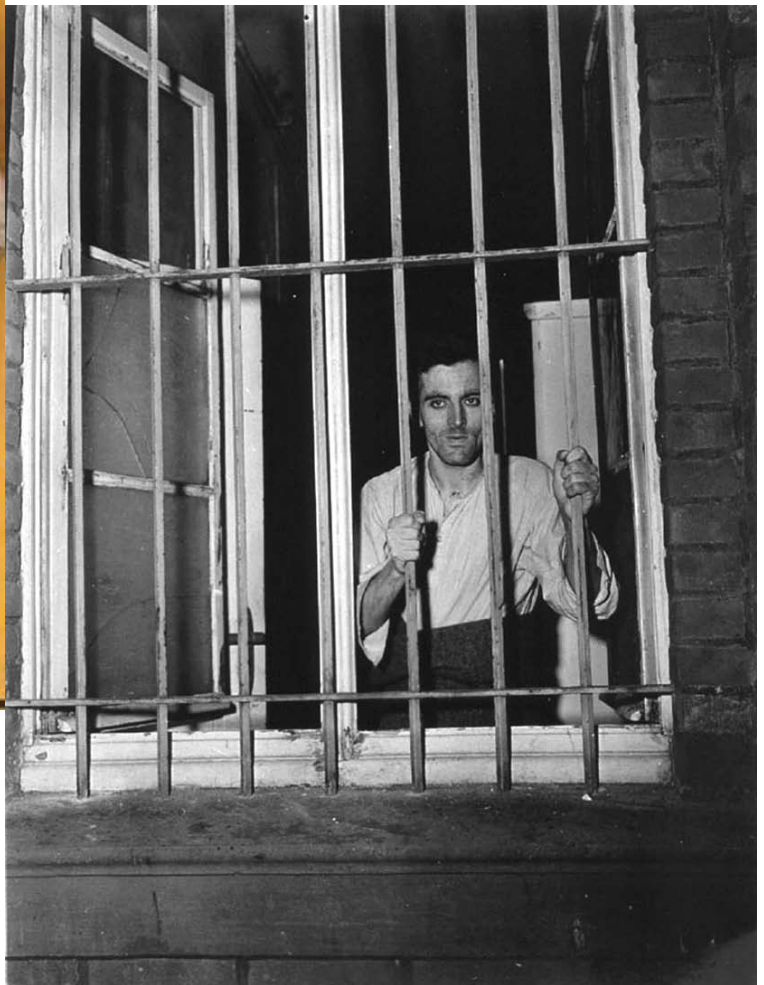
Even if the situation in Germany is not, of course, as blatant as it is in England, where NICE and programs like Quality-Adjusted Life Years (QALY) brutally deny treatment for certain age groups and categories of patients; or, as in the U.S.A., where the Obama Administration is trying to ram through a health-care reform in which 30% of costs would be cut, we should not kid ourselves: We in Germany are only a few small steps behind!

The argument that in times of rising unemployment and growing state expenses, limited financial resources are available, and therefore that cuts in expenditures must be made, should not be tolerated in any case. The hundreds of billions that have been doled out to the deadbeat banks, should in no case lead to cuts at the expense of the patients in the health-care system—as

7. See interview conducted by Mrs. LaRouche with Dr. Hoppe in *EIR*, June 5, 2009.



Nazi eugenics propaganda from Neues Volk, the monthly journal of the Nazi Party's Race Policy Department. The title reads, "This hereditary defective costs society 60,000 Reichsmarks in his lifetime. Fellow Germans, that is your money."



At Hadamar Hospital in Germany, the Nazis killed more than 10,000 handicapped people between January and August of 1941.

Office of Management and Budget director Peter Orszag has outrageously demanded in the United States. In Germany, we should be especially sensitive, when what is at issue is cost-benefit criteria being applied to the health-care system.

The medical advisor at the Nuremberg Doctors' Trials, Dr. Leo Alexander, wrote in his notes that, ultimately, it was Hegelian-utilitarian thinking that led to euthanasia in Nazi Germany. He wrote (in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1949): "Whatever proportions these crimes finally assumed, it became evident to all who investigated them that they had started from small beginnings. The beginnings at first were merely a subtle shift in the emphasis in the basic attitude of the physicians. It started with the acceptance of the attitude, basic in the euthanasia movement, that there is such a thing as life not worthy to be lived. This attitude in its early stages concerned itself merely with the severely and chronically sick. Gradually the sphere of those to be included in this category was enlarged to encompass the socially unproductive, the ideologically unwanted, the racially unwanted and finally all non-

Germans. But it is important to realize that the infinitely small wedged-in lever from which this entire trend of mind received its impetus was the attitude toward the nonrehabilitatable sick.

"It is, therefore, this subtle shift in emphasis of the physicians' attitude that one must thoroughly investigate."

This "subtle shift in emphasis" has already been in process in Germany for a while, not initiated by the doctors, but by the "health economists," who inserted cost-accounting calculations into the health-care system, and by unscrupulous investors, who see the health sector as the next cash cow for speculation. At the moment when the Hippocratic Oath and the inalienable right to life no longer define the relationship between doctor and patient, we have already started down the slippery slope from which there is no way back, es-

pecially in times of economic collapse.

Developments in California give a taste of this danger. After the “Terminator” Schwarzenegger had brutally slashed social programs, several chronically ill people appealed to the population before the TV cameras, in a state of utter hopelessness, and warned that, without the medicine they urgently required, they would die in a few days. In France, the Union of Emergency Doctors has begun a mobilization for signatures and resistance against the latest health-care law of President Nicolas Sarkozy, in the tradition of the Resistance movement against the Nazis, the CNR. Under the name of the National Council of Resistance, the doctors committed themselves to allow all who need medical care into the public hospitals. “No patient is a piece of merchandise; our hospitals are not businesses where a pseudo-CEO can decide tomorrow what care is good and what bad, or what medical project the physicians ‘under his boot’ must carry out,” they declared.

The law recently passed by the Bundestag and Bundesrat for patient end-of-life directives is an expression of nothing else but this “small shift in emphasis.” This allegedly liberal law, which instructs doctors to carry out the individuals’ will as to how they want their situation to be handled when they are no longer capable of giving consent, is in reality an expression of the distorted scale of value within the paradigm-shift (as in *analysis situs*). In a social situation in which older people are made to feel that they are just demographic ballast, spoiling the future and the living standard for younger people, naturally, pressure grows on the older generation to cease being a burden on their offspring.

Naturally, self-determination is a precious good, and the possibility that one could lose one’s autonomy in old age, is something which one must confront. But, it is the illness which is now the enemy of self-determination. There are studies which prove that people with life-threatening illnesses can have a completely different attitude, and entrust themselves to the medical authorities in their hour of need. It has also been proven that a large number of people who sign a patient directive, do so because they have no social support network. Would it not be more conducive to human dignity, to reform society so that, in an environment shaped by the spirit of the general welfare, everyone has a social network?

In one of his first sermons, Pope Benedict XVI expressed his concern over the “culture of death” and a growing acceptance of euthanasia. Even if the patient’s

end-of-life directive doesn’t go as far as the legalized active euthanasia against a patient’s will in Holland, or the “death tourism” in Switzerland, the question remains why majorities in the Bundestag and Bundesrat, in the face of such a dramatically heightened economic crisis, are now in such a hurry to approve a law which involves, among other factors, a factor of saving money. We are treading down the slippery slope.

With the BüSo in the Bundestag, there would be a chance to reverse the privatization of the health-care sector and to put it under the protection of the general welfare, to which the state is obligated. When we have full productive employment again, we will also be able to afford a health-care system such as we had in 1992.

The Condition of Democracy in Germany

Members of the BüSo have most frequently heard, in their discussions with citizens at their literature tables, the assertion, “But you can’t do anything about it.” Among the overwhelming majority of the lower 70% of income brackets, there has long been a feeling of helplessness to exercise the least bit of influence on political events in this country. Just as bad for democracy is the widespread feeling that only the high income brackets can assert their rights, while the common citizen has no one to turn to, if he is oppressed by political developments.

Why this is so, was highlighted once again dramatically, when the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe handed down a historically significant ruling on the law approving the Lisbon Treaty, and the accompanying law for the strengthening and expansion of the rights of the Bundestag and Bundesrat in the affairs of the European Union.⁸ The court declared the Lisbon Treaty constitutional, but exclusively in the interpretation formulated at Karlsruhe. Accordingly, the EU is no Federal state, as the unfettered Lisbon Treaty had otherwise constituted it, but remains an alliance of sovereign states. Further, the ruling identified as impermissible any change of the Basic Law, as far as it affects or weakens Article 1 (inviolability of human dignity) and Article 20 (the identity of Germany as a democratic and social state, Federal statehood and the republican principle, the people as sovereign, and the principle of the constitutional state).

8. See “German High Court Insists on National Sovereignty,” an interview conducted by *EIR* with constitutional law expert Dietrich Murswiek, *EIR*, July 17, 2009.

Furthermore, the court stressed that European integration should not lead to the erosion of the democratic ruling principle in Germany. This explicit emphasis is important, because Section 4 of Article 20, which establishes the right of resistance against anyone who wants to change Germany's identity, was first added with the emergency laws of 1968, and according to the commonly accepted interpretation of constitutional law, does not belong to the principles protected by the so-called perpetual guarantee. Since constitutional lawyers debate whether the right of resistance applies before the state system is endangered, or only after government violations against the Constitution, such an affirmation is very useful.

The scandalous condition in which German democracy finds itself, is illuminated by yet another aspect of the ruling, in that it declares the accompanying law to be unconstitutional, because it does not contain provisions for the constitutionally prescribed arrangements for parliamentary participation. In other words: Instead of strengthening and expanding the rights of the Bundestag and Bundesrat vis-à-vis Brussels, these two bodies had given away these rights in 2008—and thus violated Article 38 of the Basic Law, which defines the role of the elected official as a representative of the people. Instead of creating the legal foundation for defending the German population, if necessary, from the overreach of a supranational bureaucracy, they handed over all these rights to precisely this bureaucracy! Only a handful of the elected officials had even read this 250-page Treaty (plus commentary), which is written quite deliberately in the most incomprehensible German legalese.

Obviously, this mode of behavior has occurred with other legislation adopted by the Bundestag. The neoliberal Friedrich Merz, of all people, describes in a commentary about why he is not running again for a seat in the Bundestag, that it was not one iota better during the vote on health-care reform. The Bundestag was forced flying blind, he writes, into a vote on the more than 500-page omnibus volume, which was neither readable nor understandable, and to which, on the day of the vote, more than 100 pages of changes were added. Except for a couple of specialists, most of the elected officials didn't understand anything they were voting on, and that didn't even bother them! This passage of the health-care reform reflects, according to Merz, a shift of power from the parliament towards the government [the executive], which in no way can be seen as in accord with the rules of parliamentary democracy.

Merz goes on to say that seldom have such a large number of especially younger Bundestag colleagues been put under such massive pressure by the government and the heads of their parliamentary caucuses; individual elected officials were massively threatened that their careers would be terminated. For many elected officials who have been dependent economically on politics for a long time, acquiescence would become an existential question. One third of the elected officials are members of the government or in parliamentary functions close to the government; another third would like to get there as quickly as possible. It is no surprise, Merz writes, that not many could muster the self-confidence to stand up to the government.

As Merz stated upon announcing his departure from the Bundestag, "We have had such a 'entanglement of powers' among the branches of government, as the Constitutional Court put it, taking on dimensions such that heavy damage has been inflicted on the Bundestag in its unique function, namely, to control the government, and be responsible to the voters. Such a parliament, objectively seen, can no longer carry out its key mission." Since the voters have realized this, somehow or other, the strongest party today is that of the non-voters. It would have been much better for democracy had Merz had made his observations in a speech in the Bundestag, rather than after he had switched over into industry, when it cost him nothing to do so.

Thus, the following picture emerges: The government shapes the political parameters as the financial interests want—as seen with True Sale International, the EU treaty, and privatization of health care. The Bundestag then rubberstamps the laws, without reading them; and the citizens are the victims, because the elected officials, as has been proven, do *not* see themselves as representatives of the people. Then, the taxpayers can pay off the billions in gambling losses, and are permitted to die earlier, if all this has made them too poor to afford medical care.

Because our beautiful Germany is going under like this, and because we must not let this happen, that is why I will run as a candidate for Chancellor. Now the responsibility lies with you, the voters.

Germany, the Land of Poets and Thinkers?

We find ourselves in a systemic collapse, and this hits not only the financial system, the real economy, and the political sphere, but also culture as well. If we look at Germany from the only standpoint from which we



Alexander von Humboldt



Library of Congress

Albert Einstein

Germany was once truly the land of poets and thinkers (prominent examples are shown here), but today we live in a dark age! Zepp-LaRouche's campaign will seek to revive Classical culture and scientific inquiry, particularly among the youth.



Johann Sebastian Bach



Johannes Kepler

should, namely the standpoint of Germans such as Nicolaus of Cusa, Kepler, Leibniz, Bach, Mendelssohn, Lessing, Schiller, the vonHumboldts, Gauss, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Riemann, and Einstein, then we find that we are, now, in a dark age. Our so-called elites are decadent; our population in general, except for some small circles, is thoroughly cut off from its cultural roots; the dominant youth culture, and reality in general, essentially give the young people, under present

conditions, no perspective at all for the future. Life is not at all fair to the “crisis kids”; no wonder then, that they become more ill-behaved all the time.

One of the essential reasons why Germany today appears to be a complete cultural wasteland—and on this practically everyone agrees with me—lies in the unbelievably banalizing and stultifying entertainment industry for people of all ages. By a precise examination, one can determine that, here too, the same financial interests pull the strings, whether it has to do with private television fare, film and recording studios, publication houses, or social networking sites on the Internet. They all function on the principle of bread and circuses. Through shallow entertainment, consumers are turned into mass-oriented creatures, other-directed and manipulable, equally whether its a matter of country music shows or the rock band Rammstein.

What should we do then, when today we find ourselves in a condition similar to what Schiller described in his *Aesthetical Letters*, on the situation after the failed French Revolution? Where should changes come from, if the politicians are underlings, the managers corrupt, the artists of the current culture full of drugs, and the masses brutalized?

The answer is the same one Schiller gives in these letters: Political change is only possible through the ennoblement of the individual, and one of the most important media for this purpose is Classical art, indeed Classical music equally with Classical poetry, because, through them, people can be brought back into concord with their inner selves, and thus be allowed to become self-determining individuals. For, what Schiller said to all mankind, that a lesson should be taken from the French Revolution, so that a “great moment” would not again find a “little people,” is just as true for our con-

temporaries: How can one strengthen one's fellow citizens so that they do not let themselves be swept off their feet by the spirit of the times?

In the seventh of his *Aesthetical Letters*, Schiller said on this subject: "The seriousness of your basic principles will frighten them away from you, but in play, they will bear you, their taste is more pure than their heart, and it is there that you must take hold of that shy fugitive. You will assault their rules of behavior in vain, in vain condemn their conduct; yet in their idleness, you may try your reforming hand. Banish willfulness, frivolity, crudity from their pleasures, and you will thus, without noticing, ban them from their practices as well." Thus we must go in exactly the opposite direction from that of the financial oligarchy when it comes to entertainment: Instead of using free time to go crazy, and chase all the things that sink us down into the mass—from mass tourism to mass pop concerts—we must find ways to educate our spirit and our emotions.

Schiller had previously defined the state of mind which must come about from this: "Live within your century, but do not be its creature. Serve your contemporaries, but with what they need, not with what they praise. Think of them as they should be, if you would influence them; but think of them as they are, if you would try to act for them." We must have before our eyes exactly this picture of Germans, as they should be, and not as they are, if we are to create a way out of the crisis and a vision for the future.

When one travels in other countries, it is often a surprising experience to find that the view of Germany which is held in many places, in spite of its current desolate condition, is still due very strongly to the memory of German science and culture. But in the Germany of today, the methods of creative thought which underlay the great Classical compositions in music and poetry have been almost entirely lost. What is understood as creativity today, for the most part, rather resembles, in the best cases, those arabesques thrown accidentally on the wall by the artist, of which Kant erroneously thought that they had higher artistic value than a work in which one could recognize the intention of the author.

If Germany is to recover from its present crisis—and it must—then there is nothing more important than that the people, young and old, and even the Tweeners, set themselves apart by means of the image of man which underlay all of Schiller's work. This Poet of Freedom has a very special significance for our country. The best cure for the mediocrity and two-dimensional-

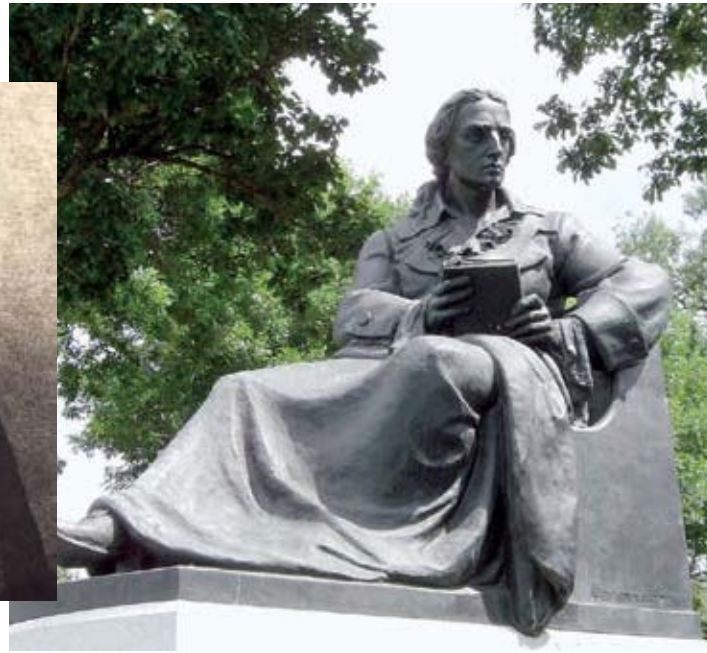
ity of the present, is to grapple with Schiller's ideas. His ideal of mankind was nothing less than that each individual person should be a beautiful soul, and thus a person in whom passion and duty, freedom and necessity, are one. Only such a person is inwardly free, and the individual who fulfills this condition is the genius who, by lawful means, expands lawfulness, and thereby creates higher degrees of freedom.

And why shouldn't more and more human beings develop into geniuses, to the degree that, in the development of the universe in the sense of the Russian scientist V.I. Vernadsky, the proportion of the Noösphere grows in relation to the Biosphere? It is not only a precondition for this development, but it is thus grounded in the order of Creation!

But geniuses do not arise from videogames, chat-rooms, or from speculation in the futures market. They develop because they have the good fortune, at the right time, to meet an individual who arouses the divine spark in them, and then they are possessed by a passionate love for the cause of mankind, or for a deeper understanding of the laws of the universe, or for the discovery of richer possibilities in the laws of Classical art.

Schiller had the great good fortune to meet at least one such individual at just the right time in his life, although he very much suffered from the oligarchical environment and customs of the military academy into which Duke Karl Eugen von Württemberg had placed him. This individual was his philosophy teacher Jakob Friedrich Abel, whose speech of Dec. 14, 1776, at the graduation ceremony of the Ducal Academy of Stuttgart, gives a flavor of the ideas with which he confronted and inspired his most famous student, who sat in the audience at this presentation. The title of the speech was: "A Discourse on Genius: Are Great Spirits Born or Educated?"

In this blazingly brilliant speech, in which he turned more and more directly toward his young listeners, Abel delineated the theme with which one is most able to inspire young people, the theme of human greatness, and the question of what is necessary in order to develop into a genius. He repeatedly and polemically contrasted this, on the one side, with the weak minds that can never arouse themselves from the slumber of their thoughts and actions: "In those without genius, all thoughts merely creep feebly, faintly forward . . . only a few thoughts inhabit the barren mind at one time, and with the greatest scholarship it never escapes from an oppressive poverty"; it is characterized by a "coldness



EIRNS/Steve Carr

Friedrich Schiller, Germany's great Poet of Freedom, is portrayed here in a statue in Detroit, Mich. A turning point in Schiller's life was his youthful exposure to philosopher Jakob Friedrich Abel (inset), whose lecture, "A Discourse on Genius: Are Great Spirits Born or Educated?" touched the young man deeply.

of the soul," which "sneaks quietly away along its snail's path."

On the other side, the genius: "Uncounted feelings and perceptions surge through his soul, thoughts stream upon thoughts, waves strike upon waves. This fruitfulness of genius is of the greatest importance. Exactly because the concepts are so manifold, because so many subjects stand for comparison before the soul, he is capable of the most noteworthy, most strange and special connections. Fullness of emotions, richness of thought, inventiveness and the spirit of creation, exceptional conceptions and relationships"—in Abel's description of genius is presaged not only Schiller's later description of the philosophical mind in distinction to the "bread scholar," but also the idea of thought-masses [*Geistesmassen*], which was developed later by Herbart and Riemann. To develop oneself as a genius, also means to be the opposite of "cool."

"Without passion nothing great, nothing worthy of fame, is ever made, no great thought is ever conceived, nor an activity of mankind worthily accomplished," says Abel. "It is clear at a glance, that no great action can be done, no *Iliad* conceived nor no Last Judgment made, when the essential power of the soul is not exhibited, the capability of thinking and feeling at an extraordinarily high level; for how can a great action arise without a great cause?"

Passion also distinguishes the great teachers from academic bean-counters. "What a difference between

the fiery, brilliant Leibniz, who brings metaphysical loveliness and life to the most barren fields, and his cold, dry, thought-poor student; between a Plato, who in the deepest abysses of abstraction still glows and breathes lustily, and the cold, miserable critic, who in the joys of heavenly beauty, in the sight of the Graces and the Muses, can do nothing but yawn and make distinctions. It is likewise with the brilliance of conceptions. A Plato or a Leibniz, who, in the deepest and darkest abysses of metaphysics, in the most desert and unfruitful land of shadows, which is never visited by a milder ray, never penetrated by the most distant gleam, yet stands resplendent in the Sun and illuminates all around him by his brilliance; and a dark, dull systematizer, who in the face of the morning sun does not see, and likes best to walk in cloudy, muffled darkness, like the light-fleeing night-owl—what a difference!"

But diligent industriousness is also necessary, but not the diligence of the "cold soul," but rather the effort which is passionately directed to the great objective: "Leibniz's brain, without training, would have become the brain of a mediocre soul"; Leibniz, who reflected all night long upon metaphysical conceptions; Shakespeare, who without passion would have remained a nameless wool merchant—these are the examples of geniuses whom Abel held before his students, and he asked them: "In Homer or Dante, Sophocles or Shakespeare, Homer, Euripedes—or in our newfangled modern poets—where does the divine spark lie hidden?"

Abel focused therefore directly on creativity, the divine sparks within the greatest thinkers and poets in the tradition of Platonic humanism, and within the greatest writers of tragedy. In the testimony of several of his fellow students, Schiller, up until 1776, is described as of a quiet disposition and endowed with “a melancholy humor.” Confrontation with the inspiring teacher Abel, who familiarized him with the most important geniuses of the past, meant a total upswing for Schiller, and set his own genius free. Without Abel, we would probably never have been given the great Schiller, who has presented us the gift of the greatest historical dramas ever written in the German language, or of philosophical poems and ballads created so perfectly, according to the principle of thorough composition, like “The Artists,” “The Song of the Bell,” “The Ideal and Life,” or “The Bond,” to name only a few. The ideas of the Sublime and of the beautiful soul, would never have been formulated on such an exalted level.

Why do I bring up all this in an essay on the systemic crisis in Germany and how to overcome it? Because the key to overcoming the crisis lies here. The so-called Brandt education reforms of 1970—which,

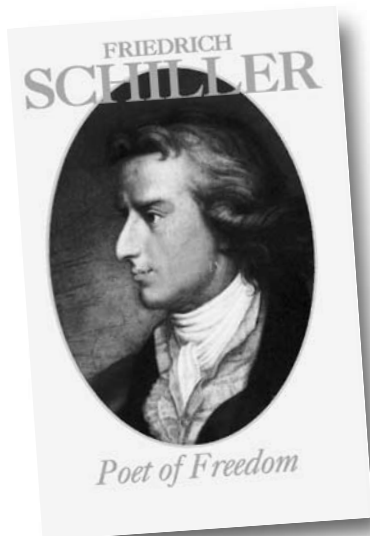
by the way, were devised by Dr. Alexander King, later the co-founder and president of the Club of Rome, in 1963, in his position as OECD representative in Paris—set out as their objective to take the school system, which, in Germany, in the post-war period, still included important elements of the von Humboldt educational system, and free it from the “educational ballast” of the last 2,500 years of Western history. That has obviously been thoroughly accomplished.

And precisely for this reason, it is time to throw out the window the entire paradigm of the past 40 years, for which such oligarchical figures as King, a co-founder of the ecology movement and of the miserable plight of education, are exemplary. The Bertelsmann Foundation, with its various projects of educational reform—North Rhine Westphalia II and the EU Agreement, to mention only two—deserves to be mentioned in this context.

With me as Chancellor, Classical culture would not be reserved for the wealthy upper class which can afford tickets to the festivals; it would be made accessible to all citizens. All children and youth would be able to learn musical instruments and the *bel canto* method of

“*There is a limit to the tyrant’s power.*”

—Friedrich Schiller,
Wilhelm Tell.



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singing, as part of their schooling. The public media would be commissioned to present Classical art to the population, art which had not been ruined by Director's Theater [*Regie-Theater*] and similar productions, even if, for a time, one would have to rely on recordings of historical performances in order to do this.

My Motivation

I am often asked how it could be, that for now more than 37 years, I have devoted myself to a new, just world economic order and a New Bretton Woods system, even if electoral breakthroughs did not occur in the past. I could say a great deal in response to that, but I would like, for now, to select just two moments.

After my baccalaureate, I made up my mind to become a journalist. Working on our school newspaper had been fun for me, and I had been guided to my choice of profession by the admittedly naive notion that the population had a right to information. However, during my training as a journalist at a daily newspaper, and subsequent journalistic training, I quickly realized that this profession did virtually nothing to address this right. Instead, I obtained an insight into how information is selected, and also, into the eager submissiveness of my colleagues, which taught me, from the ranks, so to speak, not to take media reports at face value, but rather to keep an eye on their intentions.

The second decisive moment was in the discovery I made on a trip to China by freighter in 1971—in the middle of the Cultural Revolution—and also the impressions I formed of several countries in Africa and Asia. Above all, the sight of poverty—which one can properly appreciate only when one does not travel on cruise ships and stay in five-star hotels, but instead sees what daily life is like for most people in these countries—left me with the insight, coming back from this trip, that the world system definitely must be brought in order.

Then, during my studies in Berlin, as I came across the ideas and programs of Lyndon LaRouche, in which, among other things, he spoke of the pressing need to develop the underdeveloped so-called Third World, through building up industry, infrastructure, and agriculture, I resolved to help build his movement, and have collaborated, since then, in many development programs for Africa, Asia, and Latin America. To bring this perspective of a new, just world economic order to German voters, I campaigned with this program as candidate for Chancellor in 1976. Had I been elected then, the world would be in a better condition today.

And since the gulf between the rich and the poor has not become smaller, but rather, much greater, my earlier engagement has, if anything, grown stronger, as I have responded to a world order which, I am deeply convinced, is not in harmony with the laws of the universe and the order of Creation. It is as simple as that.

Precisely if one is accustomed to consider things from the point of view of thinkers and poets like Nicolaus of Cusa, Kepler, Leibniz, and Schiller, then one will be critical of trends which destroy society, even though they are so popular. Unfortunately, there are several examples of times in Germany, in which the majority was wrong. In the Great Depression of the 1930s, there was no social force that was prepared to resist evil, and to implement the programmatic solutions to the crisis that were ready at hand—solutions such as the Lautenbach Plan and the WTB-Plan of the ADGB,⁹ as Roosevelt had done for the United States with the New Deal. Today, we must be that force.

In the coming storms, majority parties can vanish overnight, and likewise, small parties can gain influence, if they have an answer to the citizens' existential questions. As is clear from what I have already said, this time, there is no small evil, but only a great evil. But as long as the system of globalization goes down the drain, so do the assumptions of the majority. That provides a space, in which Germany can again become the land of poets and thinkers.

For that, we need the passion to want to save it. If you can arouse this passion, if you do not want our beautiful nation to sink into poverty and chaos, then help actively with my campaign. Our country needs, now more than ever, citizens who will take responsibility, with me, for policies that will defend democracy and freedom in Germany. You, all of you, are needed!

Postscript: Albert Einstein

“The world in which we live is dangerous, not because of the one who does evil, but because of the one who observes and watches it.”

9. Economist Dr. Wilhelm Lautenbach presented a plan, “The Possibilities of Boosting Economic Activities by Means of Investment and Expansion of Credit,” to a 1931 meeting of the Friedrich List Gesellschaft (see Helga Zepp-LaRouche, “The Lautenbach Plan for Economic Recovery,” *EIR*, March 20, 1998). The General German Trade Union Alliance (ADGB) put forward a plan on Jan. 26, 1932, to reorganize the world financial system and for creation of public jobs. Known as the Woytinsky-Tarnow-Baade (WTB) Plan, it was the brainchild of economist Wladimir Woytinsky. See “How the German Trade Unions Could Have Stopped Hitler,” *EIR*, April 11, 1997.

No to the 'Clash of Civilizations'!

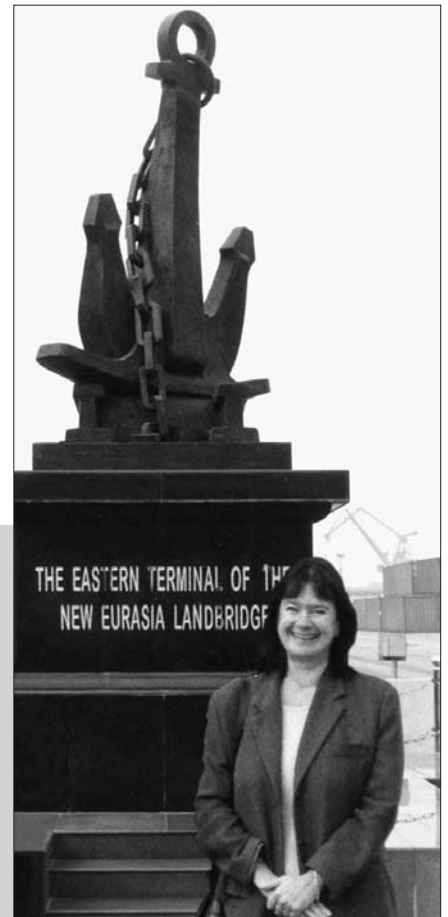
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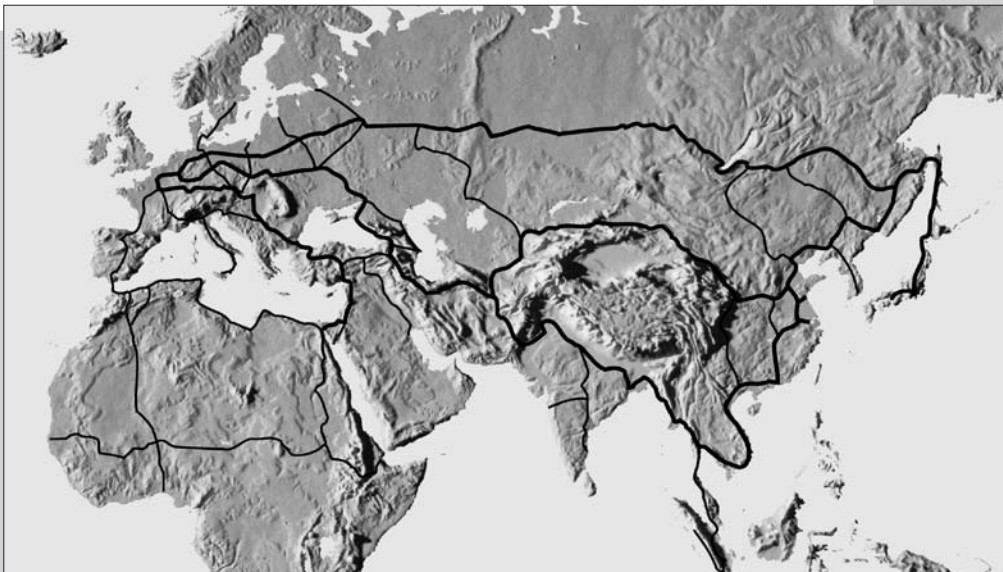
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Helga Zepp-LaRouche known as "the Silk Road Lady," has played a major role in organizing worldwide support for the Eurasian Land-Bridge. She is shown here at Lianyungang Port in China, October 1998.



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Take Back the Bailout, Reorganize the System!

by John Hoefle

July 24—“We are in a global economic breakdown,” Lyndon LaRouche observed today, adding that those who disagree, like President Barack Obama, are living in a dreamworld which will soon be shattered by reality. LaRouche pointed to the days around Oct. 12 as a crucial turning point.

“My estimate is that a complete breakdown of the global financial and economic system is highly likely around the 10th to 15th of October—say Oct. 12, after the end of the U.S. government’s fiscal year,” LaRouche warned. “We’re looking at a threatened potential, total, *chain reaction breakdown* of the U.S. and the world. Nobody is minding the store in Washington, or in the British Vampire!”

“The U.S. is hopelessly bankrupt, and only a bankruptcy reorganization of the type I’ve specified can save it,” LaRouche added. “We have to take back all the bailout money, and use it for the reorganization.”

State of Collapse

To understand what LaRouche means, you have to look at the state of the system in physical-economic terms, and in terms of long-term trends. Ignore the daily movements of the stock markets, the quarterly balance-sheet lies of the banks, and other financial trivia, and focus on those processes which are necessary to keep the human race alive.

The United States became the world’s leading industrial power because of a multi-generational commitment to improving our infrastructure and the

energy-flux-density of our economy, as a way of increasing the productive power of human labor. Large-scale infrastructure projects, such as water management plans, often take 50 to 100 years to reap the full benefits, but return far more to the economy than they cost, over time. Projects to make the Mississippi, Ohio, and Missouri river systems navigable for freight, were essential to the development of the nation, as were the development of the transcontinental railroads, the national telegraph system, and the continual improvement of farmland.

In recent decades, especially during the rise of the Baby Boomer generation, we have turned our backs upon scientific progress and infrastructure development, in favor of financial speculation and instant gratification. Rather than continue to improve our infrastructure for the benefit of future generations, we began to ignore it. Rather than increase the energy-flux-density of our economy by going to nuclear power, we rejected it, remaining stuck in an economy dominated by fossil fuel. Instead of leaving the world a more productive place than we found it, we are handing future generations a planet which is physically depleted, financially bankrupt, and on the verge of complete breakdown.

Look across the landscape. The Western states are drying up, whereas they would have had plenty of water had we developed the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA) project when it was proposed beginning in the 1950s. Our family farmers are dying out,

and being replaced by corporations which are more interested in producing profits than food. Our cities are over-crowded; our roads congested and riddled with potholes; and our electricity grid is straining to meet our demands. Most of our industry has been shipped overseas, turning our industrial belt into a rust heap. In sector after sector of our economy, what we find is collapse. Things are getting worse, not better, and doing so at an accelerating rate.

This is reality, and it is scary. The picture is similar all across the so-called developed sector, and even worse in the so-called developing sector. The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse are on the march, as war, famine, disease, and death spread around the planet.

Financier Fascism

The cause of this collapse of the world's physical productivity can be laid squarely at the hooves of the British Empire, the policies of which have turned the global economy into a giant, and hopelessly bankrupt, casino. It is the empire which has pushed globalism, with its creation of financial markets across the globe, the emergence of giant cartels whose power dwarfs that of nations, and the constant search for ever-cheaper labor. It is the old colonial policies of enslave and loot, married to modern technologies, and hidden behind familiar corporate logos.

The response of the empire to the financial crisis has been a series of demands—demands for a bailout, demands for new income streams, demands for sacrifices by, and *of*, the people. This can be seen clearly in the contrast between the Obama Administration's approach to the welfare of the financiers and the welfare of the population. The administration has gone all-out to save the parasites from the consequences of their folly, showering them with trillions of dollars of government largesse, bending and breaking the rules, giving them virtually everything they want. When it comes to the welfare of the people, however, the response is far different. Instead of largesse, we get the bill for the bailout, reductions in services, and further depletions of an already tattered infrastructure.

The most telling response is Obama's health-care plan, which is openly—though not admitted to be—modeled on Adolf Hitler's "useless eaters" plan. That should not be a surprise, given that Hitler himself was a product of the empire, as was the fascist movement which was imposed on Europe in the 1920s and 1930s. The recently released plan to start charging people by

the mile driven, effectively turning all roads into toll roads, is another example of this fascism at work, as is the cap-and-trade policy.

The financiers' response to this crisis is to cover their losses by gouging the population, charging ever more for an ever-shrinking market-basket. Look at the way oil prices are manipulated, and the way Enron and its fellow energy pirates raped California in 2000 and 2001, and you see the future, under the British Empire's Obama regime.

Rather than rebuilding our infrastructure, we are to be charged for the privilege of using what's left of it, turned into peasants in our own country. All the while, we'll be serenaded by Obama's behaviorist kooks, telling us we're saving the planet. We're not collapsing, we're going "green," they'll say. Sure we are: all the way to soylent green.

Systemic Breakdown

But what about the green shoots, the bank profits, and the stock market, some might ask. Aren't these signs of recovery? No, they're not. First of all, a recovery among the fleas is not good for the dog, and second of all, there's no recovery among the fleas; some of the fleas are eating more because they've turned into cannibals. They're all doomed, from Goldman Sachs on down. The system itself is breaking down, because it has violated the laws of economics.

The only solution at this point is the LaRouche solution. Take back the bailout money, put the empire's dead monetary system into bankruptcy protection, and return to American System economic policies. Put our efforts into building infrastructure and developing a nuclear-based economy, and protecting the population while we recover.

There is no way to save the money we made during the bubble, because it was never real. Our real assets are not financial, but physical, beginning with the creative minds of our population. Rather than killing people to cover derivatives losses, we should kill the derivatives.

Reality is not pleasant. We have dug a giant hole for ourselves, and it will take time and effort to dig our way out. But first we must stop digging, and stop our slide into fascism and global breakdown. Let go of your delusions, and join us in a genuine recovery. Don't eat the soyilent green.

johnhoeftle@larouche.org

After the G8 Summit: New Bretton Woods Drive Continues in Italy

by Andrew Spannaus

July 24—In the aftermath of the G8 Summit held in L'Aquila, Italy, in early July—yet another international gathering which failed to take decisive action to deal with the ongoing global economic breakdown crisis—the significant pro-New Bretton Woods faction in Italy is once again acting to support the bankruptcy reorganization of the international monetary and financial system as proposed by Lyndon LaRouche. In the context of the post-summit Parliamentary debate, Sen. Oskar Peterlini has introduced a policy resolution calling on the Italian government to act to “achieve a fundamental change in the international monetary and financial system, based on the principles of the New Bretton Woods. . . .”

Peterlini, who represents the South Tyrolean People's Party in the Trentino Alto Adige region, presented a similar resolution calling for LaRouche's New Bretton Woods in October of 2008, leading to a wide-ranging floor debate in the Senate on Feb. 24 of this year, over the measures needed to effectively deal with the current crisis.

In introducing his motion on the G-8 results in the Italian Senate debate July 21, Sen. Oskar Peterlini again mentioned Lyndon LaRouche: “Our calls and those of many other prominent experts, such as U.S. economist Lyndon LaRouche, have remained without response, with the result that today we are facing a crisis that threatens to become as disastrous as the 1929 crisis.”

A Brawl with the British

The new initiative must be seen in the context of the ongoing fight between the British Empire faction, on the one hand, and the forces working to further the type



EIRNS/Patrick Holzer

Sen. Oskar Peterlini (right) has introduced a resolution, following the G8 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy, calling on the Italian government to adopt a New Bretton Woods system. He is pictured here with (left to right:) Sen. Alberto Maritati, LaRouche representative Andrew Spannaus, and Lyndon LaRouche, at the Italian Senate, June 17, 2009.

of reforms proposed by LaRouche, on the other. As a result of the numerous interventions by the LaRouche movement in Italy in recent years, and due to Italy's somewhat unique political situation in the industrialized world—in which there are a certain number of intelligent politicians who are not afraid to publicly speak their minds—in the run-up to the L'Aquila G8, Italy essentially came to represent the pro-New Bretton Woods position. This is, in no small part, due to the role of Italian Economics and Finance Minister Giulio Tremonti, who has been a vocal supporter of a reorganization of the international financial system, and has not been afraid to say that he has taken some of his ideas from Lyndon LaRouche.

During Italy's rotating presidency of the G8, Tremonti sponsored a process of discussion among the



EIRNS/Patrick Holzer

Senator Peterlini (center) wants to ensure that the upcoming discussion of the “Lecce Framework,” at the Pittsburg G8 in September, is focussed on LaRouche’s conception of a New Bretton Woods. Lyndon LaRouche is to his right, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, at his left.

member nations concerning new rules for the global economic and financial system, now known as the “Lecce Framework,” a document adopted at the G8 Finance Ministers meeting in Lecce, Italy on June 13. That document is intended as a basis for the discussion of stronger rules for the international economic and financial system; yet, at present, it fails to go beyond the type of measures proposed at the April G20 summit in London. These include weak rules regarding “transparency,” and a further concentration of power in the hands of the very institutions which have promoted the globalization policies that are at the root of the current crisis.

Suffice it to cite the additional “supervisory” powers to be given to the Financial Stability Board and its chairman Mario Draghi, head of the Italian central bank, and longtime supporter of London’s pro-globalization agenda, to recognize that the goal is to prevent sovereign nations from acting to change the current system; as long as power remains in the hands of the globalizers, “transparency” will be used to ensure that no fundamental changes will be made.

Dominated by King Canute Proclamations

While the G8 summit itself was dominated by a discussion of how to convince the Earth’s climate to obey

the G8’s King Canute-like proclamations, with President Barack Obama aiming to take credit for brokering a consensus on the adoption of a useless, anti-human plan for the reduction of CO₂ emissions, it is clear that behind the scenes, the fight over how to deal with the economic crisis rages on. Numerous international press outlets, led by the London *Guardian*, did their utmost to discredit Italy’s leadership of the G8 in the run-up to the summit, claiming that the preparations and discussion were in a state of chaos, and fanning the flames of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi’s sex scandals in order to destabilize the whole event.

Given the City of London’s record of recent attacks and threats against Tremonti, there is little doubt that their real fear was that

some sort of fruitful discussion could emerge on the issue of the New Bretton Woods.

Peterlini’s resolution aims to provide visibility and support to the pro-reform faction. While the resolutions introduced by other parliamentary factions on the subject of the G8 were generally dominated by mindless partisan grandstanding, Peterlini’s focus on the need to guarantee that the discussion of the Lecce Framework, which is scheduled to continue in the period leading up to the Pittsburgh, Pa. G20 meeting (Sept. 24-25), is based on LaRouche’s conception of the New Bretton Woods. Of particular note, is the identification of the current proposals for reform as useless attempts to regulate a system which, in fact, needs to be replaced. After laying out the essential points of the resolution he proposed in October 2005, the motion reads:

“In fact, the mechanisms which are at the root of speculation, which lead to the divorce between financial movements and real economy activity, have not been called into question: Securitization, which breaks the link between the financing institution and the customer, allowing banks and financial companies in general to use debts taken out by citizens as assets to be traded in a market whose only aim is to find new sources of profit through extreme amounts of leverage; the widespread use of derivatives, which, from their initial

purpose as protection for farmers, have become the central element of a financial bubble which is so large that it must be quantified in quadrillions of dollars, dwarfing the size of the real economy;

“Although it is essential to regulate all financial instruments, if we wish to change the orientation of the economy, it is not sufficient simply to have more in-depth information available, or to establish criteria such as limits on executive pay or strengthening of measures against corruption and tax evasion; the risk is that we will simply know more about and bring an apparent sense of stability to the same practices which are actually part of the cause of the problem: the financialization of the economy....”

As a result of the late start of the session on the G8 resolutions, due to the opposition’s attempts to exploit the sex scandals surrounding Prime Minister Berlusconi (not unlike what took place in the U.S., in the late 1990s), the floor debate was suspended, and its conclusion and votes on the various resolutions are expected to occur the last week of July.

Documentation

The Peterlini Resolution For a New Bretton Woods

July 21, 2009

Peterlini, Pinzger, Thaler Ausserhofer, D’Alia, Fosson, Cintola, Cuffaro, Gai (1-00171)

The Senate,

Whereas: From July 8 to 10, 2009, the G8 summit was held in L’Aquila, providing an important forum for discussion among the leaders of the principal countries from around the world;

The summit was a considerable success for Italy, and thus for all of those who participated in its organization, and in particular for the institutions of the Italian Government, despite the attempt by certain international media to call into question Italy’s role precisely at this time; we must also acknowledge the great sense of responsibility of almost all of the political forces in Italy;

Under Italy’s rotating presidency of the G8, the Italian Government, and, in particular, the Ministry of Economics and Finance, promoted a process of discussion and debate among the governments of the member countries, concerning the need for an incisive reform of the international financial and economic system, following the serious crisis which continues to shake the global economy, causing a rise in unemployment, the loss of production capacity, and difficulties in all areas of the economy, but especially among the most vulnerable segments of the population, in our country as well;

Our country can be particularly proud of the discussion process launched by the government to identify a series of principles which constitute the basis of the “Lecce Framework” adopted in the meeting of the G8 Finance Ministers in Lecce on June 13. The Lecce Framework was cited in the official communiqué of the G8 as the basis for a further elaboration of the measures necessary to jointly establish new rules for the global economy, in order to avoid a repeat of the financial practices which have characterized the speculative bubbles of recent years, and the dramatic consequences of this phenomenon on the real economy;

Indeed, the process of financialization of the global economy, starting in the United States and Europe, has been ongoing for almost four decades, with a process that essentially began with the decoupling of the dollar from gold, followed by a process of deregulation which had the effect of shifting investments towards short-term financial activities, and pulling capital out of productive activities. A succession of speculative bubbles, involving State bonds, the so-called New Economy, and, most recently, mortgage securities, has brought the entire international monetary and financial system to the brink of collapse in recent months;

The response to this crisis from the leading governments has concentrated almost entirely on the attempt to stabilize the banking and financial sector, through expenditures by central banks and legislative initiatives which in the industrialized nations alone have reached the staggering amount of over \$10 trillion; yet, these measures have failed to stop the hemorrhage of jobs and well-being among the population;

The principles set forth in the Lecce Framework, which have been indicated as provisional and the basis for a broader discussion, concentrate on rules to guarantee the transparency of financial institutions, an increase in oversight, measures against tax havens, and

the stability of the system;

These principles, despite being important to ensure stability, represent only one portion of the measures which need to be adopted to put an end to the financialization which has distinguished the global economy in recent decades;

Indeed, there are two possible methods of dealing with the current crisis: to implement a “correction,” by tightening certain rules for the financial and business sector, but without making a true change in the approach which has dominated in recent years; or, to bring those reforms to a systemic level, removing the pathologies which led to the current crisis; this concept has also been expressed by the Economics Minister Giulio Tremonti, who has called for a new system “based on ethics”;

In February 2009, the Italian Senate debated a series of resolutions on the issue of the “New Bretton Woods” (Policy Resolutions 1-00029, Peterlini et al.; 1-00032, Morando et al., 1-00035; Bricolo et al., 1-00036; Baldassarri et al., 1-00033; and Lannutti et al.), that is, a reorganization of the international monetary and financial system which allows for stopping the immediate effects of the crisis and laying the basis for a healthy, non-speculative economy in the future;

The principal points of the New Bretton Woods are:

1. the reorganization of the system, following a model of a Bankruptcy Reorganization, in which speculative debts (derivatives and “toxic waste”) are cancelled, while protecting the savings of families and guaranteeing financing for essential activities in the real economy. We must restore the division between ordinary banks and other financial institutions, stopping the mixture between pure speculation and the real economy at its root;

2. new rules which guarantee the stability necessary for production and international trade: a) exchange rates decided through treaties among nations (“fixed exchange rates”), thus avoiding speculative market fluctuations; b) controls on the transfer of capital for speculative purposes (“capital controls”), favoring long-term investments in the productive economy;

3. a credit system, rather than a purely monetary system, which guarantees low-interest, long-term investments in infrastructure, industry and high technology (“productive credit”) to break with the orientation in recent decades which has encouraged the pursuit of

quick profits while penalizing productive activity;

Despite the attention paid to this issue in international meetings, and in particular at the G20 held in London on April 1, 2009, and the recently-concluded G8 held in L’Aquila, the reforms proposed in those locations do not reach the level of systemic reforms;

In fact, the mechanisms which are at the root of speculation, which lead to the divorce between financial movements and real economic activity, have not been called into question: securitization, which breaks the link between the financing institution and the customer, allowing banks and financial companies in general to use debts taken out by citizens as assets to be traded in a market whose only aim is to find new sources of profit through extreme amounts of leverage; the widespread use of derivatives, which, from their initial purpose as protection for farmers, have become the central element of a financial bubble which is so large that it must be quantified in quadrillions of dollars, dwarfing the size of the real economy;

Although it is essential to regulate all financial instruments, if we wish to change the orientation of the economy, it is not sufficient simply to have more in-depth information available, or to establish criteria such as limits on executive pay, or strengthening of measures against corruption and tax evasion; the risk is that we will simply know more about, and bring an apparent sense of stability, to the same practices which are actually part of the cause of the problem: the financialization of the economy;

Precisely due to the great deal of attention focused on these issues by governments, parliaments and populations throughout the world at this time, it is necessary to act now to carry out systemic reforms, before the old practices take over again and the representatives of special interests succeed in blocking the forces of change;

Therefore, the Italian Government shall:

In view of the upcoming G20 Summit [Sept. 24-25], to be held in Pittsburgh, [Pa.], act to carry forward and expand the goals of the Lecce Framework in all international fora, in order to achieve a fundamental change in the international monetary and financial system, based on the principles of the New Bretton Woods: Economic growth must be based on progress in the real economy and the improvement of the actual living conditions of all peoples in the world, and not on speculative mechanisms as a source of illusory gain which actually harms the well-being and stability of society.

Petersburg Dialogue Promotes Cooperation On the Real Economy

by Rainer Apel

July 24—The Ninth Conference of the Petersburg Dialogue, held in Munich, Germany July 14-16, was characterized by a considerable harmony of interests between Germany and Russia, uneclipsed by the geopolitical frictions that have characterized most earlier such conferences. That is due in part to the impact that the global financial crisis has had on both countries' physical economies, which are highly interdependent—Germany is Russia's main supplier of machines and industrial know-how, while Russia supplies natural gas to Germany. The theme of the Munich conference was "Ways Out of the Global Financial Crisis."

The semi-annual meeting was initiated six years ago to promote German-Russian relations. There are eight working groups, drawing nearly 200 representatives of the political, business, media, and other fields.

During the workshops, as well as in the plenary sessions and at the opening and closing of the conference, both sides stressed the importance of revitalizing industrial cooperation to rebuild the real economy, as the only way out of the current crisis. Klaus Mangold, head of the influential Eastern Trade Division (Ostauschuss) of German industry, lambasted the purported "gains" that Goldman Sachs reported on the eve of the Munich conference, saying such things had no relevance for the real economy, which is haunted by an unabated stream of disastrous news. Many German machine producers, for example, report a drop in foreign orders of 70% or more, with German industrial exports to Russia falling 30% in the first quarter of this year.

Acknowledging the collapse of the free-market economy dogma of the globalization era, both Russian and German industrial managers called for a government-to-government framework to secure the development of bilateral industrial relations. In that context, the

announcement of a special export credit guarantee of EU500 million to be granted by Germany's state-owned bank Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, on the eve of the Munich meeting, was warmly welcomed.

Eurasian Perspective

This year's conference was also noteworthy, because two themes were put on the table that have otherwise only been addressed by the LaRouche movement: first, the systemic nature of the current breakdown crisis; and second, the need for a global reconstruction program, centered on the construction of a Eurasian Land-Bridge.

Lothar de Maiziere, an eastern German Christian Democrat and the German co-chairman of the Dialogue, said in his opening speech that, having experienced the end of a system (the socialist one) in 1989-90, eastern Germans have a very direct feeling that the present global crisis is a crisis of the system as such, and not—as many West Germans still believe—a crisis within the system. De Maiziere was the last prime minister of communist East Germany.

Horst Teltschik, head of the German Chancellor's office in 1989-90, the period when the Berlin Wall came down and Germany was reunified, said that the missed chance of 1989 (which just happens to be the title of a book by Helga Zepp-LaRouche) is very much felt by both Germans and Russians, and that a new impulse is required in these times of deep crisis, to pave the way for the close economic-political cooperation that was, unfortunately, not achieved 20 years ago.

Valery Golubyev, deputy CEO of Russia's Gazprom company, struck a similar chord, saying that it is not just in the energy sector that "German-Russian relations have turned into Euro-Asiatic ones, actually," and that cooperation between Russians and Germans was of crucial relevance for the rest of Eurasia. If that sounds like a principal theme of the LaRouche movement, it's not surprising, as many of the Munich conference's attendees, in particular those from the Russian Academy of Sciences, have been familiar with the ideas of Lyndon LaRouche and his wife, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, for more than a decade.

The discussion at this conference thus suggests a readiness in Germany and Russia to rally behind a program to scrap the failed monetary system and replace it with a credit system—as soon as the political leadership emerges to do so.

Why Bangladesh Must Go Nuclear

by Ramtanu Maitra

Facing an acute shortage of electrical power, the government of Bangladesh has revived the almost five-decades-old project to build a nuclear power plant in Rooppur. Last March, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed made it official, when she told the Parliament that her government would set up a nuclear power plant in Rooppur to meet the country's growing energy demands.

Bangladesh, with a population close to 155 million, has an installed power generation capacity of a little more than 4,000 MW average per day. Dhaka claims the power demand is close to 5,000 MW, making it about a 20% power-short nation. However, the power demand figures of any country, projected by the authorities, have no real meaning, since they reflect low expectations, i.e., that there will not be sufficient power to meet the needs of a growing economy. In fact, there is a need for tremendous expansion of economic activity, and the power to fuel it, to keep up with a growing population.

Power-Hungry Bangladesh

Now, Dhaka has come to accept that Bangladesh faces a massive electricity shortage that has hit its main non-agricultural employment source, the textile industry. Last year, an average generation of 3,000 MW at peak demand hours, 2,000 MW short of "actual demand," provoked the violence that broke out in a northern Bangladesh town, leaving at least 20 dead in clashes between police and farmers, who also need increased power for irrigation.

In other words, if Dhaka goes forward now with a nuclear-based electrical-power-generation program, it is almost a certainty that manufacturers within the country, and across the world, will be setting up facilities in Bangladesh. In addition to possessing a highly competent workforce, Bangladesh is on the verge of ensuring its food security. But the country has the capability to become more than an agrarian nation. It has the skilled manpower to become a large-scale manufacturer of

small and medium-scale industries to meet its own developmental requirements, and still have surplus for export.

However, to achieve that end, Bangladesh must immediately focus on a number of areas of economic development. These include power generation and strengthening its basic physical infrastructural requirements, such as railroads, water sources, education, and health care. On the other hand, because of its lack of electric-generation capabilities, and lack of adequate power sources, Bangladesh has remained one of the poorest nations in Asia. It seems that with the declaration to revive the Rooppur nuclear power plant, Sheikh Hasina has taken the necessary step to transform Bangladesh from an agrarian nation to an agro-industrial nation.

Nearly 80% of Bangladesh's power comes from its large reserves of natural gas. Studies conducted in recent years on natural gas reserves and undiscovered resource potential have all concluded that Bangladesh has a mean undiscovered gas resource of at least 32 trillion cubic feet (Tcf). The two most widely recognized studies are the United States Geological Survey (USGS)/Petrobangla Study (2001), which declared the mean undiscovered resource potential to be 32.1 Tcf, and the Hydrocarbon Unit/Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) Study (2001), which declared the mean undiscovered resource potential to be 41.6 Tcf. Both of these studies only took into account offshore acreage out to a water depth of 200 meters. However, Bangladesh needs to use its gas reserves, at least the most of it, in developing a large fertilizer sector for its agriculture, and not use natural gas for power generation.

No Option But Nuclear

Since Bangladesh consists of low and flat lands, other than the hilly regions in the North and Northeast, its hydropower generation potential remains very small. The single hydropower station, with seven units, located in Kaptai, across the river from Karnafuly, has a generating capacity of 230 MW. The Karnafuly plant generates less than 5% of Bangladesh's total power. There had been much talk of micro-hydropower in Bangladesh. A number of foreign experts have visited the country, but considering the needs of 155 million people, it has been established that micro-hydropower may serve the requirements of some very small villages, but will not contribute in a significant way to the



Bangladesh Embassy

A massive electricity shortage has struck Bangladesh's main non-agricultural economic sector, the textile industry, underlining the urgent need for nuclear power. Here, a young woman works in a textile factory.

country's overall power requirements.

In 1984, six Chinese experts visited Bangladesh and identified a number of potential sites for development of micro-hydropower plants. Among them, only Mahamaya Chara has been taken up for development of an integrated project for flood control, irrigation, and power generation. A working group has been formed by the engineers of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) and Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), to carry out groundwork for the project. A dam is proposed to be constructed on the Mahamaya Chara to retain monsoon run-off, from a drainage area of about 10.5 km², and to provide irrigation facilities from the reservoir behind the dam. There are also plans to utilize the reservoir water for the generation of hydroelectricity. A mini-hydropower plant would be installed at the foot of the dam. However, none of these proposals have seen the light of the day. Moreover, if these projects were taken up, they would not be able to produce more than another 150-200 MW of electrical power.

Some point out, and their views are feasible in the long run, that Bhutan and Nepal, which together have the potential to generate more than 100,000 MW of hydropower, can export a significant amount of electrical power to Bangladesh. But a nation of 155 million cannot afford to wait for these developments, over which it has little control. Moreover, neither Bhutan nor Nepal is

geared up presently to develop these hydro-power-generating facilities.

EIR Lent Its Support

As a result, Bangladesh is left with little choice but to exploit nuclear power for economic development, and provide a positive future to its growing population. In fact, building a nuclear power plant in Rooppur, located in western part of Bangladesh, was proposed as far back as 1961, when it was still a part of Pakistan. Since then, a number of reports have affirmed the technical and economic feasibility. The Rooppur site in Pabna district was selected in 1963, and land was acquired. The Bangladesh government, in 1999, expressed its firm commitment to build the plant. In 2001, it adopted a national Nuclear Power Action Plan, and in 2005, it signed a nuclear cooperation agreement with China.

In 2007, the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission proposed two 500 MWe nuclear reactors for Rooppur by 2015, quoting likely costs of US\$0.9 to \$1.2 billion for a 600 MWe unit and US\$1.5 to \$2.0 billion for 1,000 MWe. In April 2008, the government reiterated its intention to work with China in building the Rooppur plant, and China offered funding for the project.

EIR has had a long association with Bangladesh's nuclear program. In 1985, several *EIR* representatives were invited to participate in a seminar in Dhaka, by the then-Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) chairman, Dr. Anwar Hossain. His number two at the BAEC was Dr. M.A. Wazed Mian, late husband of the present Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. (Dr. Wazed passed away in May of this year.)

In that seminar, *EIR* spokesmen and a number of other participants strongly recommended nuclear power development for Bangladesh as the only feasible option for the country to progress. *EIR* personnel (including the author) visited the site in Savar where BAEC was planning to set up a research reactor. That was accomplished in 1986, when a 3 MW (thermal) research reactor was installed, and has since been running satisfactorily, producing radioisotopes for medical and other uses, and training personnel in reactor operation and safety. The Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (INA) was originally established by BAEC, and now operates in the Agriculture Ministry.

Dr. Hossain, in a 2007 article in the *Daily Star*, pointed out that “the history of missed opportunities in nuclear power production is really unfortunate.” During this period, however, BAEC has strengthened its physical and manpower infrastructure and has increased its collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Regional Cooperation for Asia (RCA), and other countries.

It was, therefore, a great moment of joy and satisfaction to Dr. Hossain and his team of nuclear scientists and engineers, when Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina told parliament that her government would set up a nuclear power plant to meet the country’s growing energy demand. “We are taking initiatives to set up a nuclear power plant at Rooppur site,” she said in response to a question from a parliament member.

According to a proposal prepared by the government, a 600 MW nuclear power plant will be constructed at Rooppur; the IAEA has already approved a Technical Assistance Project for Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant, to be initiated by 2011. And, proposals floated by Russia, China, and South Korea, the three nations vying to build the plant, indicate that a 1,000 MW plant will be built at Rooppur.

Russia, China, South Korea in the Fray

Russia is now seriously moving ahead to build the plant. Russian envoy Gennady Trotsenko has presented a proposal to Yafes Osman, Bangladesh’s Minister for Science and Information and Communication Technology. “We have placed a proposal for undertaking efforts to set up a nuclear power plant in Bangladesh,” Trotsenko told reporters after meeting Osman.

China and South Korea made similar proposals last year, but Bangladesh has not yet firmed up the decision with any country. A senior science ministry official said, however, that the authorities were also studying the



Creative Commons/Kaushik Biswas

Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed has made it official: Her government will proceed to build the long-delayed nuclear power plant at Rooppur. Russia, China, and South Korea are vying for the contract.

offers from China and South Korea.

According to Dr. Abdul Matin, the former chief engineer of the BAEC and a specialist in nuclear reactor technology, the connection between Russia and Rooppur is not a new one. In 1969, the Soviet Union proposed to build a 400 MWe nuclear plant with two generators, each of 200 MWe capacities, to be installed in two phases at Rooppur. V/O Technopromexport of Moscow prepared a feasibility report under an agreement signed with the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC).

Dr. Matin and his colleague, the late Kazi Abul Hasnat, went to Moscow in 1969 to review the final draft of the feasibility report. They also visited a nuclear plant at Novovoronezh. At the time, Dr. Matin points out, the reactor proposed by Russia was considered to be too large for the

western grid of what was then East Pakistan. In 1969, Bangladesh’s western grid was not inter-linked with the eastern grid, due to its low power demand. Fearing it would result in serious system instabilities in case the reactor tripped, authorities did not pursue the proposal.

Another concern then was that the proposed Russian reactor did not have a containment building, essential to prevent the release of radiation into the atmosphere in case of a nuclear incident.

Subsequently, Dr. Matin points out, East Pakistan received another proposal from a subsidiary of Westinghouse, based in Belgium, for a 200 MWe nuclear plant. The proposal, complete with a financial offer, was considered to be more suitable for Rooppur. A fresh feasibility report was prepared for a 200 MWe nuclear plant, and to make it more acceptable to the financing agencies, it was published in the name of a Swiss consulting firm. Following a thorough evaluation of the bid and detailed negotiations with the Belgians, the final contract was made ready for signature.

Kissinger's Dirty Hands

But this deal was also shelved due to the breakout of the 1971 War of Independence, which gave birth to the nation of Bangladesh. According to Dr. Matin, years later a retired diplomat of Bangladeshi origin, who held the Russian desk at the foreign ministry of Pakistan during late 1960s, told him that the nuclear authorities committed a blunder by rejecting the Russian offer. The Russians were ready to build the plant, and the new-born Bangladesh would have had a nuclear power plant at Rooppur as a major power source. According to this former diplomat, the Belgian proposal was a diplomatic game played by another superpower (read: the United States under U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger) to prevent any nuclear collaboration between Pakistan and Russia. Rooppur thus became a victim of superpower rivalry during the Cold War era.

In case Russia wins its bid to build the Rooppur plant, it will likely be a Generation III pressurized water reactor. There are indications that BAEC would like such a reactor, since the Generation III reactors incorporate simple and compact design concepts with passive safety systems. They have a longer plant life (50 years instead of 30); a higher efficiency (36.56% compared to 31.6%); and a utilization rate of 90%. Bangladesh would prefer 1,000 MWe Generation III reactors for Rooppur, and also for other locations like Chittagong and Khulna, Dr. Matin points out.

In addition to the Russian, Chinese, and South Korean interest in the Rooppur plant, in May 2008, Pakistan's High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Alamgir Babar, told the Bangladesh authorities that that his country was also ready to share the technology for civilian purposes to help tackle the great energy crisis that Bangladesh faces.

Babar said that Pakistan has a program for nuclear energy already in place. It is going ahead with it; so it is now up to Bangladesh to decide what it actually wants. He said discussions over the matter could take place within the parameters of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Pakistan is not a party to the NPT, while Bangladesh is.

Many countries, including Britain, the United States, France, and Canada, had shown interest in the project when Bangladesh was still a part of Pakistan. Following the War of Independence and the birth of Bangladesh, India seemed keen to participate, but for unknown reasons, New Delhi never followed through.

Youth Conference in Ukraine

German LaRouche Youth Challenges Fixed Ideas

by Stefan Tolksdorf

This article was first published in the German weekly Neue Solidarität of June 10, 2009.

On May 15-17, 2009, Stefan Tolksdorf, representing the BüSo (Civil Rights Solidarity Movement), and the German branch of the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM), was an invited participant in a conference in Ukraine, held by that country's People's Democratic Youth League (NDLM). The event, titled, "Ukraine 2050—A New Start," largely involved young people, and coincided with the release of unsettling first quarter reports about the Ukrainian economy: GDP fell 25% from the previous year's level, while industrial production collapsed by 33%. "The Crisis" was foremost on everyone's mind. Just as frequently, however, as discussion turned to the ever worsening circumstances, it was recognized that no one knew what to do about it.

This visit took place one month following the trip to Ukraine by LaRouche PAC representatives Rachel Douglas and Sky Shields, who took part in the conference "Physical Economy: Research Methods and the Global Mission of Ukraine," held at the Kiev National Economics University.

A similar topic-focus brought around 50 youth to a venue outside Kiev for the three days of the conference, to develop, present, and debate plans and models for economic development. Part of the NDLM's ongoing national leadership development program, called Student Republic, the conference was billed as a Youth Economic Summit. It was the culmination of regional meetings and contests around the country on the topic of Ukraine's economic development. The individual projects, reviewed during the conference, were dedicated to the potential development of Ukraine over the course of the next 40 years, touching on various specific aspects such as tourism, foreign policy, military policy, industrial policy, and economic planning. The problems presented were as varied as the solutions. It was frequently shown that it was of the utmost impor-

tance to go outside the prescribed conditionalities, in order to tackle a given problem.

Along for the ride, were a handful of specialists. Professors from various universities contributed very sharp criticism of the individual youth during the discussion period—criticism which in no way dulled the enthusiasm of the participants. The zeal with which all parties involved tackled each individual problem, late into the night, was quite remarkable. It was striking that these youth earnestly dared to take on an immense problem—the establishment of a national policy for at least the coming 40 years, while many of their peers were out dancing and partying their way through theaters, clubs, and bars, though there really is little to celebrate.

LaRouche's Ideas Introduced

After three days of “economic game sessions,” as they are called, all of the participants and guests, came together in a university conference room in Kiev. At this session, the participants presented projects on which they had been working for a longer period of time. In this context, Tolksdorf had the opportunity to present Lyndon LaRouche's economic method to the audience, focusing on the theme of the development of Africa. In this great vision, a number of LaRouche's revolutionary ideas could be clearly demonstrated. LaRouche's concept of an infrastructure development corridor, in particular, met with broad agreement.

The audience was, however, clearly provoked by the realization that this theme was a central fighting issue for the BüSo electoral campaign in Germany. The question came up again and again in the discussion: Why would someone present the concept of a new, just world economic order, in the context of local political activity in a specific country? Tolksdorf played Helga Zepp-LaRouche's brief campaign video, and showed the BüSo election poster, closing out his presentation by playing the LPAC-TV video “The Future of Africa,” with Russian-language voiceover.

The ensuing discussion showed that many of the participants were thoroughly provoked. “Why are we discussing Africa? What about Ukraine?” several people asked. It was also clear that many participants underesti-



BüSo videograb

German LaRouche Youth Movement organizer Stefan Tolksdorf brought LaRouche's scientific and economic ideas to a Youth Economic Summit in Ukraine. He is shown here in a BüSo video.

mated the dimensions of the breakdown crisis; this is not a “phase” through which we have to pass, and after which life can continue more or less as before. On the one hand, very serious proposals were put forward, for example, about the science-intensive agro-industrial development of Ukraine. Without a reorganization of the world financial system, however, and the investigation into the causes of the crisis, which must accompany it, these proposals would amount to nothing.

One of the decisive obstacles which must be overcome is the paralyzing and stupefying influence of today's “culture”—the framework which so often limits people's thinking, without their even noticing. As an example, one of the projects presented during the preceding days, the burning of garbage for energy, might have been a worthwhile discussion in a healthy world economy. Today, however, in the face of an unprecedented, onrushing collapse of the global productive, physical economy, this discussion took on quite a different appearance. Before one can consider how a new house will look, it were advisable to put out the fire which just destroyed the entire neighborhood.

In many discussions with his youth movement, LaRouche has pointed out that having a brain does not necessarily mean that one can actually think; you may be born with a brain, but it comes without operating instructions. To make that point clearer, he has often used the metaphor of a goldfish, which, though released into the wide ocean, continues to swim only in the same small circles to which it had become accustomed in its fish bowl. Therefore, LaRouche has proposed a narrow path of discovery for his youth movement, from Plato through Cusa, Leibniz, Gauss, and Riemann, up into the work of Einstein and Vernadsky. In such a way, one obtains a clear concept of what it means to actually know something, and not merely to believe or to “feel.”

There is something universal in this method, as well as in the joy which one feels when one first declares war upon modern culture, and works wholeheartedly toward authentically human concepts. This also explains why an old man like LaRouche is able to whet the intellectual appetites of today's youth, who would otherwise flee or fall asleep at the mere mention of the word “politics.”

Soros's ICC Tornado Strikes Kenya

by David Cherry and Lawrence Freeman

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has escalated its attack on Africa in the wake of the African Union's (AU) rebuff to it on July 3. Now the ICC and its "Persecutor in Chief," Luis Moreno Ocampo, are targeting Kenya in their campaign to strip African nations of sovereignty. If the assault on Kenya is allowed to succeed, the British Empire is all but certain to achieve its goal of throwing the Greater Horn of Africa entirely into war and chaos, with untold loss of life through famine, disease, and tribal warfare, i.e., genocide.

In his effort to eradicate the nation-state of Kenya, Moreno Ocampo—backed by the highest levels of the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy, dedicated to world depopulation—is triggering ethnic war among Kikuyu, Luo, Kalenjin, and others, that was pre-programmed in the colonial era. He is also personally leading the effort to pick off nations from supporting the AU against the ICC. Botswana and Uganda have already reportedly distanced themselves from the AU resolution; pressure is mounting on South Africa.

The AU summit in Sirte, Libya, on the evening of July 3, passed a resolution rejecting the ICC arrest warrant for Sudan's President Omar Hassan al-Bashir. Many governments had supported an earlier, stronger draft declaring that "member states shall not cooperate" for "the arrest and surrender of African indicted personalities."

Less than a week after the AU action, on July 9, former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan forwarded to Moreno Ocampo a secret list of prominent Kenyans alleged to have been responsible for the horrific violence that followed the December 2007 elections. This step, bringing the ICC back to center stage in Africa, following an unpublicized visit by Annan to Washington, was a surprise. He has reportedly admitted that his action resulted from outside pressure. Meanwhile, the unsavory Moreno Ocampo began a tour in Africa to try to undo the AU-inflicted damage to the ICC.

The possibility that Annan might at some point give the secret list to the ICC, had forced two Kenyan cabinet ministers and the attorney general to make a pilgrimage to the Hague, on Annan's recommendation, to grovel before Moreno Ocampo on July 3, and negotiate over the conditions under which the ICC would prosecute Kenyans.

While the AU summit in Libya was preparing its stroke against the ICC, Moreno Ocampo was demanding that the three Kenyans accept a clause in their agreement with him that the ICC could prosecute if the government of Kenya did not. In yielding to that demand, thereby agreeing to conditions they were not authorized to make, doubtless under threats from the ICC thug, "the three are said to have gone outside their mandate" from President Mwai Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga, reported the Nairobi *Daily Nation* July 10.

Fox in the Henhouse

The Nairobi daily, the *Standard*, was thus only partially correct in reporting July 9 that it was Annan who had "deftly handed over Kenya . . . to ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo." But the newspaper reported it with satisfaction. Many Kenyans believe their government will not or cannot provide justice whenever the accused are wealthy or powerful, and that Kenya must bring in a force yet more powerful to get justice, or alternatively, it must welcome the threat of that force to compel the creation of a domestic tribunal configured to respond to foreign pressures. Should the fox—well known for impartiality with respect to chickens—administer justice in the henhouse? Why do Kenyans think that Moreno Ocampo's hijacking of Kenya's sovereignty will have a better outcome than the havoc he is trying to impose on Sudan?

The ICC seizure of Kenyan sovereignty will almost certainly lead to new violence and chaos by stirring up ethnic divisions. With Somalia almost gone, the tenuous stability in Sudan will probably not be enough to prevent regional catastrophe if Kenya—where a third of the population is already suffering from severe food insecurity—were pushed into chaos.

Moreno Ocampo and the ICC have claimed that the social and economic consequences of their actions are not their concern; their mandate is simply to achieve "justice." However, the founders of the ICC—George Soros and Lord Mark Malloch-Brown—and the Anglo-Dutch empire they serve, *do care*, perversely, about the

consequences: They can scarcely be expected to repudiate the *Global 2000* study, which *considers a two-thirds reduction in world population beneficial*. Africa is most vulnerable.

The Kenyan Background

After the 2007 violence—1,300 killed, 600,000 displaced, massive economic disruption—Annan served as chief mediator between the ruling Party of National Unity and the opposing Orange Democratic Movement, to form the current coalition government.

One product of Annan's mediation was the formation of a Commission of Inquiry into Post-Election Violence (CIPEV), but with a most peculiar composition: a Kenyan judge, Philip Waki, who was chairman; a New Zealand police investigator; and an emissary from Soros's Open Society Institute in Washington, Pascal Kambale, a DR Congo national, trained at Harvard Law School. The three wrote a report and compiled a secret list of leading figures whom they chose as suspects responsible the violence. The Commission called on the government to form a local tribunal to try the suspects, and said that if the government failed to do so within a limited time, it would forward the secret list to the ICC (on whose authority?). In October 2008, it gave the list to Annan "for safe-keeping."

The coalition government—under enormous pressure from abroad, and from foreign-directed interests at home—bought into this folly. The cabinet has recently proposed a special court of both foreign and local judges, and a non-Kenyan prosecutor and investigator. But, as with earlier cabinet efforts, the stumbling block is Parliament, where the opposition to a largely British-shaped tribunal is, unfortunately, primarily based on personal and ethnic interests.

Annan shocked Kenya by sending the secret list to Moreno Ocampo without warning, claiming there had been enough delay. The ICC announced the next day, July 10, that it had already set up a team of 14 professionals to investigate the suspects. Kenyan Attorney General Amos Wako promised Moreno Ocampo that he will send him police files soon, according to an ICC spokeswoman, and has already sent a report. Moreno Ocampo was interviewed on KTN, a Kenyan TV network, shortly after Annan's action. All of this, despite the current timetable, which the government had agreed to with the ICC, to demonstrate Kenya's commitment, by Sept. 30, to try the suspects itself, and to hand the case off to the ICC,

by June 2010, if the Kenyan Parliament has not reached an agreement by then on a specific judicial mechanism.

In his arrogance, Moreno Ocampo has even "expressed his determination to handle the Kenyan case because it was the 'only way to prevent the commission of new crimes in the next elections,'" according to the *Daily Nation* July 17.

As if these developments were not enough, 25 European Union members, Canada, and the U.S.—that is, the British Empire and its British-system supporters in the U.S.A.—informed the Kenyan government July 16, in a collective letter, that they were watching its every move; that the government must establish a tribunal that meets their standards by September, or they would cut off aid; and that a truth and reconciliation commission would not satisfy them.

Get the British Out

Kenya's problems will not be solved by those who invented them in the first place. U.S. historian Caroline Elkins, author of *Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain's Gulag in Kenya* (2005), reminded us of who they were, in an opinion column on Jan. 6, 2008, at the time of the post-election violence: "If you're looking for the origins of Kenya's ethnic tensions, look to its colonial past... Far from leaving behind democratic institutions and cultures, Britain bequeathed to its former colonies corrupted and corruptible governments... Added to this was a distinctly colonial view of the rule of law, which saw the British leave behind legal systems that facilitated tyranny, oppression and poverty rather than open, accountable governments. And compounding these legacies was Britain's famous imperial policy of 'divide and rule,' playing one side off another, which often turned fluid groups of individuals into immutable ethnic units, much like Kenya's Luo and Kikuyu today... We are often told that age-old tribal hatreds drive today's conflicts in Africa. In fact, both ethnic conflict and its attendant grievances are colonial phenomena."

The British must be kicked out of Africa so that Kenyans and other Africans can begin to create a true national identity, which will make the emergence of actual nation-states possible. The AU resolution rejecting the indictment of Bashir was a sound first step, but much more is required for African nations to achieve political and economic sovereignty.

Obama Blames Africa for Its Problems

Addressing the Parliament in Accra, the U.S. President ignored Ghana's historic role in the fight for independence.

In his June 11 speech to the Ghana Parliament in Accra, President Barack Obama shattered any illusions that Africans, or anyone else, may have had, that U.S. policy toward Africa would provide an alternative to the British imperial system. Not only did Obama ignore Ghana's historic, leading role in the fight for the independence of the former European colonies in Africa, but in every topic he addressed, he hewed to the imperial doctrines of the British system.

Obama made no mention of the IMF and its structural adjustment programs (SAP) which have destroyed African agriculture, forcing African nations, since the mid-1980s, to depend on food imports for their very existence, and leaving them to rely on external credit. This has resulted in debt service payments that exceed the value of aid received, leading to a net outflow of resources. The IMF and its lackeys blame this debt crisis on corrupt African leaders.

Obama also made no mention of the collapse of the world monetary system, and the ramifications of that collapse for Africa.

Taking the approach of British system institutions, as well as George Soros's Open Society, Obama charged that African countries were failing because of corruption, and a lack of democracy and good governance, without mentioning that these conditions were built in by the former colonizers, with their focus on fostering ethnic conflict to make the colonies more manageable. Instead of proposing an alternative infrastructural development program to counter the global collapse, Obama threatened that under his Presidency,

the United States would pay greater attention to corruption in human rights reports on African countries.

Public-private investments, which have to be approved by the financial sector of the British system, was all Obama could come up with, to promote development. He also advocated the dead-end forms of "energy": wind, solar, and biofuel. He promised that the United States would do more to promote trade and investment in this area. For health needs, aggravated by the lack of infrastructural development, he promised to continue George Bush's policies, throwing in e-health initiatives.

The President's comments on Zimbabwe were proof that his knowledge of Africa is worse than superficial, and that he was reading from a prepared script. He stated that the "West" was not responsible for the destruction of the Zimbabwe economy. He apparently doesn't know about the British Empire's anti-Zimbabwe offensive. At the 1979 British Lancaster House agreement to grant independence to Zimbabwe:

1) The British demanded that the new Zimbabwe government assume the debts of its oppressor, the Ian Smith outlaw regime;

2) that the British government agreed to settle the issue of land distribution (Africans had been herded off the best farmland by the colonizers), but reneged on this agreement in 1997, shortly after Tony Blair became Prime Minister;

3) that when the Zimbabwe government subsequently began implementing land reform on its own, the British government retaliated by withdrawing all budgetary aid to Zimba-

bwe, and getting other industrial countries to do the same. Since Zimbabwe was dependent on aid for about 50% of its budget, the economy collapsed. The British, to this day, blame this collapse on the Zimbabwe government.

Africans are wondering if Obama's idea of good governance means being subservient, foregoing industrial development, and doing as you are told.

Demonstrating how completely he has become an anglophile, Obama made only passing reference to Kwame Nkrumah, the historic leader of Ghana's fight for independence from the British, which resulted in Ghana becoming the first European colony in Africa to become independent, in 1957. Obama said that at this point in time, "We've learned that it will not be giants like Nkrumah and Kenyatta who will determine Africa's future." He emphasized that this time, it will be the people of Ghana, as long as democracy and good governance reigns.

The British systematically conquered Ghana militarily during the 1800s. During the 1940s, the movement for independence in Ghana gained momentum after the British opened fire in Accra (Ghana's capital) on a large contingent of former service men, who were peacefully carrying a petition to the governor to seek redress of their grievances. Joseph Danquah and other leading nationalists founded the United Gold Coast Convention in August 1947, and invited Kwame Nkrumah, who had studied in the United States 1935-45, to lead the group's campaign for representative self-government (but Nkrumah and Danquah were jailed after troops fired on demonstrators, and a riot erupted in 1948).

In 1949, The Convention People's Party, organized by Nkrumah, began organizing a mass movement for independence, staging strikes. The opposition of chiefs, through whom the British had ruled, was not enough to sabotage the Nkrumah-led drive for independence.

International Intelligence

Euro Industry Investment Drops 30% in Last Year

Real industrial investments dropped by 30.1% between May 2008 and May 2009 in the Eurozone countries. Industry in The Netherlands reported an increase of 9.7%, compared with April 2009, and Germany, 5%, but these have had no significant effect on the longer-term trend. In Germany, most of the “plus” is due to orders from the auto industry, which has to do with the government’s offer of a bonus to people who scrap their old cars and buy new ones. The European Union as a whole was slightly “better off” than the Eurozone, with investments in May 2009 down 28% from May 2008.

In several of the EU countries, the collapse of industry continued at full pace (April to May 2009): Ireland, minus 13.1%; Hungary and Bulgaria, minus 7.6% and 5.8%; Greece, minus 5.5%; and Spain, minus 4.5%.

Although the development of industrial orders determines the actual output, with a delay of several weeks, and because many firms will still produce out of hope for improvement in sales, it will be evident in the Autumn that Europe has lost almost a third of its industrial production in one year.

Flu Vaccine Production Way Behind Requirements

In another sign that the global systemic breakdown crisis is dictating terms to the swine flu pandemic, several of the world’s leading drug makers have announced that the virus they are growing to make the A(H1N1) vaccine doesn’t yield enough of the antigen needed to protect people.

The problem now, even for the wealthier nations, is that the back-up facilities for vaccine production do not exist. Unless the pandemic disease known as the British free-trade system is wiped out, the progress of the pandemic is going to accelerate.

Most manufacturers make vaccines by injecting an approved version of the virus strain into chicken eggs, which provide the nutrients for it to grow and multiply. However, the yield per egg is turning out to be only one-third to one-half of what manufacturers expected.

A Lyon, France-based specialist noted that other methods exist to directly produce vaccines from cell cultures. Given the fact that A(H1N1) influenza directly attacks lung cells, it would be important to produce vaccine from this type of cell.

However, this method is slow, and therefore, inadequate in the current emergency. In practice, the low-antigen productivity implies that only some very limited quantities of vaccine will be ready by mid-September. Governments will be pressed to prioritize which parts of the population receive vaccination. Already, the French government has stopped speaking about mandatory vaccination, for the simple reason that there will not be enough vaccine in time.

The Lyon source agreed that the only solution would be a crash program (doubling the number of eggs). Technically, according to the specialist, a massive increase in production could be achieved by suspending other sectors of the pharmaceutical business. In France, he said, this might happen, if things continue to go the way they’ve been going. But political determination will be required to overcome resistance to that.

The last crash vaccination program, he recalled, was in 1974.

Indonesia: British Mining Complicit in Terrorism?

Is the American-owned Freeport McMoRan, the world’s largest gold and copper mine, located in Papua, Indonesia, being targeted by Britain? A series of early July ambushes at the huge Grasberg mine in Papua killed several Freeport workers and others, while a bombing in Jakarta on July 17, which was aimed at a meeting of mining executives, wounded two Freeport executives, among others.

The Papua assaults may have been carried out by Papuan separatists, while the Jakarta bombings were likely the work of Jemaah Islamiyah, part of the al Qaeda-linked network which orchestrated bombings in Indonesia between 2003 and 2005—i.e., what *EIR* has identified as the British global terrorist apparatus. These attacks on Southeast Asia’s largest economy, and its largest taxpayer, Freeport McMoRan, must be seen in the light of the British activation of the Eurasian “Arc of Crisis” over the past month.

Indonesian Defense Minister Juwono Sudarsono charged that the British mining giants in Australia and New Zealand may be involved in the terrorist attacks. He told the press on July 16 that Freeport “involves global competition over natural resources,” that “there are a number of countries that have an interest in destabilizing Freeport,” and that foreign NGOs and governments had a history of backing groups that “agitate” in Papua, going back to the 1960s.

Asked which countries, Sudarsono answered: “Apparently many neighboring countries to the south.” Rio Tinto and Billiton, the core of the British imperial mining cartel, are located in Australia.

‘China Youth Daily’ Runs Long Article on LaRouche

China Youth Daily, the second most widely read newspaper in China, with a readership of more than 10 million, printed a lead article on Lyndon LaRouche on its international page July 24, entitled “The Present International Financial System Cannot Be Saved”—the first words out of LaRouche’s mouth when journalist Bright Ju began his interview at LaRouche’s home on July 12.

The article notes that LaRouche, aside from being a political figure, has wide-ranging interests in science, culture, and music; and is a man who hopes to create a new Renaissance, reviving the great tradition of Western culture, from Plato to Bernhard Riemann, which lay at the basis of the rapid economic development of the last centuries.

LaRouche: We Can Now Beat Back the Enemies of the U.S.

Lyndon LaRouche was interviewed on the Jack Stockwell radio program, broadcast live on KTKK, from Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21. An edited transcript is presented here.

Stockwell: Well, good morning, sir!

LaRouche: Good morning to you.

Stockwell: And you're still alive, and that's always a good thing, I think.

LaRouche: Well, I think that some President of ours is not too happy with that.

Stockwell: No, and I definitely want to get to that. I have a series of questions to ask you.

I want to jump back to September 2007, and you said, back then, and it disturbed me when you said it, because housing prices were still moving up—that we were in a total financial breakdown. And if I remember, Lyn, the verbiage you used was something to the effect, “It’s over. It’s done. There is no recovery. There isn’t any way this is going to turn around without bankruptcy of the entire financial system.” You said that in September 2007. Other people, a year later, were saying, “Boy, nobody saw this comin’. Boy, were we ever surprised!” Well, obviously, they hadn’t been listening to you.

So, now, approaching August 2009, two years later, what are we to do at this point?

LaRouche: There’s only one thing we can do: The present international monetary system is hopelessly bankrupt. The process of mismanagement, to use a

polite, nice term, has reached the point that you can no longer reorganize this system, there’s too much filth in it: You have to put it through bankruptcy reorganization.

Now, under our Constitution, we have a capability, which no other country in the world really has. That is, since our Constitution was based on precisely this kind of problem. During the course of the Revolutionary War, our banks, which were then banks of separate states, or what had become states by virtue of the war, were bankrupt because of the war debt. And Alexander Hamilton, during this period, came up with a remedy for this, which he said: Well, the problem is, we can solve the problem of bankruptcy, but we don’t have a Federal government. We have a government of a group of states. The states are bankrupt, or their banks are bankrupt. The only way we could organize this in bankruptcy, to get this mess over with, is to go through a form of bankruptcy reorganization, which depends on having Federal government.

So the concept of having a Federal Constitution, as opposed merely to the government we had under the Declaration of Independence, came about this way. Hamilton said, we need a Federal government, otherwise we can not solve this bankruptcy caused by the war debts of the separate states. And that’s how our system, which is a credit system, which is unique in the world, came into being. This is the intrinsic superiority of our system of government over any other that has ever existed on this planet, as a matter of fact.

So therefore, the remedy is, we can go to a number



Independence National Historic Park Collection

America's unique Constitution was devised in large part by Alexander Hamilton, in order to solve the problem of national bankruptcy after the Revolution. It is devised perfectly to deal with our national bankruptcy today. Here, a painting of George Washington addressing the 1787 Constitutional Convention.

of major powers which *can* do something about this—which includes Russia, China, and India—they're major powers. That if you get those nations, and a few others, together with the United States, on putting the world through bankruptcy reorganization, we can come out of this thing safely.

If, however, we continue to try to bail out this bunch of swindlers—it's a completely fraudulent mass of debt, if we try to bail this out, as we've been doing under George W. Bush, and under the present President, that will kill the United States; it will kill the world. There's no possibility that any nation of the world will survive economically, without putting the whole system into that kind of bankruptcy reorganization, using the U.S. Constitutional provision, which is the central feature of our Constitution, to put this thing into bankruptcy, reorganize it, create new credit, cancel this worthless debt—that is, this speculative debt—honor the decent debt, the Glass-Steagall standard, and we can come out of this thing quite alive. If we don't do that, we won't!

We've Bailed Out a Bunch of Thieves!

Stockwell: You have all the financial powers of the world fighting that very thing; the Fed is not going to be happy with that kind of concept; the City of London, the European Union, they're not going to be happy with what you're suggesting at all, are they?

LaRouche: Well, they didn't like our Constitution in the first place! And we have a bunch of guys in New York City and related places, who are all a bunch of thieves. There's no reason we should be continuing—we should never have bailed these guys out! They are gamblers, they gambled, and they lost! And we are not responsible for bailing out Las Vegas!

Stockwell: I was watching some CNN stuff last night, and they were talking about how, well, they've been given all these trillions, they've only paid out 10% of it, but what would really help right now is a second round of economic stimulus.

LaRouche: The stimulus package is a piece of idiocy. First of all, if you shut down General Motors, you shut down the auto industry, you take the entire Great Lakes region and you *shut it down*, as has been done, since the Summer of 2007; if you continue to bail out people who should not be bailed out, they should be imprisoned—that's the way to support them, they get taken care of in prison. For example, who did Madoff cover up for in his guilty plea? Who were the people who *received* the money, which he stole for them?

Stockwell: Yeah!

LaRouche: And so, you've got a situation, the Federal Reserve System is hopelessly bankrupt! It's a pri-

vate company, with a charter by the Federal government; the Federal government has to put the Federal Reserve System into receivership, under the Treasury Department, and put it down in the basement of some building someplace, under, say, a new National Bank, where they can sort out the mess that has created by Bernanke and his predecessor.

Stockwell: You know, one of the far right-wing arguments about the very thing you just said, Lyn, is, if the government has made such a mess of every other social thing they seem to grab ahold of from time to time, how could we ever possibly trust them with a central bank, and going back to the American System that we've used in the past?

LaRouche: The problem is not with the government, the problem's with the people we put in it. And you've got a situation, where Republicans and other so-called conservatives are fishing around for the "right line" on this thing, and realizing that Obama is not merely a guy they have to beat for the sake of the Republican Party, but that Obama is virtually insane! And that he should be put into custody on the basis of, he needs protection from his own insanity.

But this is a fact! This is not a charge, this is a plain fact! This guy's nuts!

Stockwell: Well, I remember a certain author who wrote a book about the previous President, being insane—his name escapes me at the moment—*Bush on the Couch*, I think was the title of the book. And he seemed quite disturbed and concerned that somebody like George Bush could be running free in Washington. What evidence do you have of the current President belonging on the same couch, this early in his administration.

LaRouche: I don't know that he belongs on the same couch. George Bush is more understandable for the average person, a much more understandable kind of clinical insanity. He's just plain stupid, and corrupt, and mean. And he sort of takes after his father, but some of the brains got missing along the way, probably by way of his health-care treatment, during the time he was serving in the Texas Air Guard.

But no, this guy is, as I said, on April 11 of this year, that this President has a psychological profile almost identical with that of the Emperor Nero. He's not really intelligent. He has a kind of "gift of gab," but if you examine what he says—first of all, his policies are

those of Adolf Hitler, his health-care policies, which is his main program. Cap and trade is a very similar kind of program. So these two issues by him, which he's pushing, are criminal in their intent, that is, by the Nuremberg standards, they're criminal, but he also can get off the charge because he's insane! And he needs protection.

He is *not* intelligent. He has a gift of gab, but if you look at him closely, he spouts words, and foolish people who aren't onto the game, think that those words mean something; often they don't, he just says those for effect. He is a Narcissus case. He has *the same mental profile as the Emperor Nero*. And this guy has got to be put under protection for his own sake.

Obama's Hitler Health Care

Stockwell: All right. Let me get into his health-care plan. Because it looks like it might not fly. It looks like it's really running up against some obstructions in the Senate. I want to ask you a question about the odds of it still getting passed. And then, number 2, I have a question that personally bothers me about some of the things you've said in the past, regarding swine flu and vaccines.

In fact, let me ask you that question first: I'm a health-care provider. I'm what's known as a NUCCA doctor [upper cervical chiropractic]. My specialty is the brainstem, and in the imbalance in that area, the deleterious effects that it creates to the entire body. And I deal with vaccine injuries all the time in my business. And I see you representing two different viewpoints at two different times: One time, you'll talk about the British-led scheme to depopulate this planet that's represented by NICE [the national health rationing program] in the U.K. and Obama's health-care program; and, at the same time, I almost get this idea that you're behind the mass vaccination of people using a vaccine, which at best is untested, at worst, has killed a bunch of homeless people in Poland who were being used as guinea pigs, and I can't help but believe that mass vaccination of the population is just another depopulation scheme.

LaRouche: No, it's not. We know the main pattern here—

Stockwell: No, Lyn. Lyn, I want you to hold that, we have to take a commercial break for a moment. But when we get back,—if I'm off in left field, give me some more information here. But I am *not*, by any means, a proponent of mass vaccinations of what can



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The issue of dealing with pandemics, such as the current outbreak of swine flu, has to be seen from the standpoint of public health. It is the collapse of investment in public health, including sewage treatment plants, like that shown here, which has made our current crisis inevitable.

only be described as an untested vaccine. And I can't help but feel the influence of the Anglo-American oligarchical control of this planet being at the root of that concept.

Lyn, I know that the [anti-]vaccination concept can fall under kind of a populist idea. However, there's always something behind something, and then there's something behind that. Can you clarify on that?

LaRouche: Yes. Go back to 1918, and the way the Spanish flu came into the United States. For example, my mother survived the Spanish flu during that particular period; many others did not. Now, you have to look at this as a public health, strategic question, not as a vaccination question. Remember, many vaccinations which have been required, and have been very helpful over the past decades, have saved many lives.

Then you have the other side of the question: Given the British Empire's policy, as stated under this Prince Philip, as supported by Al Gore, and so forth, is dirty work possible? *Yes!* But, is dirty work the explanation for this phenomenon? *No!*

The phenomenon is a result of conditions, public health conditions which are the result of the policies of the United States and Europe, and so forth, over a long period of time, especially, since Spring of 1968. In

Spring of 1968, this country underwent a change in control. As of the beginning, before March of 1968, the dominant population on this planet in terms of influence, was my generation. These were the blue-collar workers, and so forth and so on. With the Spring of '68, with what happened internationally, with this new generation, the new anarchist generation, the new fascist generation, typified by Mark Rudd, for example, you had a shift in control of public opinion and institutions, such that the present Congress is dominated by 68ers, of that particular influence.

So what's happened is, we have gone, since the Spring of 1968, from a still-lingering commitment to scientific and technological progress, to a post-industrial ideology, a fascist ideology which is called "leftist." The source of this thing, is the same source as Adolf Hitler: Hitler was a

creation of the British Empire, of the British monarchy, and he has a health-care policy—the same health-care policy of Adolf Hitler is *the exactly, identical policy of President Barack Obama, today.*

Now, Obama represents the 68er generation, the most corrupt side of it, which has dominated the planet. They have a policy, which is the policy of Bertrand Russell, the policy of the British government today, the policy of Hitler—and the Obama policy is the *exact copy* of the health-care policy of Adolf Hitler, for which we condemned people in the Nuremberg trials. And so, the point is, to stop the President before we have to put *him* through a Nuremberg trial!

It is those conditions of life, of public health conditions, which have caused a lot of these problems. In this process, you can not exclude tinkering with bad vaccines. But vaccines are not in themselves intrinsically bad; they're good. We have saved many lives, through vaccines. They always come, when they happen, usually as a surprise, because the diseases are a surprise. And we've developed the ability to develop vaccines in response to a new disease. So the fact that you say, they're not tested—well, they are tested. The question is, who's testing them?

Admittedly, I'm always concerned that there's some

monkey business going on there. But in this case, the causes of this pandemic, are so obvious and so general, that if somebody's doing some monkey business, they're in a minor league, compared to the big leagues of the main infection.

Stockwell: Well, when you say, "what's behind this is so obvious," I can't help but believe there's some orchestration behind the administration of this program to try to control the swine flu, when you see where it originated from, when you see how it's manufactured, what kind of DNA is present in this viral structure—I can't help believe that there's some depopulationist ideology supporting it.

LaRouche: No, look right there. You've got it in the policies of the U.S. and European government, and the governments of South and Central America, and Africa, and so forth, since 1968! These are policies which were uttered by Bertrand Russell, and anyone who admires Bertrand Russell's philosophy, is part of this. Look, when you have the President of the United States has the same policy on health care *as Adolf Hitler did*, between 1939 and 1945, and when this policy comes, not from anyplace else, but from the British system, the NICE system, this is also a Hitler policy, and the Hitler policy on health care came from Britain in the first place!

Stockwell: All right, now, you have said that about three times in this last half-hour: Please be very specific, where you see the current—and this is for the benefit of my audience; I already know the answer to this, but I want you, for the benefit of my audience, to specify, the similarities between what he's pushing in Congress right now, and what showed up in Germany.

LaRouche: Well, what he's doing now, he passed a law which was classified in Germany, under Hitler, as Tiergarten 4. There was an office in Berlin, in the Tiergarten area, and the office was called Tiergarten 4. From this office, which was a *policy enunciated publicly* by Adolf Hitler, and by that administration—and also at



U.S. Navy/Specialist 1st Class John Collins

President Obama's decision to massively beef up the U.S. military deployment to Afghanistan threatens to further blow up the region. Here, Australian troops deploy in the town of Tarin Kowt.

the same time by the British—but in his case it was special. So, this was the policy for which we accused the Hitler regime of genocide. This policy, the *exact, same policy, is the stated policy of President Obama*, including Orszag, etc. The behaviorist medical policy—what the President of the United States is pushing as his leading policy, the thing he's willing to fight and kill for, is this health-care policy, for which there is *no difference*, between the health-care policies of Adolf Hitler, for which we killed people at Nuremberg, and the policies of the current President of the United States: Identical! Word for word, identical.

Anybody could compare the two laws: It's black and white! We've documented it, we've presented it. There's no excuse for anyone saying it's not true, because it's been out all over the place. Anybody who wishes to know it, can know, there's no secret, it's open: the President of the United States is effectively susceptible of being charged with Nazi crimes against humanity.

British Stoke the Flames

Stockwell: Well, you can go to the government website and look up the health-care bill, and if you want to take the next two weeks to read it, what you're saying there is spelled out, word for word. And if you go to <http://whatreallyhappened.com>, there is an update on that page, that gives you, page by page by page, as to what this health-care plan calls for. And it is *unbeliev-*

able in some of the horrific wording, and intimations that are made in this document, that your health-care decisions will be *completely* taken away from you and given to some governing board, and they will decide who gets health care and who *doesn't* get the health care, not based on some medical professional's educated opinion, but based on what the review board decides is necessary and not necessary. And that's only one aspect of it. So when you say that it parallels the Nazi health plan, I can understand that.

Now, let me move in another direction: One of the things that gave President Obama the support that he had a year ago, when he was running [for President], was his promise to curb what was going on in Iraq and Afghanistan, and to start the soldier-return program, that would bring an end to our imperialist involvement around the planet. What you see now, seems to be an upscaling of our Iraq involvement, our Afghanistan involvement; and if you bring what's going with the Uighurs, the Afghans, the Tibetans, the Xinjiang province, the Army of the Republic of China, the People's Republic of China, it looks to me like what Obama is doing, is turning up the burners under what George Bush started.

LaRouche: More than that, but it's the British burners.

Remember, people have got to realize, the United States, up until 2007, was still the largest source of credit internationally, despite the fact we were already going bankrupt. But we were uttering the credit on which the world depended, including China, other countries, whose market was depending on U.S. credit, largely. Even though the British were dominating the system, the U.S. was uttering the credit. Since the Summer of 2007, September, approximately, we have been losing that position, and under the thieves of Wall Street, who stole everything in sight with the help of the British, we've now completely looted, with the bailout bill and all this crap: We have been destroyed.

Now, the whole system is coming down. In the meantime, the system is controlled—see this is the case of Tony Blair: We have been given positive evidence—we now have it secured from the government—that 9/11 was an Anglo-Saudi operation against the United States, done for the benefit of the Bush Administration. The evidence is clear: Prince Bandar, then the ambassador from Saudi Arabia to the United States was key in this operation; we have the names from the government evidence of three of the guys who were actually pilot-

ing the planes in that operation; and there was a vast coverup, by the Bush Administration and others. But this is out: It came from London! It came from the Saudi-British al-Yamamah operation against us!

The same operation under Tony Blair, the former Prime Minister, who is no good—evil, absolutely evil—they got us into an Iraq war! A completely fake, and fraudulent Iraq war, for the sake of making the Bush Administration plausible, under a stupid President.

Then, we've gotten into this Afghanistan war; we've gotten into it for the same reason: There is no reason, *no military reason for the Obama policy in Afghanistan!* We're now in danger of a complete explosion, in the entire region, spilling over. The Uighurs operation is a British intelligence operation, run in part through a Washington office. It's just one of many little operations, terrorist operations, which are orchestrated under many pluralities, and they're spreading all over the world.

We're on the verge of a general breakdown, first, number-one, in the world financial-economic system. We can fix it; I know how to fix it. It can be fixed. But unless it *is* fixed, we're seeing a new dark age, which is going to reduce the world's population down in the direction of about 2 billion people from presently 6.7. That's where we're headed.

And these are conditions, this fighting in Afghanistan is a *crime against the United States!* We are not going to accomplish anything by helping the British run a drug operation in Afghanistan. Our job is to get *out* of that, and take British agents, like George Soros, who is the world's biggest drug-pusher, and is in the middle of this thing, and our biggest enemy on that ground, and take care of these guys! Get them out of the system.

So, we have to look at these things, not in the terms of, somebody did something wrong on a particular occasion, like breaking a store window. This is a case of a long-term struggle between the United States and our enemies in the world, including some inside our own country, like Wall Street. And we are being betrayed, we're being sold down the river.

Stockwell: Now, that's not an easy thing to do. It's not an easy thing to do, to take a country like the United States and sell it down the river. A lot of people in this country simply do not trust our own government, and there are these right-wing groups all over the place, pushing for several states to have a secession legislative move; they're talking about the coming martial

law; they're talking about the breakdown of highway transportation; everything that is moving towards an almost isolationist attitude, with several areas and sections of the country having to survive on their own, and people do not look past the government as being their enemy, in the sense that you're always saying that the problem is the British, not our own government. Why is that?

LaRouche: Well, it's always been that way. Remember, you have to look at the history, where we came from. We had a dark age in the 14th Century, we had one-third of the population was wiped out during that dark age, it was largely, like today, diseases. It had an economic cause, like today. But diseases spread and were encouraged. And so you lost one-third of the population of Europe, in a short period of time, and you lost half the parishes in Europe in that period. It was called the New Dark Age.

We're now entering the conditions of a new dark age. Fortunately, if you look at what some of the Republicans are doing, including some of the right-wingers, they're not really nuts. They are groping, like politicians, for: What is a minority party, i.e., the Republican Party, going to do under these conditions? Well, they decided to pick up on policies of the type I push. Why? Because, they may hear what I have to say, but they have their own agenda. Their agenda is, Obama is going down. More and more leading Democrats want to get rid of Obama now.

Stockwell: Yes.

LaRouche: The Republicans want to get rid of him, and they've got a policy to get a coalition of sane Democrats, which are increasing in number by the day, and Republicans, and get rid of this Obama problem.

Will the Obama Presidency Last?

Stockwell: Now, the thing you were saying there: Several leaders of the Democratic Party in Congress want to get rid of this Obama problem. Specifically, what leaders are you referring to, and what are their plans? Because I know, even the African-American community is not very happy with him, because he hasn't done a damned thing for them.

LaRouche: Well, you find a differentiation: In the Northern states, in particular, the identifiable African-American community, which is a little more sophisticated on economic questions than the Southern part, for historical reasons, that they are saying one word to de-

scribe their former support for the Obama candidacy. They word they're using is "betrayed"! This scumbag has betrayed us. And the Southern states are a little bit slower in catching onto reality, for reasons which are historical reasons. But in general, you will find now, on the health-care policy, Obama is now a loser. The polls show that Obama is going *down*. He knows it, he's hysterical. He's getting desperate, and will take desperate action, because he knows that his image as the new Emperor Nero is going down! So, we don't have a hopeless situation; you have a *dangerous* situation.

This is a fight we have to win to save the nation and to save civilization. We can lose it. But right now, the trend is moving in our direction, *of beating this thing back*.

Stockwell: What kind of support do you see—you know, I know that the financial world has gone completely off the deep end, in following the British program for America's future—what do you see, say, in the military? Is the President having any trouble with getting the military to go along with his upscaling the Iraq/Afghanistan involvement, the possible invasion of Pakistan, and an eventual confrontation with the Chinese over what's going on with the Uighurs, the Afghans, the Tibetans?

LaRouche: Well, you have a group which is typified by the Hillary Clinton factor, or what is today the Hillary Clinton factor, inside the Obama Administration itself: That you have a group of people who were in there before, who are in there now, in terms of our governmental institutions, which are our defense, our intelligence, and our military leadership. The leadership there is a good leadership; if we eliminated the people who are immediately associated with Obama, such as his behaviorist group, Larry Summers and a few people like that, you would find we have a government that could function and function rationally.

So this is not a little minority; the majority is against Obama today.

But you have a phenomenon, where you have a newly installed President, and you have usually this first year of toleration of whatever kind of idiot you just elected there. But he's losing that. But the gut is, the gut institutions of the United States are against, in their direction of motion now, in the direction of a majority which is an anti-Obama majority. He now knows it! He has been informed. He is now hysterical, because he knows that *time is against him*, even in the relatively



DoD/U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Jerry Morriso

There is a group in the Administration which represents good leadership, LaRouche said, typified by Hillary Clinton and the national security team. Here, Secretary of State Clinton and Defense Secretary Robert Gates hold a press conference at the State Department in April.

short time. He knows that by Autumn, he could be finished. And the forces are out there, really to assist him in being finished.

Stockwell: What do you see happening in the marketplace, especially the stock market, bond market, Aug. 1 through Oct. 31? Because, I've been telling my people, "Get out!"

LaRouche: Well, it's dead! You don't want to go into your tomb now, do you? It's already dead!

Stockwell: Well, a lot of people don't look in the long term, because I've had a couple of my patients come back to me here, just yesterday morning in fact, and said, "Dr. Stockwell, you've seen the market moving up lately. Surely you're going to reassess the value of being in that place." I said, "Get out!!"

LaRouche: You're right! You're giving them the best health-care advice you could possibly give them, just that!

Stockwell: So, that's not where you would suggest someone putting their money in the next few months?

LaRouche: No! There's only one thing we can do: We have, and you know, this is what I'm working with, on this opposition to this, not just opposition to Obama!

I've been working to try to save the United States from this kind of insanity for a long time! And now, I think we're on the uptick. I think we're in a position, not that I can guarantee any success, but we're in a position where I can say, fairly, that we now have the option of succeeding and beating back the enemies of the United States, and getting back to a U.S. role in leadership in the nation of the type we used to have, long ago. We're back at that point.

So, one should not be pessimistic in terms of trends, and long-term trends. It's the very short term, that is the problem, because *there's nothing*

about this Administration and its policy which any sane person would consciously vote for! Or support. And now, the mood is, "How do we get rid of it?" And this is a general thing: It's in Asia; it's in Russia; it's in China; it's in India; it's in most of Africa; not among the drug pushers and those interests in South and Central America, but in Europe and so forth, the tendency is, "Let's get rid of this, while we still can!"

Stockwell: Well, I'm kind of wondering if, when the big issue came out regarding whether or not Barack Obama, Barry Soetero, whatever you want to call him, was actually an American citizen, it started to die down a few months ago, and now it's coming back with an even stronger resurgence. Could this be one of the possible ways in which the Congress goes after him?

LaRouche: No. No, it won't. The point is, you've got a bunch of these certain kind of right-wingers who are not entirely sane, but you are talking about the normal American, who may be Republican or Democratic, who's rather conservative on these wild-eyed, 68er ideas. So you had a fascist movement, which is the 68ers, and they're called the "left wing," and then everybody else is called the "right wing." It's a crazy time.

The problem here essentially is, the American

people, leaders of all kinds, realize that this is a loser. But Americans tend to be opportunistic sometimes, about their politics. They wait until they see things blowing in their direction before they decide to go to war.

Stockwell: Boy, is that ever true!

LaRouche: So, that's our problem.

'What's in it for Me?'

Stockwell: You know, a lot of people will sit there and watch the Earth disappear under their feet, until they find a way to make some money out of it. And then when they find the wind blowing in their direction, then suddenly, they'll jump on the wagon and start defending the Constitution. But up to that point, it's kind of a "what's in it for me?" attitude, and I think it comes out of the Baby-Boomer generation.

LaRouche: Well, the point is, "what's in it for me?" is: How do we get rid of this Administration? Health care? Economy? Look at the rate of unemployment: Take the Great Lakes area, for example—it's dead! We've lost our industrial base, and Obama put the finishing touches on it! Bush set it up, and they did it. The bailout did it! We could have saved that; we could have saved the whole system! But they sank it.

So, what we've got now, is people are looking for survival, and they realize that this Obama Administration is not their friend. And the people who created the Obama Administration, and the British are not their friends either! So, you're getting a revolt of that type around the world. But you get the kind of Summer patriots; but there are guys out there, these average people out there, in California, in the Midwest, in the Great Lakes area, these people in the main, are frightened and angry.

Stockwell: Well, a lot of those people in the Great Lakes area are the ones who voted for him.

LaRouche: Yes, well, they hate him, now.

Stockwell: Well, I guess so. Now, let me jump off onto another planet, really quick: Had John McCain won, do you see anything different today, as opposed to Obama being in there, if McCain won?

LaRouche: No, the only winning question was the question of Hillary. McCain is not the most—

Stockwell: Right. I was working towards Hillary,

but let's go ahead and jump to that.

LaRouche: But McCain is not really a factor. He may have been a factor, when he was first running against George W. Bush, but he's lost that since then. But there are, in the institutions of government and finances and so forth, in the United States, are an institutional factor, which can move with both parties, or leading factions of both parties. If these certain Democrats and certain Republicans move together, saying, we have to have a patriotic unity about certain basic issues of survival of this nation, that's where, for me, *real politics* lies today. We've got a *bad* President, we've got to get rid of this Presidency, and we've got a lot of good people who want to do it, and *can* do it, and I'm with them!

Stockwell: Where do you see Hillary playing in this, and why in the world did Obama put her in as Secretary of State?

LaRouche: Because he was afraid of her being in the opposition out there.

Stockwell: So he wanted her close to him?

LaRouche: No, he wanted her under his thumb.

Stockwell: That's what I mean.

LaRouche: Yes. Remember, you have to look at the history of the Emperor Nero, and if you've studied the Roman history of the Emperor Nero and how he went down, and you look at Obama, you're looking at the same historical kind of phenomenon.

Stockwell: Well, he's going to have people he's going to start pointing fingers at, like Nero did. And Nero, of course, would take these people, and they would disappear, and they were the "cause of the problem," so he could try to go on looking better.

LaRouche: I'm number-one on that popularity list. Obama hates me and fears me more than anyone! And he does it, because of his psychological makeup.

Stockwell: Well, you take his teleprompter away from him, and he's worse than George Bush.

LaRouche: Well, he is much worse than George—he doesn't know what he's saying. He doesn't care what he's saying. Take that speech he made, with [New Jersey Gov. John] Corzine, on health care: Saying, "I'm the world's greatest genius on health care." So I responded to him!



White House/Pete Souza

President Obama, shown here in the Oval Office in early June, is getting desperate to save his Presidency, and his British agenda. That makes him, and his British backers dangerous, LaRouche warns.

The guy's is not the greatest genius—as matter of fact, he's no genius at all! He's just a mouth!

Be Prepared

Stockwell: All right. We only have a few minutes left, so let me ask you this: That momentous day, 9/11/2001, you were my guest that morning, while the attack against the World Trade Center, against America, was taking place. And there have been many stories about who was behind what, and who was doing what to whom. And one thing that has been consistent, is the things that you said that morning, about who was behind it, what was necessary for this to happen, and who would end up being blamed for this, have all played out perfectly as you said.

Now, coming up here, on July 27, a week from yesterday, through the 31st of July, is another *major* FEMA exercise. And this one's a little different, because this one involves the entire United States, not just New York City; and it's one of a *nuclear attack*, in the sense of what can we do, to prevent a nuclear attack from occurring in America? It's supposed to originate from Region 6 of FEMA—Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, Oklahoma,

New Mexico, and I think Arizona, is in Area 6—I may be wrong about Arizona; but it's supposed to originate from there. It involves all the governors, and the highest state officials of all states, a lot of public officers in the sense of the constabulary, all the way down to local city police, who are supposed to be involved in this, coast to coast. Word on the street is the reason why Governor Palin resigned, as of this coming Sunday, July 26, is so she will not be forced to be a part of this the following Monday, July 27, when this exercise begins.

Now, you guys have a *great* intelligence network, and that's one of the reasons why I enjoy reading *Executive Intelligence Review* magazine. In the couple of minutes that are left, can you comment on this coming exercise that begins Monday of next week?

LaRouche: There is no doubt, that you go back to Hilex, back in '75, where I was faced with a similar situation: I had information at that point, which is inside information which fell into my hands rather fortuitously, that the incoming Carter Administration, or the people who controlled it, were going to try to pull some kind of nuclear confrontation at that time. I organized a Presidential campaign, at that time, to expose this. I did. We succeeded in blocking it, and creating such a scandal that it was not done, but other things were done. I got into really serious trouble, with various institutions, because of that, and because of what I did with the Reagan Administration early on. All the troubles I've had, have had that essential problem, come from that source.

But we're now faced with something which is a similar kind of situation: The threat does not come so much from that source. Obviously, the Obama Administration and its British handlers would like to pull a stunt like that now, because Obama's afraid, and his advisors are afraid, that he's going to lose it very soon. This may be his last chance to keep his Presidency, before he's dumped. So therefore, it's dangerous.

However, the international situation is also significant, and whether this kind of stunt could be pulled off, or not, is going to depend upon the *international* situation, international reactions, international stopgaps, which are being put into place now.

Stockwell: So: In other words, keep your wits about you.

LaRouche: That's right. Be prepared.

NUCLEAR UPDATE

South Africa Is Preparing for the World's First Commercial PBMR

by Tom Ferreira

Anti-nuclear activists would love to see it go away, and some skeptics are gleefully claiming its demise, but South Africa's Pebble Bed Modular Reactor Company is still steadfastly preparing for the construction of the world's first commercial pebble bed modular reactor (PBMR) at Koeberg, near Cape Town.

While a change in design from electricity generation to a more versatile concept that can provide both electricity and process heat, has resulted in a delay in the PBMR program, it has broadened its potential customer base. In addition to electricity, the new design is aimed at steam process heat applications operating at 720°C, which provides the basis for penetrating the nuclear heat market as a viable alternative for carbon-burning, high-emission heat sources.

Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (Pty) Limited is a public-private partnership comprising the South African government, nuclear industry players, and utilities. The PBMR is a strategic national project due to its significance to South Africa and its potential in international markets, as a prospective provider of safe, clean energy.

The successful deployment of this leading-edge technology has the potential to make a significant con-



EIRNS/Marjorie Hecht

PBMR CEO Jaco Kriek: "PBMR is one of the few engineering and science megaprojects South Africa has. We should not waste that opportunity. It's an opportunity in a lifetime for a developing country."

tribution to local and international energy supply, says Jaco Kriek, CEO of Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (Pty) Ltd. In addition, it will contribute to the transformation of South Africa's current resource-based economy and the creation of an advanced manufacturing industry.

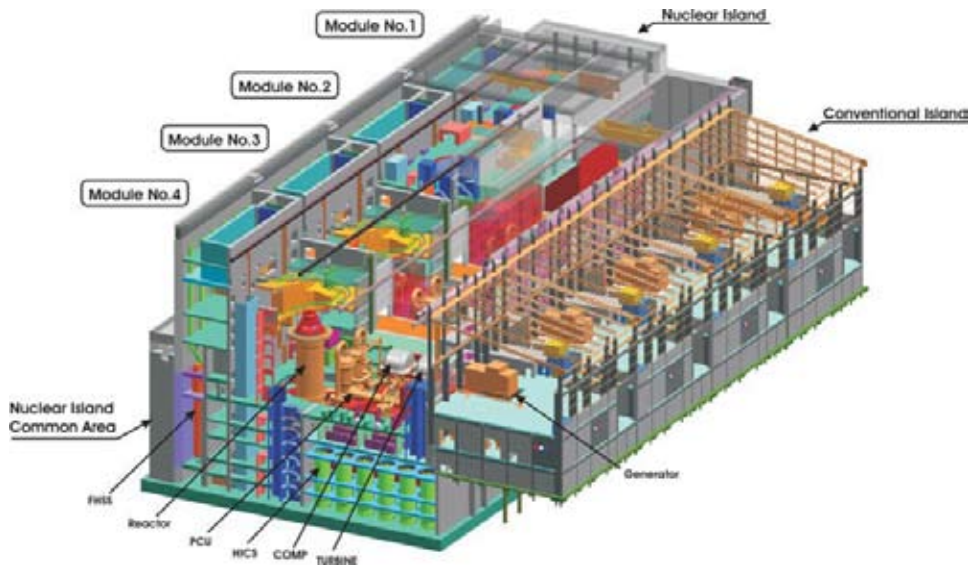
Kriek says that PBMR's goal is to be one of the first organizations that successfully commercializes pebble bed technology for the world's energy market. If everything goes according to plan, the first pebble bed reactor will be commissioned towards the end of 2018.

This will be the first time that South Africa is designing, licensing, and building its own nuclear reactor system.

Strong Government Support

The South African government recognizes the importance of energy security and supply, and the fact that PBMR can contribute significantly to local economic growth and development by forming part of a technology-intensive nuclear manufacturing sector which could, in future, export this technology.

The government therefore regards the PBMR project as one of the most important capital investment and development projects yet undertaken in the country. At



PBMR

Design for a PBMR with four nuclear modules. Because of the modular design, nuclear reactors can be added to the complex as needed, making use of the same non-nuclear facilities.

a media briefing in Cape Town on June 23, 2009, Ms. Portia Molefe, the director general of the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), confirmed the target date of 2018 for the commissioning of the demonstration PBMR reactor.

In June 2009, PBMR's U.S. investor, Westinghouse, reiterated its belief in the PBMR. Said Rita Bowser, the company's regional vice-president: "We continue to believe in the PBMR. There are good synergies between the U.S. and South Africa to demonstrate the benefits of PBMR."

From a small research and development company, with barely 100 employees at its inception in 1999, PBMR has grown into one of the largest nuclear reactor design teams in the world. In addition to the core team of some 800 people at the PBMR head-office in Centurion near Pretoria, more than 1,000 people at universities, private companies, and research institutes are involved with the project.

Salient Features of the PBMR

What exactly is the pebble bed modular reactor, and why is there so much international interest in the concept?

The PBMR Demonstration Power Plant (DPP200) earmarked for the Koeberg site is a helium-cooled, graphite-moderated high temperature reactor (HTR). It has a capacity of 200 megawatts thermal or 80-MW electric, which means that about 14 PBMR modules will

be needed to generate the equivalent of a conventional reactor such as the Westinghouse AP1000 concept.

The PBMR reactor has a vertical steel reactor pressure vessel which contains and supports a metallic core barrel, which in turn supports the cylindrical pebble fuel core. This cylindrical fuel core is surrounded by an outer graphite reflector, and, on top and bottom, by graphite structures which provide similar upper and lower neutron reflection functions. Vertical borings in the side reflector are provided for the reactivity control elements.

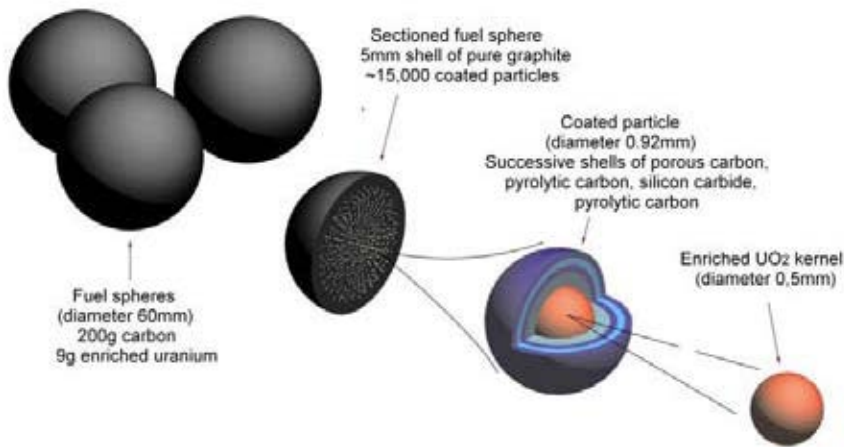
Two diverse reactivity control systems are provided for shutting the reactor down.

The PBMR DPP200 uses particles of enriched uranium dioxide coated with silicon carbide and pyrolytic carbon. The particles are encased in graphite to form a fuel sphere or pebble about the size of a billiard ball.

The Pebble Bed Reactor's Competitive Advantages

- Inherently safe features
- On-line refueling
- Competitive economics
- Hydrogen production
- Desalination properties
- Can be placed where the energy is needed
- Job creation potential
- Short construction lead times
- Allows for additional modules to be added
- Requires a small tract of land
- Proliferation resistant
- Designed to withstand significant external forces
- Low environmental impact

—Tom Ferreira



Source: PBMR

The tiny fuel particles (lower right) have a kernel of fission fuel (uranium oxide) at the center, and are coated with containment layers; they are then inserted into a graphite sphere to form “pebbles” the size of tennis balls, each of which contains about 15,000 fuel particles. Pebbles travel around the reactor core about 6 times in their lifetime. During normal operation, the reactor will be loaded with 360,000 fuel pebbles.

tricity and process heat. The design is such that modules can be combined to suit the specific energy requirements of the user.

There are several factors that make the PBMR concept promising and attractive, such as its short (24-month) construction time, low operating cost, fast load-following characteristics, and inherent safety characteristics.

Accident-Proof

There is no conceivable accident scenario that can cause a fuel meltdown or otherwise lead to a large release of radioactivity. It should therefore eventually be possible, subject to licensing authority approval and public accep-

The core of the reactor contains approximately 360,000 of these fuel spheres and during normal operation, the core produces nominally 200 MW of heat. Helium is used as the coolant, and the energy absorbed in the core is transferred to a secondary loop through a heat exchanger.

The secondary side of the heat exchanger contains water, and the heat absorbed changes it to steam which, in turn, is used to drive a steam turbine connected to a generator to produce electricity in the same way conventional power stations operate. In this configuration the reactor is an electricity producing plant. The secondary side of the heat exchanger may also be coupled to a process plant directly to provide the energy directly as process heat. In this configuration, the reactor is a pure process heat producing plant.

Another possible configuration is a co-generation plant that produces both elec-



University of Greenwich Public Services International Research Unit

The attack by George Soros on the PBMR has been fronted by green fascist and so-called Professor of Energy Policy, Steve Thomas, of the University of Greenwich.

The Soros-Funded Anti-PBMR Faction

The anti-nuclear group, Physicians for Social Responsibility, sponsored a U.S. tour in May 2009 for the leading British anti-nuke guru, who has made a career out of trashing the PBMR. The George Soros-funded Steve Thomas spread his distorted opinions, including that the PBMR was “dead,” in a conference call and other publicized speeches, with the theme of “The Myth of The European ‘Nuclear Renaissance.’”

Most recently Thomas, a professor at the University of Greenwich, regurgitated his PBMR allegations in June 22 *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, under the wishful-thinking title, “The Demise of the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor.” To read more about Thomas, see “Who’s Trying to

Strangle the PBMR?” (http://www.21stcenturysciencetech.com/Articles%202008/F-W_2008/HTR_4.pdf)

A special report on the PBMR, including an interview with PBMR’s CEO Jaco Kriek, can be found at http://www.21stcenturysciencetech.com/Articles%202008/F-W_2008/HTR_1.pdf

—Marjorie Mazel Hecht



PBMR

Wildebeest and zebra grazing near the Koeberg nuclear site, where Eskom, the state utility, operates two 900-MW pressurized-water nuclear reactors, the only nuclear reactors on the continent. The PBMR demonstration reactor will be built near here. Koeberg is on the coast, near Cape Town.

tance, to site PBMR modules close to centers of industry. The design of the fuel spheres, and of the uranium particles within them, will facilitate ultimate disposal of spent fuel.

Maintenance will be relatively straightforward. The reactor is refueled on-line and is designed to run continuously at full power for several years. Indeed, in the case of direct cycle electricity generation, the planned maintenance interval is six years.

The reactor is continuously replenished with fresh or reusable fuel from the top, while used fuel is removed from the bottom. After each pass through the reactor core, the fuel pebbles are measured to determine the amount of fissionable material left. If the pebble still contains a usable amount of the fissile material, it is returned to the reactor at the top for a further cycle. Each cycle takes about six months.

Each pebble passes through the reactor about six times, and lasts about three years before it is spent, which means that a reactor will use 12 total fuel loads in its design lifetime.

The extent to which the enriched uranium is consumed during the lifetime of a fuel pebble (called the extent of burn-up) is much greater in the PBMR than in conventional power reactors. There is therefore minimal fissionable material that could be extracted from spent PBMR fuel. This, coupled with the level of technology and cost required to break down the barriers surrounding the spent fuel particles, protects the PBMR fuel against the possibility of nuclear proliferation or other covert use.

Recent Developments

Recently, PBMR entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Institute of Nuclear and New Energy Technology (INET) of Tsinghua University and Chinergy Co. Ltd. of China, whose pebble bed concept is based on a 10-MW (thermal) research reactor that was started up in Beijing in December 2000. INET is a top nuclear research and experimental institute in China.

The MOU, based on mutual respect and appreciation for the developments achieved by both countries to date, is designed to facilitate cooperation on identified areas of common interest. South Africa and China hope to pursue collaboration in a number of strategic and technical areas relating to high temperature reactor (HTR) projects in both countries.

In December 2008, PBMR's Fuel Development Laboratories, in collaboration with NECSA (the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation), successfully manufactured High Temperature Reactor coated particles containing 9.6% enriched uranium. The coated particles were shipped to the United States and are currently being tested at the Idaho National Laboratory.

While these are still early days for the PBMR, it is clear that its potential contribution to meeting the world's energy needs in difficult days to come is considerable.

Tom Ferreira is head of communications for the PBMR Company.

The Ultimate October Surprise

Lyndon LaRouche has issued a pointed warning: The final collapse of the entire global financial system is just months away, and the window is rapidly closing on the last, best opportunity to avert a global plunge into a Dark Age that will make Europe's plunge in the 14th Century seem mild by comparison.

By LaRouche's estimate, as things stand now, the close of the fiscal year, on Sept. 30, will mark the onset of a full-scale financial crash, by no later than mid-October, once the year-end figures have been presented, and the panic sets in. LaRouche has never been wrong in any of his long-range forecasts, and the last time he gave such a precise date for a financial shock, was in the Summer of 1987, when he warned that the financial bubble was going to burst sometime in October. He was right then, and he is right today.

Recent studies show that 48 U.S. states are fundamentally insolvent. While official unemployment is hovering just below 10%, in some former industrial states, like Michigan and Ohio, the figure is more than double that amount. Only 29% of the currently unemployed are receiving benefits, with 38 states behind, or unable to enroll the newly unemployed—because they have run out of money!

As a growing number of economists are coming to realize, LaRouche has been right: This is not a recession. It is not even a Great Depression. This is the collapse of the entire global dollar-based financial system. The insane policies of both the Bush and Obama administrations have created the greatest financial bubble in history, through the \$24 trillion bailout of the banks and insurance companies. We are on the verge of Weimar hyperinflation on a global scale.

Had Congress the guts to act, when LaRouche

first warned that the collapse was on, in his now-famous July 25, 2007 webcast, the system could have been reformed. LaRouche spelled out the precise steps that could have been taken then, in his Homeowners and Bank Protection Act (HBPA). State legislatures and city councils around the United States endorsed the HBPA at the time, but no action was forthcoming from Washington.

No reform of the system is possible. The entire system must be put through bankruptcy reorganization. Nothing else will work, and time is running out. Unless emergency action is taken by the second week in October, mankind is facing a living Hell, in which world population will rapidly plunge—through disease, famine, and the chaos of regional wars—to below 2 billion people.

What is to be done? The first step is to deliver a crushing defeat to President Obama's and his economic team's prescription for a Nazi-modelled euthanasia plan, dubbed "health-care reform." By defeating this genocidal scheme, the opportunity will arise to purge this new administration of the likes of Larry Summers, Tim Geithner, Peter Orszag, and the rest of the behavioral economists behind this Hitlerian scheme to declare whole segments of the population—starting with the elderly and the chronically ill—as what Hitler called "lives not worthy of living."

On the basis of that defeat, a new team of economists, grounded in the reality of this existential crisis, can be brought in. LaRouche has spelled out how to put the current system through bankruptcy reorganization, and to reconstitute the kind of credit system conceived by Benjamin Franklin and his brilliant protégé Alexander Hamilton.

It's either LaRouche's solution or a Dark Age. You decide.

See LaRouche on Cable TV

INTERNET

- BCAT.TV/BCAT Click BCAT-2 Mon: 10 am (Eastern Time)
- LAROUCHEPUB.COM Click *LaRouche's Writings*. (Avail. 24/7)
- MNN.ORG Click *Watch Ch.57* Fri: 2:30 a.m. (Eastern Time)
- QUOTE-UNQUOTE.COM Click on *Ch.27*. Tue. 6 pm (Mtn.)
- SCAN-TV.ORG Click *Scan on the Web (Pacific Time)*. Ch.23: Wed. 7 am Ch.77: Mon. 11 am
- WUWF.ORG Click *Watch WUWF-TV*. Last Mon 4:30-5 pm (Eastern)

INTERNATIONAL

THE PHILIPPINES

- MAN LA Ch.3: Tue 9:30 pm

ALABAMA

- UNIONTOWN GY Ch.2: Mon-Fri every 4 hours; Sun Afternoons

ALASKA

- ANCHORAGE GCI Ch.9: Thu 10 pm

CALIFORNIA

- CONTRA COSTA CC Ch.26: 2nd Tue 7 pm
- COSTA MESA TW Ch.35: Thu 5:30 pm
- LANCASTER/PALMDALE TW Ch.36: Sun 1 pm
- LONG BEACH CH Analog Ch.65/69 & Digital Ch.95: 4th Tue 1-1:30 pm
- ORANGE COUNTY (N) TW Ch.95/97/98: Fri 4 pm

COLORADO

- DENVER CC Ch.56 Sun 10 am

CONNECTICUT

- GROTON CC Ch.12: Mon 5 pm
- NEW HAVEN CC Ch.23: Sat 6 pm
- NEWTOWN CH Ch.21: Mon 12:30 pm; Fri 7 pm
- NORWICH CC Ch.14: Thu 7 30 pm
- SEYMOUR CC Ch.10: Tue 10 pm

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- WASHINGTON CC Ch.95 & RCN Ch.10: Irregular

FLORIDA

- ESCAMBIA COUNTY CX Ch.4: Last Sat 4 30 pm

ILLINOIS

- CHICAGO CC /RCN/WOW Ch.21: Irregular
- PEORIA COUNTY IN Ch.22: Sun 7:30 pm
- QUAD CITIES MC Ch.19: Thu 11 pm
- ROCKFORD CC Ch.17 Wed 9 pm

IOWA

- QUAD CITIES MC Ch.19: Thu 11 pm

KENTUCKY

- BOONE/KENTON COUNTIES IN Ch.21: Sun 1 am; Fri Midnight
- JEFFERSON COUNTY IN Ch.98: Fri 2-2:30 pm

LOUISIANA

- ORLEANS PARISH CX Ch.78: Tue 4 am & 4 pm

MAINE

- PORTLAND TW Ch.2: Mon 1 & 11 am; 5 pm

MARYLAND

- ANN ARUNDEL CC Ch.99; FIOS Ch.42: Tue & Thu: 10 am; Fri & Sat: midnight
- P.G. COUNTY CC Ch.76 & FIOS Ch.42: Wed & Fri: 6 pm
- MONTGOMERY COUNTY CC/RCN/FIOS Ch.21: Tue 2 pm

MASSACHUSETTS

- BROOKLINE CV & RCN Ch.3: Mon 3 30 pm; Tue 3:30 am; Wed 9 am & 9 pm;
- CAMBRIDGE CC Ch.10: Tue 2:30 pm; Fri 10:30 am
- FRANKLIN COUNTY (NE) CC Ch.17: Sun 8 pm; Wed 9 pm; Sat 4 pm
- QUINCY CC Ch.8: Pop-ins.
- WALPOLE CC Ch.8: Tue 1 pm

MICHIGAN

- BYRON CENTER CC Ch.25: Mon 2 & 7 pm
- DETROIT CC Ch.68: Irregular
- GRAND RAPIDS CC Ch.25: Irreg.
- KALAMAZOO CH Ch.20: Tue 11 pm; Sat 10 am
- KENT COUNTY (North) CH Ch.22: Wed 3 30 & 11 pm
- KENT COUNTY (South) CC Ch.25: Wed 9 30 am
- LAKE ORION CC Ch.10: Mon/Tue 2 & 9 pm
- LANSING CC Ch.16: Fri Noon
- LIVONIA BH Ch.12: Thu 3 pm
- MT. PLEASANT CH Ch.3: Tue 5:30 pm; Wed 7 am
- SHELBY TOWNSHIP CC Ch.20 & WOW Ch.18: Mon/Wed 6:30 pm
- WAYNE COUNTY CC Ch.16/18: Mon 6-8 pm

MINNESOTA

- ALBANY AMTC Ch.13: Tue & Thu: 7:30 pm
- CAMBRIDGE US Ch.10: Wed 6 pm
- COLD SPRING US Ch.10: Wed 6 pm
- COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CC Ch.15: Tue 9 pm
- DULUTH CH Ch.20: Mon 9 pm; Wed 12 pm, Fri 1 pm
- MARSHALL Prairie Wave & CH Ch.35/8: Sat. 9 am
- MINNEAPOLIS TW Ch.16: Tue 11 pm
- MINNEAPOLIS (N. Burbs) CC Ch.15: Thu 3 & 9 pm
- NEW ULM TW Ch.14: Fri 5 pm
- PROCTOR MC Ch.12: Tue 5 pm to 1 am
- ST. CLOUD CH Ch.12: Mon 6 pm
- ST. CROIX VALLEY CC Ch.14: Thu 1 & 7 pm; Fri 9 am
- ST. LOUIS PARK CC Ch.15: Sat/Sun Midnite, 8 am, 4 pm
- ST. PAUL CC Ch.15: Wed 9:30 pm
- ST. PAUL (S&W Burbs) CC Ch.15: Wed 10:30 am; Fri 7:30 pm
- SAULK CENTRE SCTV Ch.19: Sat 5 pm

- WASHINGTON COUNTY (South) CC Ch.14: Thu 8 pm

NEVADA

- BOULDER CITY CH Ch.2: 2x/day: am & pm
- WASHOE COUNTY CH Ch.16: Thu 9 pm

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- CHESTERFIELD CC Ch.8: Wed 8 pm
- MANCHESTER CC Ch.23: Thu 4:30 pm

NEW JERSEY

- BERGEN CTY TW Ch.572: Mon & Thu 11 am; Wed & Fri 10 30 pm
- MERCER COUNTY CC Trenton Ch.26: 3rd & 4th Fri 6 pm Windsors Ch.27: Mon 5 30 pm
- MONTVALE/MAHWAH CV Ch.76: Mon 5 pm
- PISCATAWAY CV Ch.15: Thu 11:30 pm
- UNION CC Ch.26: Irregular

NEW MEXICO

- BERNALILLO COUNTY CC Ch.27: Tue 2 pm
- LOS ALAMOS CC Ch.8: Wed 10 pm
- SANTA FE CC Ch.16: Thu 9 pm; Sat 6:30 pm
- SILVER CITY CC Ch.17: Wed 8-10 pm
- TAOS CC Ch.2: Thu 7 pm

NEW YORK

- ALBANY TW Ch.18: Wed 5 pm.
- BETHLEHEM TW Ch.18: Thu 9:30 pm
- BRONX CV Ch.70: Wed 7 30 am
- BROOKLYN CV Ch.68: Mon 10 am TW Ch.35: Mon 10 am RCN Ch.83: Mon 10 am FIOS Ch.43: Mon 10 am
- BUFFALO TW Ch.20: Wed & Fri 10:30-11pm
- CHEMUNG/STUEBEN TW Ch.1/99: Tue 7:30 pm
- ERIE COUNTY TW Ch.20: Thu 10:35 pm
- IRONDEQUOIT TW Ch.15: Mon/Thu 7 pm
- JEFFERSON/LEWIS COUNT ES TW Ch.99: Irregular
- MANHATTAN TW & RCN Ch.57/85 Fri 2:30 am
- ONEIDA COUNTY TW Ch.99: Thu 8 or 9 pm
- PENFIELD TW Ch.15: Irregular
- QUEENS TW Ch.56: 4th Sat 2 pm RCN Ch.85: 4th Sat 2 pm
- QUEENSBURY TW Ch.71: Mon 7 pm
- ROCHESTER TW Ch.15: Sun 9 pm; Thu 8 pm
- ROCKLAND CV Ch.76: Tue 5 pm
- SCHENECTADY TW Ch.16: Fri 1 pm; Sat 1:30 am
- STATEN ISLAND TW Ch.35: Mon & Thu Midnite. TW Ch.34: Sat 8 am
- TOMPKINS COUNTY TW Ch.13: Sun 12 30 pm; Sat 6 pm

- TRI-LAKES TW Ch.2: Sun 7 am, 1 pm, 8 pm
- WEBSTER TW Ch.12: Wed 9 pm
- WEST SENECA TW Ch.20: Thu 10 35 pm

NORTH CAROLINA

- HICKORY CH Ch.6: Tue 10 pm
- MECKLENBURG COUNTY TW Ch.22: Sat/Sun 11 pm

OHIO

- AMHERST TW Ch.95: 3X Daily
- CUYAHOGA COUNTY TW Ch.21: Wed 3:30 pm
- OBERLIN Cable Co-Op Ch.9: Thu 8 pm

OKLAHOMA

- NORMAN CX Ch.20: Wed 9 pm

PENNSYLVANIA

- PITTSBURGH CC Ch.21: Thu 6 am

RHODE ISLAND

- BRISTOL, BARRINGTON, WARREN Full Channel Ch.49: Tue: 10 am
- EAST PROVIDENCE CX Ch.18; FIOS Ch.25: Tue: 6 pm
- STATEWIDE RI INTERCONNECT CX Ch.13; FIOS Ch.32 Tue 10 am

TEXAS

- HOUSTON CC Ch.17 & TV Max Ch.95: Wed 5:30 pm; Sat 9 am
- KINGWOOD CB Ch.98: Wed 5:30 pm; Sat 9 am

VERMONT

- BRATTLEBORO CC Ch.8: Mon 6 pm, Tue 4:30 pm, Wed 8 pm
- GREATER FALLS CC Ch.10: Mon/Wed/Fri 1 pm
- MONTPELIER CC Ch.15: Tue 10 pm; Wed 3 am & 4 pm

VIRGINIA

- ALBEMARLE COUNTY CC Ch.13: Sun 4 am; Fri 3 pm
- ARLINGTON CC Ch.69 & FIOS Ch.38: Tue 9 am
- CHESTERFIELD COUNTY CC Ch.17; FIOS Ch.28: Mon 1 pm
- FAX FAX CX & FIOS Ch.10: 1st & 2nd Wed 1 pm; Sun 4 am. FIOS Ch.41: Wed 6 pm
- LOUDOUN COUNTY CC Ch.98 & FIOS Ch.41: Wed 6 pm
- ROANOKE COUNTY CX Ch.78: Tue 7 pm; Thu 2 pm

WASHINGTON

- KING COUNTY CC Ch.77: Mon 11 am, Wed 7 am BS Ch.23: Mon 11 am, Wed 7 am
- TRI CITIES CH Ch.13/99: Mon 7 pm; Thu 9 pm

WISCONSIN

- MARATHON CH Ch.10: Thu 9:30 pm; Fri 12 Noon
- MUSKEGO TW Ch.14: Sat 4 pm; Sun 7 am

WYOMING

- GILLETTE BR Ch.31: Tue 7

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MC=MediaCom; TW=TimeWarner; US=US Cable. FIOS=Verizon FIOS-TV.

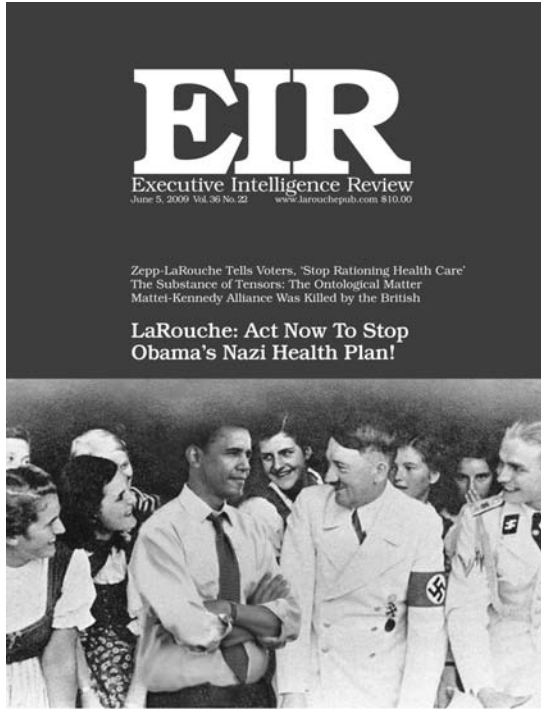
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