

Editorial

Europe Rallies against Summers's Madness

Since May, *EIR* has covered the fight of the nations of Asia, to protect their own existence against the wild economic aggressions of the United States, led by Treasury Secretary Larry Summers. Summers and his supporters are desperate to prolong the illusion of a boom in the so-called New Economy, the Internet, and the Nasdaq, long enough to try to elect the unelectable Al Gore. Their wild piratical raids have violated the "trilateral" alliance of Europe, Japan, and the United States, and also the remaining traditional U.S. regard for its Ibero-American neighbors. Summers's aggressions against Asia and the Japanese yen, continental Europe and the euro currency, and U.S. traditional allies in Ibero-America, such as Peru, have forced regional groupings to begin to organize themselves in self-defense.

In Asia, this and previous issues of *EIR* have covered the Chiang Mai, Thailand, agreements of May 6-8, the Inter-Korean Summit in Pyongyang on June 13-14, the Organization of the Islamic Conference meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on June 27-30, and other moves in Asia to consolidate in mutual defense. At their core, this has been a China-Japan rapprochement in mutual defense, and defense of Asia generally.

Now, just within the past two weeks, continental European defensive moves against Summers's insanity have come into the open, around actions by the government of France. U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine "Madwoman" Albright had organized a so-called "Towards a Community of Democracies" conference in Warsaw, Poland, on June 25-27, with pirate financier George Soros. The project, modelled on the world-government schemes of Albright's idol, British intelligence figure H.G. Wells, was that those countries approved by Albright as true "democracies," would form a world council to sit in judgment on all other countries, threatening them with sanctions or even war, unless they remodelled their policies to her liking.

Albright and her minions were taken aback when France refused to go along. French Foreign Minister Hubert Védrine was reported to be furious. He refused to put France's name on Albright's statement, after first inviting American reporters over to the French Ambassador's residence to hear his reasons.

At just the same time, French President Jacques Chirac was visiting the new German capital of Berlin, and addressing the German parliament, the Bundestag. What he said was quite unprecedented: No one representing the French state had spoken this way since German unification. He harkened back to a speech President Charles de Gaulle had given on his German visit in 1962: Franco-German reconciliation is the core of the European Union (EU). Europe's task is once again, after the devastation of the war, to become a factor of international politics, equal to the United States and to the other superpower. In doing so, Europe has a special obligation to contribute to the development of the globe as a whole through scientific and technological progress. Then, speaking for himself, Chirac said that an efficient balance between national and federal sovereignty must be found, based on a firm, clear commitment to the nation-state, and the rejection of Europe as a supranational superstate.

He said that a "pioneer" or "avant-guard" group should be formed within the EU to deal with questions of economic growth and social stability, as well as monetary stability. The group should also deal with foreign policy and security and defense policy.

Chirac spoke on June 27. So alarmed was British Prime Minister Tony Blair, that he invited himself to Berlin on June 29, to discuss the Franco-German initiative with Chancellor Gerhard Schröder. One is reminded of Albright's sudden trips to China and South Korea the previous week, after the results of the Inter-Korean Summit became known.

On June 28, French Finance and Economics Minister Laurent Fabius endorsed the "Tobin tax" on financial transactions in the French National Assembly, as part of a program to re-regulate runaway financial markets.

In the same fashion, the end-stage of financial collapse dominates all U.S. domestic controversies. The schemes to support deprivations by HMOs and banks, which the Republican U.S. Congress is trying to enact under the cover of Medicare "reform," HMO "reform," and personal bankruptcy "reform," are the same thing as Summers's pirate raids against America's overseas allies. Will Americans put up with it? Probably not.