

# 'Bush Lobby' Plots New Provocations in London

by Mark Burdman

Provoking a new era of tensions between the United States and Western Europe, Russia, and China, and unleashing war crises in the Middle East-Persian Gulf region, were the focal points at a meeting of some 60 American and British strategists, government officials (current and former), political leaders, lawmakers, bankers, and journalists, on Jan. 12-13, at London's Four Seasons Hotel. The event, entitled "Britain and America: A Strategic Dialogue," was co-sponsored by the Washington-based American Enterprise Institute (AEI) and New Atlantic Initiative (NAI), and the London *Daily Telegraph*. The *Telegraph* is owned by the Toronto-based Hollinger Corp., whose chief executive, Canadian Conrad Black, is an intimate of the two main founders of the NAI, Baroness Margaret Thatcher and Henry Kissinger.

What lends importance to the London event, is the fact that the AEI-NAI mob is, in many respects, synonymous with the George W. Bush Administration. Vice President Richard Cheney is one of AEI's 26 trustees, while his wife Lynne is one of AEI's "scholars." Another AEI "scholar" is Lawrence Lindsey, the former U.S. Federal Reserve official who is now Bush's chief economic adviser, and who will be playing a special role, in attempting to "manage" the growing financial and economic turbulence, from a newly created position on the Bush National Security Council. Bush Defense Secretary-designee Donald Rumsfeld and U.S. Special Trade Representative-designee Robert Zoellick are members of the NAI Advisory Board. Paul Wolfowitz, appointed by Bush to the number-two Defense Department post, is a top figure in both the AEI and NAI.

The supremacy of AEI within the Bush Administration, was heralded in a Jan. 3 news article in the *Telegraph*.

AEI is the home base for a wide range of neo-conservative leading lights, including ideological guru Irving Kristol; Iran-Contra insider Michael Ledeen; former Defense Department senior official Richard Perle, whose war-mongering lunacies have earned him the nickname, the "Prince of Darkness"; and free-market fanatic Michael Novak, who purveys the policies of British East India Co. propagandist Adam Smith in an ostensibly "Roman Catholic" context. AEI shares with the Heritage Foundation, the role of the leading mouthpiece for the ultra-free-market Mont Pelerin Society, and many of its activities and projects overlap those of Heritage. It is also

close to the "Ariel Sharon Lobby" among extremist Zionist organizations in the United States.

NAI was created in 1996, primarily by Thatcher, with the aim of countering diplomatic, economic, and strategic moves toward the Lyndon LaRouche-backed Eurasian Land-Bridge project. Among its central projects, has been the immediate, and large-scale expansion of NATO, to include the Baltic nations, and others. Entitled the "Big Bang" approach, this was enunciated at an NAI conference in Slovakia, in May 2000, by Dame Pauline Neville-Jones, formerly a senior figure in the British Foreign Office, who had been promoted to her post by Thatcher, when the latter was Prime Minister (see "Bush-British Loonies Plot New Confrontation," *EIR*, May 12, 2000). Dame Pauline, now a governor of the British Broadcasting Corp., was an attendee at the Jan. 12-13 gathering.

## Ghost of Teddy Roosevelt

One individual widely touted to be on the list for a senior Bush Administration appointment, is NAI Executive Director Jeffrey Gedmin, who runs the NAI out of his office as a "resident scholar" at the AEI. One day before the Four Seasons meeting began, on Jan. 11, Gedmin authored the lead commentary for Black's *Telegraph*, which was an unambiguous message, indicating what Europe can expect from Bush and Company. Gedmin's commentary, entitled "President Bush to Europe: It's No More Mr. Nice Guy," was distributed to all the attendees at the conference.

Gedmin began by denouncing European countries, particularly France and Germany, for their recent harsh attacks on the practice of the death penalty in the United States. This was a kind of declaration of war from the Bush team, because Bush himself, as Governor of Texas, has been the Chief Executioner in the United States, during recent years.

Gedmin insisted that these European protests are part of a growing "anti-Americanism" and a "relentless campaign by certain Europeans against the Americans," as well as "a new Euro-Gaullist spirit," all of which were supposedly fostered by the "nice guy" approach to Europe adopted by Bill Clinton, during his eight years as U.S. President.

But now, all of this is over and done with. The Bush crowd may drop the shrill "hectoring" of outgoing Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Gedmin noted, but, in substance, the policy toward Europe will be vastly tougher. He warned that Bush "is likely to invoke [early-20th-Century Anglophile President] Teddy Roosevelt's famous dictum, even with our closest partners: speak softly and carry a big stick."

In case that weren't clear enough, the words "speak softly and carry a big stick," were emphasized, in a bold-faced subtitle accompanying the article. Teddy Roosevelt is the hero of George W.'s father, Sir George, who invoked the Teddy Roosevelt precedent, in his brutal misadventures against Panama and Iraq.

Gedmin affirmed, that the U.S.-European relationship



*Former President Sir George Bush and British former Prime Minister Thatcher. A return to a confrontationalist U.S. foreign policy, under current conditions of collapse of the IMF financial system, will make the world a far more dangerous place than it was under the lunacies of Thatcher and former President Bush.*

will change, and Europe will learn the appropriate lessons, as a result of such Bush policies as National Missile Defense (NMD) and rapid NATO expansion. He lavishly praised Donald Rumsfeld, who headed the 1998 commission pushing missile defense, and who understands the “new strategic environment,” perhaps more than anyone else in the Bush team. (For *EIR*’s evaluation of NMD, see Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., “On the Subject of Missile-Defense: When Andropov Played Hamlet,” *EIR*, April 21, 2000; Jonathan Tennenbaum, “Theater, National Missile Defense: Revolution, or Bluff?,” *EIR*, Sept. 3, 1999.)

### **Hague Jumps on Board**

The next day, an important aspect of the Gedmin line was echoed in the Jan. 12 conference keynote speech by William Hague, leader of Britain’s main Opposition Conservative Party, a.k.a. the Tories. Hague enthusiastically endorsed the U.S. NMD program.

Hague warned that the world is now in “the second nuclear age,” with the greatest threat coming from “rogue states. . . . For these states, ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction constitute the ideal weapons of terror.” He said, “I welcome the appointment of Donald Rumsfeld, who has done more than anyone to heighten public awareness of missile proliferation, as Secretary of Defense. It is a clear signal, of the importance that the President-elect attaches to early deployment.”

Hague roundly criticized the reservations over NMD, held by the Tony Blair government in Britain, and moaned that “the same is also sadly true of political opinion in other European capitals.” He insisted that “Britain should cooperate with the United States, to the best of our ability, as it develops and builds its weapons shield,” and warned that, if Britain holds back full cooperation in developing the NMD, by failing to upgrade the early warning system at Fylingdales in the U.K., “the relationship between Britain and America will have suffered a most serious blow.”

Hague was backed by conference attendee Bruce Jackson, from the U.S. Jackson works at the Lockheed-Martin defense/aerospace firm, who is a key figure in an organization called the U.S. Committee on NATO. He was, reportedly, the chief author of the foreign policy planks of

the Republican Party’s Presidential platform, which were filled with provocative ravings against Russia and China. At the time the platform was written in Summer 2000, both its foreign policy points, and Jackson himself, were praised by the *Daily Telegraph*.

The view is being put out by AEI, the Heritage Foundation, and neo-cons generally, that, with Bush’s “election” in the United States, Hague will be Britain’s next Prime Minister, following general elections that are expected for April or May of this year.

Hague’s shadow Defense Secretary, Iain Duncan-Smith, and Foreign Secretary, Francis Maude, will soon be travelling to the United States, to try to “fix up” the Tories, rather than Blair’s Labour Party, as the Bush Administration’s “special relationship” link in the U.K. Duncan-Smith, who attended the Four Seasons conference, has been spewing forth violent polemics against European defense policies, along the lines of the cited Gedmin piece. According to a highly informed source, himself a regular attendee at NAI events, but who has a more moderate view toward Europe, Duncan-Smith and others have been receiving backing from AEI-NAI and the Heritage Foundation.

### **‘A Proper Jingoist in the White House’**

Further lunacy emanating from the London gathering, flowed from the pen of conference attendee Michael Gove, a regular columnist for the Rupert Murdoch-owned London

*Times*. Under the headline, “We Must Fight the Good Fight for Jingoism,” Gove welcomed the incoming Bush team’s policies, as representing the return to the heyday of the British Empire in the 19th Century.

Gove began: “It’s time for a revival of jingoism. Ten years after the mother of all battles began, with the godfather of terror, President Saddam Hussein still repugnantly in place, and the rising son, George W. Bush, at last restoring virtue to the White House, the moment is ripe for a restoration of this grand Victorian principle.”

He attacked “the new peaceniks,” from both the “left” and the “right,” who are effectively acting as “Saddam’s stooges in attacking Iraqi sanctions,” and who are showing “blindness to the resurgent imperial ambitions of Russia and China.” According to Gove, this is now being countered by the “jingoistic” push by Bush and Hague, for national missile defense, and related policies.

Gove further raved, that “the case for robust action to deal with Saddam, and other rogue states, such as North Korea and Libya, is overwhelming.” He favorably cited the new book by former “United Nations Iraq weapons inspector” Richard Butler, *Saddam Defiant*, which ostensibly shows that “the order of threat posed by the Iraqi dictator, and his playmates, is huge.” Butler, now with the New York Council on Foreign

Relations, was a featured guest at the AEI-NAI-*Telegraph* gathering, and reportedly received a very enthusiastic reception.

Gove claimed that the old notion of “mutually assured destruction” can not work with Saddam-type “dictators.” Instead, there must be an NMD “shield. . . . A willingness to cross swords, with the most lethal force available, must be shown.” He concluded: “It is a mercy we have a proper jingoist in the White House. He’s got the ships and he’s got the men. But he needs a proper ally or two.”

### From the Treasury’s Balls

According to one participant at the gathering, beyond the discussions supporting the NMD and immediate NATO expansion to the Baltic states, there was a considerable amount of crisis-mongering respecting the Middle East and Persian Gulf. That the event took place only days before the Jan. 17 tenth anniversary of the 1991 Gulf War against Iraq, meant that Butler’s anti-Iraq ravings received full backing, as per the above Gove article. Also, the Ariel Sharon pro-war policy for the Israeli-Palestinian front was backed by such speakers as Dean Godson, an editorial writer for the *Telegraph*. Godson is the brother of Roy Godson, one of the most bitter and persistent enemies of LaRouche in the United States, who is a fixture in the neo-con, Anglophile intelligence circuit in Washington. Roy Godson was a prominent player, in the Sir George Bush-coordinated Iran-Contra operations of the 1980s.

According to the same participant, substantive discussion on the global economic crisis was aborted, by the intervention of the strangely named Ed Balls, the senior adviser to Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown at the British Treasury. Balls and other top Brits are trying to suppress such discussion, this source claimed, in the period leading up to the British general elections in the Spring, out of the same motivations that led the Anglo-American Establishment to suppress discussion of the financial/economic crisis by the two “leading” candidates, during last year’s U.S. Presidential campaign.

Other British attendees at the Four Seasons event included shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer Michael Portillo; British Cabinet Office senior figure Robert Cooper, Prime Minister Tony Blair’s foreign policy guru; former Defense Secretary Lord John Gilbert; *Telegraph* editor Charles Moore; a number of representatives of other British newspapers and City of London investment banks; and a handful of British parliamentarians.

Other American attendees included former CIA head James Woolsey; Peter Rodman of the Nixon Center; several individuals from AEI, including London *Sunday Times* economic columnist Irwin Stelzer and Charles Murray, the notorious author of the racist “Bell Curve” theory that is so popular in neo-con circles; and journalists from the *New Republic*, *New Yorker*, and *US News & World Report*.

For previews and information on LaRouche publications:

## Visit EIR's Internet Website!

- Highlights of current issues of EIR
- Pieces by Lyndon LaRouche
- Every week: transcript and audio of the latest **EIR Talks** radio interview.

<http://www.larouchepub.com>

e-mail: [larouche@larouchepub.com](mailto:larouche@larouchepub.com)