

EIR

Executive Intelligence Review

November 8, 2002 Vol. 29 No. 43 www.larouhepub.com \$10.00

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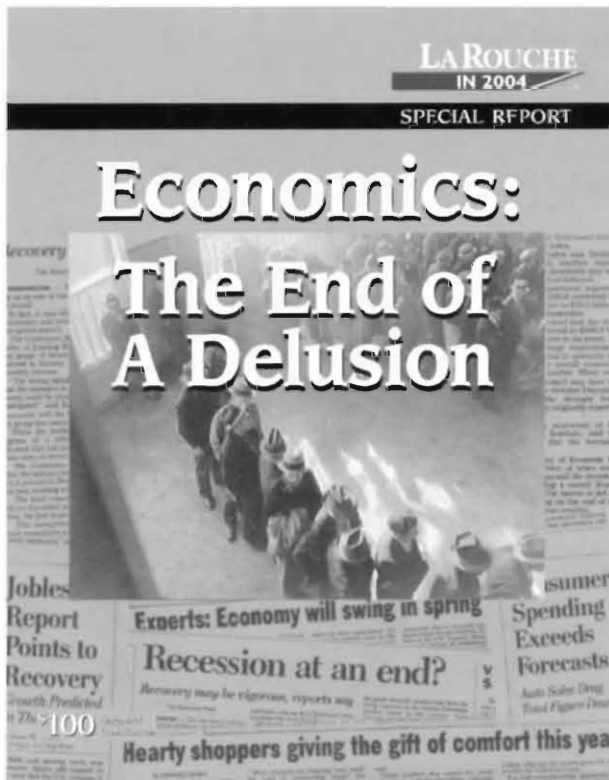
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April 2002 L04SP-2002-2

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*EIR (ISSN 0273-6314) is published weekly (50 issues)
except for the second week of July and the last week of
December, by EIR News Service Inc., 317 Pennsylvania
Ave., S.E., 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20003. (202)
543-8002. For subscriptions: (703) 777-9451, or toll-
free, 888-EIR-3258.*

*World Wide Web site: <http://www.larouchepub.com>
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0963, 55-46-2597, 55-46-0931, 55-46-0933 y 55-46-2400.*

*Japan subscription sales: O.T.O. Research Corporation,
Takeuchi Bldg., 1-34-12 Takatanobaba, Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo
160. Tel: (03) 3208-7821.*

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and at an additional mailing offices.*

*Domestic subscriptions: 3 months—\$125, 6 months—\$225,
1 year—\$396, Single issue—\$10*

Postmaster: Send all address changes to *EIR*, P.O. Box
17390, Washington, D.C. 20041-0390.

From the Associate Editor

The more President Bush fixates on his drive for war against Iraq, the more the American people, as well as those of other nations, are trying to give him the message: “It’s the economy, George!” Whatever happens specifically in the U.S. elections on Nov. 5, the issue of greatest concern to voters is whether there will be a secure future for themselves and their posterity—and by that, they don’t mean “regime change” in Baghdad.

With the elections behind us, the world enters a new strategic geometry: one which is no longer defined by the matter of “influencing the U.S. elections.” Whether that new geometry will be one of war and depression, or a shift toward sanity and economic recovery, depends upon whether Lyndon LaRouche’s leadership is accepted. To intervene into this process, *EIR* has released a Special Report, *LaRouche’s Emergency Infrastructure Program for the U.S.* Featuring LaRouche’s article “Science and Infrastructure” (published in *EIR*, Sept. 27), it includes sector analyses of the breakdown of U.S. infrastructure (rail, airlines, waterways, health care), and priority reconstruction projects. This document should be purchased by and for citizens and policymakers at all levels of government and industry, to shape the post-election environment.

In this week’s issue, we give a broad international picture of how nations are trying to deal with the economic breakdown, and with the failure of the Bush Administration to provide the necessary leadership. Ranging from the election in Brazil, to the collapse of the Israeli government, to the problems facing Germany’s re-elected ruling coalition, the economic issue is at the forefront. The Eurasian powers are jamming up the works at the United Nations in hopes of averting a catastrophic war against Iraq, while establishing their own partnerships and alliances. Most striking is Jonathan Tennenbaum’s exclusive report on the developments surrounding the Moscow hostage crisis, in which President Putin has emerged strengthened, while a surprising new turn is taking place in Russian-Saudi relations. Ramtanu Maitra’s analysis of the emerging Russian-Chinese-Indian “strategic triangle” further develops how the policy failures of Washington are serving as an instigation for these other great powers to overcome their own differences and cooperate purposefully.

Susan Welsh

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President Vladimir Putin visits survivors of the terrorist hostage-taking, at Moscow's Sklifosovsky Institute Hospital.



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Cover, page 31, Russian President's website. Page 5, Agência Brasil Photo. Pages 7, 11, EIRNS. Page 8, EIRNS/Carlos Pérez Galindo. Pages 10, 13, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Page 12, U.S. Department of Agriculture/Jeff Vanuga. Page 12 (artist's depiction), Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Page 23, NASA/James Blair. Page 28, NASA. Page 24, INPE. Pages 25, 26, Surrey Satellite Technology, Ltd. Page 27, U.S. Geological Survey. Page 29, Robert Farquhar, Johns Hopkins Univ. Applied Physics Lab. Page 37, French Foreign Ministry. Page 47, White House/Tina Hager. Pages 53 (Groves, Stimson), 56, 61, Steerforth Press. Pages 59, 60, Library of Congress.

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Brazil's Lula Caught Between The Nation and Free Trade

by Our Special Correspondent

The electoral victory of Workers Party (PT) Presidential candidate Luiz Inácio “Lula” da Silva, with more than 50 million votes—the greatest proportional vote in Brazil’s history—confirms what had been evident from the first round of the elections: that the nation is avid for a change from the neo-liberal, monetarist economic model, which has been in force since 1990 and has brought about a state of public calamity: the highest unemployment in history, the destruction of the public and private patrimony, the abandonment of the main urban centers to organized crime, and the trapping of the nation in an out-of-control debt bubble, increasingly dollarized, which has brought Brazil—with its \$500 billion in total foreign obligations—to the brink of default.

The big question now, is whether the Lula government will represent a genuine transformation, or if all the hope his candidacy has engendered will be betrayed by continuing the policies of the previous administrations, albeit with a “social democratic” façade. Worsened by the terminal crisis of the international financial system, this would be a bitter deception.

No Compromise Possible

As is widely known, all of the campaign promises of the President-elect, especially those related to the generation of 10 million jobs, recovery of industrial and agricultural capabilities, reinforcement of social programs, and an increase in wages, are openly contradictory to the commitments and agreements made with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the international creditor banks. Today, for example, the liquid debt of the public sector is nearly 65% of the Gross Domestic Product, which means that merely servicing that debt will wipe out any effort to direct the resources of the national budget into the promised projects for recovery. The

commitment to continue with the IMF’s policies of fiscal austerity means complying with the new demands to raise the primary budget surplus (all of the budget excluding debt payments) to a level equivalent to 5% of GDP, a dramatic increase in sacrifice required, from the current level of 3.8%.

Thus, any effort to fulfill Lula’s campaign promises will necessarily lead to a rupture with the collapsed world monetary system, and with the whole system of globalization. As several political analysts in Brazil have already noted, the only way that the new President will not disappoint his electorate, would be that he step forward as the true leader of the nation, and announce the impossibility of maintaining the genocidal agreements with the IMF and the sacrifice which that would mean for the population.

If Lula opts for temporizing, and imposes even greater fiscal austerity, however, he will compromise the social stability of the country, since there is no way that his promises can be met through submission to a so-called “globalization with solidarity”—a euphemism for trying to accommodate the Marxist belief structure of important sectors of the PT, within the hegemonic global order.

London and Wall Street are applying brutal pressure upon Brazil, demanding that the President-elect immediately name his finance minister and central bank president, and that the team make clear that it will implement an even more harsh austerity than the outgoing Cardoso government could. As the investment firm of Morgan Stanley bluntly put it: “Delays in the commitment to a *more severe* fiscal policy will negatively affect the market.” Because there “is a very real risk of default,” the London *Times* editorialized on Oct. 30, Lula must use his broad base of support to “sell difficult reforms” to both the elites, as well as the impoverished millions who voted for him. So, too, the same day, the *Washington Post*

threatened that if Lula follows the wrong policies, he could “trigger a messy debt default [which] would be a disaster for Brazil, and especially for Mr. Da Silva’s supporters.”

Yet, if a break with the system is not concretized by the new government in its first few months, the disillusion of the electorate will be as great, and as resounding as Lula’s election victory itself. It will leave the country at the mercy of the radicals within the Workers Party, and of Jacobin groups such as the Landless Movement (MST), which, together with a constellation of non-governmental organizations and groups linked to the World Social Forum, will unleash the hordes which Italian terrorist Antonio Negri speaks of in his book *Empire*, the bible of the Pôrto Alegre World Social Forum. MST leader João Pedro Stedile interprets Lula’s election victory as a product of “the people’s mobilization,” and has already announced that he will mobilize his base to keep up the pressure on the next government. Behind the demagogy, is a project to finish the destruction of the sovereign nation-state, in submission to the emergence of an Anglo-American world empire.

It is important to note that the strategy of the international financial oligarchy is to *intentionally* provoke chaos, as a means of bringing about the disintegration of the nation-state and its institutions. The international creditors are fully aware that their efforts to collect a debt which is physically uncollectable, will unleash chaos. And they have their controlled movements, such as the MST, to guarantee these results.

A Mandate to Save the Nation

The “Utopian” faction inside the U.S. government has circulated the rumor that, with Lula’s election, Brazil will join an Ibero-American “axis of evil,” which includes Cuba and the Venezuela of Hugo Chávez. But Brazil is not Venezuela, and Lula is not another Chávez—no matter how they both dub themselves leftists. Chávez is a philosophical fascist, with his expressions of extreme Jacobinism and his explicit defense of Carl Schmitt, the brains behind Adolf Hitler’s “legal system.” Lula is something else: He has formed a broad national coalition, which undoubtedly includes radical Chavista elements (the MST, for example), but which also includes genuinely nationalist elements—and what direction this coalition will ultimately take has yet to be defined.

No one, either inside or outside Brazil, should fool themselves about the real message delivered at the polls: The Brazilian electorate voted for a political figure who embodied the aspiration for a decisive change from the *status quo*, and not specifically for a political party, much less for the radical



Brazilian President-elect Luis Inácio “Lula” da Silva will soon find that he can’t serve two masters.

factions inside the PT. This is clearly seen in the defeats suffered by the PT in gubernatorial contests for the most important states in the country, above all, the largest: São Paulo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, and Rio Grande do Sul.

The defeat of the PT in its bid to re-elect its governor of Rio Grande do Sul, is particularly significant, because that state became the headquarters of the World Social Forum under the PT, and that is where the MST conducts its most bellicose actions.

Likewise, the record, 1.56 million-person Congressional vote for Dr. Enéas Carneiro, a nationalist who has campaigned unwaveringly for 13 years on the grounds that Brazil can only survive and develop if it breaks with the IMF, reflects the same message. Dr. Enéas, who hosted Lyndon LaRouche’s visit to São Paulo in June, is no Jacobin. As he told *Folha de São Paulo*, on the eve of the second election round: “I will be on the side of the President, whoever is elected, in everything which favors the population, and against all those actions which are against its welfare. . . . The polarity today is between the globalized world and the sovereign nation-state. My group defends the existence of the sovereign nation-state, and this will be our fight.”

And so the new President was sent the following message: The country hopes that the necessary break with the neo-liberal economic model will not mean a new Jacobin-style “French Revolution,” but rather a defense of the sovereign nation-state. This historic crossroads cannot be avoided, for it is the same that today faces the entire world. It is necessary that the President-elect understand this message well, for Brazil to maintain even minimal institutional stability over the coming months.

'Guadalajara Forum' for New Economic Order Holds First Meeting in Argentina

by Silvia Palacios

For the first time on Oct. 18-19, a meeting of the "Guadalajara Forum" for South American economic integration and a New Bretton Woods monetary system, was held in economically devastated Argentina. The city of Paraná, capital of Entre Ríos Province, hosted the "Mexico-Brazil-Argentina Seminar: the Hour of Integration, in Defense of the Sovereign Nation-State." This was the continuation in Argentina of the recently celebrated Guadalajara Forum, an institution which has emerged as a counterforce against the two globalist forums of the New Order—that of Davos, and the "Jacobin" World Social Forum of Pôrto Alegre, both of which, by different paths, represent an assault on the concept of the sovereign nation-state.

The reception given this "counterforce" was extraordinary. In a public statement issued Oct. 17, the mayor of Paraná decreed the forum "of interest to this city," given that "said seminar is part of the effort to construct a forum in defense of national sovereignty and of the inalienable rights, which are: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, values which are threatened by the policies of globalization and free trade, which are rending our nations."

Identification with these ideals led the participants of the seminar to embrace, at the end of the final two days of deliberation, the Manifesto of the Guadalajara Forum, which backs Lyndon H. LaRouche's initiative to create a New Bretton Woods system, a call recently renewed by Helga Zepp-LaRouche. The initiative has been strengthened by a Sept. 25 vote of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, on behalf of Argentina and for a solution such as that proposed by LaRouche.

Support from All Sectors

This drive for continental integration has been sponsored by the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA), LaRouche's movement in Ibero-America, and by the Movement for National Identity and Ibero-American Integration (MINEI), led by Argentine Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín. The Paraná event brought together Mexican patriots, Brazilian leaders, delegations from eight Argentine provinces, and representatives of Colombia. Among numerous messages of support, those from Brazil were read by agricultural leader Luis Fernando Beninca. Brazilian Congressman Luis Carlos Heinze, who has supported the work of the seminars since their inception, greeted the seminar, declaring his "support for the creation of the Guadalajara Forum, and the convoking

of a New Bretton Woods conference, in which the world powers and the community of nations can establish norms of civilized co-existence in international economic relations, as a means of preventing financial crises that primarily affect the emerging economies, but which threaten the stability of the entire world economy."

Vice Adm. Sergio Tasso Vásquez de Aquino of Brazil, declared in a message to the event that "the proud nations of Latin America must cement an unbreakable unity, to guarantee their sovereignty and the dignity of their people. Hunger, injustice and impunity are the scourges that affect us all, and which need to be eradicated by the decisive action of patriots who are committed to the Common Good." Messages came from Argentina, as well, including from the president of the Popular Reconstruction Party (PPR), Gustavo Luis Breide, and from Elsa Irene Martínez, president of the AUNAR Foundation.

The impact of the seminar was reflected in local newspaper coverage, both before and after the meeting. *El Diario* reported: "The integration seminar was a spectacular success, with 200 people at the opening session, and 150 regularly attending each panel. In two days, the participants heard high-level presentations on politics, science, infrastructure, and the economy of the Common Good. According to Lorenzo Carrasco, leader of the MSIA, globalization produced one evil, the Davos Economic Forum; which in turn produced another, the Social Forum of Pôrto Alegre. Faced with that dichotomy, in which none of the participants felt represented, they decided to create their own space in the search for the Common Good." Other regional newspapers published other reports on the seminar. In the province of Santiago del Estero, the local daily reported on the participation of the regional president of the MINEI, Sergio Pereyra. Still more coverage is being transmitted on Internet websites.

Let's Change the Rules of the Game

Prof. Raúl Vergara, president of the MINEI and regional president of the PPR, offered a warm welcome to the seminar participants. He was followed by Maj. Héctor Adrián Romero Mundani of Argentina, general secretary of the MINEI, whose enthusiastic speech called on those attending to "organize ourselves, and commit ourselves to do away with this servitude. We have to do this in unity. To confront globalization, we need a strategy. We must change the rules of the

game, such that the honorable debts will be honored, but the others, not." He continued, "The international financial system is in systemic crisis. We were given warning of this crisis by Lyndon H. LaRouche."

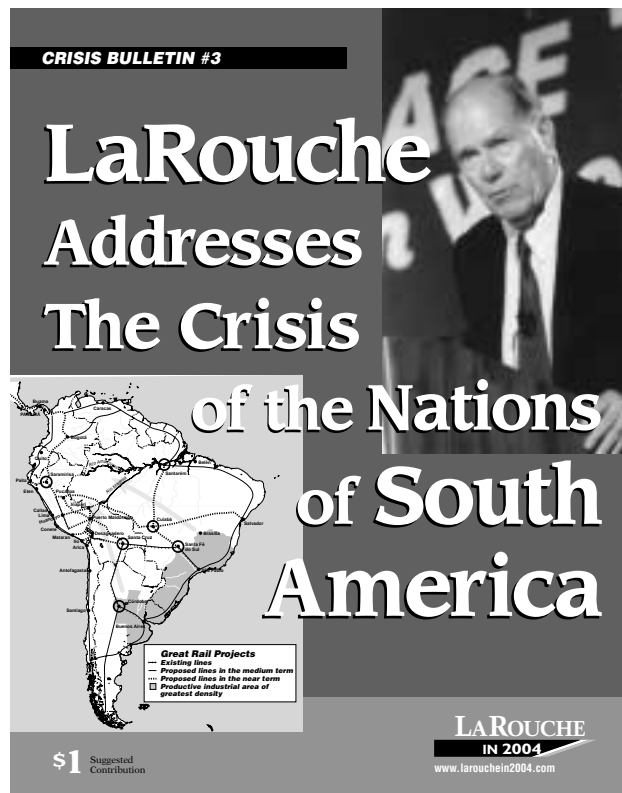
MSIA executive committee member Lorenzo Carrasco gave a briefing on the international strategic situation, and explained the origin of the Guadalajara Forum. In addressing the international strategic crisis, he stated that the Bush government is leading the world into a clash of civilizations. "For the oligarchic enemy, nations and cultures have nothing to do with universal history. That is how nations have been divided." He concluded by urging everyone to join the effort of Helga Zepp-LaRouche to promote a dialogue of cultures, drawing on the teachings of the Renaissance's Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa. "To promote a dialogue of civilizations is the higher purpose we propose for the Guadalajara Forum," said Carrasco.

Silvia Palacios, editor of the Portuguese-language edition of the newspaper *Solidaridad Iberoamerica*, described the irreplaceable role of the sovereign nation-state in economic progress, since the Treaty of Westphalia of 1648. She stated that the Anglo-American Utopian faction, through former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, and futurists Alvin and Heidi Toffler, and today in control of the government of U.S. President George W. Bush, have decreed the death of the system of sovereign relations established in Westphalia. As to the "left wing" of globalism, Palacios cited the example of World Social Forum theorist, "former" terrorist Antonio Negri, who in his book *Empire*, states that the world crisis requires the end of nation-state sovereignties forged in 1648.

Palacios described the origin of the Westphalia Treaty, which for the first time established the principle that the sovereignty of states is the supreme authority in international relations, creating various principles of international order. But what rules today is the bestial concept of Hobbesian law, which is what sustains the imperial ambitions in the Bush Administration. Globalization represents economic, judicial and cultural regression. Palacios concluded that we must have an idea of economy and of international relations compatible with the dignity of the human being; that this idea, as expressed by Lyndon LaRouche, makes him the true anti-globalization leader.

Defend and Integrate Physical Economies

The defense of Brazil's Amazonas and Argentina's Patagonia has been a constant theme of the seminars on economic integration. National sovereignty over both regions, rich in strategic resources, is the target of the Anglo-American oligarchy. In this panel, a presentation from Brazil was given by former secretary of state and renowned professor, Bautista Vidal, a specialist in development programs. The catastrophe that globalization has produced in the Brazilian economy was addressed both by Vidal, and by Airton Dias, president of the Trade Federation of the Amazon state of Roraima. Speaking



The English-language version of the 2001 pamphlet on industrial integration of the South American economies in the face of economic crisis, which launched the series of meetings now known as the Guadalajara Forum. The Argentine daily El Diario described its latest meeting, Oct. 19-21 in Paraná, Argentina, as a "spectacular success."

for Argentina, Dr. Héctor González gave a detailed review of the resources of Patagonia, and of the role of the environmentalist non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on behalf of the oligarchy, whose *modus operandi* is identical to that carried out in Brazil.

One panel was a dynamic presentation of Ibero-America's potential for the sovereign development of its resources, creating modern infrastructure that would allow for the physical integration of the continent, and which would turn the region into an industrial power in its own right. Engineer Guillermo Martínez Funes, energy consultant and former employee of Argentina's National Commission on Atomic Energy, gave a detailed speech on the benefits that the energy integration of the continent would yield. He addressed all its various aspects, from oil to cooperation in nuclear energy programs, especially in Mexico, Brazil, and Argentina, as these are the three nations which already have functioning nuclear plants.

Engineer Nilder Costa, of Brazil's MSIA, and Engineer José Francisco Speziale, one of Argentina's leading experts on hydraulics, each spoke on the continent's water resources and waterways. Nilder Costa presented his ideas for urgently

needed infrastructure of water transport, key for all of South America. The priority of continuing with such programs is already recognized by institutions such as the Andean Development Corporation, which published a report entitled “The Rivers Unite Us,” which is the basis for other initiatives for the physical integration of the continent.

EIR correspondent in Argentina Gerardo Terán presented the Spanish-language edition of LaRouche’s book, *So, You Wish To Learn All About Economics?* “Only if we abandon liberal dogmas and eradicate free trade in all its forms, and only if we can do what LaRouche’s economic science proposes, will integration be possible,” insisted Terán. Diana Olaya, also of the *EIR* office in Argentina, concluded the seminar with a detailed report on the insidious role of video games in the creation of the so-called New Violence, which in reality, is nothing but the culture of the new Roman Empire. Olaya’s presentation triggered a small mental and psychological earthquake among those attending, and provoked much reflection on the need to carry out a cultural renaissance, that can destroy globalization at the root.

Leadership in a Time of Crisis

This concluding session triggered a lively debate among those attending, which reflected the contagious optimism that the emerging Guadalajara Forum will serve as an alternative to globalism. Brazilian businessman José Carlos de Luca Magalhes, of the pharmaceutical industry, admitted: “I was scared to read an article published in the Brazilian press Sept. 29, which said that the era of the sovereign nation-state was over [a reference to an article by Alvin and Heidi Toffler, which stated that the Westphalian era had ended], when I learned about the Guadalajara Forum; this combined with my own activities in favor of continental integration. I felt great relief.”



At the opening session of the meeting in Argentina, Lorenzo Carrasco (left) with Maj. Héctor Adrián Romero of Argentina and MINEI leader from the city of Paraná, Mr. Vergara.

That is the spirit which, in the final portion of the seminar, inspired a discussion about the role of leadership in the current period of crisis. Carrasco called on those present to step forward and assume leadership, and not to wait for those who we consider responsible for such a role, to take it on. Leaders, he insisted, are just “common people, like you, who are moved by powerful ideas.”

Lorenzo Carrasco

Why the Power of the Guadalajara Forum?

Lorenzo Carrasco, President of the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement in Brazil, gave the keynote address Oct. 19 to the Mexico-Brazil-Argentina Seminar in Paraná, which is excerpted here.

Should we fail to integrate ourselves, we will be unable to save our countries. Where is [integration] coming from? Globalization has a forum which meets in Davos, Switzerland, the forum of perversion, from which all the evils emerge in order to impose [an oligarchic] economic order on the countries of the world. Over the years, globalization’s evils created social resentment. Essentially, these same oligarchic families which meet at the Davos Forum, created the Pôrto Alegre Forum two years ago. Both have the same objective, which is the destruction of the sovereign nation-state. . . . It was in a discussion with [Brazilian] Congressman Luiz Carlos Heinze, recently re-elected by a significant vote in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, that the idea of creating a forum in defense of the nation emerged. Now we have the Guadalajara Forum. Here in Argentina we must now create the institution around this idea.

In this process, we have had Col. [Mohamed Alí] Seineldín and Lyndon LaRouche, who have backed this idea with enthusiasm and support. Recently, we have had what I consider an historic success in this fight for integration: the electoral victory of Dr. Enéas Carneiro, with the largest vote for a federal deputy in the history of Brazil. No other leader, in the country’s largest electoral college which is São Paulo, has ever received 1.6 million votes. With that vote, according to existing electoral law, a parliamentary caucus was elected.

And who is Dr. Enéas? Well, he is the person whom many of you know from when

he came to visit Colonel Seineldín, who from the first defended the convening of a New Bretton Woods conference and a break with the world financial system, as LaRouche proposes. He doesn't mean negotiate—he wants a break with this perverse system, so as to forge this ideal of economic integration.

Brazil's Vote Against Globalization

And so today, we can say that the Guadalajara Forum and the idea of a New Bretton Woods is represented in the new Brazilian Congress—a political representation inside the country that will be key to defending the project of integration from Mexico to Patagonia. And it is important that this question be understood, because it took the enemy, and even Dr. Enéas, by surprise, as he was expecting 600,000 votes. When the polls opened, the surprise was that the population turned out en masse to vote against globalization. Dr. Enéas spent \$20,000 on his campaign, which he owes the bank. Now, if you think of the number of votes per dollar spent, it is a phenomenon that has to open our eyes—not in the sense of wanting to linearly reproduce a phenomenon such as we have seen with Dr. Enéas, but to reproduce in our own minds the fact that here was an ordinary person, who 12 years ago, as a doctor, was teaching classes, and said to himself: “I am going to take responsibility for my country.”

And so, it is a victory for all the patriotic and nationalist forces of the entire world, because we have here an icebreaker against the system, not for the purpose of negotiating, but to truly advance the process of destroying this evil system that is dragging our nations to the brink of disintegration. . . .

We are in a general collapse of the world economy, an unprecedented collapse. We have financial values which are ten times larger than the world's gross national product—\$400 trillion in financial instruments, against \$40 trillion of the world GNP, of which \$11 trillion corresponds to the U.S. economy. These financial values produce monetary circulation which demands real wealth, which steals real wealth. Here, we have people who were earning \$400, are now earning \$100 for the same job. Where did all that wealth go? To pay that financial bubble which is sucking up the world's wealth in order to honor the Golden Calf. That is what must be stopped, now.

We are now entering the collapse phase, in the sense that the vast amount of financial debt is beginning to be monetarized, which is causing a return to hyperinflation, such as occurred with Germany's Weimar Republic in the 1920s. For example, what is happening in Brazil is that the dollar contracts that are part of the financial bubble, are not being renewed. The combined debt of Mexico, Brazil, and Argentina is \$1 trillion. There is no possibility of paying that debt. No one in their right mind could commit to paying it, unless we want to hand over our territory, or perhaps our children.

It is a matter of life or death. That is why it is absolutely the case that the hour of truth has arrived. What future we

are going to have, is what we must now decide. . . .

So here we are. We see Argentina in a pitiable state of prostration. Brazil is moving toward that same condition. Mexico is in process of being annexed by the United States, and yet we still hear voices saying, “First we have to solve our internal problems, and then integration.” What internal problems, and what integration, when we don't even exist any longer as legal entities? When the international order which protects the rights of each nation, is being demolished? And so we must act.

Universal Individuals Save Nations

To the oligarchic enemy, each culture, each nation, each religion is independent, is separate. The history of Argentina is separate from that of Brazil. And here we have what is perhaps the most important element of oligarchic control in all of British historiography: Tell the people what they are, and they will behave as you have defined them. What happens when you break the link with universal history? What happens, for example, when you break the link between the Muslim world, and its role in the transmission of Hellenic culture to the West, for example, toward Spain, toward Iberian culture? And the same if one separates the different religions, and denies that there exists a universal principle that unifies the history of all peoples? When this is done, then one is like a child manipulated by the oligarchy.

So we have this idea of wanting to impose hate, and dividing more and more, because when people are made more miserable, they are easier to manipulate. Look at Africa, look at what is happening in Asia, and how we are facing here, the manipulation of province against province, of one regional currency against another. This is the process of the destruction of the nation-state, and we must say “Stop!” because otherwise we will become non-existent in universal history.

We must recognize this capacity of individuals and nations to be able to carry out this integration around the principle of the Common Good, the principle that the creative power must be transformed into concrete works. Therefore, we cannot be content to merely issue declarations. We have been studying all sorts of integration projects—waterways, six or seven biooceanic corridors, and so forth. Because we are going to bring about—through these projects, through economic progress—the principle of the Common Good; that is, the principle that each human being is a child of God. If we do not provide conditions of employment, conditions of prosperity, building new cities, we cannot talk of a new Renaissance nor of how we are going to change this situation.

And so I conclude by repeating that this is the purpose of the Guadalajara Forum. And as we have said from the beginning, the crisis will see governments fall, parliaments discredited, judicial systems collapse, every institution linked to the system of usury finished. And ordinary people, like those in this room, will have to come forward and assume their public responsibilities. The moment has arrived, in which *you here* must decide what you can do to save our nations.

LaRouche: Infrastructure Gives Nature A 'Helping Hand' Against Drought

by Marcia Merry Baker

As of October, more than half of all American counties—1,650 out of a total of 3,141 in the nation—have been officially designated as economic/weather “disaster areas” by the Federal government, mostly due to drought. **Figure 1** shows the pattern of drought-stricken areas: Hardest hit are the lands west of the Mississippi River, and even the Eastern Seaboard areas show lingering effects of prolonged drought, despite the rainfall of recent weeks.

However, the lesson from the current drought disaster episode is *not* that weather happens, but that water and land-management infrastructure-building must be resumed. Were all the projects for geo-engineering (dams, water diversions, etc.), planned as of 50 years ago, carried through, we would not now be seeing the devastation to the land and the economy

affecting vast parts of the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Many projects ready-to-go as of the 1960s were shelved during the so-called “post-industrial” years. As population grew, water and land systems were not improved and maintained accordingly, so that vulnerability to so-called “weather” disaster was increased.

Lyndon LaRouche, in his campaign for an emergency anti-Depression, infrastructure-building program, stresses the principle involved in his article, “Science and Infrastructure” (see *EIR*, Sept. 27): “Now, since the scale of man’s impact on what are called ‘natural resources,’ has become relatively large, especially when compared to the situation during earlier centuries, it were inevitable that mankind must now think of giving a helping hand to those planetary abiotic

and living processes of our Biosphere. . . . We must do things in the sense of making the deserts bloom, and must apply principles of public sanitation in a richer sense than during earlier generations.

“In this vein, we must consider what has been termed ‘basic economic infrastructure,’ as the relatively ‘hard’ form of basic economic infrastructure, as man-made improvements in the Biosphere. This includes nationwide and continental systems of transportation, regional systems of integrated generation of power, national and

FIGURE 1

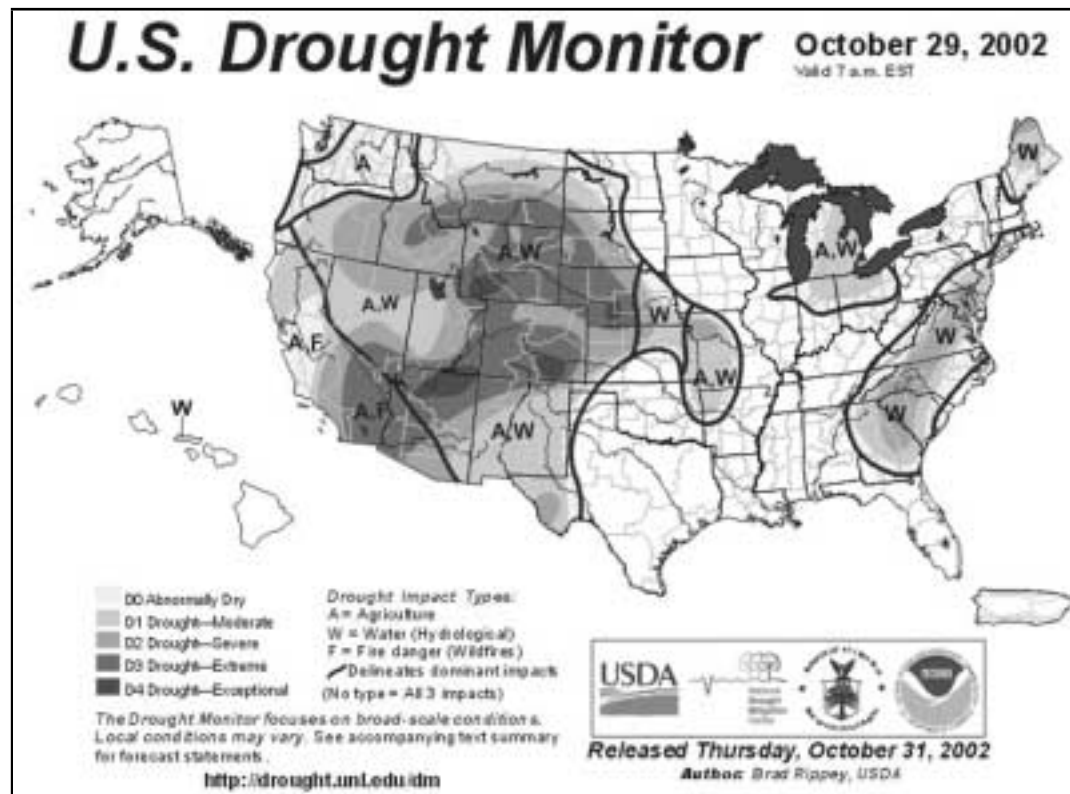
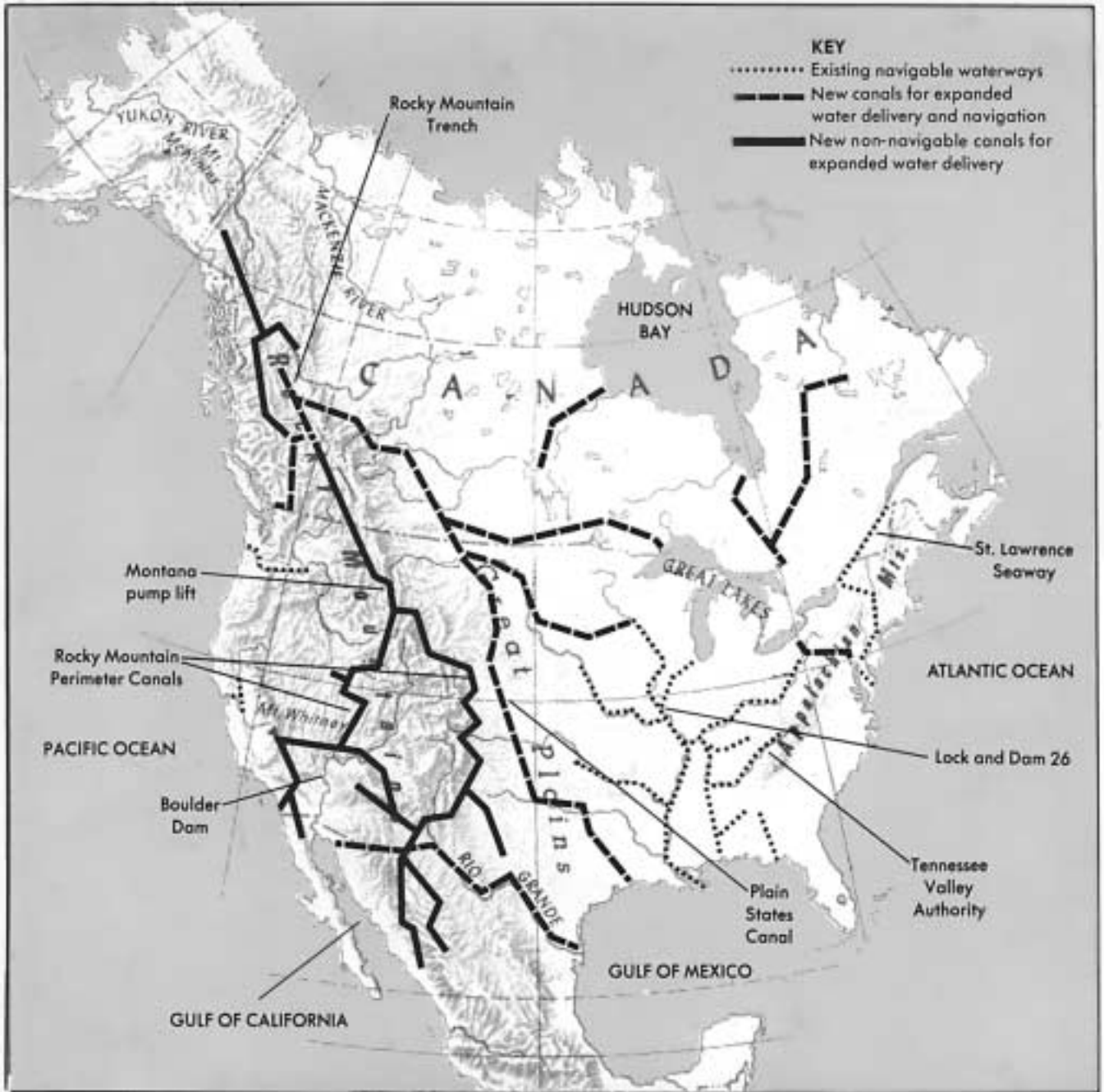


FIGURE 2

The NAWAPA Plan for Bringing Additional Fresh Water to the United States, Canada, and Mexico



international systems of water management, extensive systems of land reclamation and maintenance, and the rational design and management of cities and the relationship of urban life to, and integration with countryside of field, mountains, and forests.”

Continental Water Geo-Engineering

A priority continental-scale project, first conceived 50 years ago and still more demanded by today’s scale of drought throughout the nation’s western half, is the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA), shown in **Figure 2**.



Contour terraces in Kansas; the intelligent use of water and anti-erosion practices in agriculture is no product of post-1960s “environmentalism,” but of the Soil Conservation Districts and organized practices of the now-underfunded, 1935 Soil Conservation Act.

While large in scope, the engineering idea is simple: re-direct southward some 15% of the flow of the MacKenzie River system, currently going north to the Arctic. Make use of the natural-wonder Rocky Mountain Trench in British Columbia, and south of that, build water channels. The whole requires only one lift-pump system, in Montana.

Overall, NAWAPA would add, besides significant hydro-power and navigation routes, at least 20% to America’s water supply—an addition of some 135 billion gallons per day (bgd)—and add greatly to Canadian and Mexican supplies as well. The arid western regions of all three nations would be directly aided by “creating” new water supplies from NAWAPA.

Here are the specifics. In all of North America, annual precipitation amounts to an estimated average of 4,200 bgd. Of that, about 1,200 bgd reaches the 48 states, where man’s intervention over the past 200 years has directly increased what water engineers call the “average dependable supply of runoff.” In recent decades, this dependable supply has totalled about 515 bgd for the United States. It is not a fixed figure, but the result of all kinds of water management improvements, especially the dam-building of the inter-war period—the Grand Coulee and the Hoover Dams, the Colorado River development, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the post-war California Water Plan (adopted in 1957).

As of the mid-1960s, the United States had a “budget surplus” of water. Its population of 190 million people then used about 308 bgd, which was 60% of the average dependable supply of 515 bgd. But today, 280 million Americans require easily 590 billion or more. The new “NAWAPA” water is essential.

Another source of “new” water is illustrated by the artist’s rendering of a seawater desalination plant. Cheap, plentiful electricity is the precondition for large-volume water desalination, and the modern, “fourth-generation” high-temperature, gas-cooled nuclear reactor designs are ready to go. The illustration here shows what could be done for the arid southern California region, by nuclear-powered desalination on the Pacific coast.

Reclamation: The ‘Soil Conservation District’

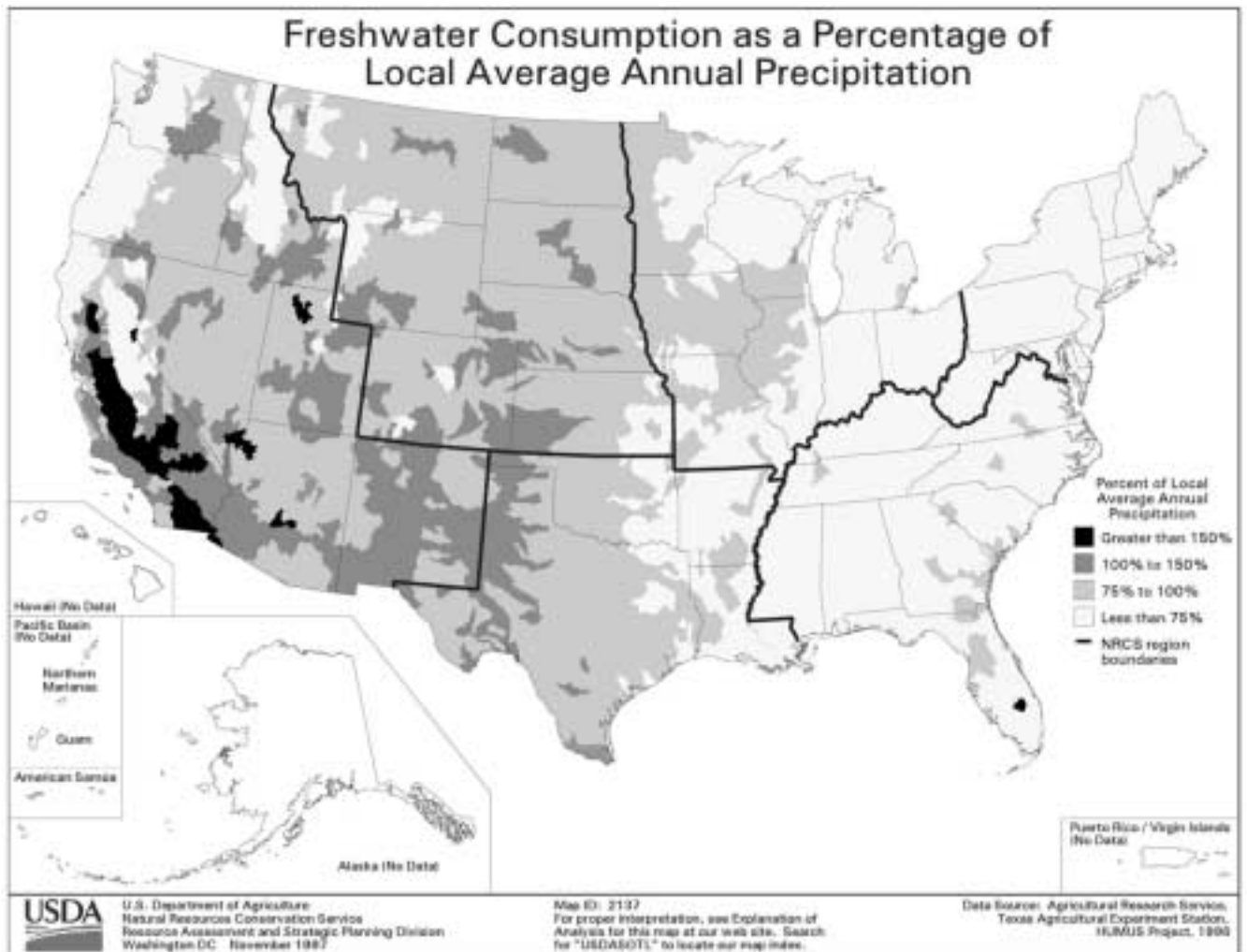
Hand in hand with water management goes land management. Vast parts of the Western states today are suffering conditions even worse than the famous 1930s Dustbowl, because of the lack of water infrastructure building and land care over the past three decades.

Figure 3 gives a snapshot of land and water concerns today. Begin with the region west of the Mississippi River. There, in much of the high



Artist’s depiction of a seawater desalination tower.

FIGURE 3



Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

plains and Western states, 75-100% (extensive light shading) of the average annual precipitation is being consumed (for all uses—agriculture, industrial, residential, generator-cooling, etc.); in some areas, over 100% (darker shading); and in much of California, over 150% (darkest shading). Such areas are using “imported” water from other regions, and drawing down underground aquifers. But even in an area where water demand is at the 75-100% share of annual precipitation, this means trade-offs and competition for water. The common threat to soil here is wind erosion, as in the classic Dust Bowl period of the 1930s. Also, salinity is destroying soil fertility in many locations.

In most of the Eastern states, consumption of water is under 75% of average annual precipitation; however, the map shows there are a number of exceptions. Moreover, because

water and land infrastructure has not been fully developed, sheet and rill erosion, common in humid conditions, is still a threat.

The map makes very clear why launching the large-scale projects is essential, which means unleashing the Army Corps of Engineers, and Federally-directed private construction drives, etc. But it is additionally required to reinvigorate the unique U.S. institution of *soil conservation districts*. These are a web of some 2,650 locally bounded districts, spanning much of the 18 major drainage basins—with 160 principal rivers, and 2,200 watersheds, of the continental United States. Under President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and his Agriculture Secretary Henry Wallace, the Soil Conservation Act of 1935 was passed, initiating the creation of local entities, working in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture,

and state water and soil experts, to decide on, and implement appropriate kinds of local interventions to improve and maintain their specific resources base of land conformation, soils and water. Over the decades, the methods included contour farming, ponds, terracing, underground drainage, wind-breaks, and others.

The purpose is expressed in the Act itself, which states (from 49 U.S. Statutes at Large 163): “. . . [I]t is hereby recognized that the wastage of soil and moisture resources on farm, grazing, and forest lands of the Nation, resulting from soil erosion, is a menace to the national welfare and that it is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress to provide permanently for the control and prevention of soil erosion, and thereby to preserve natural resources, control floods, prevent impairment of reservoirs, and maintain the navigability of rivers and harbors, protect public health, public lands and relieve unemployment; and the Secretary of Agriculture, from now on, shall coordinate and direct all activities with relation to soil erosion and in order to effectuate this policy.”

Today the soil districts cover half of all the privately owned land in the country. There have been marked results. One demonstration project was started in Coon Valley, Wisconsin, which is located in a region called the Driftless Area. The 1920s Coon Valley soil erosion rate was estimated to be nearly 15 tons per acre. But by 1992, the rate was down to just over 6 tons per acre. Moreover, this improvement occurred despite the changeover of cropping away from small grains (wheat, oats, barley—which normally have a lesser erosion rate), to row crops (corn, sorghum, and others—which encourage higher erosion).

Thus, for over 60 years, the Coon Valley remains a very productive agricultural area. Among the practices introduced were contour tillage (illustrated in the photograph), strip-cropping, and terracing; also use of no-till (ploughing only every few years, and otherwise using seed-boring, and herbicides) and other forms of residue management practices. In recent years, some land was also taken out of farming (in the Conservation Reserve).

However, this kind of improvement process has been counteracted over the past 30 years by underfunding, and by the imposition of the *anti-improvements* view—presented under many guises, such as back-to-nature, or “free markets.” In 1937, some \$463 million was appropriated to the Agriculture Conservation Program and Soil Conservation Service. Today, the equivalent public funding level would be around \$5 billion a year, but barely half of that—\$2.2 billion—was the annual expenditure norm in the late 1990s. This accompanies drastic cutbacks in the Army Corps of Engineers’ mandate, and in funding for water infrastructure projects.

Launching long-overdue large-scale water management projects—such as the North American Water and Power Alliance—reinvigorating the Soil Conservation Districts, and unleashing the Army Corps of Engineers, can literally create new “natural resources” of land and water.

1956 Highway Act Broke Down U.S. Transport

by Richard Freeman

The United States set the stage for compromising the integrity of its entire transport network when it decided to pour huge sums into the U.S. Interstate highway system, by passing the Interstate and Defense Highways Act of 1956. President Dwight Eisenhower signed the Act into law on June 29 of that year. At the time, this may have seemed a useful decision to benignly move a greater volume of motor vehicles, and for national security travel in an emergency. But the Wall Street-City of London financiers who sponsored the legislation had other ideas in mind.

Their plan was to make truck and car traffic the primary mode of U.S. freight and passenger transportation. They sought to destroy the U.S. rail network, which was America’s most efficient transport mode, and then its dominant one. Along with real estate interests, they envisioned highways as the primary means to rake in hundreds of billions of dollars through the creation of suburbia, including building suburban housing developments and shopping malls, which speculatively raised land prices several-fold. The oil and automobile interests also had a heavy hand in this *coup de grâce* to the traditional railroad-transport economy.

Since that 1956 legislation, Federal, state, and local governments have poured more than \$2.5 trillion into building—and increasingly, repairing—the U.S. highway and road system; road spending was \$125 billion in 2001.

The United States is now reaping the fruits of destruction.

Nowhere To Expand Any Further

The highway system is imploding in two interrelated ways: one, of which the public is acutely aware, is high and constantly increasing traffic congestion; the other, less noticed but as serious, is that the ever-escalating volume of truck traffic rips apart the roads at an horrific rate, which exceeds their possible repair.

First, whereas two decades ago, travellers normally travelled the Interstates or principal arterials at posted speeds of 55-65 miles per hour or more; now, at peak congestion times, especially in urban areas, many crawl along the major routes at speeds of 20-45 mph. Millions of commuters are forced to spend between 1.5 to 3.5 hours each day commuting to and from work.

Alongside this slow and slowing passenger traffic, the increased use of trucks, and accompanying destruction of roads, is raising the bill for roadwork. In the period since the

Robert Moses: Enemy of Railroads

Born in New York City in 1888, Robert Moses attended Yale and then Oxford University, where in 1913 he wrote a doctoral thesis on the British Civil Service. He praised it as the means by which the “upper division”—by which he meant the wealthier men drawn from the “best” schools—ruled. Moses became a close ally of New York Gov. Al Smith, who in the 1930s helped lead the pro-fascist American Liberty League, which in 1933 attempted a coup against Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Moses became both New York City’s Park Commissioner and its Construction Coordinator. In 1945-46, he planned out the construction of the Van Wyck Express-

way, to run from the Borough of Manhattan into the northern part of the Borough of Queens, and then to the southern part of Queens, close to what would become Idlewild Airport—now called Kennedy Airport. At its peak, the Van Wyck could accommodate only 2,300 cars per hour. A leading city planner proposed that in the expressway’s median strip or alongside it, there be built a mass transit train system that could accommodate, at its peak, 40,000 persons per hour. Moses crushed this sane proposal, so that it never saw the light of day. He deliberately built every expressway and bridge in and around New York City and parts of New York State that he had a hand in, so that it would offer no access to mass transit or heavier rail traffic.

Moses brought this anti-rail bias with him when, in 1956, he held several meetings with Gen. Lucius Clay to plan out the Interstate and Defense Highways Act.

1970s, in order to save money and increase the bottom line, shippers and trucking companies began to push hard for regulations increasing the weight limit of trucks allowed on the highways. On most of the U.S. Interstate highway system, the truck weight limit has been pushed up to 80,000 pounds, but much higher weight limits on principal arterial systems in 20 states have been grandfathered into Federal legislation, bringing the truck weight limit up to 130,000 pounds. These trucks rip away at the pavement at a frightening rate. This not only costs all levels of government nearly \$100 billion per year in repairs, but the deteriorated road conditions cause tens of billions of dollars of damage annually to cars and trucks riding on the roads, and deaths to truck drivers and auto passengers. Many trucks try to travel at night or at off-hours; nonetheless, they still add to massive congestion in and around major cities.

Some parts of the U.S. highway system in urban areas have reached a physical end point: There is no physical space to expand to, without disrupting economic activity. In some areas, highway systems already have 10 lanes (5 for traffic in each direction). Highway planners have proposed adding 4 to 8 more lanes to highways across the country, which in the extreme would create 18-lane highway monstrosities. But in this situation, the system runs out of land and physical space; moreover, even were land available for such endless widening, it is time to put an end to this insanity: It is dangerous to keep expanding an inherently inefficient system, which when pushed to its limits, will collapse.

As Lyndon LaRouche emphasized in “Science and Infrastructure” (*EIR*, Sept. 9), the United States, and other nations, must institute transport systems which transmits scientific advances; whose characteristic is the increase in the anti-entropic activity of the economy as a whole. This means a rail

transport system, which, compared to motor vehicles, can move people and goods at higher efficiencies; with greater power-flux density; with less land use; and at much higher speeds. This requires, on an emergency basis, rebuilding America’s failing rail grid, and moving as quickly as possible to magnetically levitated trains, which represent a scientific revolution.

To accomplish this, we must free people from the ingrained, false idea that the way to fix the troubled transport grid is to fill pot-holes, and add more miles of highway. Look hard at the 1956 Act, and the destructive process it has unleashed over the last four decades.

Push Toward Highways

The 1956 Highway Act represented as sharp a shift in U.S. transportation policy as any since the decision by President Abraham Lincoln—and his economic adviser, the great American System economist Henry C. Carey—to launch the transcontinental railroad system.

In the 1830s, the United States had first begun building railroads: State governments, leading engineers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and private investors played a role in this. In the period 1861-76, Lincoln and Carey used the dirigistic power of the U.S. government to make railroads the instrument of a policy of nation-building: They built the transcontinental railroad system, which connected the nation’s East and West Coasts, and radiated outward to connect most major areas of the country. In the rail corridors, there developed cities, manufacturing economy, and the spread of civilization.

During the 1939-44 economic mobilization for World War II, railroads played the leading role. In 1943, railroads carried 73% of U.S. goods transported; trucks carried only

5%. It is not known what the optimum percentage of goods carried by trucking should be; but during the 1939-44 mobilization, the economy functioned at a very high and expanding level, with trucking carrying only 5% of all goods. Railroads also transported a considerable share of passengers between cities.

The Federal government had been involved in highway construction since the 1910s. In 1916, the U.S. Congress passed the Federal-Aid Road Act, which established the concept of a cooperative Federal-state program, in which the U.S. government provided financial assistance for highway building through the respective state highway departments. This also aided in setting a national standard for grading the roadbed, installing culverts, laying a Portland cement or other type of base, etc.

There were also other Federal highway acts, including the 1941 Defense Highway Act.

In 1956, Anglo-American oil and auto magnates, and financiers mobilized to pass the Interstate and Defense Highways Act, and deliberately degraded the U.S. transportation mode to a lower level of technological functioning based on motor vehicle traffic. President Eisenhower was convinced to sign these into law, largely on the grounds that highways were needed for an emergency defense mobilization, as had been recommended in 1954 by a Presidential Advisory Committee on a National Highway Program, chaired by General Lucius Clay.

In all previous Federal highway projects, the Federal government had borne 50% of the construction cost, with the remainder split between state and local governments. However, in this Act, the United States officially committed to 90% of all construction costs, giving the project an outright subsidy. The Federal government spent approximately \$40 billion, an enormous sum in the 1950s. The Act authorized the incorporation of some existing roads, but largely mandated the construction of new roads, to form 42,500 miles of highways as the Interstate highway system, which linked all 48 states in the continental United States. It was completed in the 1970s.

It could have been argued that the Interstate system had a delimited and circumscribed military use, and would help civilian transportation in outlying areas not fully served by rail—were it subordinate to the railroad and waterway grid, which represented better modes of transport. But the bankers sought to supplant rail and water transport by trucking entirely.

Multimillionaires and Malls

Financial and real estate interests saw the highway system as a speculative land policy, as well as a boon to the automobile and oil industries. In addition to the 42,500 mile Interstate highway system, improvement or new construction was undertaken of at least another 300,000 miles of principal highway arterials and main collector roads, which were not part of

the Interstate network proper. Around this vast road network were built housing developments, where home mortgages would be taken out. Shopping and strip malls were built, which required major bank financing. The prices of previously undeveloped land or farmland went shooting up, making those who swooped in and bought up these lands multimillionaires.

Over the last 40 years, financial, real estate, and retail interests made trillions of dollars from this process spun outward from the highway system. A process of sprawl emerged, called suburbia, instead of the well-organized, planned, and populous cities, with factory systems and “downtown” centers for culture and economic activity, toward which Americans had steadily migrated throughout the nation’s existence until that time.

The actual pro-land-speculation, anti-rail purpose of the 1956 Highway Act is epitomized by the work of Robert Moses, one of the people who helped draft it (see box).

In the 1950s, syndicates were formed to destroy the electrified streetcar and transit systems which were already in existence in cities, some of them dating back to the early 1900s, which had made the development of cities possible, but which were viewed as rivals to highways. For example, Los Angeles had an electrified streetcar system, known as the Red Cars, which travelled on large boulevards, and were an inexpensive and fast means of travel. A syndicate of oil and tire companies bought the Red Cars system, and then shut it down, taking pains to physically destroy it. In Baltimore, that city’s electrified streetcar system was bought by a syndicate of oil and car companies, which destroyed the system.

The 1956 Highway Act—combined with this “search and destroy” operation—contributed to the initial sinking of the railroads. Then, the 1980 Staggers Act deregulated the rail industry. In the ensuing years, the financiers carried out takeovers and asset-stripping of the rail lines. With respect to rail freight transport since 1980, for Class I rail companies (the biggest rail companies), 40% of the trackage has been contracted, 27% of the locomotives have been furloughed, and 63% of the labor force has been fired. Wall Street and its Congressional allies, like Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), are moving to bankrupt and dismantle Amtrak, America’s largest intercity passenger rail service.

This 40-plus-year onslaught by the financier and allied interests behind the highway lobby, shifted entirely the distribution between modes of transport in the United States: As reported, in 1943, rail carried 73% of U.S. freight, trucks only 5%; today, when the transport of coal is put to one side, more freight travels by truck than by rail.

But the shift to highways, trucks, and motor vehicles as America’s dominant mode of transport has proven a disaster. Evidence is mounting that the fundamental inherent flaws of highways as a mode of transport, not only are destroying the highway grid, but the integrity of the entire U.S. transportation system with it.

Roadway Congestion

One of the three major problems crippling the highway system is the growing congestion.

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, which formulates plans for the greater Washington, D.C. area, gave a stunning example of this in a report it released in October: Between 1999 and early 2002, on Interstate 66, extending from Northern Virginia to Maryland, the back-up of rush hour traffic had increased from 13 miles to almost 22 miles in length, a near doubling of traffic delays in three years.

The Austin-based Texas Transportation Institute has compiled an index to measure congestion, called the Travel Time Index (TTI). This index is a ratio of the total travel time it takes a vehicle to traverse a roadway in the peak of congestion, to the travel time it takes that vehicle on the same roadway in free-flow conditions. It takes into account delay caused by heavy roadway demand and from traffic incidents. For example, for an urban area that has an index of 1.5, that means, a trip that would take 30 minutes when there was no congestion (free flow), would take 45 minutes at peak congestion.¹

Table 1 shows the 15 cities with the highest TTI, among the sample of 75 urban areas that the Texas Transportation Institute studies. Los Angeles leads the nation, with a TTI index of 1.90, meaning that a trip upon a roadway that under conditions of free flow would take 30 minutes, under peak congestion takes 57 minutes. The table shows that in all but a few cases, the index for each city has risen dramatically since 1982.

But a recent *EIR* discussion with one of the study's authors revealed that the study underestimates the congestion in two ways. First, the study measures congestion only inside the confines of what are called "urban areas"; for a trip starting outside an urban area, even if it is on a very congested road, the congestion won't be measured until the vehicle enters the urban area. Second, and more important, once inside the confines of an urban area, the congestion is an *average* of the congestion of potentially many hundreds of routes inside an area. So, for example, in Washington, D.C., if a car traveller's route on Constitution Avenue takes 4 times as long during congestion as during free flow, for a TTI index of 4.0; but other car travellers' trips on 5 other routes take only 1.2 times as long; then the TTI average for Washington as a whole, weighted by the traffic volume, might be 1.46. But for the vehicle in the heaviest part of traffic, the TTI index is very much higher.

Further, the Institute study of 75 urban areas found that whereas in 1982, the daily average amount of time the roadways are congested was 4.5 hours; by 2000, this had leapt to

1. The Texas Transportation Institute judges "free flow" travel, to be a vehicle travelling 60 miles per hour on a highway, and 35 miles per hour on main arterial streets. This information is found in the Texas Transportation Institute's study, the "2002 Urban Mobility Report."

TABLE 1

Index of Congestion Increases in U.S. Cities

Metropolitan Area	1982	2000
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.34	1.90
San Francisco/Oakland, Calif.	1.21	1.59
Chicago, Ill./NW Indiana	1.19	1.47
Washington, D.C./Western Md./Northern Va	1.18	1.46
Boston, Mass.	1.14	1.45
Seattle-Everett, Wash.	1.13	1.45
Miami-Hialeah, Fla.	1.16	1.45
New York, N.Y./New Jersey	1.13	1.41
Denver, Colo.	1.10	1.42
San Jose, Calif.	1.18	1.42
Phoenix, Ariz.	1.13	1.40
Houston, Tex.	1.28	1.38
Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn.	1.03	1.38
Atlanta, Ga.	1.08	1.36
Detroit, Mich.	1.12	1.34

Source: Texas Transportation Institute.

nearly 7 hours.

The Texas Transportation Institute calculated that, in 2000, in just the 75 urban areas of its study, 3.57 billion hours were lost by drivers sitting on the road on workdays, due to the delays of congestion.

How long it takes a worker to get from home to work on workdays, is compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce, based on surveys. The Census Bureau reports that in the year 2000, it took a worker on average, 51 minutes to get from home to work and back again. One knowledgeable source reported that those who are surveyed tend to under-report the time it takes them to get to work. But even according to the Census Bureau's own data, 19.1 million Americans take between 1.5 and 3.5 hours each day to get to and from work. Most of them are sitting on a congested roadway, wasting away a part of their lives.

Truck Damage

The second major problem is that truck traffic is eating the roadways alive.

In 2000, there were 8.74 million heavy trucks bearing freight on the roads in the United States. But while the number of trucks on the road has increased, even more remarkable is the amount of miles each truck logs; between 1990 and 2000, travel by large trucks on urban roads increased by a striking 48%.

Truck damage to the roads is beyond most people's imagination. The American Association of State Highway Officials (AASHTO), representing the officials of the state highway systems, has developed a function for the relation of axle weight (or truck weight) to pavement damage. According to

the AASHTO, a 5-axle tractor semi-trailer truck having a fully loaded weight of 80,000 pounds (or what is equivalent, a single-axle weight of 20,000 pounds) does the same amount of much damage to a roadway's pavement as would 10,500 cars (each car weighing approximately 3,000 pounds) traveling over that roadway.²

However, the AASHTO function of truck weight to pavement damage is not a simple linear function, but a power function. Thus, if this same 5-axle tractor semi-trailer were to have its load increased to 100,000 pounds and travel over a stretch of road, it would do the same amount of damage to the pavement as 33,000 cars travelling over that same stretch of road. The reason for the more severe damage inflicted by the truck than 1,000 cars, is that a truck concentrates vastly more weight on any point of pavement than does a car.

Under current Federal law, the U.S. Interstate highway system forbids trucks carrying loads of more than 80,000 pounds, but there are approximately 20 states in which trucks can carry loads from 90,000 up to 130,000 pounds on Interstate highways.

The tremendous damage inflicted upon America's highway and road system by America's 8.74 million trucks carrying loads of 25,000 pounds and above, especially the trucks carrying 80,000 pounds and above, has taken its toll. This damage requires extensive repairs, and the repair bill mounts. Further, the backlog of unrepaired road grows. This unrepaired road has its effects and costs. The Virginia-based Road Information Project (TRIP) has determined that every year, cars accrue tens of billions of dollars worth of damage caused by roads that are in disrepair. Roads that are in poor condition increase auto deaths.

The volume of truck, as well as car traffic, that causes damage to highway pavement through use, is projected to grow.

No Physical Space

The third major problem is no physical space.

Take the situation in California. Its population of 35 million is expected to grow to over 50 million in the next 25 years. In cities such as Los Angeles, San Diego, San Jose, etc., there will not be enough room in portions of those cities, to significantly expand the highway system.

Groups such as the Texas Transportation Institute, which are acutely aware of congestion, still see the principal solution of the present highway system's problems as—building new

highways. In its "2002 Urban Mobility Report," the Texas Transportation Institute states half-rhetorically, but half-approvingly, "It is difficult to imagine many urban street and freeway corridors with an extra 4, 6, or 8 lanes, but it may be required if the goal is to significantly reduce congestion by adding roads." This group also states that "several policy options, such as value-pricing or peak-travel restrictions," may be necessary to ration highway use, and get people off the road.

But with many highway systems having portions already groaning under 8- to 12-lane highways, the above recommendations do not offer a real solution. As a nation, we can achieve real knowledge only by recognizing the failure of our past axiomatic assumptions.

Forty years ago, this nation made a wrong turn. The highway system was never capable of being the nation's foremost mode of transport, and is now only capable of falling in upon itself.

The United States must build up, on a crash basis, its rail network: preserving what exists, restoring lost capacity, and above all, moving as rapidly as possible to magnetic levitation (maglev) railroads. Relative to trucks, maglev is several-fold more fuel-efficient, has a higher energy-flux density, and requires far less physical space—an advanced rail line uses one-third the space of a 10-lane highway system. It travels at far higher speeds, and carries orders of magnitude more freight.

Maglev engenders revolutionary scientific advances. In a maglev system, there is no steel wheel riding upon steel rail. Magnetic forces lift, propel, and guide a vehicle over, or under a guideway, so that it "floats" on a magnetic cushion. This eliminates the major source of friction, vibration, and wear on the vehicle, which slows all traditional modes of railroad transport. Current generation maglev systems travel, in extensive tests, at top speeds of 280 to 300 mph. This is between four and five times the normal speed of U.S. train or truck travel, a tremendous advance. Further, maglev trains negotiate curves and inclines better than traditional trains.

Design of freight-bearing maglev should be advanced: Currently, they can handle light freight, and require more engineering work for heavy freight transport.

In implementing the technological advance of rail, the integrity of the United States' transport mode will be restored, in the process of restoring the economy.

2. To figure out the relationship between single axle weight and the weight of the total truck that it corresponds to, AASHTO, based on tests, has the following correlation: A single axle weight of 20,000 pounds is equivalent to a tandem axle bearing a weight of 34,000 pounds, because a tandem axle distributes weight better (and does less damage to pavement) than two separated single axles. A 5-axle tractor semi-trailer usually is configured with 4 of its axles being 2 sets of tandem axles (each of which has 34,000 pounds, for a total of 68,000 pounds), and a single steering axle at the front of the truck, which has a weight of 12,000 pounds. Total weight of such a 5-axle truck is 80,000 pounds.

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Germany Waits for A New Economic Policy

by Rainer Apel

On Oct. 29, German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder presented his re-elected government's platform for the next four-year term, in an address to the national Parliament. Against the background of his own, publicly stated doubts about the European Union's Maastricht budgeting criteria (see last week's *EIR*), it was not unrealistic to expect that in his government declaration, Schröder would reveal some details of an alternate policy.

In an "Open Letter to the Chancellor" released on Oct. 18, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, chairwoman of the BüSo party in Germany, had called on Schröder to go for a full break with monetarist policy and launch a national-bank-oriented strategy for massive productive investment projects. The perspective of the German industry's engagement for the development of the Eurasian Land-Bridge, she wrote, would offer Germany a chance to overcome its mass unemployment of almost 7 million (out of a total population of 83 million), and to get out of the world depression. Moreover, Germany should campaign for the New Bretton Woods financial system which U.S. Presidential pre-candidate for 2004, Lyndon H. LaRouche, has proposed, she wrote.

Schröder's Words—And Deeds

Schröder's address to Parliament posed a paradox: While speaking well on the Maastricht issue, in general terms, he still left no doubt that the government wants to stay within the budget-balancing paradigm, at the expense of the general welfare.

As far as the economic outlook is concerned, Schröder said that "a protracted uncertainty on the raw material and energy markets, caused by the explosive situation in the Near and Middle East, provide little grounds for hope in a short-term improvement of the world conjuncture. The classic instruments of stimulating consumption and investment through state subsidies and financial injections, are no longer available."

Schröder said that among the government's planned steps, the "restoration and modernization of infrastructure in the eastern states through an emphasis on public sector investment" ranks prominently, and that in order to make that possible, the Maastricht Stability Pact "should and must be interpreted in a more flexible way." Without revealing further details, he called for a mix of "growth-promoting investments by the state, intelligent budget cuts, and more honest and just taxation."

To that kind of approach, he said, there "is no reasonable and responsible alternative. He who, in a labile conjunctural situation, calls for even deeper budget cuts by the state, risks doing damage to the justified interests of the citizens." His government, Schröder said, does "not want an impoverished state that becomes incapable of acting. Such a state could be afforded only by the powerful and the privileged. But the society has a claim to a state that promotes the common good, offers opportunities, and organizes justice. For justice is more than the demand that everybody has to make sacrifices." Schröder called on the Germans for a national "partnership of responsibility," to master these challenges.

Whereas this was well-spoken, the reality of his government's near-term program speaks a different language, however: There, the Chancellor's commitment is to cut 11.6 billion euros in the 220 billion euro budget for fiscal year 2003. And of these 11.6 billion, 7.4 billion alone will be carved out of the budgets for the national unemployment office (4 billion), for long-term unemployed support (2.3 billion), and other social services. Another 4.2 billion euros are to be collected by scrapping tax rebates for farmers and homebuilders, and through the ecology tax.

Response From Labor, Management

The labor unions, which generally support the present government coalition of the Social Democrats and the ecologist Greens, have already warned the Chancellor to change the emphasis on budget cuts in the labor and social welfare spheres. The public sector labor union, Germany's second-largest with more than 2 million members, has repudiated the Finance Minister's call for a zero-increase wage-bargaining round, and has demanded wage increases between 3.5 and 6.5%, for different categories of public sector workers and employees. With that, Germany may head into a big public sector strike, after February 2003.

Also from the employers' side, the Chancellor has received protests and warnings: The next stage of the ecology tax is a burden on production costs, and will translate into price increase of the end-products of industry; the elimination of the 50% rebate on the value-added tax for farmers' purchases of livestock, fertilizer, and seeds will have the same effect on food prices. And it is, anyway, not a wise decision by the government to cancel subsidies to homebuilders, who thus will run short of several thousand euros a year. This may reduce housing starts by 50,000 in 2003, which will affect 200,000 construction workers—at a time in which private homebuilding accounts for a good part of national construction activity, whereas public sector projects are visibly reduced because of budget cuts.

There is a paradox between what the Chancellor said in his address, and what his government wants to do. The Chancellor has made a small step away from the old system of economics; but he had better recognize soon that it is impossible to achieve anything positive in the troubled gray zone between the old and the new economic system.

Business Briefs

United States

Orders for Durable Manufactured Goods Fall

U.S. new orders for manufactured durable goods fell from \$178.1 billion in August to \$167.6 billion in September, a 5.9% drop, the U.S. Commerce Department reported on Oct. 25. This marks the second straight monthly fall.

Accounting for most of the decline was the 16.1% drop in new orders in the volatile "transportation equipment" sector, which fell from \$57.7 billion in August, to \$48.4 billion in September. Within the transportation equipment sector, comparing September to August, the various subsectors fell by the following percentages: motor vehicles and parts, -2.8%; non-defense aircraft and parts, -46.3%; defense aircraft and parts, -6.0%. Aside from the monthly volatility inherent in this sector, the plunge in non-defense aircraft and parts reflects the collapse of the airline industry.

As for capital goods orders, comparing September to August, non-defense orders fell by 12.6%, and defense orders by 4.1%.

Foreign Exchange

Mahathir Promotes 'Golden Dinar' Plan

Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad hosted a seminar in Kuala Lumpur on his plan for a "golden dinar" for international trade, the *Malaysia Star* reported on Oct. 24. The two-day "International Seminar on Multilateral Trades" was organized by the Institute of Islamic Understanding (IKIM).

The golden dinar initiative was encouraged by Iran's Central Bank head, Bijan Latif, who urged Dr. Mahathir to set up a secretariat to elaborate on the proposal, and to better inform other nations as to how the dinar could be used among central banks, starting among Muslim countries. Dr. Mahathir said he would brief his Cabinet on the secretariat proposal, and if there was agreement, then Malaysia's central bank, Bank Negara, would be informed. He also said that

Iran might join with Malaysia in creating such a secretariat.

In the session, IKIM Chairman Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid outlined some of the proposals and issues that needed to be examined before implementation, pointing to an existing prohibition by the International Monetary Fund on the use of gold as a medium of payment; the proposed gold dinar could be a potential violation of that rule. He said there was also a need to study the effects of using a dual currency system and whether this would impede the growth of the gold dinar.

In his speech, Dr. Mahathir suggested that the dinar be used, initially, only in bilateral trade. He indicated that he believed anarchy in the international financial regime would remain until currencies could be better stabilized. He said that while the dinar would not totally eliminate speculation, gold prices would be more difficult to manipulate, adding that short-selling would be very difficult, if not impossible.

He stressed that the dinar was intended exclusively for international trade and was not to be used as currency for daily transactions in the domestic market, because it was heavy and cumbersome to carry.

Nuclear Power

Australia Gives Go-Ahead for Reactor

The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency has given the green light for the construction of a new nuclear research reactor to be built at Lucas Heights outside of Sydney, after a three-month study by Australian and international experts in seismology. The site is in a region of a geological fault line, but there has been no movement there for at least 5 million years.

The reactor, to be completed by 2005, is being built by INVAP, the Argentine nuclear and space company, and will replace a 44-year-old research reactor that produces radioisotopes for medical procedures. Nuclear opponents had vowed to block the project, but Science Minister Peter McGauran said the site has the "all-clear."

Labor

Americans Work Longest Hours

Employed Americans are working more hours than workers in any other industrialized nation, the *Buffalo News* reported on Oct. 14, in an article on the Economic Policy Institute's biennial report, *State of Working America*. Sharon Lindstedt writes, "The average U.S. worker spends 1,900 hours a year on the job. That's the equivalent of 20 more days each year than in 1979, and more work hours than in any [other] industrialized nation in the world. The hour count is also up for dual-income families. A middle-income couple with children, in the 25-54 age range, works a combined average of 3,932 hours, annually, up 20% in the past quarter century. That adds up to a whopping 16 additional weeks of work compared to hours logged in 1979."

These changes seem to be partly a reflection of workers' needs to make ends meet, but also partly of employers' demands: "44% of full-time employees [indicated] they'd prefer to work fewer hours. Only 26% said they would like to put in more time on the job."

Trade

Iran, Russia Chart Ten-Year Agreement

Iran and Russia are negotiating a ten-year economic agreement, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported on Oct. 24. The news was released after talks between Russian Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Khristenko and Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh. The ten-year deal is to pave the way for wide-ranging bilateral economic cooperation in the oil and fuel sector. Zanganeh also held talks with Energy Minister Igor Yusufov, focussed on Russian investments in the Iranian Southern Pars, the world's biggest gas field.

The talks were not only bilateral, but in the context of relations between Russia and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting

Countries. Khristenko stated: "We discussed the situation regarding Russia-Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries cooperation and prospects for our interaction in the oil market." Iran and Saudi Arabia are the biggest OPEC producers.

Employment

Layoffs Announced By Top Companies

Several large corporations in the United States and Great Britain have announced new layoffs, with more to come. According to *Business Week* magazine of Nov. 4, between September 2000 and September 2002, the following sectors of the U.S. economy were among the hardest hit: temporary work, -18.4%; computers and office equipment, -18.1%; printing and publishing, -9.4%; autos, -8.7%; and financial services, -7.3%.

Boeing: With the layoff of 1,090 employees in the Puget Sound area, Boeing completed the over 25,000 job cuts announced after the Sept. 11 attacks. The company announced that more employee reductions will be necessary in 2003, although the exact number has not yet been announced.

US Airways plans to lay off 471 more pilots by May, with 326 layoffs by Jan. 7, blaming rising fuel costs and continued low number of passengers. The airline, with the new cuts, will have eliminated about 1,800 of the 6,000 pilots it had before Sept. 11, 2001. US Airways also plans to furlough 915 more flight attendants by December, for a total of 3,675 jobs cut since Sept. 11, when it had 10,000 flight attendants.

Goodrich, the biggest U.S. maker of aircraft-landing gear, is slashing 3,200 jobs (up from a previously announced 2,700), in response to a 48% plunge in third-quarter profit, as sales fell 27% in its commercial aircraft business. The company warned that it would look for more ways to cut costs.

Duke Energy announced cuts of 1,500 regular jobs and 400 contract positions, as third-quarter profit plunged by 71%.

Citigroup plans to fire 1,200 employees in its investment and corporate banking unit, due to falling revenue from mergers, stock

sales, and securities trading. The cuts will include more than 200 investment bankers, about 10-15% of that unit's staff, who will be laid off over the next few weeks.

The City of London, by the end of the year, will have lost about 30,000 banking jobs since the start of 2000, according to the Centre of Economics and Business Research. Credit Suisse First Boston will cut up to 80 staff at its London headquarters. The bank has slashed 6,500 jobs over the past year.

Economic Policy

Krugman Sees FDR-Style Response to Crisis

Economist Paul Krugman of Princeton University decried the disappearance of the middle class in the United States, in an interview on National Public Radio on Oct. 23. He said that there is now an income distribution profile exactly like that of 1929: The 13,000 richest families now control more wealth than the 20,000,000 poorest families.

Krugman is the author of a new book, *New Gilded Age*, in which he says that a viable middle class existed only temporarily between two "gilded ages," the 1920s and the present.

He castigated the "royalist culture" and the "oligarchy" now dominating the economy, in which CEOs now command salaries 1,000 times more than the income of the workers in their firms. He blamed think-tanks such as the American Enterprise Institute, the Heritage Foundation, and the Cato Institute, for promoting this culture through the stories they feed to the media.

Krugman forecast that either this powerful oligarchy will continue to grow stronger and stronger, as they continue to buy more influence, or, the American people will decide to put the brakes on this state of affairs, "just as they did in the 1930s under Franklin D. Roosevelt."

For a critique of the more problematic features of Krugman's economic worldview, see Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., "Paul Krugman's Cargo-Cult Economics," *EIR*, Oct. 23, 1998.

ITALIAN Economics Minister Giulio Tremonti called for a European "New Deal," in an interview with the daily *Corriere della Sera* on Oct. 27. "If the recovery does not come," he said, "I believe we should implement a Europe-wide New Deal." Question: "You mean a European investment plan in public works, promoted by governments and financed off budget?" Tremonti: "I will not say one word more."

U.S. STEEL CORP. is selling off its coke works around the country to a Wall Street firm, set up by Apollo Management, a New York City private equity company. U.S. Steel signed a letter of intent in mid-October to sell off its Clairton Works coke plant in western Pennsylvania; a coke works in Gary, Indiana; its Minnesota iron-ore operations, and transportation subsidiary Transtar.

AUSTRALIA, one of the world's top six grain-exporting nations, will have to import grain this year, said the Australian Grains Council. The Winter harvest is down over 50% from last crop year, due to drought and lack of infrastructure. The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics estimates that the current harvest of four major Winter crops—wheat, barley, canola, and lupins—will be under 15 million metric tons, way below last crop year's output of 34.1 million tons.

THE ASIAN *Wall Street Journal* is "just plain stupid," said Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad, referring to the paper's publication on Oct. 23 of a photo of Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri, over a background of the Malaysian flag, accompanying an article on instability in Indonesia and Pakistan. "I don't know why people bother to read the newspaper," he said. "It knows nothing but selling newspapers." Defense Minister Najib Tun Razak commented that the *Journal's* "excuse that it had been a mistake is hard to believe, because the *Asian Wall Street Journal* is printed in Malaysia."

What Is the Future Of Space Exploration?

The international economic collapse, and Bush Administration technological apartheid, has shrunk nations' space programs and great potentials of only a decade ago. Marsha Freeman reports.

Ten years ago, at the first World Space Congress in Washington, D.C., scientists, aerospace industry representatives, and space program officials from around the world were optimistic about the future of space technology development and exploration. The disintegration of the Soviet Union held out the promise of collaboration between the United States and the world's other great space power. With the Cold War over, the aerospace industry looked forward to a "peace dividend," that would free research and development resources from military programs for visionary space initiatives.

The prospects for growth in commercial space services were bright, with plans to orbit dozens of satellites to provide mobile telecommunications and Internet services, requiring the expansion of both satellite-manufacturing facilities, and the launch vehicles to carry them into space.

A few weeks after the World Space Congress, elections would bring Bill Clinton to the White House, his stated policy to "engage," rather than confront the People's Republic of China—the next emerging space power. American satellite makers would be able to launch their spacecraft on Chinese rockets, expanding their business, especially in Asia. The Clinton Administration would invite Russia to join the International Space Station, virtually combining the programs of the world's only two manned-space-exploration powers, to the benefit of both.

Failed Economic Policies Cut a Swath

The atmosphere, and the reality, of the second World Space Congress, held Oct. 10-18 in Houston, Texas, was en-

tirely different from that prospect of a decade ago.

Over those ten years, failed International Monetary Fund-dictated economic policies have come perilously close to destroying the magnificent capabilities that were the Soviet space program. Similar policies, within the context of the global financial crisis, have led to declines in funding for space exploration by all of the major space powers, and now threaten major programs.

Over the course of the ten-day meeting, a speaker from the U.S. Jet Propulsion Laboratory reported that the Marconi data relay satellite planned for Mars could be delayed because of the funding problems of NASA's partner, the Italian Space Agency. The European Space Agency's Venus Express mission faces outright cancellation, if the Italian government, as it has indicated, cannot meet its commitments. Kohichiro Ozama reported at the Congress that Japan's Planet C mission to Venus is also on hold, because they do not have enough money to complete even the prototype model. Japan had previously announced that the completion of its contribution to the International Space Station—the Japanese Experiment Module—would be delayed for two years, due to funding problems.

Describing the French Mars exploration program, Jean-Louis Coulon stated that the French Space Agency, CNES, had wanted to launch a mission in 2007 to include a science orbiter and four Net Landers for communications relay and scientific exploration on Mars. But estimates are that the mission would cost 400-500 million euros, and the "budget estimates were far too optimistic," he said. Now, the French are



More than 4,000 scientists and engineers attended the World Space Congress in Houston, but nearly all of the Chinese delegation, and many other delegates, were denied visas on bogus “technology transfer” concerns. Ironically, Chinese President Jiang Zemin visited Houston’s Johnson Space Center on Oct. 23, a week after the Congress ended. Here, astronaut Andy Thomas briefs President Jiang in the Space Shuttle Mockup Facility.

looking for “cost reductions,” will simplify the mission, and will “move it to 2009.”

The budgetary problems of the two manned-space powers were already well known before the Houston meeting, with Russia stating it does not have enough money to build the Soyuz rockets to carry supplies and crew to the space station, and the United States threatening not to finish building the station.

In the United States over the past decade, the decline in defense spending, with no parallel increase in the civilian space program, has led to hundreds of thousands of layoffs in aerospace, and dozens of company mergers that reduced capacity in every sector of the industry. What remains are a few mega-giants, increasingly dependent upon money from the Department of Defense for survival.

The collapse of the telecommunications sector, bloated by speculative ventures and hyped high-priced services, has led to the cancellation of dozens of satellite launches and created an “overcapacity” of launch vehicles, leaving in the red companies that invested millions of dollars to develop new rockets. Michael Yarymovych, the president of the International Academy of Astronautics, stated on Oct. 13 that the community is in a “malaise,” and that it will take the launch vehicle industry “a decade to catch up again.”

Technological Apartheid Shrinks Conference

And the George W. Bush Administration is pursuing a Clash of Civilizations foreign policy, which precludes engaging dozens of nations in collaboration in space exploration—a program of technological apartheid under the guise of fighting terrorism.

As the delegates gathered for the marathon ten days of

meetings in Houston, one of their first discoveries was that many of the papers that had been prepared, and were listed in the program, would not be presented. *EIR* was told that 80 Chinese scientists (nearly the entire delegation) were denied visas by the State Department. *Aviation Week* subsequently reported that Luan Enjie, the head of the Chinese space agency, was left stranded in Canada, unable to enter the United States. In addition, Russian, Indonesian, Romanian, Iranian, and Algerian scientists were denied visas.

The visas were denied, or “delayed” long enough to cancel participation, under the guise of fears of “technology transfer” to these nations. This is an obvious sham, considering that all of the presentations were unclassified and civilian in character, often accessible through the Internet, and will be available as conference proceedings. One real result was the loss of the opportunity to hear from Chinese scientists what their otherwise quite secret space program was planning. Ironically, the President of China, Jiang Zemin, visited the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston less than a week after the conference that his nation’s space experts were not allowed to attend.

In response to this slap in the face to the international scientific community, Marcio N. Barbosa, the Brazilian national who heads one of the main sponsoring organizations—the International Astronautical Federation—has sent a letter of complaint to the American Academy of Sciences, and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the U.S. hosts for the Houston Congress. The international scientific organizations indicated at the close of the conference that they will recommend that no future such meetings be held in the United States. The Bush Administration policy is “insane,” one French Congress official told *EIR*.



In 1993, Chinese President Jiang Zemin (left) visited engineering facilities in Brazil where the China-Brazil Earth Remote Sensing (CBERS) satellite was under construction. The joint program was initiated to allow technology transfer, denied Brazil by the United States.

Despite this attempted sabotage of a crucial opportunity for the space community to meet, discuss, review programs, and plan for the future, and despite the economic crisis, which is “downsizing” the programs of the space-faring nations, there were new, innovative ideas presented, and many developing nations made clear they intend to be part of space exploration in the 21st Century.

Ibero-American National Commitments

No countries represented at the World Space Congress are facing a more severe existential financial crisis than Ibero-America’s two space powers, Argentina and Brazil. Yet both nations made clear they will continue their programs, with or without the United States, and in spite of their current economic catastrophes. Marcio Barbosa stated, at a plenary session titled “Space Activities: An Engine for Serving Humanity,” that with “courage and determination,” mankind “could go back to the Moon in six years.” He called for a “dialogue to build a bridge to solve the problems of humanity.”

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, the “empire” faction in the U.S. government, following former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger’s dictum that there should be no economic powers allowed to develop in the South, tried desperately to stop the space programs of Argentina and Brazil. Particularly targeted were their launch vehicle development programs; these rockets, the United States insisted and continues to insist, were not being developed to launch satellites into orbit, but as missiles, to carry “weapons of mass destruction.” The United States lied that international non-proliferation treaties would not prevent Ibero-American nations from developing space technology, but the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), in fact, classifies any launch vehicle, and all its components, as a weapon or weapons.

Bowing to U.S. pressure, with the hope of gaining access to the technology it needed to upgrade its other space efforts,

Argentina cancelled its Condor rocket program in 1990, and in 1991, signed the MTCR. But Brazil refused to capitulate, and continues to develop its independent launch capability, the Satellite Launch Vehicle (VLS). The next test launch, it was announced at the Congress, is scheduled for March 2003.

At a session on space law at the Houston conference, representatives from Brazil registered their objection to U.S. export control policy, and their determination to look elsewhere for cooperation in space. José Monserrat Filho, head of the Brazilian Society of Space Law in Rio de Janeiro, described the current U.S. dominance over technology-transfer policy as a “hegemony” that has developed from a “unipolar” world.

In 1996, the United States and Brazil signed a Framework Agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. In 1999, President Bill Clinton met in Washington with Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, and the following year, an agreement was signed outlining the use of Brazil’s Alcântara launch site by American launch vehicles, and to launch American-built satellites. To this day, the Brazilian Houses of Congress have refused to ratify the agreement.

The reason is that, while the Technology Safeguards Agreement with the United States proposes to prevent unauthorized vehicle and satellite technology transfer to Brazilian institutions and companies at the Alcântara spaceport in return for cooperation, in fact, that cooperation will not exist unless Brazil cancels its VLS rocket program. The Brazilian Congress rightly sees the agreement as a threat to its national sovereignty.

As Monserrat stated, the agreement is not “an instrument of cooperation, but of technological safeguards. It would be a true instrument of cooperation if it would provide some technological transfer, train human resources, or contribute to the development of the Brazilian national space program. That is not the case.”

The U.S. safeguards are aimed “at the VLS,” Monserrat stated, “since the United States never accepted the VLS program,” even though Brazil joined the Missile Technology Control Regime in 1995. “Apparently, Brazil’s decision to join the MTCR does not guarantee Brazil a more trustworthy and flexible treatment by the U.S.”

Brazil’s International Partners

The MTCR requires that *every* member country sign the same restrictive technology transfer agreements that the United States imposes in implementing any cooperative programs with Brazil. This has stymied Brazil’s efforts to negotiate launch contracts with most nations, so it has looked outside the mainly Western technology control framework for cooperation.

In 1988, a year after the MTCR went into effect, China and Brazil signed an agreement to develop, build, and launch two remote sensing satellites. At the time the program started,

Brazil's technology development center, INPE, stated that the cooperation with China was intended to "break down the developed countries' prejudice against advanced technology transfer." The first China-Brazil Remote Sensing (CBERS) satellite was built in Brazil and launched on a Chinese Long March rocket in October 1999.

Since the establishment of an independent Ukraine, following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, that nation has signed three cooperative space agreements with Brazil, starting in 1995. In November 1999, the two space agencies signed an agreement in Kiev including the launch of Ukraine's Tsyklon rocket from the Brazilian Alcântara launch site.

Monserrat stated at the World Space Congress that "the basic difference between the U.S. and the Ukrainian agreements is that the Brazil-U.S.A. agreement seeks to close any opportunity for transfer of technology and cooperation. It further reinforces obstacles." By contrast, "the Technology Safeguard Agreement between Ukraine and Brazil does not have any similar provision. Ukraine and Brazil welcome each other's development, including an option for further development of joint programs." In fact, "both countries aim to solve their financial problems by joining efforts in finding innovative solutions to satisfy global market demand," Monserrat stated.

But Monserrat explained that the "success of the Brazil-Ukraine Agreement still depends upon the approval, by the Brazilian Congress, of the U.S.-Brazil Agreement," because of the "predominant position of U.S. clients in the world commercial launch market." But even such a step by Brazil will not ensure success, he said. The U.S. government must still grant its approval for U.S. companies to launch satellites from Alcântara, even on a Ukrainian rocket.

It remains to be seen what U.S. policy will be, as Ukraine and Brazil come closer to what they hope will be up to six Tsyklon rockets launched per year, starting in 2006.

There is no doubt that the financial crisis in Brazil has taken a toll on its space program. Earlier this year, Brazil informed NASA that it will not be able to meet its commitments to provide hardware for the International Space Station. At the World Space Congress, Fernando Raúl Colomb, from the Argentine space agency, CONAE, reported that a joint satellite program was on hold, due to the financial problems in Brazil.

Considering the fact, however, that Argentina itself is effectively bankrupt, *EIR* asked Colomb how his nation is continuing to fund its space program at all. His reply was that years ago, the nation of Argentina made a commitment to



In November 2000, Professor Turner T. Isoun, the Minister for Science and Technology of Nigeria (seated, right), signed an agreement with Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd. for Nigeria's first space satellite. Signing for Surrey is Dr. Martin Sweeting.

develop space technology. And while "Presidents change," this national commitment does not.

Africa Into Space

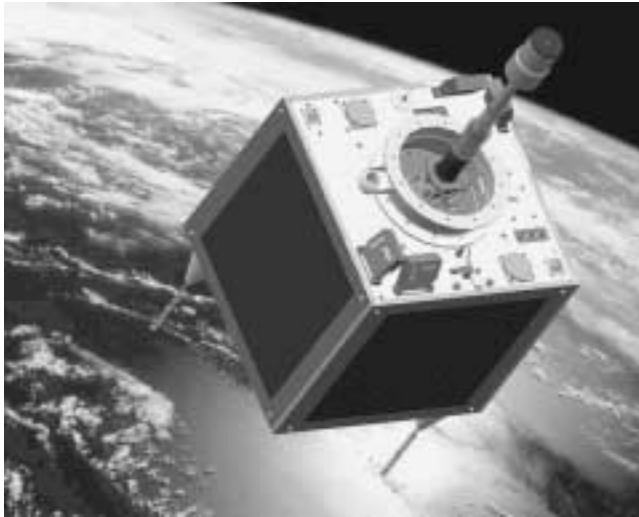
The same determination evidenced at the World Space Congress by Brazil and Argentina was demonstrated by numerous developing nations, which do not plan to be left in the backwaters of science and technology or economic progress in the 21st Century. A number of developing countries are entering the space age through a cooperative program initiated at the University of Surrey, England.

In 1978, a group of students at the university began experiments to develop micro-satellites, weighing 10-100 kilograms (approximately 20-200 pounds), and costing \$3-6 million each. By comparison, conventional commercial satellites cost in the tens to hundreds of millions of dollars, and a like amount is needed to launch them into Earth orbit.

In 1985, the University formed Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd., and began an international outreach program to bring satellite technology and applications to nations that could not otherwise afford to make use of space technology. Over the past 20 years, Surrey has built and launched micro-satellites for Pakistan, South Africa, South Korea, Chile, Portugal, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, and China.

What is unique about the Surrey program is that it trains groups of scientists and engineers at its facilities in England, provides them with the opportunity to complete advanced degrees in science and engineering, and transfers the technology to the developing country. The purpose is to create a cadre of people who can then be the core of an indigenous space program in each nation. So far, Surrey has helped educate more than 70 foreign engineers, and an additional 320 have graduated from the university with Master of Science degrees.

One of the most innovative, on-going programs at Surrey



Seven nations are participating in Surrey's Disaster Monitoring Constellation. One of the seven satellites is depicted in this artist's illustration.

is the deployment of a Disaster Monitoring Constellation of satellites. The purpose of the Constellation is to monitor natural and man-made disasters, such as monsoons and other violent weather, out-of-control fires, and floods. When such disasters cannot be prevented, timely and accurate information can save thousands of lives, and avoid millions of dollars in damage.

The Constellation will consist of seven satellites, through the participation of Algeria, Great Britain, China, Nigeria, Thailand, Turkey, and Vietnam. One approximately 100 kg micro-satellite will be owned independently by each nation, providing remote sensing information to aid its agriculture, the development of infrastructure such as road and rail networks, water resource management, and the monitoring of special concerns such as desertification. But the Constellation, working together and coordinated through Surrey's ground-control station, can also provide same-day disaster information, which will be immediately made available to relief agencies.

At the Congress of the International Astronautical Federation in Toulouse last year, researchers from Algeria's Centre National des Techniques Spatiales described the importance, for their nation and North Africa, of their Disaster Monitoring Satellite, stating that with this project, "space is no longer the preserve of a few wealthy nations."

This year, at the World Space Congress, Prof. Robert Boroffice, who heads the National Space Research and Development Agency of Nigeria, discussed his country's participation in space technology development. "Space technology and access to space have been elusive to most developing countries over the last half of the 20th Century," he stated, as "technology was seen as very expensive and prestigious, meant only for the major industrialized countries."

But over the last decade, Boroffice said, "the trend has changed, with many developing countries embracing space technology as one of the major ways to achieve sustainable development. The present trend toward the use of small satellites in meeting national needs has aided this transition."

"Nigeria is a country at the threshold of technology development and industrialization," Boroffice stated. "It has a population of 88.5 million (1991 census) . . . with a wide variety of natural resources." He explained that "the prime objective" of the government of Nigeria is "the provision of adequate food, clean drinking water, shelter, health care delivery, good roads, and infrastructure for development, especially for rural dwellers, who constitute about 80% of the population."

While the value of satellite remote sensing data for development planning has long been recognized, Boroffice said, the absence of ground receiving stations in most developing nations means they have had to purchase the data at a high cost. Now Nigeria will be able to have its own, independent capability.

The Nigerian National Space Research and Development Agency was established in 1999, he reported. The objectives are to "develop indigenous capabilities for research and development in the major areas of space science and technology," to manage natural resources, to develop an "effective and efficient communications system," and to train Nigerians "in the acquisition and application of modern technology."

In order to achieve the broad-ranging objectives of its national space plan, Nigeria has created three new centers, for Basic Space Science, for Satellite Technology Development, and for Geodesy and Geodynamics. To develop the human resources required, and to meet the objective of developing Nigerian technological products that can "feed our manufacturing industries," the study of space science is being made mandatory at all levels of education. There is a plan to develop facilities, such as planetaria, for public education.

In the first step of its national program plan, Nigeria is contributing a satellite to the Disaster Monitoring Constellation. For 15 months, 15 Nigerian engineers were trained at Surrey. Based on the success of that program, the government has decided to initiate a "second national project," NigeriaSAT-2, which is a small geostationary communications satellite "that has been selected specifically to address the lack of communications infrastructure in Nigeria."

"Experiences in other developing countries, such as India and Indonesia, have shown how satellite-based communication systems have opened up the rural areas of development," Boroffice stated. NigeriaSAT-2 will provide "independent communications coverage throughout Nigeria and regional coverage to some West African countries."

In sum, Boroffice said, "a well-funded space program will be a demonstration of the political will to acquire this strategic technology which is crucial to socio-economic development, and national security."

The Moon or Mars?

While many developing nations reported to the Congress on their progress in entering the space age, representatives from the already-established space powers were trying to find their way back to a vision of the future.

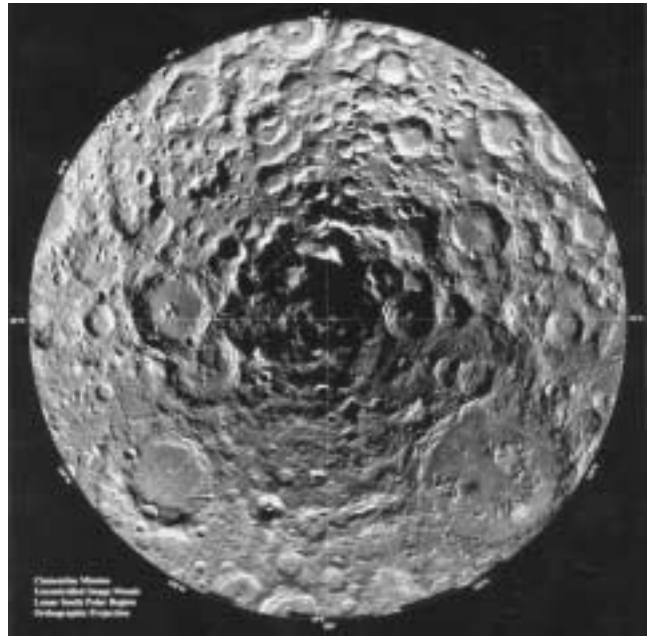
Throughout a series of presentations at the World Space Congress, Dr. Wesley Huntress, former NASA Associate Administrator for Space Science, and currently Director of the Carnegie Institution's Geophysical Laboratory, stated that what distinguishes the past from the present is that 50 years ago, even though we did not have a space program, "we had a vision." That vision, he said, "was spelled out by Wernher von Braun," in a 1950s series for *Colliers* magazine. "We had a vision for going to the Moon," Huntress recalled. Walt Disney produced television shows in 1954, with the help of von Braun, showing what the future of space exploration would be, including enormous space stations, then lunar landings, and finally, manned missions to Mars.

"We lost that vision after we went to the Moon," Huntress said, and since then we have just "huddled together," stuck in Earth orbit. Actually, as was pointed out by lunar scientist Paul Spudis, from the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory, the Apollo program was a diversion from Wernher von Braun's incremental architecture. But it did create a vast infrastructure, which put almost any destination within reach. The von Braun plan had been, first, to enable people to live and work in nearby low-Earth orbit, providing them with reliable transportation to and from space, and living quarters. Then, a large, multi-use space station in orbit would be used to train astronauts to live in micro-gravity, and assemble, check-out, and fuel the large spacecraft heading to the Moon and later to Mars.

Huntress pointed out that what the space program needs now is "a destination, and not a piece of hardware." The International Space Station is not an end in itself, but a jumping-off point to somewhere else. For the past 50 years, it has been assumed that this "somewhere else" would first be the Moon, where scientific research, technology development and testing, and industrial manufacturing capability would lay the basis for going the tens of millions of miles to Mars.

Over the past few years, however, there has been a drum-beat to forget about going back to the Moon, and instead head straight for Mars. The announcement in 1996 by a team of scientists, proposing that artifacts found in a meteorite from Mars indicated the fossil remains of life, heightened public and scientific interest in the possibility that life exists, or existed, on the red planet.

On July 4, 1997, the diminutive Sojourner rover landed on Mars, and captivated the world with its plodding excursions over the Martian surface. Perhaps, some at the space agency thought, this renewed public excitement about Mars could be leveraged into Congressional support for increased NASA funding. Increased emphasis was put on the series of robotic Mars missions which NASA is in the midst of carrying



The 1994 Clementine spacecraft produced this spectacular image of the South Pole of the Moon. Measurements indicated the presence of water ice in the permanently shadowed regions, with subsequent observations by Lunar Prospector confirming this important discovery.

out, and the question of finding life on Mars became their organizing principle.

There is no question that the unmanned exploration of Mars must be carried out with a steady commitment over decades, and long-term planning and funding, to culminate in the human exploration and settlement of the red planet. But the 1998 founding of the Mars Society, and the high-profile organizing campaign by its founder, Robert Zubrin, threw rational long-term planning out the window, in exchange for the ephemeral promise of a "quick fix" for the space program. The public will not be excited by, or support, a manned return to the Moon, Zubrin insisted, because we've "been there, done that." The Moon is "not interesting," he often repeated, and will only divert scarce resources from the manned Mars mission. Since there is little (if any) money available now for future manned missions, Zubrin based his ill-conceived "Mars Direct" proposal on conventional technology, with the objective of launching crews to Mars within a decade, (before elected representatives lose interest in the project), spending as little money as possible.

At the World Space Congress, the issue of whether the next target for human exploration beyond Earth orbit should be the Moon or Mars, was crystallized in a debate between Zubrin and Paul Spudis, attended by hundreds of conference delegates. The debate, and companion technical sessions, allowed Spudis and the lunar proponents to make an eloquent case for the need to return to the Moon.

Spudis answered the question, "Why the Moon?" by stat-



NASA's Exploration Team has proposed that a "Gateway" facility be built at the Earth-Moon L1 point, 322,127 kilometers (about 190,000 miles) from Earth. The Gateway would include temporary living quarters for visiting crew, facilities to service astronomical observatories, and vehicle fueling and servicing centers for journeys to the Moon and Mars.

ing: "It's close; it's easy to get to; it's an interesting place to study; it's got what we need to survive; it's on the way to everywhere else." Also important, for the first long-term human venture off this planet, the Earth is always visible in the sky. The Moon can be reached easily in a few days. Spudis described it as a "miniature museum of geological processes and history, the study of which is relevant to all of the terrestrial planets." With its airless surface, the Moon contains a record of events in the Solar System, including the history of the Sun, over the last 4 billion years.

According to NASA, scientists attending a recent meeting in Crete proposed that the Moon may also contain a record of the early history of the Earth, which has been erased through millennia of tectonic, volcanic, and climatological processes. Lunar meteorites are found on the Earth. Why shouldn't pieces of the Earth that were blasted off by large impacts, be spewed over the surface of the Moon? A recent study indicates that as much as 20,000 kg of Earth material might be found in every 100 square kilometers of the Moon.

The most important thing we will learn on the Moon, Spudis stated, is how to process and use extraterrestrial resources. The ice recently discovered at the lunar South Pole "is enough to fill a small lake," estimated at 10 billion tons. The Moon is a "permanent space station," Spudis said, and we should use it to "learn to live off-planet." We can use it to "learn how to explore, and bootstrap cislunar infrastructure to go elsewhere."

Over the course of the Congress, Spudis proposed that there should be a human return to the Moon within five years. Existing technology could be used for the initial missions, and each would build up the infrastructure, leading to a permanent human presence. Over the course of the World Space Congress, innovative proposals were presented, by younger participants, for using the Moon as a platform for astronomy; and

the unmanned lunar missions that are already under development in Europe and Japan, and under consideration in India, were described.

Veteran astronaut John Young expressed his support for manned lunar exploration at the Congress, by quoting space visionary Krafft Ehrlicke: "If God had wanted man to explore space, He would have given him a Moon."

Possible Next Steps from Earth Orbit

Former NASA official Huntress told a press conference on the last day of the Congress, that for many years, the space agency was "forbidden by the Administration and the Congress from having a plan" for future human space exploration. "This shackle has been lifted in the last few months," he stated, referring to a number of ongoing studies—by the Aurora project of the European Space Agency, the International Academy of Astronautics, and the long-range planning group, NASA Exploration Team (abbreviated NExT)—which are developing possible scenarios for programs beyond the space station. "It reminds me of just a few months into the Apollo program," Huntress said, when different scenarios were debated "when we had to decide how to go to the Moon."

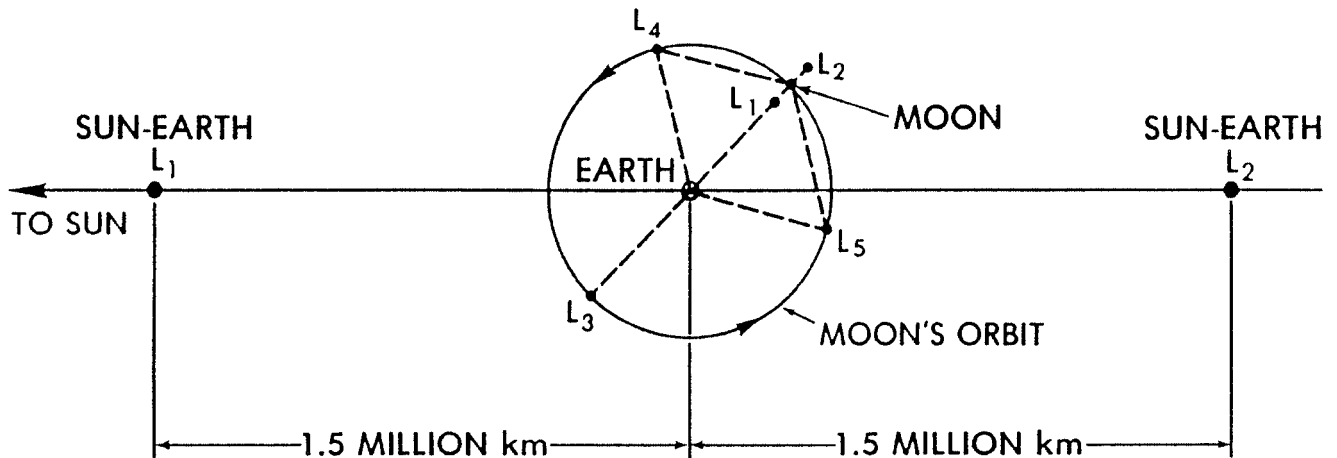
In a paper titled, "Innovations in Mission Architecture for Exploration Beyond Earth Orbit," a team from the NASA Johnson Space Center and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory presented preliminary results from the NExT study. The motivation, as they explain it, is to "enable a stepping stone approach to science-driven, technology-enabled, human and robotic exploration." The strategy aims to "extend remote sensing of the planets and stars," to "expand the knowledge return from [unmanned] spacecraft," and to identify technologies that "enable exploration by humans beyond low-Earth orbit." They caution that the design concepts presented are used as "existence proofs and are not presumed to be final designs." There is no doubt that what they presented will be hotly debated in the space community.

Basically, the NASA team decided to dodge the bullet, by not endorsing either a Moon or Mars human exploration mission, but instead laying out an interim architecture that positions the space agency to carry out either, when a political decision is made. Space historian Howard McCurdy commented on the NExT proposal to *space.com* on Sept. 26, aptly stating: "This incremental step-at-a-time approach was adopted by space advocates after President Nixon, in 1970, denied the request for a comprehensive long-range plan." NASA's current leaders "have chosen to pursue this goal incrementally because they were told not to divert their attention beyond the space station until that project neared completion. Not only are they ready to undertake missions beyond, they have been waiting to do so since the agency was born."

The NExT proposal would take advantage of a feature of orbital mechanics that creates libration points between two large bodies in space, where the gravitational force between them reaches a kind of equilibrium. A small body placed at these libration points will remain somewhat at rest in relation

FIGURE 1

The Sun-Earth, Earth-Moon Libration Points



Source: Robert W. Farquhar, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

One mission design for human exploration of space beyond Earth orbit, makes use of the libration points in the Sun-Earth, Earth-Moon system—points where the gravitational forces of two bodies balance. From a staging facility at the Earth-Moon L1 libration point, missions could be sent to the Moon or beyond. The L1 libration point in the Sun-Earth system is already populated with unmanned satellites, uninterruptedly observing the Sun.

to the large bodies, in a relatively stable position. In the Earth-Moon, and Sun-Earth relationship, there are a variety of libration points, as seen in **Figure 1**. From these null-gravity, stable points in space, it is possible to travel anywhere else in the Solar System expending very little energy.

There are some locations that are preferable for the deployment of astronomical observatories. Already, telescopes, including the Solar Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) and Advanced Composition Explorer, have been placed at the Sun-Earth L1 libration point, about 1.5 million kilometers (900,000 miles) from Earth, to obtain an uninterrupted view of the Sun. The planned follow-up for the Hubble Space Telescope will be placed there, as well.

One of the objections to the placement of expensive and delicate telescopes, such as the upcoming James Webb Space Telescope, at the Sun-Earth libration points, is that they cannot be serviced by astronauts from the Space Shuttle. The successful repair, maintenance, and upgrading of the Hubble Space Telescope by astronauts has made it into the magnificent facility that it is.

In his Congress presentation, on “Utilization of Libration Points for Human Exploration in the Sun-Earth-Moon System and Beyond,” long-time space planner Robert Farquhar detailed the new astronomy missions slated to be deployed at Sun-Earth libration points over the next ten years. He proposed that the telescopes could be robotically transferred, over a matter of days, from their observational position, to a libration point in the closer Earth-Moon system, only 323,110 kilometers (about 190,000 miles) from Earth, for periodic

servicing by astronauts. The NExT team proposes the emplacement of infrastructure at the Earth-Moon L1 point, to create a “Gateway,” that will allow servicing of in-space facilities, and “support the range of potential destinations.”

In Farquhar’s design, a Deep-Space Shuttle would operate between the space station and Earth-Moon L2 libration point, and an Interplanetary Transfer Vehicle, stationed in the vicinity of the Earth-Moon L2 Gateway, could transport astronauts to their next stop. Reusable lunar landing vehicles could be stationed in the vicinity of the Earth-Moon libration point. Landing on the Moon from the libration point reduces the constraints, as compared to going directly from the Earth or from lunar orbit. Landings could take place at any time, and at any site on the Moon, such as the icy poles—not just in the equatorial regions, as were done in the Apollo program.

The NExT team also outlined their scenario for travelling from the Earth-Moon L1 Gateway to Mars, estimating that with advanced technologies—such as nuclear propulsion—significantly shorter travel times and increased payload capacity would result.

In her remarks to the Congress, astronaut and Chief Scientist at NASA headquarters, Shannon Lucid, made her case for visionary human exploration missions, noting that the session was taking place the day after Columbus Day. “Ancient sailors hugged the coastlines,” she said. “Today we hug the rim of our planet.” The International Space Station, which will help us answer the questions we need to know in order to explore further, she said, should be seen as the “pit-stop to the planets.”

Russia's Putin Pulls Victory Out of Strategic Attack

by Jonathan Tennenbaum

An attempted strategic assault against President Vladimir Putin and Russia's global role in a potential alternative to the Bush Administration's war policy, has backfired, leaving Russia strengthened. While much remains to be clarified concerning the hostage drama at the Melnikova St. theater in Moscow, which began when terrorists invaded the Oct. 23 performance of the popular musical "Nord-Ost" and ended with the storming of the theater by Alpha special forces units early on Oct. 26, certain conclusions can be drawn:

First, despite the significant loss of civilian lives, the re-taking of the theater and saving of lives of the majority of the hostages, constitutes a very big moral and political victory for Russian President Putin, a victory with potentially far-reaching implications for strengthening Russia's independence and maneuvering room in the global crisis. Putin himself, in a sober but powerful statement after the ending of the hostage crisis, declared to the world, that "no one can bring Russia to its knees." Even newspapers not usually supportive of the President, such as *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* and *Izvestia*, backed up Putin in his hard line against the terrorists, and evaluated the storming of the theater as a justified and basically successful action.

The backfire effect of the hostage affair, is also underlined by the hysterical reaction in much leading U.S. and European media. The latter have tried, by sensationalizing the Russian forces' use of an anaesthetic gas to immobilize the terrorists and by downplaying the context that made the operation unavoidable, to change the subject—to replace anybody's initial relief at the freeing of hundreds of hostages, with debates over the degree of brutality involved in that process.

Leading Western anti-terror specialists interviewed by *EIR*, however, have concurred with the evaluation, that no realistic alternative existed for the Russian authorities, in view of the evident readiness of the terrorists to blow up the whole theater with nearly 800 people inside. The danger

was increased by the likely circumstance that the terrorists had undercover accomplices among the hostages, who posed a major additional threat in any operation to retake the theater. Finally, medical experts generally agree, that the high rate of casualties following the gas exposure was in large part due to the acute state of physical exhaustion among the hostages, who were deprived of water, food, and medicine, and subjected to extreme psychological stress, for over 48 hours.

The second, absolutely crucial conclusion, is that the hostage-taking itself was intended to be a devastating strategic blow against Russia and against Putin's Presidency in particular. Whatever the identity of the terrorists themselves, the operation had nothing essential do with the Chechnya issue per se, but very much to do with the global strategic context, including: 1) Russia's unexpectedly strong stand against the Bush Administration's Iraq war push in the UN Security Council; 2) signs of increased cooperation of Russia with Germany and France, on Iraq and other strategic issues; 3) historic breakthroughs in Russia's relations with Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries; 4) a revival of Russia's Eurasian diplomacy, including visits by Putin to China and India planned for later this year; 5) an ongoing, global escalation of terror and irregular warfare, the overall thrust of which is evidently to weaken psychological and political resistance to the "neo-imperial" policy push from inside the Bush Administration.

The hostage crisis forced President Putin to cancel an official visit to Portugal, planned for Oct. 24 with a scheduled stopover for two hours of talks with German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, as well as his attendance at the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC) summit, held on Oct. 26-27 in Mexico, where he would have met the Presidents of the United States, China, and other nations of strategic importance.



Russian President Vladimir Putin visits survivors of the Moscow terrorist hostage-taking, at the Sklifosovsky Institute Hospital in Moscow on Oct. 26. The terrorist act was denounced by Arab governments and press which have recently been sympathetic to the Chechen separatist "cause."

Inside Element

Well-informed Russian security and intelligence experts have stressed, that the elaborate and highly professional hostage-taking operation could not have been prepared and carried out by Chechen guerrillas alone, without the knowledge and support from some contaminated network inside the Russian security services, and possibly foreign intelligence services. After the Oct. 26 raid, a report was leaked to *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* and other media, that the terrorists had had a group of accomplices among the hostages, as well as outside the building, including at least one police officer who transmitted to the terrorists inside, information concerning the deployment of the police and special forces. Furthermore, these reports said, some of the terrorists and their collaborators had been employed as construction workers on the site of the theater for over a month prior to the hostage-taking, and were thereby able to systematically prepare the action. Finally, a large terrorist support infrastructure was uncovered in Moscow and the surrounding region, including large caches of weapons and explosives.

On the other hand, the Anglo-American and other foreign intelligence connections to Chechen separatist and terrorist groups are well documented, extending to London-based "oligarch" Boris Berezovsky and the infamous Zbigniew Brzezinski, pathological Russia-hater and co-chairman of the so-called American Committee for Peace in Chechnya.

Russian experts had warned repeatedly, during the last several weeks, that major terrorist operations would be launched against nations resisting the U.S. drive for war against Iraq. In a stunning promotion of that linkage, the Oct. 24 lead editorial in Rupert Murdoch's *New York Post*, published just hours after the terrorist attack on "Nord-

Ost," brazenly called the events in Moscow "poetic justice," a kind of "punishment" of Russia, for "hindering America's wholly legitimate efforts to extirpate one of the world's most dangerous sponsors of terrorism." At the end of the editorial, the *Post* voiced a threat against the other major opponent of the Bush Administration's Iraq resolution in the UN Security Council, asking: "Will France be next?"

Were Russian-Saudi Negotiations a Target?

A well-informed Russian intelligence expert pointed to another strategic factor in the unleashing and timing of the Moscow attack, namely the dramatic development of relations between Russia and Saudi Arabia in recent weeks. According to his report, a delegation from Saudi Arabia had arrived in Moscow shortly before the hostage-taking, to conduct sensitive negotiations with the highest levels of the Russian government.

The talks aimed at agreement on the following two, interconnected points: First, that Russia would strengthen its opposition, not only against the Iraq war, but against the entire Bush plan for "restructuring" the Middle East. Second, in return for Russian strategic support, a large sum of Saudi capital would be transferred from the United States and Western Europe, into Russia. Something on the order of \$50-70 billion would be invested into Russia over the next two years, permitting Russia to "restart its economy" through infrastructure and other projects. According to the Russian report, these talks had reached a crucial stage, in the days immediately preceding the attack.

It is confirmed, that Prince Turki al-Faisal, who was Saudi Intelligence Director from 1973 to August 2001 and is currently Ambassador to Britain (since September 2002), was in

To Brzezinski, Terror Was Opportunity

Interviewed on radio Oct. 25, in his capacity as head of the American Committee for Peace in Chechnya, Zbigniew Brzezinski said Russian President Putin was caught between two fires, and had only one way out without a bloodbath that would destroy him. He must bring in the “recognized elected President of Chechnya,” Aslan Maskhadov, to talk with the terrorists. Maskhadov would declare a truce, then Putin and Maskhadov must negotiate a cease-fire, which would be Maskhadov’s offer to the terrorists. Challenged as to whether the Russian people would accept his scheme, Brzezinski said the Russian people no longer support the war in Chechnya as they did in the past, and insisted his proposal was the only way for

Putin to avoid disaster.

Brzezinski, who was Jimmy Carter’s National Security Adviser, has long envisioned using Islamic groups against Moscow, and was the U.S. official who created the “Afghansi” warriors against the Soviet Union, and spawned al-Qaeda. His ACPC has co-sponsored talks between Maskhadov’s representatives and leading Russian Parliamentary and other political figures (see *Electronic Intelligence Weekly*, Sept. 9, 2002).

Akhmed Zakayev, the Maskhadov separatist regime’s representative at the talks held under the aegis of Brzezinski’s ACPC, was arrested by Danish police on Oct. 30, on suspicion “of taking part in the planning of the hostage-taking crisis in Moscow.” The Danes acted on request from Moscow, following a furious protest lodged by the Russian Foreign Ministry against the holding of a World Chechen Congress in Copenhagen just after the Moscow hostage crisis.

Moscow for high-level meetings around the indicated time. This first-ever visit by one of the most influential figures in Saudi Arabia, whose father, Faisal bin Abdul-Aziz al-Saud, was King of Saudi Arabia until his assassination in 1975, would have been sensational by itself. Moreover, the content of the speech Prince Turki prepared for delivery at the Moscow Institute for International Relations on Oct. 25, statements made by the Saudi Ambassador to Moscow, and other reports make clear that the Saudis and Russians were indeed working on a new sort of partnership of the indicated dimensions, when the terrorists stormed the Moscow theater. Prince Turki’s speech was postponed, due to the unresolved hostage-taking, but he went on to present it on Oct. 27, after the raid.

One need not look very far to find ample reasons for the Saudis to be interested in cooperation with Russia. Riyadh is well aware, that the same clique in Washington that is pushing for an Iraq war, has targeted Saudi Arabia for “regime change” and even dissolution into three or more separate entities, as part of a scheme for “restructuring” the entire Middle East and securing direct U.S. control over regional oil sources. At the same time, the Saudis are well aware of the acute financial crisis in the United States, and have already begun to withdraw tens of billions of dollars of their assets out of the U.S. financial system. Where will that money be invested?

Two major issues in Prince Turki’s speech and press statements were the Saudi-Russian opposition to the U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf, and the Chechen issue. On Iraq, Turki said: “Saudi Arabia’s position is completely identical with the Russian position. It is opposed to any military act against Iraq, and as Foreign Minister [Prince Saud al-Faisal] indicated earlier, it will not allow its territory to be used against Iraq.”

At the same time, Prince Turki explicitly denounced, after

his Moscow speech on Oct. 27, the terrorist act in the Moscow theater, declaring: “As Muslims and Arabs, we have been, and are still endeavoring to fight terrorism. We denounce and stand against any terrorist act targetting innocent civilians, no matter what the demands and grievances of the perpetrators are. No objectives justify the use of terrorist acts.” The same clear denunciation was featured in Saudi press coverage of the Moscow hostage-taking.

Prince Turki stressed Saudi Arabia’s respect for Russia’s territorial integrity and revealed that in recent years, his intelligence organ has been closely cooperating with Russian intelligence on the Chechen groups, in view of allegations that Saudis were involved in financing and fighting alongside the Chechen terrorists. According to informed Russian sources, Turki promised to end all Saudi financial support for radical, terrorist-connected Islamic groups in and around Chechnya—an assurance of very great significance to Moscow, especially coming from a man who is said to have played a key role in organizing and supporting the Afghan fighters against the Soviet Union in the Afghanistan War.

It is well known that much of the structure of “Islamic terrorism” in the region, including Osama bin Laden’s circles, was created as part of the Anglo-American operations against the Soviets in Afghanistan—operations which were run in part through channels in Saudi Arabia. From the Russian point of view, the separatism/terrorism in Chechnya is part of the same thing. And here again, the alleged support of radical Wahhabite groups in Chechnya via Saudi Arabia, where the official form of Islam is Wahhabism, has been a painful thorn in the side of Russia. Hence the enormous significance for Moscow of Prince Turki’s pledges.

No less important, however, is the prospect of large-scale investment into Russia’s economy. Saudi Ambassador to

Moscow Mohammed bin Hassan Abdul-Mawla stated, at the same Moscow event, that “the visit by Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal to Moscow in April and his meeting with President Vladimir Putin outlined the new road map for cooperation and realization of common interests.” He referred to the inaugural meeting of the Saudi-Russian Joint Commission on Economic, Commercial, Investment, and Technical Cooperation, held in mid-October, and added, “The new year will witness the signing of an agreement on the protection of investments and prevention of double taxation, in order to establish the necessary ground for economic cooperation between the two states.”

Meanwhile, it was reported that the reserves of the Saudi Arabian Central Bank have skyrocketed as a result of the repatriation of Saudi investments from the tottering U.S. financial system. It makes perfect sense, that the Saudis would consider putting their financial assets to work in large-scale infrastructure projects, for example, in Russia and other parts of Eurasia, as an alternative to having them “evaporate” in a general systemic financial collapse.

Documentation

Saudi Government, Arab Press Slam Moscow Terror

On Oct. 25, almost all Arabic dailies—those that are published on Friday, the Muslim weekly holy day—called the act of occupying the Moscow theater and taking 800 Russian civilians hostage, by a gang of Chechen terrorists, “blind terrorism.” The harshest wording came from the press in Saudi Arabia, until recently an active supporter of the “Chechen cause.”

Under the title “Terrorism Will Not Solve the Chechen Issue,” the Saudi daily *Al-Watan*’s lead editorial stated: “What is happening now in the Russian capital, by the hands of an armed terrorist group, will have grave consequences, not only on the Chechen issue, but on Islam as a whole. The after-effects of the Sept. 11 attacks, which put all Muslims on the list of suspects, have not ended, and have unleashed the haters of Islam who are defaming the name of the Honorable Prophet of Islam.” *Al-Watan* reminded readers, that “Communist Russia was the superpower which supported Arab causes and provided the Arab armies with weapons, before we even heard about the Chechen people and their cause. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, we have been hearing more and more about the Chechens’ fight for self-determination, and many Muslim and non-Muslim nations have helped them. Although the people of Chechnya resorted to legitimate resistance, which was supported by most nations, including the

United States, the Chechen people, willingly or otherwise, allowed terrorists to hijack their cause.”

Al-Watan warned that this terrorist act would make things worse for the Chechen people, because the Russian government will strike even more brutally in Chechnya in the name of the “war on terrorism.” *Al-Watan* also indicated that “many Muslims would probably accuse the Russian government of arranging this to use it as an excuse to crush the Chechen resistance, exactly as they accused bin Laden of being a Mossad and CIA agent, doing what he did to hurt Arabs and Muslims around the world.”

Asharq Al-Awsat, the leading Saudi and international Arabic daily, stated in its lead editorial: “It is as if the Chechens were required to prove the Likudite theory in Israel and other Western capitals, that targeting civilians is the characteristic feature of liberation movements in the world.” It added, that “previous hostage-taking operations proved that for a major power like Russia, it is impossible to give up and become hostage to such operations. On the contrary, this strengthens its resolve. Therefore, it is legitimate to raise questions about the purpose of this operation.”

The Saudi English-language daily *Arab News* stated in its lead editorial: “The seizure of over 500 theater-goers by some 40 Chechen militants in the heart of Moscow, and to terrify them with threats of mass execution, is terrorism. There is no other word for it. These are innocent people who have nothing to do with the conflict in Chechnya.”

Although the *Arab News* harshly criticized the Russian government for acts of war against the Chechen people, it stated that this is no justification for the terrorist act. The *Arab News* added: “The militants appear well-aware that there is a very good chance that they will not get out of this alive. They describe themselves as a suicide unit, prepared to sacrifice their own lives for their country’s freedom. That makes the situation all the more dangerous, not just for the hostages, but for the Chechen people who will suffer horribly if this crisis ends in a bloodbath.”

The Abu Dhabi daily *Al-Ittihad* published a harshly worded editorial, under the headline “Blind Terrorism,” saying: “The terrorists, through this act, slaughtered the cause of people they allegedly fight for, on the altar of their disgusting acts.”

On Oct. 28, the government of Saudi Arabia officially denounced the “terrorist and criminal” attack on the Moscow theater, and conveyed deep condolences to Russian President Vladimir Putin. The condemnation, reported the *Arab News* Oct. 29, came at the weekly Cabinet meeting chaired by Crown Prince Abdullah, deputy premier and commander of the National Guard. The statement issued after the meeting said: “Saudi Arabia is deeply moved by the bloody events in Moscow and expresses its total solidarity with families of the victims of this criminal act. The government expresses its condolences to the families of the innocent victims and reiterates its rejection and condemnation of all terrorist attacks regardless of their sources and objectives.”

Unilateralist U.S. Fuels China-India-Russia Ties

by Ramtanu Maitra

In December 1998, Russian Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov, while visiting India, proposed a trilateral axis against a U.S.-centered, unipolar world. It is evident that although almost four years have passed since, the idea is alive and gaining ground among the leaders of all three nations.

A number of unilateral actions of the Bush administration—including identifying Iraq, Iran, and North Korea as an “axis of evil,” setting up military bases in Central Asia, mobilizing troops to invade Iraq unilaterally to change the present regime, and use of the “war against terrorism” selectively for securing geostrategic advantages—have, perhaps, helped to consolidate the idea further. What worries the three is that Washington is merely reacting to events and is seemingly incapable of providing leadership to improve either the economy, or security around the world.

At the time Primakov spoke, Washington had summarily shrugged off his proposal as an off-the-cuff statement of a leader representing a decaying nation. But, the steady growth of the Chinese and Indian economies, and Russia’s ability to address the world even when it seemed to be down and out, worried many in the United States.

For example, writing in the U.S. Army College quarterly *Parameters* last Winter, Julie Rahm wondered whether the China, India, Russia strategic triangle would lead to a new Cold War. She suggested measures to prevent the formation of such a strategic triangle, including building a multinational missile defense network; strengthening the U.S. military, with an effective national security posture in the Pacific; increasing intelligence gathering activities toward China, Russia, and India; pushing democratization of Russia and prevention of a Russia-China alliance; and to “explicitly and clearly support our friends who are engaged in fostering democracy and free markets.”

The Center for Defense Information’s Asia Forum had earlier published a monograph entitled “The Worrisome Russia-India-China Triangle,” by senior analyst Nicholas Berry, who came to a similar conclusion that such cooperation would be harmful to American interests. He recommended a “robust” national missile defense system that, he claimed, could add to the insecurity of Russia and China, and “even worry India because of the lingering U.S. ties to rival Pakistan.” Berry promoted the bill introduced by Rep. Dana Rohra-

bacher (R-Calif.), which would prevent Moscow from rescheduling debt owed to the United States until it stopped selling anti-ship Sunburn cruise missiles to China. The bill was passed on Oct. 3, 2000.

Pushing a Different ‘Triangle’

In October 2002, the National Bureau of Asian Research issued a 41-page analysis which did not talk about the China, India, Russia triangle, but instead suggested the “China-India-U.S. Triangle.” The author, John Garver, a professor of international relations at the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at the Georgia Institute of Technology, is ostensibly an expert on issues which constitute the Sino-Indian rivalry. Making such conclusive statements as “Washington, Beijing, and New Delhi more frequently perceive each of their national interests as being adversely affected by an alignment of the other two against it,” Garver pointed out that Indian and Chinese concerns about the alignment of the other with the United States are far greater than U.S. concerns about a possible India-China alignment.

Summarily dismissing Russia’s capabilities in South Asia because of its geographical remoteness, Garver’s triangle turned out to be nothing more than containing China and playing on India’s alleged fears about China. Quoting the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) report issued by the U.S. Department of Defense on Sept. 30, 2001, Garver pointed out that the QDR list of America’s “enduring national interests” calls for precluding “hostile domination of critical areas,” including “the East Asian littoral,” a region defined as “stretching from south of Japan through Australia and into the Bay of Bengal.” In that region, “maintaining a stable balance would be particularly challenging,” according to the QDR, because “the possibility exists that a military competitor with a formidable resource base will energize the region.” These elliptical formulations referred to an increasingly powerful China that might, someday, dominate the “East Asian littoral,” Garver wrote.

What emerges from Garver’s analysis, is that China will seek, from such triangular relations, U.S. support in its geopolitical rivalry with India in the South Asian and Indian Ocean region. “Beijing will demand that the United States prove it is not ‘containing’ China by promoting India as paramount power in South Asia, or otherwise by appeasing New Delhi’s regional hegemonic ambitions,” Garver stated. Beijing will also point out to Washington, that not “containing” China will bring many benefits to the United States. Garver seems to believe that the triangular relationship will accrue benefits to U.S. corporations seeking contracts in China. China may even lobby through this mechanism “to prevent or limit transfer of U.S. military or dual-use technology to India.”

India, Garver says, has three primary interests in this triangle. The first is to prevent or abort Chinese-U.S. cooperation contrary to Indian policy objectives. In other words, India

wants to prevent U.S. support for a broader Chinese role in South Asia.

The other two Indian interests, Garver claims, are spin-offs of the first. One, is the seeming Indian interest to play on Washington's apprehension over China's growing power to secure U.S. support, or at least U.S. understanding, "for strengthening India's pre-eminent position in the South Asia-Indian Ocean region via transfers of advanced military technologies, training in modern modes of warfare, and so on." India's third interest is to play on Chinese fears of Indian participation in the U.S.-inspired "anti-China" schemes, to make Beijing more understanding of Indian objections to Chinese activities in the South Asia-Indian Ocean region, Garver wrote.

Because China and India supposedly each want to eliminate its fear about the other by getting close to the United States, what the United States gets out of the triangular relations is not clear from Garver's analysis. He takes a jab by claiming that "some of those [U.S.] interests are related to the creation of a structure of power in Asia that will constrain an increasingly powerful and assertive China. . . . As China's power continues to grow in the coming decades the problem for Washington will be how to induce Beijing not to embark on a course of hegemony, territorial expansion, or confrontation with the United States in Asia." In other words, the triangle concept, as spun out by Garver, centers on an eventual U.S. containment of China.

Lingering Concerns

What is evident from Garver's analyses, is that there exists a genuine concern at every level among policymakers in Washington about a potential cooperative relationship among China, India, and Russia. Because these analysts cannot conceive of the United States sharing powers and responsibilities of the world with other major nations; nor can they even think beyond playing the role of a sole superpower—however weak that power may be; their observations are centered on how not to allow China, India, and Russia to play a constructive role.

However, it is evident that although the three are far from settling on an agenda which would define the fine points of such cooperation, or proposing a timetable when such cooperation will become official, there are many indications that they are engaged in finding areas of agreement.

Initially, Beijing was reticent about the cooperative triangle, but in January 2001, during Chinese leader Li Peng's visit to India, Beijing made clear to New Delhi that China might no longer be averse to building greater political cooperation among the three.

In February 2002, when the Chinese premier Zhu Rongji visited New Delhi, both the Chinese and Indian leaders shared concerns about controlling international terrorism and said publicly that a multipolar international system is preferred to counter the growing U.S. influence and the role of NATO

after the collapse of the Soviet Union. It was also said by both the Chinese and Indian leaders that the multipolar system will succeed only if the complementary poles pursue political and strategic policies that are not at variance, and that *all* partners in a strategic relationship must abide by the basic tenets of multilateralism.

Similar signals also came from Russia. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, who was in New Delhi in February 2002, called for a closer cooperation among the three. He indicated that there is a new sense of urgency for triangular cooperation, which is shared by Beijing. Before Ivanov left New Delhi, the Indian External Affairs Ministry signaled that India was willing to work "slowly and steadily" toward the goal of triangular cooperation.

Future Dialog

It is expected that the triangular cooperation will be discussed in detail in coming months. Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin will be in New Delhi in December along with a large contingent of economists, scientists, and military personnel. Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee will be visiting Beijing soon, probably early next year. Beijing, as a build-up for the Indian prime minister's visit, for the first time threw open the gates of Potala, in Lhasa, to Indian journalists some weeks ago.

Beyond the high-profile trips, undercurrents of the relationship are flourishing. Visits by delegations at the state and provincial levels and exchange of academics among the three countries have grown at a steady rate, and these delegations have succeeded in bringing to the fore areas where cooperation would be essential for preserving their economic growth and maintenance of regional security. The opening of the gates of Potala Palace, and a suggestion to open a bus route from the Indian state of Sikkim to Lhasa, cannot be ignored as tokenism, but are gestures of growing trust and confidence.

It is certain that the triangular cooperation among China, India, and Russia will advance in the coming months. However, the cooperation will not be against the United States, but to share responsibilities for Eurasia, and beyond—along with the United States, the European Union, and other major nations of the world. The reason that such advances will occur is not only because the three nations can contribute significantly to each other's economic, scientific, and technological well-being and security, but because of Washington's glaring weaknesses in managing world affairs. Washington's reticence to reinvigorate its physical economy; to discuss with nations the need for a new international monetary system, which would abandon the free market system, the darling of the colonial powers in the 19th and 20th Centuries; and its propensity to cling to the geopolitics of conflict and division, thus undermining the sovereignty of other nations, could be the greatest instigation for the three to cooperate purposefully.

A New Momentum Seen In Diplomacy of France

by Christine Bierre

French diplomacy has been unfolding in a rather unexpected way since the re-election of President Jacques Chirac in May. While Chirac's "third worldist" intervention at the recent Johannesburg Earth Summit went largely unnoticed—suspected as a ploy by Chirac to take advantage of the absence of the United States at that summit and gain international popularity—all of the diplomatic initiatives taken since, point to a new and coherent drive of French diplomacy to create worldwide alternatives to the Bush Administration's unilateralism.

France's attitude towards the Anglo-American war drive against Iraq has been unusually Machiavellian, an approach that has, so far, succeeded in jamming up rapid progress towards that war. While the Germans surprised the world by rejecting any participation in the war drive even in the case of a favorable UN vote, the French also took a new, more balanced attitude towards the United States. By dropping a kind of systematic "anti-Americanism," and by not rejecting *a priori* participation in the war against Iraq, if it were proven that that country was threatening the world with its weapons of mass destruction, France strengthened its credibility at the international level, and among those who oppose the war in the Anglo-American world.

The international pressure brought to bear on the American government by France, Russia, and Germany, and internal American opposition to the war, has so far forced Bush to drop the imperial, unilateral warmongering demanded by his own hard-liners, and to negotiate at the United Nations. The debate at the UN Security Council is still raging. France and Russia have so far countered the Anglo-American attempt to have the Security Council adopt a resolution which would have automatically called for the use of force by the UN in the case of Iraqi non-compliance with the inspection regime.

As of Oct. 30, the Anglo-Americans have been forced to adopt a two-phase process: a new resolution clearly defining the tasks of the inspectors in Iraq; and in the case of non-compliance by Iraq, a second Security Council deliberation and decision on what to do. But the new draft resolution, which America and Britain were scheduled to present to the Council at the end of the last week in October, still contains ambiguities unacceptable to France and Russia. These could be used by the United States to justify war without a UN vote. Before the inspectors even go, the new draft mentions "patent violations" by Iraq, and, in the same paragraph, says that

"grave consequences" could ensue. France and Russia have rejected this new draft, and are still pressuring for the second vote on the use of force.

French Pressure on Sharon and His Friends

The French are also exploiting to the hilt other international forums. The Summit of the Francophone countries held in Beirut on Oct. 18 was a big success, with the participation of 55 countries. Signs of the success include the fact that nations such as Poland, Slovenia, Lithuania, and the Czech Republic, which are not French-speaking, asked to participate as observers.

The International Organization of Francophone Countries emerged as the rallying point for those who oppose American unilateralism and want a multipolar world. Even though the summit was already scheduled to take place in Beirut last year, and had had to be postponed, the fact that it took place in an Arab capital contributed to turning this summit into a demonstration of force against U.S. policies in that area. Indeed, the official theme of the summit was "Towards a Dialogue of Cultures," and Chirac's introductory remarks underlined this concept: "Making it easier to share human experiences, the dialogue of cultures is the best antidote to the risk of a shock of civilizations. It will give us the foundations for creating a durable peace. But we must also act to bring an end to the present conflicts. . . . In Beirut, let us reaffirm this fundamental credo: In the modern world, the use of force cannot be but an ultimate and exceptional decision. It cannot be admitted except in cases of legitimate defense or by decision of the competent international institutions. . . . Whether it's a matter of forcing Iraq to respect its obligations, or of restarting the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, or of settling conflicts in Africa, the same logic of law must inspire us all, because it is the only one which will keep us away from adventurous temptations."

The final resolution of the Francophone Organization refers to all the major conflicts occurring in the world. On Iraq, the resolution fully adopted the French and Arab view, stating, "We defend the primacy of international law and the primordial role of the UN." On the Middle East, the resolution states that the Saudis' "Abdullah Peace Plan," adopted at the Arab League's Beirut summit in March, is "the most appropriate framework to arrive at a just, durable, and global solution for the region." Finally, in closed-door sessions, the Francophone countries reviewed the crisis in Ivory Coast. The final resolution condemns "the attempted takeover of power by force and the attacks against the constitutional order in Ivory Coast." It supports the mission of the CEDEAO (The Organization of West African States) to "favor dialogue, the only road to durable reconciliation."

Franco-German Alliance Against Tony Blair

Perhaps one of the most unexpected, but important, aspects of this new French diplomacy, is the renewal of Franco-

German relations, which had been going from bad to worse since the times of François Mitterrand and Helmut Kohl. French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin is known to be a strong supporter of the Franco-German alliance. But it is the folly of Anglo-American policies pushing the saner forces of the world to join arms.

The new strength of the Franco-German alliance became public fact when Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder rapidly found a compromise solution to their differences concerning the agricultural policies of the European Union, at the Paris summit on Oct. 24-25. A new episode of the Franco-German wars was expected, as at the recent Nice summit—France demanding that the present EU agricultural system, from which it benefits, remain unchanged, and Germany, the net contributor in this system, refusing to continue to pay. But Chirac and Schröder rapidly found a solution. They agreed that the agricultural budget adopted until 2006 should remain unchanged, but that agricultural expenditures would not increase beyond that level as ten new countries join the EU starting in 2004.

The British had been supporting the German position against France at the summit; but Chirac turned the tables and announced that France intended to put into question the “rebate” obtained by the British during the times of Mitterrand and Thatcher, which relieved Britain of payment of two-thirds of its financial contributions to the EU.

This Franco-German rapprochement provoked a freak-out from the British, as it mirrored the intense confrontation over support for the American warhawk faction. At the recent EU summit in Brussels, tensions had grown so much that Chirac blew up at Blair, shouting, “You have behaved badly. Nobody has ever talked to me like that before!” Tensions had been growing in the days before, Downing Street having leaked to the press that the French had manipulated the Germans and, that when Schröder’s advisers had been fully informed by their British counterparts of the consequences of what they had agreed to, they were furious. Later, Prime Minister Tony Blair took on Chirac directly, accusing him, according to the *Times* of London, of being obsessed with “protecting [France’s] farmers—bungling incompetents—with EU taxpayers’ money.” Blair raged at the “national egoism” of policies which harm Third World farmers, he said, who are unable to compete with EU subsidized products, “which are the result of France’s clinging to the present agricultural policies.”

Beyond the hard realities of EU budget questions, difficult to deal with in this economic crisis, it is the Iraq question envenoming relations between France and Germany on one hand, and America and Britain on the other. It has driven a



French President Jacques Chirac meets with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak; their countries are both serious actors in “jamming up” the drive for war in Iraq. Chirac’s shouting match with Britain’s Tony Blair at the Paris EU summit was over agriculture policy, but reflected real confrontation over an Iraq war.

long-lasting wedge between the United States and Germany, and Schröder has no other choice than to strengthen German relations with France. Informed press reports indicate that Chirac was furious at Blair’s recent statements that Britain will join a U.S. military expedition against Iraq even if the UN does not agree on the use of force. The French daily *Le Figaro* of Oct. 29 noted that the Iraqi dossier between France and Britain is “overflowing with poison.” The Franco-British summit scheduled for Dec. 3 has been called off *sine die*.

Which Way for France?

These successes of French diplomacy point to the terrible need for a policy counter to the present Anglo-American imperial drive. Were France to inspire itself from its history, from Joan of Arc and Louis XI to Charles de Gaulle, it would definitely be able to fill that vacuum. What is required is more, however, than merely exploiting the self-destructiveness of the U.S. imperial faction. France must develop a global economic alternative to the policies which have led this entire system to the verge of a total collapse, and which really cause that faction’s flight forward.

But, will it be able to meet that challenge? Dominique de Villepin, sometimes known to be a daring patriot who wants to enhance the power of France in the world, would be well advised to inspire himself by the economic policies of Franklin Roosevelt, Jean Monnet, and Charles de Gaulle. The decision on whether to participate in the Anglo-American war against Iraq will be also a good indicator of how far France is willing to go to stop this world from going into global fascism and orienting it to a better course.

A Taste of Things To Come in Mideast

by Dean Andromidas

Critics of the Bush Administration's mad drive for war against Iraq have warned that an unprovoked attack would lead to a major anti-American backlash, even chaos in the Middle East. Developments in the past weeks are signs that the doomsayers could prove correct.

On Oct. 8, two Kuwaiti attackers, reportedly Muslim extremists, infiltrated a military training area on the island of Failaka where an American military exercise was in progress, killing one American soldier and wounding two others. Both attackers were killed. Less than a week later, shots were fired at U.S. military personnel at a training area in northwest Kuwait. Although no one was killed, the Kuwaitis ordered the huge area off-limits to all civilians. Since the headquarters of the U.S. Army's component of the Central Command (Centcom) is based at Kuwait's Camp Doha, the need for good security for American personnel in Kuwait cannot be underestimated. Any attack on Iraq will be launched from here. Its importance is enhanced by the fact that Saudi Arabia has ruled out having the U.S. use its territory as a base of operations against Iraq (including the huge Prince Sultan Air Base), and Turkey has expressed serious reservations as well.

In Qatar, government forces, with the aid of U.S. military personnel, are said to have crushed a coup plot on Oct. 12. According to a report in the Lebanese *Al-Kifah al-Arabi* daily, 140 military and civilians were arrested, including members of the royal family, activists of Islamic organizations, and several Qatari army officers of Yemeni and Pakistani origin. More than half of the Qatari military and security forces are foreign nationals. Qatar has become the one of the principal operations centers in the Persian Gulf for the U.S. Central Command, whose Air Force component is based here. America has spent over \$1.4 billion in the last year, developing its bases on Qatar. The coup attempt is said to have caused the postponement of a major U.S. military exercise running from November to December. That exercise is said to be crucial to an assault on Iraq, because it would include the operations headquarters of the Central Command and the U.S. Fifth Corps, whose troops are expected to form the spearhead of any attack on Iraq.

In Bahrain, the base of the Fifth Fleet, a recent election—the country's first in 30 years—revealed the potential of instability in this Sultanate. In a state where there has been friction between Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims, the Shi'ite opposition parties boycotted the elections. The key opposition figure,

Sheikh Ali Salman, refused to stand for office, and four leading parties in all have boycotted. The low, 53% voter turnout was called a "negative development" by analyst Jassim Hussein, quoted by Reuters on Oct. 25.

Assassination in Jordan

The most shocking sign of the destabilization of the region was the assassination of the State Department's USAID diplomat Lawrence Foley in Amman, Jordan on Oct. 28. The murder occurs at a time when Jordan, under tremendous pressure to back a U.S. war drive, finds itself between a rock and a hard place. If it backs the war, it would face widespread revolt among a population with strong sympathies for Iraq, and the prospect that hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees would be forced across its borders by the Israel military. It is widely feared in Jordan, and publicly discussed in Israel, that Prime Minister Ariel Sharon would take the opportunity to launch his "final solution": to "transfer" the West Bank, Gaza, and Israeli Palestinians to Jordan.

Although no credible group has claimed responsibility, a leading Middle East expert said the assassination should serve as a "wake-up call" for the Bush Administration, with respect to an attack on Iraq. A Swiss-based security expert with years of experience in the Mideast, warned that Foley was not a random American target, but the assassination was more ominous: that Foley, rather than being simply a USAID "employee," was most likely an American intelligence operative, whose murder could have resulted from the "intelligence war" now taking place in the region ahead of a U.S. attack on Iraq. He compared the situation to the violent chaos that reigned in the region from 1975-85, among the Israeli, American, British, European, and Arab intelligence services.

The details of the transfer and "ethnic cleansing" of the Palestinian population, in the shadow of an assault on Iraq, are already taking shape. The fascist settlers movement, under the eye of the Israeli military, has begun the process. Already, 150 inhabitants of the West Bank village of Yanun—most of the village—have been forced to flee their homes in October, because of attacks by settlers, particularly upon Palestinians harvesting their olives. One Palestinian has been killed, but no arrests have been made. Military commentator Ze'ev Schiff, writing in the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* on Oct. 30, warned that the army must stop the settlers' attacks, because, "Even if they won't admit it, it can be seen as laying the groundwork for transfer, not by the state, but by a group of settlers."

Former Chief Rabbi of Israel Mordechai Eliahu made a ruling justifying such attacks, saying, "The fruit from the trees planted by Gentiles on land inherited by the people of Israel, does not belong to the Gentiles. At most, they can get a tithe from it." Schiff warns that if this "rape of the Jewish religion" is allowed to continue, "Israelis are also contributing to the destruction of the rule of law in the [Palestinian] territories," and providing justification for full-fledged international military intervention in the territories.

Anti-Terror Operations Terrorize Indonesia and Southeast Asia

by Michael Billington

While more than 100 official investigators from around the world have converged on the island of Bali in Indonesia, there is still no determination of who was responsible for the bomb which killed nearly 200 tourists and workers there on Oct. 12. Meanwhile, in the Philippines, several bombings in the southern city of Zamboanga, Mindanao Province, are presumed to be the work of the Abu Sayyaf terrorist gang, but the source of a bus bomb in Manila is still a mystery. Bombs in southern Thailand targeted Buddhist temples and schools.

However, the campaign being waged against the economies and the sovereignty of Indonesia and the Philippines by the United States, Britain, and especially Australia, under the guise of “anti-terrorist” demands, may prove to be more deadly than the bloody bombings themselves. And the rest of Southeast Asia is not immune to “contagion” from the international attack on Indonesia and the Philippines. In the context of the Bush Administration’s “New Strategic Policy” of pre-emptive, unilateral warfare, the West’s demands under the rubric of counter-terrorism are the source of great concern throughout the region. The impact on the regional economies, coming in the midst of a global financial crisis, will likely prove to be more destructive than the 1997-98 speculative assault known as the “Asia crisis”—the global financial crisis which broke out in Asia—from which the region has yet to recover.

While insisting that democratic reforms of the past years be scrapped in favor of draconian “Ashcroft-style” police-state measures, the U.S., British, and Australian governments and their press outlets are also poisoning the environment for international travel and investment in the region. Within days of the bombing, Australia advised all of its citizens to leave Indonesia—a total of about 10,000 people. The United States and Britain issued similar warnings, and all three then issued a security alert for all of Southeast Asia, with the Philippines and Thailand given special notice.

A commentary in the Oct. 23 *New Straits Times* of Malaysia by Tan Sri Abdullah Ahmad, the editor-in-chief of the New Straits Times Group, captured the sentiment in official circles across the region. He wrote that the West is over-reacting: “Scaremongering doesn’t just frighten tourists and

expatriates, but affects investment and trade. . . . Instead of turning the entire region into a war zone, the West should rebuild confidence and encourage the political stability and economic growth that are the only antidote for the poison of extremist terrorism. [Indonesian] President Megawati Sukarnoputri should be helped, not derided.”

There is a run on currencies and equity investments across the region, in a situation where direct foreign investment had already dried up because of the global financial-economic crisis.

The ‘Decoy’

Massive international attention has been focussed on the demand that Indonesia arrest one man, the Islamic cleric Abu Bakar Ba’asyir. After the Bali bombing, the *Jakarta Post* editorialized that Ba’asyir was “a diversion, or even a decoy,” while “the real operatives, whoever they may be, were quietly plotting the attacks.” Under intense pressure, Indonesia did take steps to arrest Ba’asyir, at least for questioning, in regard to the infamous church bombings in December 2000, and other, prior acts, but *not* for the Bali bombing (despite such a claim in most Western press accounts). His arrest is based on the accusations of one Omar al-Faruq, who had been arrested in Indonesia and turned over to the United States, where, after three months of coercive interrogation, he made the accusations against Ba’asyir.

The government has also partially given in to the demand for an emergency decree, allowing warrantless arrest and detention without trial for suspected terrorists. Abdul Ghani, the Director General for Laws and Regulations, tried to reassure the population, which fears as much a return to dictatorial rule as it does the threat of terrorism: “There should be no worries that the decree will be a return to the old days—there are a lot of conditionalities imposed, including on detention and arrest.” Ba’asyir was moved from his home town (where he had been hospitalized) in Solo, near Yogyakarta, to Jakarta, for questioning and probable detention, but thousands of his students and supporters protested the move.

Ba’asyir was not arrested under the new decree, but under previously existing laws. The fact that Indonesia is unwilling to submit to the (formerly “pro-democracy”) West in its de-

mand for police-state measures, was reflected in the fact that the nation's most famous civil rights lawyer, Adnan Buyung Nasution, founder of the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation, who has been praised in the West for his stand against repressive laws under the Suharto regime, has joined Ba'asyir's defense team. A team of 35 lawyers have joined Nasution, including a former justice minister, a legislator, and law professors. "From the beginning, we see abnormalities in the way this case is handled. That's why we join the team without regard for religion, ethnicity, or political background," said Nasution.

C4 Plastic Explosive

The Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO) has several dozen agents in Indonesia working on the Bali bombing. Although Indonesia has welcomed the assistance from foreign intelligence agencies, they have insisted (with only partial success) that Indonesian police remain in overall charge of the investigation. When the *Australian Financial Review* announced on Oct. 22 that ASIO would be setting up a permanent office in Indonesia to beef up regional anti-terror operations following the Bali bombing, the Indonesian government immediately rejected the move. Marty Natalegawa, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that it would be impossible for any foreign country to open an independent intelligence office in Indonesia, and that, at most, a liaison officer could be posted to the Australian Embassy.

The prominent role of Australia, the United States, and Britain in the investigation warrants careful scrutiny. For example, Indonesian investigators reported soon after the bombing that the plastic explosive C4 had been used, and noted that C4 is not produced in Indonesia, nor is it used by the Indonesian military. An Arab intelligence source with excellent connections in Indonesia told *EIR* that Indonesian officials had traced the C4 to Israeli production. But on Oct. 22 the Australian investigators reported that the explosive was not C4, but ammonium nitrate. This fits nicely with the Australian and American effort to pin the bombing on Jemaah Islamiah (the generic name given to the Southeast Asian groups that are involved or accused of involvement in the recent terror wave, supposedly with ties to al-Qaeda), because individuals associated with Jemaah Islamiah in the Philippines and in Malaysia were reported to have purchased ammonium nitrate last year. Western intelligence agencies have attempted to pin the blame on Jemaah Islamiah from the moment of the Bali explosion.

In keeping with this presumption, the Australians and the United States succeeded in placing Jemaah Islamiah on the UN's list of terrorist organizations, while the United States and Australia added it to their own lists. It is impossible to miss the similarity between the presumption of Jemaah Islamiah's responsibility for Bali, and the presumption following 9/11 that al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden were fully responsi-

ble for the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks—a presumption which has severely hampered the investigation.

Australia tried to go even further on Oct. 24, when Defense Minister Robert Hill told the press that Australian military forces may be deployed "to tackle this joint enemy" in Indonesia, much the way that U.S. troops have been deployed into the Philippines. Indonesia quickly rejected any such potential. Proud of having won a revolutionary war against Dutch occupation in the 1940s, the Indonesians have repeatedly stressed that the ongoing U.S. military operations in the Philippines will not be repeated in Indonesia, neither by the United States nor by its "deputy sheriff" in Asia, Australia.

On the sidelines of the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in Mexico on Oct. 28, U.S. State Department thug Richard Armitage removed any doubt that some elements within the American government "war party" were itching to get U.S. or Australian troops into Indonesia. "Until Indonesia is a safe place for citizens of my country to go about official and unofficial business, we're going to be hectoring the government of Indonesia to step up to their responsibilities. At the same time, we are willing to provide any assistance they might request." Armitage said that President George Bush told President Megawati Sukarnoputri, in a private meeting, "You've got a tough job coming," which Armitage translated into: "We've got to rip these terrorists out, root and branch. Got to grab them by their throat, and rip them out of society. Our society, Indonesian society, and any societies in which they live. And all of us have got a lot more to do. Having a general policy against terrorism is one thing. Actually realizing that the problem exists in your society and that it's very virulent, and that you have to, as I say, rip it out root and branch, is another thing."

Armitage encouraged the "ramboism" of Australian Prime Minister John Howard, the only head of government at APEC who has allied with the United States for a unilateral attack on Iraq. Armitage encouraged the Australians not to accept any geographical limits to their participation in "great global endeavors." He concluded his tirade: "They're still alive and out there. . . . So, my own view is you'd better strap on your chin strap and get ready for this."

Prime Minister Howard is more than willing to accept the assignment. He has used the Bali atrocity as justification for ramming through police-state measures, allowing the Australian government to charge anyone associated with Ba'asyir—despite the fact that Ba'asyir has not been convicted of any crimes—with severe penalties, including life imprisonment. In the same fascist mold, Howard took steps toward declaring colonial-style extraterritoriality in Indonesia. *The Age* reported on Oct. 25 that Howard "has taken direct control of counter-terrorism measures, announcing a new law to enable the Bali bombing culprits and other overseas terrorists to be tried in Australia." The legislation will operate retroactively from Oct. 1.

New Iran-Contra War In the Philippines?

by Michael Billington

A recent series of bombings in the Philippines—both in the volatile province of Mindanao in the South, and in the capital, Manila—in the wake of the Oct. 12 bomb which killed nearly 200 in Bali, Indonesia, has thrust the country into a new financial and strategic crisis. The bombings in Manila remain unsolved, while the Mindanao attacks demonstrated that the joint U.S.-Philippine military operations earlier this year, aimed at destroying the Abu Sayyaf kidnapping gang, have not eliminated the problem. The Philippine economy, already reeling from a runaway budget deficit, a collapsing manufacturing base, and a mounting unsustainable debt crisis, is now being hit by a run on its currency and equity markets, and a further decline in foreign investment.

Strong opposition within the Philippine Congress—and even from Vice President Teofisto Guingona—to the participation of U.S. military in combat operations against Abu Sayyaf, prevented the “training exercises” which ended in July from sliding down the slippery slope into a Vietnam-style military adventure. Such foreign military operations on Philippine soil are proscribed by its Constitution. The leadership of the U.S. Pacific Command—Commander-in-Chief Adm. Dennis Blair and his successor Adm. Thomas Fargo—with backing from Secretary of State Colin Powell, generally kept the “exercises” within these constitutional restrictions, despite cries from Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and the war-party in Washington to expand them.

However, the creation of a new “Defense Policy Board” in August, jointly by Rumsfeld and the Philippines Defense Department, provided a stronger voice to the Utopian war-party among the leadership at the Pentagon, as opposed to the military chain of command. It was rightly feared as an effort by Washington “Chicken-hawks” to use the Philippines, toward unilateral, pre-emptive warfare and confrontation with China. These issues are not yet settled, although the Bush Administration’s adoption of the new strategic doctrine, encompassing pre-emptive war, indicates the danger.

The new wave of terrorism in the Philippines has rekindled a political fight over security measures. Efforts by the government of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to push through draconian anti-terror legislation, and even to implement a National Identification Card system, have met fierce opposition in the Congress. Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, from Mindanao, warned that the bombing may have had as its “immediate objective” to “stampede” the Congress into passing

such legislation. The left opposition is blaming President Arroyo herself for staging the bombs, while others question whether certain military circles tied to the United States may be responsible, to justify a military coup creating a “Musharraf-like” situation, in which the U.S. military could re-establish bases in the country. (The reference is to the Oct. 12, 1999 coup in Pakistan, by Gen. Pervez Musharraf.)

American ‘Private Army’ Deployed

Perhaps the most dangerous news, however, is not the new wave of bombings, but the report that an American “private army” operation has been set up to replace U.S. military forces deployed in Mindanao; an operation with a smell like that of the “Iran-Contra” private drug-and-gun running operations in Central America carried out by Lt. Col. Oliver North under the direction of then-President George H.W. Bush.

An organization called the Asia-Pacific Initiative has been set up by the Washington-based American Foreign Policy Council, whose purpose is to “strengthen democracy and deter the spread of transnational terrorism and militant fundamentalism in the Asia-Pacific Region.” The Institute’s first assignment is on the islands off the coast of Mindanao—the same region where U.S. Special Forces were deployed earlier this year to train and provide air and technical back-up to Philippine troops in combat against the Abu Sayyaf. Some U.S. troops remain in the region today, supposedly only engaged in civil construction projects. According to Bill Gertz of the *Washington Times*, who is a primary media voice for the anti-China war faction in the administration and the Congress (as well as being a member of the Reverend Moon cult), the money for this project ran out in July, and the private operation is taking its place.

The head of the project is Al Santoli, who was already well known in the Philippines. A Vietnam War veteran who never stopped fighting that war, he and Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.) teamed up to run subversive operations over the past decades against the governments of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos—all three of which enjoy diplomatic relations with the United States. In Santoli and Rohrabacher’s view, these “communist dictatorships” are guilty of innumerable sins, and subservient to “Red China.” The team has also tried to provoke a confrontation between the Philippines and China over the issue of the disputed Spratly Islands.

Just as Project Democracy began its Iran-Contra operations under the guise of “humanitarian aid,” Santoli is running a multimillion-dollar “humanitarian aid” project in the combat zones of Mindanao, to “win the hearts and minds” of the peasants, and “turn back the tide of terrorism.” Doctors are provided by Knightsbridge International, set up by the American Priory of the Knights of Malta, who appear to have emerged from the crypt to join the new Crusade.

Santoli, who also edits the *China Monitor* for the AFPC, said that the Philippines operation will be expanded into Indonesia, southern Thailand, and India.

Economic Cooperation Is on Eurasian Agenda

by Our Special Correspondent

The sudden announcement by the United States on Oct. 16, that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had "admitted" to a nuclear weapons program, had much to do with relations between Europe and Asia, as well as U.S.-Asian relations. A seminar in Berlin Oct. 27-28, organized by the European Institute for Asian Studies (associated with the European Parliament in Brussels) and the German, French, Dutch, and Danish Asian Studies Institutes, debated the equally sudden visit to Brussels of a high-level delegation from Pyongyang, to discuss European cooperation to help "build a powerful national economy" in the D.P.R.K.

The North Korean delegation consisted of Vice Foreign Minister Choi Su-hon, Vice Director for Europe of the Foreign Ministry So Chang-sik, and Foreign Ministry Section Chief for European Affairs Kim Song-gyong. Kim Song-gyong had served for some time as a diplomat in Paris. This group had literally "turned up" in Brussels, asking European Parliament members and policymakers—including participants in previous European Union delegations to Pyongyang—to organize a discussion forum. The North Koreans also wanted representation from the EU presidency, which was provided by Danish State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Carsten Staur.

The date of this surprise seminar had been Oct. 15—just one day before Washington's "North Korean nuclear surprise." The coincidence did not go unnoticed among European policymakers. This Brussels seminar, and the one in Berlin less than two weeks later, are part of a process of economic and political relations between Europe and the D.P.R.K., which have been progressing slowly but surely, during the past several years. The Berlin discussion was on the topic of "federalism and integration" of the EU; the Korean peninsula; and China, including Taiwan.

North Korea Wants Europe's Aid

The Pyongyang delegation had been invited to Brussels in October 2000, when Swedish Prime Minister Goeran Persson, representing Sweden and the EU, went to North Korea to meet Kim Jong-il, and launch the process of European nations' official recognition of the Pyongyang government. In November 2000, an Italian delegation, led by Industry Minister Enrico Letta, and including, on Pyongyang's request, representatives of leading Italian industries, went to the D.P.R.K. Rome had played a key role in helping foster reconciliation between North and South Korea, and Pyongyang

requested that bilateral relations be set up with Italy, which became the first step to general recognition by the EU member nations, completed in early 2001. North Korea accepted the invitation in 2000, but took two years to act upon it.

However, once in Brussels, the D.P.R.K. was very clear about what it urgently needs, which is economic cooperation. The delegates came to examine the European economic systems, and to request cooperation with their goal, to "build a powerful national economy," and to achieve "gradual recovery" from what they termed "natural disaster." The North Korean side called for a political dialogue with Europe on security issues, economic partnership, and fostering economic reforms in North Korea.

The Pyongyang delegation presented a very specific and well-considered wish-list: European investment in key industries, including power and energy, transmission networks, information technology centers, and plants to generate software for industrial machinery. A critical demand was help to "solve the food problem." This means advice on carrying out "land re-zoning" (i.e., reform of the current communal system); on how to produce more potatoes; and how to implement double cropping—an indication of just how backward D.P.R.K. agriculture is, since double and triple cropping is now standard practice throughout Asia. The North Korean delegation also wanted consultation on "price and salary adjustment;" on how to "give full play to the creative forces of entrepreneurs;" and on giving "rewards according to work done." They emphasized North Korea's mineral resources, including zinc, gold, magnesium, and lead, which need developing, and promoted their "high level of human resources" for building this new economy.

Security issues were also very important. As was discussed in the Berlin meeting on Oct. 28, in recent years, European concepts of security—tending towards confidence-building and conciliation rather than confrontation—have been taken up by the Koreans on both sides of the De-Militarized Zone. In Brussels, the North Koreans said that they were ready to engage in confidence-building measures, and emphasized that their military forces were *defensive*, against the nuclear and high-technology-weapon threat from the United States, including in South Korea.

At the same time, sales of weapons abroad are an absolutely critical source of export earnings for Pyongyang, and, as one EU speaker noted in Berlin, "they kept coming back to this issue. They stated they must have *compensation*, if they are to give up their weapons-sale operation. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly—who had been in Pyongyang Oct. 3-5, and was the source of the (11 days late) "emergency" announcement on the D.P.R.K. nuclear-weapons program—had demanded that North Korea "take their clothes off" militarily, and had not offered anything in return. This, Pyongyang could not accept.

What Policy After Nukes Announcement?

Since 2000, the European Union has become the largest

international donor of humanitarian aid and technical assistance to North Korea. Since Washington's Oct. 16 announcement, the EU has "called into question" its engagement policy with the D.P.R.K., one high-level policymaker stated in Berlin. This is a mistake, he said: Europe should move forward with this policy, as South Korea and Japan have been doing since Oct. 16.

Although participants in Berlin, who also came from China and South Korea, were very hesitant in making any predictions at all about the future course of developments in the D.P.R.K., they were generally emphatic that the economic situation there is extremely dire, and this was an urgent motivation for the delegation to Brussels. Since 1995-96, the old system for procurement and distribution of food and other basic needs in North Korea, has totally collapsed. Now, people get 40-50% of their daily needs on the black market, which is, in effect, a national barter system. Those who could not adapt to this system, have starved.

Pyongyang did embark on economic reforms during 2001, modelled on the Chinese system. However, as a Beijing participant noted, China launched its reforms in reaction to the vast Cultural Revolution upheavals, when the whole population wanted to change the system. China also had, in Deng Xiaoping, a powerful and dynamic leader of the revolutionary "first generation." Now, in China, reform and rapid economic development, have "become a way of life." Change has become a fundamental way of life—as long as national stability and real economic progress in China are also realized. D.P.R.K. leader Kim Jong-il, however, does not have this historical situation. He must develop—if he can—a basis for drastically changing the system of his father, Kim Il-sung.

The process could be a very difficult one, but the view at the Berlin seminar, from both the European and Asian participants, was that the very important developments of the past two years, in both Koreas, and between the Koreas and Europe, cannot be reversed. The D.P.R.K. must have a peaceful and stable external environment, if the economic and other changes desperately needed, are to be accomplished. South Korean President Kim Dae-jung's Sunshine Policy has been a real strategic shift in the dynamic on the peninsula, from confrontation towards peace.

Any North Korean nuclear capability—in whatever stage of development it might be—cannot meet its most urgent national security need, which is to procure the economic basis for the survival of its population, as one policymaker from Seoul emphasized in Berlin. Weapons cannot force anyone to give the economic aid the D.P.R.K. so urgently needs, but can be a basis for negotiations.

Whatever the Bush Administration wants to unleash against Iraq, war is *not* an option in Northeast Asia, the Seoul participant emphasized. South Korea totally opposes war against the North, and, with China, Japan, and Russia, wants to bring the United States to the negotiating table. That is Washington's only real option. Europe is challenged to continue to foster that process.

Israel: Sharon's Unity Government Splits

by Dean Andromidas

The collapse of the national unity government of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on Oct. 30 brings the question of early Israeli elections and the very real possibility of the return of Benjamin Netanyahu back into the office of Prime Minister. With Netanyahu back in the saddle, seamless Israeli cooperation with the Utopian war party in Washington would be certain. As of this writing the situation continues to be fluid.

The reasons for the decision by Labor Party Chairman Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, to no longer serve as wilted fig-leaf for the ultra-hardline policies of the Sharon government, are twofold. First, it had become clear that Sharon's policies, implemented by Ben-Eliezer as defense minister, have totally failed to crush the Intifada—leaving the next step in their logic, that the only way to crush Palestinian resistance would be through "transfer," or ethnic cleansing. Directly related to this failure, is the collapse of the Israeli economy, for the first time in its history experiencing negative growth, and with the highest unemployment rate since the founding of the state. Second, is the political fight within the Labor Party. On Nov. 19, the party will elect a new chairman; that choice becomes more important now that the prospect of general elections has been moved forward to as early as February. According to the latest polls, Ben-Eliezer trails last in a three-way intra-party race which includes Knesset Member Haim Ramon and Haifa Mayor Amram Mitzner. The last, committed to reviving the policies of slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, continues to be a poll favorite.

Despite Ben-Eliezer's break with Sharon on the issue of the "killer" austerity budget, and his demand that funds be cut to the settlements, his credibility—or lack of it—has not improved, and he is expected not to remain party chairman long. Although leaders of the peace camp fear Sharon may go even further to the right, they nonetheless express relief that a very vocal opposition will be heard for the first time. One leading Labor Party peace activist expressed relief that at least the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shimon Peres, as foreign minister, will no longer be defending Sharon's brutal policies.

On the eve of the government's collapse, the Oct. 30 issue of the Israeli liberal daily *Ha'aretz* wrote, "Labor would do best to pull itself together, go back to the political and economic agenda it formulated in 1992 under Yitzhak Rabin's leadership, and present it boldly to the voters as a forgotten but sorely missed alternative. If it doesn't do so, it could find itself pushed to the outer edge of the political map, having entirely lost its way and its identity."

For Sharon, the choice was clear: Either sink the unity government, or cut the hundreds of millions of dollars that are poured into the settlements every year. He was coming under international diplomatic pressure to support a settlement freeze. Before his resignation, Ben-Eliezer had been open to a compromise agreement that would simply declare that the funding for the settlements, and for development towns within Israel, would be assessed in an “egalitarian” way. But Sharon refused to consider even mentioning the settlements in an agreement. So the government fell.

Settlements or Peace

The settlement issue goes to the heart of the budget and Israeli policy. Despite the harsh austerity being forced on the lower-income groups and middle classes of Israeli society, the settlers continue to benefit from hundreds of millions, if not billions of dollars in subsidies. While in the West Bank, settlements receive 10-14,000 shekels per capita in the budget, inside Israel proper, development towns, where poor Israelis live, receive less than 1,500 shekels per capita!

For Sharon the settlers are not only his political base, but the settlements are key to his vision of Greater Israel, and will ensure that a Palestinian state can never come into being.

Without the Labor Party’s diplomatic and political cover, Sharon will be home alone with coalition partners even more extreme than he. Commentator Yoel Marcus warned on Oct. 31 that Sharon will “be totally dependent on the religious and the right. From here on in he’ll be the servant of the people of the Greater Land of Israel. Israel moved substantially to the right Wednesday. A year and eight months into Sharon’s term, he found himself facing the reality of his failed leadership: There’s no peace, no security and no unity.”

Even before the national unity government collapsed, Sharon invited his former Israeli Defense Forces Chief of Staff, the brutal Gen. Shaul Mofaz, to become his new defense minister. Although Mofaz has accepted, the choice could be problematic. The same day the government fell, it was reported that Great Britain’s Scotland Yard is investigating Mofaz for committing war crimes under the Geneva Conventions. This was the result of a 17-page dossier presented by the well-known British lawyer Imran Khan to Britain’s public prosecutor, who turned it over to police. Khan, representing the families of victims, charges Mofaz with war crimes including targeted assassinations, destroying Palestinian homes, and killing innocent women, children and men.

Mofaz’s appointment could face a challenge by the opposition in the Knesset, because he left the military only a few months ago. This could be significant, since it is widely believed that Mofaz harbors strong ambitions to become prime minister. With a strong base in the hardline faction in the Israeli military, he could be seen as a rival not only to Sharon, but to Netanyahu as well. If Mofaz’s appointment is blocked, Sharon might have to use the common practice in Israeli politics, where the prime minister takes up the defense portfolio.

But Israel’s Kahan Commission ruled Sharon “unfit” ever to hold the defense post, as a result of his “indirect responsibility” while defense minister, for the 1982 massacre at the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

Netanyahu and Jabotinskyism

Israeli political observers point out that the longer the U.S. attack on Iraq is postponed, the slimmer the chances that Sharon can cobble a government together. If elections are held, they could be held as soon as February or as late as May. Meanwhile, Sharon would rule unencumbered.

New elections will bring Benjamin Netanyahu back into the limelight of Israeli politics. He is not only the favorite of the nationalist camp, but that of the war party in Washington as well. “He is their agent,” was the comment of a senior Israeli source. Netanyahu will do their bidding, while at the same time leading a Jabotinsky fascist movement in Israel.

In the last months, the most extreme elements have been brought directly into the Likud party. The recent Likud Central Committee elections saw extremists like Moshe Feiglin and the Kahane Youth welcomed. Feiglin, an extreme Jabotinsky fascist, consolidated a powerful faction which could serve as a key swing factor in the internal Likud primaries, which would determine whether Sharon or Netanyahu becomes leader of the party.

Meanwhile, other extremist parties such as the National Religious Party, headed by Effie Eitam, who models himself after Benito Mussolini, expect to make gains. In addition, the National Union-Yisrael Beitenu is openly campaigning for Palestinian “transfer,” a policy which recent polls claim 46% of the Israeli population supports. The fascist spearhead for these parties are the extremist settlers, who are creating, with the support of Sharon and others, a climate where one can say a fascist takeover stalks Israel. This danger was flagged by Yossi Sarid, head of the Knesset opposition and chairman of the Meretz party, in a commentary, entitled “Before Jewish Fascism Takes Over,” published in *Ha’aretz*, Oct. 28.

Sarid came close to calling for armed resistance to the Jewish fascists of today: “If today’s zealots continue on the path of their ancestors, I’m not sure the opposing camp will continue the tradition of surrender and panic exhibited by the moderates of the Second Commonwealth. We have the right of self-defense from the likes of [new Infrastructure Minister] Effi Eitam, his rabbis and pupils, before they bring down the horrors upon us, before Jewish fascism runs over us all.” Sarid is disgusted by the use of the term “hilltop youth,” for the terrorists (and often snipers) who inhabit the illegal gypsy settlements, from which vantage point, Palestinians are sometimes shot and killed. These are not “wild weeds” or “wild growth” on the hilltops, but a menace *cultivated* by the Gush Emunin, he wrote. “The sanctimonious, self-righteous politicians who prepared the groundwork for the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin will continue using their saccharine rhetoric about ‘the unity of the nation.’ ”

International Intelligence

Russia's Ivashov Warns Of 'Global Civil War'

Russian Col.-Gen. Leonid Ivashov (ret.), who is now vice president of the Geopolitical Studies Academy, warned that a U.S. invasion of Iraq could trigger a global civil war, against the United States and its new doctrine of unilateral empire. In an interview to *Vek* on Oct. 18, he linked the Iraq war drive to the collapsing U.S. economy: "The U.S. is experiencing a serious economic crisis," he said, "and it sees a solution to this in seizing the world's key oil deposit regions. The launch of aggression against Iraq will signal that the battle over redistribution of global energy resources has entered its decisive stage."

Ivashov warned that, no matter what the outcome of a U.S. military action against Iraq, the "consequences will be very serious," because the U.S. action will end the global security system erected at the close of World War II. "The United States is usurping the right to decide the fate of any state which it finds to be unsatisfactory, for whatever reason. This could lead to the world sliding into chaos. According to our analysts, the world will see a new phenomenon: global civil war."

He also stated that the instability on the world oil markets, resulting from a unilateral U.S. takeover of the Persian Gulf reserves, would be bad for Russia, because wild fluctuations in price would undermine stable, long-term economic planning and investment.

Australian PM Pushes Fascist Legislation

Australian Prime Minister John Howard is rushing to impose fascist and neocolonial "anti-terror" laws, in the wake of the Oct. 12 bombing in Bali, Indonesia, in which many Australian citizens were killed. New laws were rushed through Parliament on Oct. 23, after a personal appeal from Howard to Labor leader Simon Crean, when the government realized "a technical waiting period in

July's anti-terror laws meant they would be powerless to detain al-Qaeda suspects until mid-December," according to *The Age*. The UN is expected to pronounce the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) group as an outlawed terrorist organization, allowing the Australian government to indict its members, with penalties including life imprisonment. (Indonesia, however, has *not* linked the group to the Bali bombing.)

Then on Oct. 30, Australian police and intelligence agents raided homes of Indonesian Muslims, in a nationwide hunt for members of Jemaah Islamiyah. Armed with submachine guns and wearing helmets, flak-jackets, and masks, they smashed their way into two homes in pre-dawn raids in the Perth suburb of Thornlie in Western Australia. Agents in Sydney arrested a 31-year-old man on alleged visa offenses during the search of a home belonging to another Indonesian, Ali Basri, whose son Jaya was the target of a similar raid on Oct. 27. Officials confirmed that two other homes were raided by members of the Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO) and Australian Federal Police in a hunt for agents of JI.

The raids were the first since the Bali bomb blast. No arrests were made, but videos, computers, computer discs, mobile phones, and other material, including passports, were taken in the raids, police said.

Prime Minister Howard has also taken steps toward declaring colonial-style extraterritoriality in Indonesia (see article in this issue).

Polarization Grows In Venezuela

Tensions are rising in Venezuela, as President Hugo Chávez attacked his military opponents as criminal coup-plotters. Chávez had been silent for the first three days after a group of 14 generals and admirals declared themselves in rebellion against the regime, and took over the main plaza in Altamira, Caracas on Oct. 21. But on Oct. 24, he accused the officers of committing "criminal acts," and promised that the government would take action. The next day, he charged

that the military officers were preparing "a military insurrection," and said he would repress them by force of arms, should any coup attempt occur.

Chávez argued that the military has no right to take recourse to Article 350 of the Constitution—which grants the right to civil disobedience to restore democracy, if a government is violating it—because his government is the democracy.

Chávez's appearance dispelled rumors that he had left the country, or was meeting with Cuba's Fidel Castro on some Caribbean island.

On the other side, the opposition movement has been gaining political steam. An estimated 200 military officers have come out in support of the rebellion, most of them staying in the Altamira Plaza, in order to avoid arrest. The civilian and military opposition leadership have agreed that neither will take action separate from the other.

Malaysia Rejects IMF, Globalization

Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi lashed out at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC), in Mexico on Oct. 25. The designated successor to Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad, when he steps down next year, Abdullah is normally more reserved on such issues, but now appears to be picking up Dr. Mahathir's approach.

"Globalization is not the universal and unmitigated good that it was once portrayed to be," he said. "Malaysia does not believe in the prevailing orthodoxy of the Washington Consensus and the IMF. We should not use ailing institutions to heal sick economies. Malaysia advocates a policy of 'prosper thy neighbor.' Such an approach benefits all in the long run. Economic problems cannot be solved by economics alone, as the damage caused by IMF remedies has proven. . . . Another financial crisis can wreak havoc on countries. There is no guarantee that such turmoil will not recur in the aftermath of the Asian financial crisis."

Bush Shows Signs of Serious Mental Strain at APEC Summit

by Michele Steinberg

The most significant development at the Oct. 23-26 APEC summit (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum) of 21 Asian and American heads of state and government, at Los Cabos, Mexico, was the obvious sign that President George W. Bush displayed, of suffering serious mental problems. When a President of the United States demonstrates the kind of stressed-out state of mind that Bush showed at Los Cabos, it is a matter of strategic concern. And while it may not have struck the President, the countries he subjected to his bizarre behavior in Mexico, are the same ones that he needs in order to “build a coalition” against Iraq.

By Oct. 31, at the United Nations in New York, the effects of Bush’s Mexico antics spilled over into the 15-member Security Council proceedings, leaving the situation “jammed up.” Despite daily pressure, threats, press conferences, and special emissaries from the “war party” in Washington to get support for the U.S. resolution giving the green light for military action, France, Russia, and China continued their opposition to war language. German Foreign Minister Joshka Fischer reiterated Germany’s stand against an Iraq war, while reminding Washington that Germany still has troops committed to the “war against terrorism” that Bush rallied against Afghanistan—and now, apparently, wants to exit, unfinished. Making matters worse for the increasingly insecure Bush, new Security Council members, including Mexico, joined the opposition to the U.S. resolution, and supported a two-phase process, first giving the inspectors’ mission a chance to succeed. In short, the UN Security Council members are *refusing* to pass a U.S. resolution that would violate the UN charter and international laws.

It is as if the UN is—diplomatically—implementing the advice offered by Lyndon LaRouche, when he declared on Oct. 4, in a Presidential campaign press release: “By their pattern of bizarre behavior, the President—and the Vice-Pres-

ident—of the United States, have shown themselves to be insane. . . . Therefore, the United Nations Security Council must recognize this fact, and it should suspend its current debate and negotiations over the insane demands being made by the President of the United States. Stop negotiating over the demands of a madman! The United Nations should declare that the President of the United States is insane, and then proceed from that standpoint.” LaRouche didn’t leave it at that, but called for urgent bipartisan action to help him in bringing sanity to the White House. In an Oct. 19 interview with *The LaRouche Show*, broadcast on the Internet, he said: “Nov. 5th is coming up. Wherever we can, around the country, build up, around the Democrats, or Republicans who are sane, and get them in; change the composition of the Congress, shake up the machinery, and get rid of, and weaken, this bunch of draft-dodging Chicken-hawks who want to make war everywhere. And if we do that, we can change the country. . . . [T]he objective, my objective, is, as soon as possible, to be able to get a bunch of people to walk into the White House, and say, ‘Mr. President, we’ll save your Presidency, and you’ll be a success if you do what we tell you. But you’ve got to get rid of these bums. And we’ll come in here and straighten this thing out, and you’ll be a success.’ That’s the objective.”

What Happened in Mexico

Events since that Oct. 19 statement show such intervention to free Bush from the neo-conservative “bums” to be more urgent than ever. The latest victim of Bush’s erratic and bizarre behavior, and the wrath of the neo-cons, is the government of Mexican President Vicente Fox. Mexican leaders stood in amazement as Bush rambled, sometimes incoherently, during the APEC summit. The *Washington Post* reported on Oct. 28, “a Mexican official who asked not to be identified,” told them that “Bush . . . is today a different per-



President Bush, in consternation throughout the APEC summit meeting in Los Cabos, Mexico, had National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, on Oct. 26, attempt to explain things to him—his reverses on Iraq war policy, perhaps?

son than he was when he met Fox in Guanajuato and at the White House—visits that now seem a lifetime ago.”

None of the leaders of this “economic” summit could get a word out of Bush about the economic disasters facing the world financial system—from the meltdown of the world’s three largest banking systems (the United States, Japan, and Europe), to the collapse of world trade, to the coming bankruptcy of the International Monetary Fund. Fox tried to focus the President on a follow-up meeting on free trade—once a banner Bush issue—only to get the terse response, “We may be at war,” according to the London *Guardian*. Fox retorted, “But you are not at war now,” which elicited a confused look on Bush’s face, said the *Guardian*.

The *Washington Post* accounts were graphic, indicating that Bush displayed such impatience that it bordered on a major diplomatic breach. The Oct. 27 *Post* story reported: “Bush has little patience with ceremony and has always kept his visits to international gatherings as brief as possible. With other leaders not rushing to embrace his plans, he did not conceal his testiness today. The only time he spoke to reporters was during a photo session with Fox, and he glowered during Fox’s windup and looked annoyed at the unruliness of the camera crews. The last straw was when a cell phone went off, which infuriates Bush. . . . In a breach of protocol, Bush cut off the translator before Fox’s answers could be rendered in English, and the White House transcript ignored Fox’s words, saying simply, ‘Answered in Spanish.’ ”

The Oct. 28 *Post* noted that “the man who once made Mexicans feel relaxed and welcome now makes them nervous and often irritated. The Mexicans . . . say they are puzzled over the administration’s seeming inability to pay attention to more than one foreign policy issue at a time;” and that

Administration officials say privately that they wonder “why Mexico cannot be more understanding of the international and domestic pressures Bush is under, and the enormous security concerns he has to deal with.”

Coalition? What Coalition?

By Oct. 29, it became obvious to Mexico, how Bush’s “handlers” use the President’s confusion to jack him up into a war mode. The neo-cons’ *modus operandi* showed in an editorial in the *Wall Street Journal*, “Our Friends at the UN: Saddam’s Amigos South of the Border,” which virtually declared war on Mexico and its pro-free trade, pro-Bush President, for taking a stand at the UN Security Council against the U.S. war resolution. The *Journal* said, “The Mexican stiff-arm on Iraq” meant Republicans will see Mexico as “more useful as political piñatas than as partners. . . . It is one thing for a Mexican President to cede

his foreign policy to the left for some blather about global poverty. But helping the French block the U.S. in the Security Council, and on a matter of vital national interest, is something Americans won’t soon forget.”

This is the same newspaper that called one year ago, on Oct. 30, 2001, on Bush to launch war against Saudi Arabia, surfacing a scenario for U.S. takeover of the Saudi oil fields. Now the *Journal*, voice of America’s sunken stock markets, virtually declared war on the whole world in its diatribe against Mexico, saying, “President Bush repeated yesterday that the U.S. and its real friends will proceed in Iraq with or without the UN’s blessing. That little league of nations is going to have to decide whose side it’s on.”

What real friends? is the question for an Administration that doesn’t collaborate, but threatens. More than 80 countries opposed the Iraq war in statements before the UN Security Council. Germany, with the largest NATO basing in the world, will not participate; Arab countries, led by Saudi Arabia, which bore the brunt of the cost of the 1991 Gulf War, support a diplomatic solution. That leaves only Britain—where deep rifts in the oligarchic establishment surface almost daily over the Bush adventure—and Israel, whose government coalition fell apart on Oct. 30, in no small part due to the disaster of Bush’s Middle East policy.

And, while peddling utopian rhetoric about “a U.S.-led coalition” to support his policy, Bush stiff-armed another friend of the U.S. on Oct. 31, when he refused to meet with Germany’s Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, who was visiting Washington. Fischer met Secretary of State Colin Powell, and then told several interviewers that Germany still has military forces committed—at Bush’s request—in Afghanistan! He was voicing the concern that many other nations have:

Bush Offers APEC Worse Than Nothing

Despite its name, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the APEC heads of state summit in Los Cabos, Mexico on Oct. 23-26 was preoccupied with terrorism, while President Bush ignored the pleas for serious discussion of the global economic crisis and its impact in Asia.

The two “results” of the APEC forum were a counter-terrorism agreement, and an offer from the United States to allow members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to beg for a free-trade pact, but only if they agree to follow globalization dictates. The “Secure Trade in the APEC Region” (STAR) initiative, introduced by President Bush, is “designed to enhance security while increasing trade,” a White House statement said. “The STAR initiative commits APEC economies to accelerate

action on screening people and cargo for security before transit, increasing security on ships and airplanes while en route, and enhancing security in airports and seaports.” Bush’s efforts to get support for an Iraq war, or stiff demands on North Korea in regard to their nuclear program, were not successful, however.

Bush’s offer to the ten Southeast Asian nations to apply for Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the United States—called the “Enterprise for ASEAN Initiative”—has the smell of a corpse inviting guests into the coffin. According to the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council, which praised the plan as a “crucial step forward,” the deal allows those countries “that are committed to market liberalization and market-oriented reform” to apply to the U.S. Trade Representative for a bilateral FTA.

Any serious discussion of Asian responses to the global financial-economic collapse will have to wait for the ASEAN+3 heads-of-state meeting (the ASEAN nations plus China, Japan and South Korea) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on Nov. 4-5. —Michael Billington

What happened to the U.S. “war on terrorism,” in Afghanistan?

Bush is left with the unpleasant reality that bullying hasn’t worked, and he might have to move *unilaterally* to war. The Associated Press reported on Oct. 31, “For seven weeks, American diplomats have been unable to swing France, Russia, and China, [which] . . . have veto powers, behind the U.S.-British draft.” That day, in a South Dakota campaign swing, Bush lectured the UN, “you need to do your job” or “we will lead a coalition of nations” to do it without you. With the President in this mode, the unfortunate Colin Powell was reduced to telling the press that the UN cannot “handcuff” the United States. But recent polls—loaded and unreliable as they are—indicate that UN constraints on Bush’s recklessness, are just what the American people may want.

The Boy Emperor

An Oct. 28 poll put out by the Pew Research Center, reported that 73% of Americans polled *oppose unilateral military action* by the United States. Overall, the poll showed that support for war against Iraq plummeted by 9% since mid-September, despite Bush and the neo-cons’ unrelenting war propaganda. Though 55% of Americans polled still support war on Iraq, that figure was close to 70% in August! And it 55% drops to 27%, if the United States starts a war without allies.

Will the Utopians eventually declare war on the American people by police-state measures? Some American critics think Bush may be *that far* “off the deep end.” On Sept. 30, syndicated columnist Arianna Huffington, a former neo-con

insider, wrote, “People under stress often regress to earlier stages of development. It appears that Bush is so intent on getting Saddam, so obsessively tightly gripped by a need to succeed where his war hero dad failed, so determined to lay the murderous 9/11 assault at Baghdad’s door, that he’s regressed to that level of childhood development where fantasy, reality and wish fulfillment are all mixed up. . . . Now, I’m no psychologist, but I believe there is a clinical term for this condition: going off the deep end.”

Then, on Oct. 20, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Maureen Dowd skewered Bush and Richard Perle in a *New York Times* piece. “The Boy Emperor picked up the morning paper and, stunned, dropped his Juicy Juice box with the little straw attached,” wrote Dowd. “‘Oh, man,’ he wailed. ‘North Korea’s got nukes. Sheriff Musharraf was helping them. Al Qaeda’s blowing stuff up again. The Pentagon’s speculating that the sniper might really be Qaeda decoy teams trying to distract the law while they plan a bio-blitzkrieg or a dirty bomb attack on the capital. Tenet’s broken out in hives about the next 9/11. Powell spends all his time kissing up to the Frenchies. Saddam’s ranting about a river of American blood. Jebbie’s in a world of hurt. The economy’s cratering. . . . This is not the way my new doctrine was supposed to work. We are supposed to decide who we pre-empt and when we pre-empt them. . . . Condi and Rummy said once we finished off Saddam, nobody would mess with America again. . . . Some people are actually talking about my doctrine leading to World War III!!! Karl says that would be bad.’ ”

Dowd ended with the horrified Boy Emperor calling for the comfort of Nanny Rice.

'Chicken-hawks' Create Own 'CIA' in Pentagon

by Edward Spannaus

As part of their effort to drag the United States into civilizational warfare in the Middle East, the Rumsfeld-Wolfowitz Cabal has created its own intelligence and covert-operations units to by-pass U.S. intelligence agencies. The purpose of this new "CIA"—the "Chickenhawk Intelligence Agency," it might be called—is to "cook the books" with fraudulent intelligence analyses, in order to justify an attack on Iraq, seen as the opening shot for implementing their imperial doctrine of global pre-emptive warfare. The Rumsfeld-Cheney war drive is opposed within much of the Pentagon uniformed military, the intelligence community, and within the State Department and the diplomatic corps who are responsible for dealing with once-allied nations who now oppose the Bush Administration's reckless war drive.

As *EIR* noted in the editorial, "Not Again!" of our last issue, we had been advised by well-placed U.S. intelligence sources, that a new "Iran-Contra"-type operation is being run out of the Pentagon, with the same sort of secret, parallel government which was responsible for the illegal drugs-and-arms deals of the 1980s involving Iran, Afghanistan, and Central America.

War Over the War

This has now resulted in a situation of open warfare within the Bush Administration. And, as is normal in such circumstances, such internal warfare is carried out through leaks and stories planted in the news media. Some leading, recent examples:

- The creation of a special intelligence unit by Rumsfeld and his deputies, already operating, was reported in a front-page article in the *New York Times* of Oct. 24, and then in the *Washington Post* the next day. The *Times* reported that the special unit was created to search for evidence of Saddam Hussein's links to Al-Qaeda, or other information "that the nation's spy agencies may have overlooked," and that its creation reflects "frustration on the part of Mr. Rumsfeld, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz and other senior officials that they are not receiving undiluted information on the capacities" of Saddam Hussein and "his suspected ties to terrorist organizations."

Unnamed Bush Administration officials cited in the article charged that "the top civilian policy makers are intent on politicizing intelligence to fit their hawkish views on Iraq." The *Times* also quoted a DOD official saying: "Wolfowitz

and Company disbelieve any analysis that doesn't support their own preconceived conclusions. The CIA is enemy territory as far as they are concerned."

Both the *Times* and the *Post* reported that the special unit was set up by Doug Feith, the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, who, as *EIR* has reported, is also responsible for the operations of Richard Perle's Defense Policy Board, which is running today's "Iran-Contra"-type covert intelligence operations.

The "Feith-and-Bum Corps" uses high speed scanners and computer software to "go over" every CIA and DIA report they can lay hands on, conducting "data mining;" to "glean individual details that may collectively point to Iraq's wider connections to terrorism, but which may have been obscured by formal assessments that play down the overall Iraqi threat."

- An article published in the Oct. 28 *Philadelphia Inquirer*, reporting on the "bitter fight" between the Pentagon and the CIA over Iraq intelligence, said that a major source of contention is the Wolfowitz group's heavy reliance on intelligence supplied by the London-based Iraqi National Congress and its head, Ahmed Chalabi. It cited a senior U.S. military official, who "expressed grave fears that civilian officials in the Pentagon might be blindly accepting assertions by Chalabi and his aides that a U.S. invasion would trigger mass defections of Iraqi troops and a quick collapse of Iraqi resistance."

"Our guys working this area for a living all believe Chalabi, and all those guys in their Bond Street suits, are charlatans," said one official. "To take them for a source of anything except a fantasy trip would be a real stretch. But it's an article of faith among those with no military experience, that the Iraqi military is low-hanging fruit."

The *Inquirer* article also quoted Richard Perle claiming that the CIA's analysis of the Middle East "isn't worth the paper it's written on."

- Confirmation of another element of *EIR*'s previous reporting, on the reactivation of U.S. Army special warfare units—such as the infamous "Yellow Fruit" from the 1980s—came in an Oct. 27 *Los Angeles Times* article by William Arkin. "Frustrated by intelligence failures, the Defense Department is dramatically expanding its 'black world' of covert operations," the *Times* said, noting that Rumsfeld is building up "an elite secret army" centered around the Army's Intelligence Support Activity (ISA), which operates today under the code name of "Gray Fox." (It was ISA's "Yellow Fruit" unit which erupted in scandal in the mid-1980s, and which carried out much of the "Iran-Contra" covert operations which were generally attributed to, or blamed on, the CIA.)

Arkin reported that Rumsfeld wants to use these units to provoke actions by terrorist groups and states, which would open them up to "quick-response" attacks by U.S. forces. This is reminiscent of the commando raids which provoked the so-called Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964, which was used for a massive escalation of the Vietnam war.

Euro-Trilateral Center Stage Grabbed by Perle

by Mark Burdman

The European branch of the Trilateral Commission held its annual meeting in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, over the Oct. 18-20 weekend; it was the first time the Commission had ever gathered in that city. The Trilateral Commission, founded in the early 1970s, originally bankrolled by David Rockefeller and dominated by the nefarious policies of Zbigniew Brzezinski and Henry Kissinger, has been one of the most influential global institutions of oligarchical policy for almost 30 years. Therefore, its deliberations deserve attention.

The Prague meeting was dominated by an unusual participant, in Trilateral Commission terms: self-professed “Prince of Darkness” Richard Perle, head of the Defense Policy Board, an advisory group to U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, which is notorious for promoting the worst of American imperial-utopian strategies. Perle has recently joined the Trilateral Commission.

Perle has spent most of the two years since the 2000 election of George W. Bush stating that the Bush Administration doesn’t care at all, what doubts its traditional European allies may have about its provocative policies, especially about the planned war with Iraq. His most recent outburst was his Oct. 2 interview with the German economic-business daily *Handelsblatt*, when he was asked his opinion about the opposition to the Iraq war by German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, who had just been re-elected. Replied Perle, imperiously, “It were best he resign.”

‘Some Water in the Wine’

Hence, one must take with substantial grains of salt, Perle’s claim to the Prague meeting—as a leading Euro-Trilateral figure reported to this publication—that he is a committed “multilateralist,” and far from the worst of what he called the “unilateralist fundamentalists” in Washington. Sometimes, tactically, as Biblical scholars are aware, the Prince of Darkness obfuscates his stratagems.

The featured event at the Euro-Trilateral gathering was a debate, on the subject of U.S.-European relations, between Perle and Chris Patten, the European Union’s External Affairs Commissioner. Patten, hardly ignorant of imperial strategies since he served as Britain’s last colonial Governor of Hong Kong, has, over the past months, been a harsh critic of the crude, unilateralist “Pax Americana” policies of many leading

figures in the Bush Administration.

According to a Euro-Trilateral member who was in Prague, Perle delivered a very blunt message, although with certain rhetorical qualifications. Said this individual: “We received confirmation from Richard Perle, that the Bush Administration will move into Iraq, although the Administration is now accepting certain different avenues than earlier, toward reaching that goal.”

EIR’s source had played a leading coordinating role in the April 6-8, 2002 annual meeting of the Trilateral Commission, in Washington. On that occasion, he now recalled, attendees had heard speeches, from Rumsfeld, Vice President Dick Cheney, and Secretary of State Colin Powell—all of whom, although with different forms of expression, had told their European and Asian audience, “We are going into Iraq, whether you like it or not.” *EIR* had noted months before the meeting, the tensions that were threatening Rockefeller’s global think-tank (see *EIR*, Jan. 25, “Sept. 11 Will Split Trilaterals”).

Now, the U.S. Utopians’ message has been somewhat modified. Perle affirmed, that he would personally accept certain “multilateral” initiatives on the Iraq question, but with a strict time limit. As *EIR*’s source put it: “The Americans have had some water put in their wine. Since the President’s speech on Sept. 12 at the UN, they have had to go through the UN system, which involves some complications, but the substance is not changed. The strategic decision has been made, it is only the tactics that have changed. Perle confirmed to us in Prague: ‘We will go in, we will accept certain regulations and rules, but we will not wait too long.’ ”

French ‘Between Two Chairs’

With this in mind, this individual, himself French, gave his interpretation of the French obstruction of the war-mongering American-British resolution at the United Nations Security Council, as follows: “The French will win, on insisting on a second resolution, before any force is used. But the reality will be, from all I understand, that the first resolution will be so strenuous, that the Iraqis won’t be able to respect it. It’s possible to formulate a demand, in such a way, that the party it is intended for, won’t be able to comply. The French would have won, in their immediate aim, but they will be there with the Americans, when force is used.

“The French are in a singular and difficult position. They are between two chairs. They want a more independent Europe, but not as far as the Germans want to take it. And they don’t want to be absent from what happens in Iraq, and from what happens in the post-intervention period. They want to be at the UN Security Council table for the Iraqi intervention, not against the United States, but with it.”

This view of French intentions is at odds with the simple fact that a new Iraq war is monumentally unpopular in France, including with leading individuals in the French political class, across the spectrum.

National News

O'Neill Says Iraq War Won't Affect Economy

Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill denies that war with Iraq could have a significant effect on the U.S. economy, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported on Oct. 22. O'Neill told the paper's Editorial Board that the U.S. economy was so large and resilient, that the issue of the economic cost of a possible war with Iraq hasn't been a consideration in discussions of the President's National Security Council, of which he is a member. He said that he was "dumbfounded" when people asked him whether the United States can afford a war with Iraq, since "it suggests that freedom, individual liberty have a price."

O'Neill claimed that despite the gyrations of the stock market, the economy is in good shape, with some sectors booming, such as home construction and auto, even though others, such as the semiconductor and telecommunications industries, are being wiped out.

Port 'Cooling-Off' Period Stays Hot

The dispute between the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) and the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA), which shut down all West Coast ports for ten days in late September, has entered a new, escalated phase, since the ports were reopened under a Taft-Hartley injunction on Oct. 8. On Oct. 23, the PMA filed charges with the Department of Justice, alleging that the union is engaged in a slow-down. The charges, which could result in fines against the union or even jailings of its leadership, are that the ILWU is violating the terms of the injunction, brought at the request of the Bush Administration, which mandates an 80-day "cooling-off" period, during which work at the docks was supposed to resume at a "normal" pace.

The union responded to the PMA filing, with its own charges, that the decline in pro-

ductivity following the lockout, is due to mismanagement by the PMA—which is refusing to collaborate with the union's attempts to unsnarl the logistical nightmare that the lockout caused—and by its longstanding policy of ignoring shortages of needed infrastructure and skilled labor.

In addition, in a letter to U.S. Deputy Assistant Attorney General Shennen W. Coffin, union attorney Richard Zuckerman stated, that the tone of the Justice Department's demand for information from the union, demonstrated "a lack of impartiality." The union has charged the Bush Administration and the PMA with hostility toward the union. The ILWU sent a letter to U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, asking him to direct the White House to release the names of individuals who attended meetings over the Summer with the Administration regarding the dispute. The union maintains that it was unfairly excluded from these meetings, and that the Administration heard only one side of the dispute.

Meanwhile, the AFL-CIO announced that International Vice President Richard Trumka is sitting in on meetings among the ILWU, the PMA, and a Federal mediator, to express the concern of the labor movement and to add "accountability to the talks."

Heavy Cannabis Use Linked to Schizophrenia

Structural brain-imaging equipment is being used for the first time to examine the effect of cannabis (e.g., marijuana) on the brain, ABC Online reported on Oct. 4. New research by the Hunter Center for Mental Health Services and the University of California has revealed that smoking cannabis can create the same effects on the brain as a schizophrenic episode. The Center's senior registrar in psychiatry, Martin Cohen, claimed that the research shows that cannabis use heightens the likelihood of developing a mental illness. "It's suggesting that there's a common underlying pathology and that is then translated into an increased risk of adolescents that use cannabis developing schizophrenia," he wrote, noting that "people who use cannabis heavily, develop cog-

nitive deficits, thinking problems, which are really similar to the negative symptoms of schizophrenia."

"Anecdotal thinking that cannabis is a fairly inert substance—you get stoned and then perhaps a few weeks later you pick up, and your thinking sort of recovers again—is actually getting mitigated against by this emerging body of evidence," wrote Cohen.

New Strategic Command For 'Global Strikes'

The United States on Oct. 1 activated a new U.S. Strategic Command (StratCom), which will combine the functions of the old Strategic Command and the U.S. Space Command, *Aviation Week & Space Technology* reported on Oct. 14. The new command, which is said to have the responsibility for "global strike" operations, was established just one week after President Bush announced his new pre-emptive strike doctrine. StratCom was activated the same day as the U.S. Northern Command.

StratCom is under the command of Adm. James O. Ellis, Jr., while Rear Adm. James D. MacArthur, former director of operations of the Space Command, is now director of space operations. The command is based at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

StratCom's new mission statement not only covers its nuclear, conventional, space and "non-kinetic" roles, but also states that it is "prepared to assume emerging missions." According to Admiral MacArthur, this would include "global strikes," including the ability to hit targets anywhere in the world within hours or minutes, deploying nuclear, conventional or non-destructive means. Obviously with Iraq in mind, MacArthur said, "Under certain circumstances, and coordinated with the regional combatant commander," B-2 or B-52 bombers carrying conventional air-launched cruise missiles, or ships armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles, "could be apportioned and allocated to Strategic Command for a specific, well-defined mission. It could very well be a pre-emptive, independent global strike." He also said ICBMs could be fitted with non-nuclear warheads.

Why Hiroshima Was Bombed: The ‘Utopians’ Duped a Nation

by William Jones

Racing for the Bomb: General Leslie Groves, The Indispensable Man

by Robert Norris

South Royalton, Vermont, Steerforth Press, 2002
700 pages, hardback, \$40

The Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb

by Gar Alperovitz

New York, Alfred Knopf Books, 1995
847 pages, paperback, \$17

“The United States decision to drop the atom bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki saved over one million American lives which would have been sacrificed by an invasion of Japan.”

How often has this claim been restated whenever that horrendous event is mentioned on TV or in newspapers. And yet, it remains to this day a total fiction. Not only the figure of “one million”—which was gratuitously added in the cover story published later to enhance the much lower figures actually predicted by the War Department had the United States been forced to invade Japan—but even the lower, more accurate estimates, represented a complete fallacy. There would have been no casualties in a land invasion of Japan because there would not have been any land invasion of Japan. By mid-May 1945 it was clear to all who wished to see: Japan was on the brink of surrendering.

It is the merit of Gar Alperovitz’s work that he documented the facts available as of 1995 by using the then-latest declassified records from the war period. The real purpose of

the atomic bomb was not to win the war, but rather to shape the contours of the post-war world. Alperowitz had an entire team working the files on this subject, with excellent results. The “team” aspect of the work leads, however, to a good deal of repetition. The recent biography by Robert Norris of one of the key players in that policy decision, Gen. Leslie Groves, helps to fill out the picture of the real scope and purposes of the decision to drop the atomic bomb on Japanese cities.

The Open Conspiracy of H.G. Wells

In order to understand the real significance of the atom bomb decision, we must, however, go a bit beyond the confines of these two particular works—back to 1928, to the publication of a little-noticed manuscript by science-fiction writer H.G. Wells, entitled *The Open Conspiracy*. In that work, Wells called for the establishment of a “world government” which would supersede the nation-state as the primary form of human social and political existence. Reading Wells today, one gets the eerie feeling of a weird fascist experiment, wrapped in pseudo-scientific rhetoric, in which Big Brother controls one’s every move. This “Utopian” scheme, as Wells himself dubbed it, probably had little hope of success, except under conditions of raw terror, where a frightened population might come to feel that only in the womb of such a “world government” would there be any security.

With the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, such a condition, it was felt by Wells’ devotees, had been brought about. Shortly after the dropping of the bomb in 1945, Lord Bertrand Russell, a compatriot of Wells in the “world commonwealth” project, wrote a short essay entitled “The Bomb and Civilisation.” In this work Russell wrote: “The prospect for the human race is sombre beyond all precedent. . . . Either war or civilization must end, and if it is to be war that ends, there must be an interna-



Manhattan Project chief Gen. Leslie Groves gets a medal from Secretary of War Henry Stimson (left) in September 1945. Both pushed hard for atomic bombing of Japan before the war could end, and led the selection of the Hiroshima target, factories “densely surrounded by workers’ housing.” Generals such as Eisenhower and MacArthur opposed the bombing as unnecessary. Britain’s H.G. Wells (above) was the ideological father of the bombing, with his “Open Conspiracy” for a fascist experiment in world government.

tional authority with the sole power to make the new bombs. All supplies of uranium must be placed under the control of the international authority, which shall have the right to safeguard the ore by armed forces. As soon as such an authority has been created, all existing atomic bombs, and all plants for their manufacture, must be handed over. And of course the international authority must have sufficient armed forces to protect whatever has been handed over to it. If this system were once established, the international authority would be irresistible, and wars would cease. At worst, there might be occasional brief revolts that would be easily quelled.

“The power of the United States in international affairs is, for the time being, immeasurably increased,” Russell continued. “If America were more imperialistic there would be another possibility, less Utopian and less desirable, but still preferable to the total obliteration of civilized life. It would be possible for Americans to use their position of temporary superiority to insist upon disarmament, not only in Germany and Japan, but everywhere except in the United States, or at any rate in every country not prepared to enter into a close military alliance with the United States, involving compulsory sharing of military secrets. During the next few years, this policy could be enforced; if one or two wars were necessary, they would be brief, and would soon end in decisive American victory.”

Russell’s comments were undoubtedly aimed at encouraging the very thing he expressed his skepticism about. While his hatred of the United States as a nation-state was almost visceral, were a U.S. government prepared to become the center of a new Roman Empire, dictating policy to the world, he would stifle his revulsion and sign on to the project in that form.

Indeed there were in Washington, in late 1945 when Russell was writing this, already people intent on creating just such a solution. The totally unnecessary, and absolutely criminal, dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki was their attempt to impose this Wellsian nightmare on an unwitting world.

Japan Prepares To Surrender

By the Spring of 1945, it was clear to all that the end of the war in the Pacific was close at hand. The successful island-hopping strategy of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, moving always for the strategic flank of the Japanese army rather than fighting for every foot of land occupied by its tenacious and fanatical soldiers, had given the greatest victory to U.S. arms with the minimum casualties, a feat perhaps unequalled in the annals of U.S. military history. Now, what terms should be presented to the Japanese to bring the Pacific war to a close?

The real discussion hinged on the question of what role, if any, the Japanese Emperor would have in a post-war Japan. Given that the tenacity of the Japanese troops was intimately bound to the role of the Emperor in society and religion, peace terms which would result in his destruction would be disastrous. As a report from MacArthur’s staff to the War Department in Washington in the Summer of 1944 notes, “to dethrone, or hang, the Emperor would cause a tremendous and violent reaction from all Japanese. Hanging of the Emperor to them would be comparable to the crucifixion of Christ to us. All would fight to die like ants. The position of the gangster militarists would be strengthened immeasurably. The war would be unduly prolonged; our losses heavier than otherwise would be necessary.” For the same reason, it was also clear that, were the Emperor to order his troops to surrender, they

would, for the very same reason, do so to the very last soldier.

In March 1945, MacArthur sent Lt. Gen. George Kenney, the head of his air forces, to Washington to brief the Joint Chiefs on the situation in the Pacific. In a long talk with Chief of Staff Gen. George Marshall, on March 16, Kenney argued that Japan had lost its air power, its navy and merchant marine, and that there was no longer any necessity to wait for an end to the war in Europe or for the Russians to enter the Pacific war, before moving toward a surrender.

As Kenney relates in *The MacArthur I Know*: “When I was in Washington in March 1945, I repeated MacArthur’s ideas, but everyone I talked to in the War Department and even among the Air crowd disagreed. The consensus was that Japan would hold out for possibly another two years. . . . While the dropping of the two atomic bombs may have hurried the Japanese decision to quit, there is little doubt that MacArthur was right in July when he told me that the projected Operation Olympic—to invade Japan on November 1, 1945—would never take place.”

“It was quite evident from a study of the context of the messages, that the Japanese realized further resistance was futile, and were willing to grant any concessions to halt the war, providing the Emperor remained as the spiritual head of the country,” Kenney wrote.

By the Spring of 1945 these peace-feelers were coming in fast and furious. On May 7, 1945, the OSS representative in Portugal informed President Truman that the Counsellor of the Japanese Legation in Portugal had told a source that the Japanese were ready to cease hostilities provided they were allowed to retain possession of the home islands and that the terms “unconditional surrender” not be employed in the actual peace terms.

Other OSS sources working with the Vatican’s Cardinal Giuseppe Montini (later Pope Paul VI), were also in touch with the Japanese, who were in the process of working out the terms of an eventual Japanese surrender—again with the proviso that the institution of the Emperor be retained.

The stated policy of the United States had been that of “unconditional surrender.” This had been stated by President Roosevelt, almost fortuitously, when he met with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill at Casablanca in January 1943. And yet, with Roosevelt, the consummate politician, there was always room for finding a way out of a dilemma if the conditions warranted it. Roosevelt did, in fact, deviate from the “unconditional surrender” formula when Italy agreed to surrender in 1944. But by May 1945, Franklin Roosevelt was dead, and his new Vice President, Harry Truman, had been sworn in as President of the United States.

Truman had replaced Henry Wallace as FDR’s Vice President prior to the 1944 elections, through the machinations of the southern Democrats who hated Roosevelt’s New Deal as well as his envisioned post-war Grand Design. They knew that Roosevelt would not survive a fourth term. They therefore wanted to replace the strong New Deal Vice President Henry Wallace, with one of their own. Former Missouri tailor

Harry Truman, a proud son of the Confederacy (both grandfathers fought for the South during the Civil War), who had come to prominence in Missouri politics as a stooge of the Kansas City-based criminal Pendergast mob, was their man. As his chief foreign policy adviser, Truman chose Sen. James Byrnes from South Carolina, an even more dyed-in-the-wool Confederate sympathizer. In June 1945, Truman made Byrnes Secretary of State.

The Russian Factor

From the beginning of the war, the Allied forces had decided that their main thrust would be in Europe. In every aspect of supply and logistics, the Atlantic theater received the primary attention, with MacArthur, the army commander in the Pacific, having to make do with whatever he got.

The Russian armies were almost solely deployed on the European front. After initial clashes with the Japanese in Manchuria in 1939, in which the Japanese fared badly, the Russians signed a Neutrality Treaty with Japan. In his discussions with Stalin at Tehran in November 1943 and at Yalta in February 1945, Roosevelt had talked to the Soviet leader about the possibility of redeploying Russian troops to the East at the conclusion of the war with Nazi Germany. Already in the beginning of the Pacific campaign, MacArthur had called for Russian engagement against the Japanese in Manchuria, a measure that would have helped tie up some of their forces that would otherwise be available to be deployed against him. The Russians, hard pressed by the advance of the Nazi armies, were not eager to engage in a two-front war if that could be avoided.

And yet, after the decisive victory of the Red Army at Kursk in July 1943, it was felt in U.S. military circles that the Russians might now consider moving against Japan. In a Joint Chiefs’ instruction cited by Alperovitz, in the Fall of 1943 to the head of the American Military Mission in Moscow, Brig. Gen. John Deane, “the great importance to the United States of Russia’s full participation in the war against Japan after the defeat of Germany, as essential to the prompt and crushing defeat of Japan at far less cost to the United States and Great Britain,” was clearly stated. Again, just before the Big Three meeting—Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin—at Tehran in 1943, the Joint Chiefs stated: “We are agreed that every effort should be exerted to bring the U.S.S.R. into the war against Japan at the earliest practicable date, and that plans should be prepared in that event.”

By the end of 1944, the war in Europe was approaching a close. Following the Big Three meeting in Yalta in February 1945, representatives were sent to MacArthur to brief him on the results. MacArthur again called for a Russian move on Manchuria in order to tie up as many Japanese divisions as possible, especially if events necessitated an invasion of the Japanese home islands, for which preparations were, in fact, being made.

The Japanese were also aware that Russian refusal to renew the Neutrality Pact would mean that they would also

have Russia to fight. The signals of a Japanese willingness to surrender then began to multiply.

In addition to the OSS contacts in Italy and Portugal, the Japanese were also making their desires known through their representatives in Moscow and in Sweden, with representatives of the Swedish Royal Family. The Swedish reports were forwarded to the United States by Herschel V. Johnson, the U.S. Ambassador in Stockholm. Reporting on April 6, 1945, Johnson wrote that it was “probable that very far-reaching conditions would be accepted by the Japanese by way of negotiation,” but that “there is no doubt that unconditional surrender terms would be unacceptable to the Japanese because it would mean dishonor. Application of such terms would be fatal and lead to desperate action on the part of the people. . . . The Emperor must not be touched,” Johnson wrote.

The Atom Bomb Project

On April 25, 1945, Secretary of War Henry Stimson and Gen. Leslie Groves, the manager of the Manhattan Project, met at the White House to brief the President on the status of the atomic bomb.

The bomb project had been initiated by President Roosevelt on the basis of an appeal by Albert Einstein. Einstein, aware of Nazi work on developing such weapons, had been urged by Leo Szilard, a protégé of Bertrand Russell, who played on Einstein’s fears, to write a letter to President Roosevelt urging him to begin work on an atomic weapon.

Szilard, a Hungarian physicist and a devotee of H.G. Wells, had worked his way into Einstein’s confidence while still a young physicist in Berlin. In 1928 Szilard had read Wells’ *Open Conspiracy*, and waxed enthusiastic. By 1929 he had travelled to London to meet with Wells and to negotiate the rights to publish Wells’ works in Central Europe. Szilard himself worked on a scheme to realize Wells’ vision of a “world government” controlled by a chosen “scientific elite.” In fact, so enamored was he of this idea that he developed his own plan for creating such an “elite,” which he called the Bund, “a closely knit group of people whose inner bond is pervaded by a religious and scientific spirit.” Although formulating this proto-fascist vision at an early age, Szilard bandied such ideas about in different forms until his death.

How the Einstein letter led to the Manhattan Project, under General Groves, is well known. By the time the new President, Harry Truman, was briefed on the Manhattan Project in April 1945, the bomb was almost ready for testing. The growing realization by Truman of the power and capability of the new weapon gave Truman the means to accomplish the task for which he had been chosen—to dismantle Roosevelt’s entire post-war design.

Roosevelt had dealt with the mercurial Russian leader, Joseph Stalin, in a rather straightforward and open manner. Not that this was without its difficulties, given Stalin’s propensities and paranoia. Nevertheless, by 1944 Roosevelt felt that he had created a certain rapport with Stalin and intended to work to bring wartime ally Russia into the concert of Euro-

pean nations after the war. Writing in May 1944 in the *Saturday Evening Post*, Forrest Davis, a correspondent favored by Roosevelt, wrote: “Mr. Roosevelt is striving to bring the Soviet Union, which has fallen out with the European tradition, back into the family of nations, as a condition precedent to world organization. Convinced that unless that reunion takes place, there can be no world association, nor assured hope of peace, the President’s ‘great design’ rests on two assumptions. First, he accepts the prevalent view that the Soviet Union will be able to organize effectively its manpower and resources in peace as well as war, thus becoming permanently a great power. He further assumes that the interests of a victorious Russian state can be reconciled to those of the Atlantic powers, China, and the small nations of Europe and America. Mr. Roosevelt, gambling for stakes as enormous as any statesman ever played for, has been betting that the Soviet Union needs peace and is willing to pay for it by collaborating with the West. By no means unaware of the risks, he declines, nevertheless, to acknowledge them even to close associates. The White House is a delicate sounding board, reflecting everything that happens everywhere on the globe. It would be absurd to suppose that the President has not considered the implications of his Russian policy in all angles and facets. The alternative—a Russia excluded, aggrieved and driven in on itself to prepare for the inevitable war of continents—was to him so much worse, that he saw himself with little choice. He chose, moreover, to prosecute his policy so sincerely that the Russians, proverbially mistrustful, could have no ground for misgiving.”

The Utopians’ plans for establishing their global dictatorship were, on the other hand, precisely geared to play into those Russian misgivings.

The Road to Potsdam

While the production of the atomic bomb had been initiated by Roosevelt based on assumptions (later proven false) that the Nazis were progressing rapidly on building a similar device, the “bomb” now became, in the hands of the Utopians, the essential tool in imposing their political vision on the post-war world. But, in order to do that, the power of this new weapon had to be demonstrated in a devastating manner, to convince all nations to accept the straitjacket of “world government.”

The Manhattan Project had been essentially an Anglo-American project from the start, although certain aspects of it were revealed to Churchill only after the fact. The wartime alliance with Russia had not included informing them of the existence of the bomb project. Some people had, however, urged this step on Roosevelt, aware that withholding the information now might create serious misunderstandings after the war.

Danish physicist Niels Bohr, aware that the Russians certainly knew of the possibility of developing atomic weapons and had perhaps more than an inkling of the Manhattan Project, feared a post-war arms race. He therefore urged President



General Groves with Robert Oppenheimer (right), scientific director of the Manhattan Project. Groves' instruction to Oppenheimer to rush the first atomic bomb test through by July 14, 1945, is part of the evidence that President Truman was using the bombing of Hiroshima for "diplomatic," not military purposes.

Roosevelt to inform Stalin of the bomb project. He also spoke to the British Prime Minister, who rejected the idea out of hand. "As for any post-war problems," Churchill told Bohr, "there are none that cannot be amicably settled between me and my friend, President Roosevelt." Roosevelt, who saw things quite differently, but who, for reasons of his own was not prepared at that time to reveal the secrets of the bomb to Stalin, didn't overrule the British Prime Minister on this issue.

By May 1945, with Roosevelt dead, differences over the post-war fate of Poland were calling for top-level consultations among the Big Three. Churchill wrote to Truman in May 1945 that it was urgent "that a settlement must be reached on all major issues . . . before the armies of democracy melted." But Truman was not interested in meeting with Stalin until he had a successful test of the atomic bomb to use as a bargaining chip in such a meeting.

The political implications of the bomb were clearly in the

forefront of interest for the Utopian faction. Chief among them was Secretary of War Henry Stimson. Speaking on May 14 to Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Marshall and John J. McCloy (one of Stimson's top assistants at the War Department), relating a discussion he had just had with British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, Stimson commented: "It is a case where we have got to regain the lead [over Russia] and perhaps do it in a rough and realistic way. . . . I told him this was a place where we really held all the cards. I called it a royal straight flush and we mustn't be a fool about the way we play. They can't get along without our help and our industries, and we have coming into action a weapon which will be unique."

Truman was of one mind with Stimson on this point, and, therefore, worked to delay a meeting with Stalin. Truman wrote Churchill that he wanted to put off the Big Three meeting until after June 30 on the flimsy pretext that the U.S. budget was coming up in Congress. Stalin was anxious to meet. Harry Hopkins, just back from a trip to Moscow on May 28, was told the meeting would not be until July. Hopkins objected: "I think Stalin would like to have the meeting at an earlier date because of the many pressing problems to be decided." And yet Truman persisted in delaying, raising suspicions among the Russians as to his motives.

For what was Truman waiting? General Groves was pushing his scientists to test the bomb by the beginning of July. Technical considerations caused a delay in the test—and another delay in Truman's planned meeting with Stalin. Finally, Grove pushed for a test on July 14. Biographer Norris notes how Groves, in explaining the rush to project director J. Robert Oppenheimer on July 2, stressed "the importance of trying to arrange for the 14th [of July] . . . and to tell his people that it wasn't his fault. But came from higher authority." On June 5, Truman then informed Churchill in regard to the forthcoming meeting, "I find, after full consideration that July 15 is the earliest date that is practicable for me to attend." Indeed, if all went well, it was the earliest date at which Truman would know if the test had been successful.

The Decision To Bomb

The test in Alamogordo, New Mexico, on July 14, 1945, produced results beyond anyone's imagination. As reports streamed back to Washington, the mood was almost ecstatic among the Utopians. Indeed, Stimson felt that the effect of the bomb was so great that he advised Truman the weapon might enable the United States to force the Soviet Union to abandon or radically alter its entire system of government. A War Department memorandum on June 16 noted that "the President feels the U.S. is by far the strongest country in the world and he proposes to take the lead at the coming meeting," and that in "this connection he proposes to raise all the controversial questions."

With the successful test of the bomb, the issue now became whether to use it—and, if so, against whom? With the surrender of Nazi Germany already a fact, Japan was really

the only candidate. But what if the Japanese also surrendered before the bomb was actually used in war, as all indicators were showing they intended to do? Testing the bomb in a real-time situation required, therefore, delaying such a surrender for as long as possible in order to use the bomb to end the war—and demonstrate in an unequivocal and stark, terrifying manner, the raw power now possessed by the United States.

Plans for the bombing of Japan were already well under way when the Alamogordo test took place. Under the frenetic leadership of Groves, targets were being picked. An Interim Committee had been set up by Stimson's assistant, Harvey Bundy, consisting of Stimson; James Conant, chairman of the National Defense Research Committee; Dr. Vannevar Bush, director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development (OSRD); Dr. Karl Compton, head of the Office of Field Service (OSRD) and president of MIT; Assistant Secretary of State William Clayton; and the Undersecretary of the Navy, Ralph Bard. At Stimson's suggestion, Truman appointed Jimmy Byrnes to serve as Truman's personal liaison to the committee. The Interim Committee was to advise the President on how the bomb was to be used after the war. Groves, who was a member of the Target Committee, also received a permanent invitation to attend the meetings of the Interim Committee, and, in fact, attended all of their meetings. Two or more bombs were to be prepared.

Truman became totally euphoric when Groves' more detailed report on the Alamogordo experiment reached him on July 21. "The President was tremendously pepped up by it and spoke to me of it again and again when I saw him," Stimson confided in his diary. Byrnes was also ecstatic, telling Szilard "that our possessing and demonstrating the bomb would make Russia more manageable in Europe."

Indeed, there was a growing feeling that with the Anglo-Americans retaining sole possession of the bomb, the post-war period would indeed become something of an Anglo-American Century, as Bertrand Russell would call for in his piece later in 1945. Norris' book clearly shows Groves to have been a strong proponent of such a view, though more inclined to make this solely an "American" preserve, not to be shared fully with the British. As he would express this later more publicly, in an important quote overlooked by his biographer Norris, but not lost on Alperovitz, Groves was committed to "an American-administered Pax-Atomica—an atomic league of nations, founded upon the West's supposed technological superiority and the secret, preclusive monopoly of atomic raw materials."

In the light of this policy shift, the appearance of Japanese peace-feelers now became a threat that might obviate the use of the atomic bomb in war. Anything that would permit the Japanese to surrender before its use against Japan was therefore to be squelched. The envisioned entry of the Russian forces into Manchuria had therefore to be delayed for as long as possible.

Some people in Washington saw clearly what was in the works. Acting Secretary of State Joseph Grew, a former am-

bassador to Japan, caught wind of what was happening—and it frightened him. Grew renewed his efforts to quickly get a statement of intent from the United States which would guarantee a retention of the Emperor, and facilitate a rapid Japanese surrender—before the bomb could be used. More generally, Grew realized that there was a substantial peace party in Japan, and that the peace-feelers the Allied intelligence forces were picking up, were for real. The position of the United States, he felt, should be supportive of that peace party, and immediately clarifying the role of the Emperor in the peace terms was absolutely essential if peace were to be quickly achieved.

Many leading Republicans were also calling for such a statement. On July 3, the *New York Times* reported that the Senate Republican minority leader, Wallace White, "declared that the Pacific war might end quickly if President Truman would state, specifically, in the upper chamber, just what unconditional surrender means for the Japanese." The War Department's Operations Division advised on July 12, 1945 that "the present stand of the War Department is that Japanese surrender is just possible and is attractive enough to the U.S. to justify us in making any concession which might be attractive to the Japanese, so long as our realistic aims for peace in the Pacific are not adversely affected."

Indeed, by this time the Japanese peace-feelers were becoming a drumbeat. On July 12, as Truman was travelling to Potsdam aboard the Presidential yacht, the *Augusta*, Emperor Hirohito was declaring in a meeting of the Supreme Council for the Direction of the War, that although war planning had to continue, it was also "necessary to have a plan to close the war at once." A cable intercepted on July 12 from Foreign Minister Togo to Japanese Ambassador Sato in Moscow, and given to Truman aboard the *Augusta* on his way to Potsdam, stated: "We are now secretly giving consideration to the termination of the war because of the pressing situation which confronts Japan both at home and abroad." Unlike the previous peace-feelers, these were very official and very high-level, even involving the leadership of the Japanese Army, the only real hold-outs for continued fighting. By the time of the Potsdam meeting it was also known that Japan was asking Russia, with which it still had a neutrality treaty, to help it get out of the war.

Using the Bomb 'Diplomatically'

But Truman, with an entirely different agenda, was not ready for peace—not yet at any rate. Indeed, arriving at Potsdam, the United States was already taking measures to delay Russian entry into the war in the Pacific.

At Yalta it had been agreed that Russia would enter the Pacific theater in exchange for several conditions: It would receive the Kurile Islands from Japan, regain control over the Chinese Far Eastern and South Manchurian railroads as well as the ports of Dairen and Port Arthur, and the "independence of Mongolia would be assured." In turn, Stalin agreed to sign a treaty with Nationalist China. Roosevelt had assured Stalin

that he would convince Chiang Kai-shek to accept concessions to Russia in Manchuria.

The signing of an agreement between China and the Soviet Union would therefore be the immediate prelude to Soviet entry into Manchuria. With Truman's new agenda, and the successful demonstration of the atomic bomb, the brakes had to be put on the signing of such an agreement. On July 6, as he was leaving for Potsdam, Jimmy Byrnes instructed Averell Harriman, the key contact with the Soviets, to "inform both the Soviet Government and T. V. Soong [the Chinese Foreign Minister then in Moscow for negotiations with the Russians] that as a party to the Yalta Agreement we would expect to be consulted before any arrangement is concluded between the Soviet and Chinese governments." Harriman even had to pressure Soong to be tougher with the Russians about these concessions. "He [Soong] was far less concerned than we had been about such details as whether Chinese or Russian troops would guard the railroad or who would be the Port Master of Dairen," Harriman wrote. "I saw him almost every day and urged him to be more firm."

At Potsdam, Truman adopted his most belligerent pose. In a letter to his wife Bess on July 20, Truman wrote: "We had a tough meeting yesterday. I reared up on my hind legs and told 'em where to get off, and they got off. I have to make perfectly plain to them at least once a day that so far as this President is concerned, Santa Claus is dead, and that my first interest is U.S.A., then I want the Jap War won and I want 'em both in it."

After the plenary session of July 24, Truman approached Stalin as Stalin was about to leave the conference, and mentioned to him casually "that we had a new weapon of unusual destructive force." The poker-faced Stalin simply commented, according to Truman, that "he was glad to hear it and hoped we would make 'good use of it against the Japanese.'" Judging from Stalin's placid reaction, Truman and Churchill thought that Stalin didn't really understand that Truman had been referring to the atomic bomb. The wily Soviet leader, however, knew a lot more than he was letting on. What his Russian science advisers, like the great scientist Vladimir Vernadsky, were not able to tell him about the bomb, well-placed spies in the Manhattan Project were. Marshal Zhukov relates Stalin's comments to his own people following this encounter with Truman. "Stalin, in my presence, told Molotov about his conversation with Truman," Zhukov wrote in his memoirs. "'They're raising the price,' said Molotov. Stalin gave a laugh, 'Let them. We'll have to have a talk with Kurchatov today about speeding up our work.'" Stalin was referring to the Soviet bomb program, headed up by Academician I.V. Kurchatov.

Potsdam: Preventing Japan's Surrender

It was also at Potsdam that Churchill was informed of the successful test. British Chief of Staff Field Marshal Sir Alan Brookesby wrote that Churchill "was completely carried away. It was no longer necessary for the Russians to come

into the Japanese war; the new explosive alone was sufficient to settle the matter. Furthermore, we now had something in our hands which would redress the balance with the Russians."

By this time, the Interim Committee had decided that the bomb would be used, without warning, on a Japanese war plant, preferably in the vicinity of an area in which many Japanese workers were living, for maximum psychological effect. Norris relates how Groves wanted to target Kyoto itself, the most important religious center for the Japanese, but Stimson, anxious that the Japanese remain malleable enough after the war in order to serve in the post-war battle against the spread of Communism in Asia, rejected this proposal, assenting only to the targetting of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Niigata, and Kokura. There was only one true dissenter to this decision of the committee—Ralph Bard, Navy Secretary James Forrestal's undersecretary and representative. In a June 27 memorandum, Bard wrote: "Ever since I have been in touch with this program I have had a feeling that before the bomb is actually used against Japan, that Japan should have some preliminary warning, for say two or three days in advance of use. The position of the United States as a great humanitarian nation and the fair play attitude of our people generally is responsible in the main for this feeling." Bard also stressed that some U.S. declaration regarding the status of the Emperor should be given to encourage the Japanese to surrender quickly. But Truman and Byrnes were not prepared to issue such a declaration.

In fact, the draft statement for the Potsdam meeting, drawn up by Stimson and John McCloy, had included explicit assurances for the Emperor. William Leahy, the chief of staff of the Army and Navy under Roosevelt, who had been kept on by Truman, wrote on July 18: "From a strictly military point of view, the Joint Chiefs of Staff consider it inadvisable to make any statement or take any action at the present time that would make it difficult or impossible to utilize the authority of the Emperor to direct a surrender of the Japanese forces, in the outlying areas as well as in Japan proper." Although Truman was in agreement with the policy of building up post-war Japan as a counterweight to Soviet influence, he, in collaboration with Byrnes, decided to purge the reference to the Emperor from the Potsdam Proclamation. As far as the Japanese knew, "unconditional surrender" was still the policy of the allies. In a further affront to Stalin, the United States issued the Proclamation to the press before even informing him, much less soliciting his approval of the final text.

The effect of the Potsdam Declaration was devastating. Navy Captain Ellis Zacharias, a specialist who had been working on psychological-warfare ideas in cooperation with the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information, had been, like his Navy commanders, keen on encouraging a quick Japanese surrender. Zacharias had been closely following the Japanese intercepts, and knew that the signals to end the war were coming from the highest levels, and that the position of the Emperor was *the* decisive issue. The Potsdam Declaration



Left to right: Britain's Clement Attlee, President Truman, and Russia's Joseph Stalin, at the Potsdam conference in July 1945. Truman delayed the conference of the Big Three powers until he could be sure of the successful test of the atomic bomb in Alamogordo, New Mexico on July 14—for use as a bargaining chip against the Russians.

smashed these hopes. It “wrecked everything we had been working for,” Zacharias would later explain. “Instead of being a diplomatic instrument, transmitted through regular diplomatic channels and giving the Japanese a chance to answer, it was put on the radio as a propaganda instrument pure and simple. The whole maneuver, in fact, completely disregarded all essential psychological factors [for] dealing with Japan.”

Also at Potsdam, more pressure was put on T.V. Soong to conduct a delaying action. On July 23 Churchill wrote to Sir Anthony Eden, “Mr. Byrnes told me this morning that he had cabled to T.V. Soong advising him not to give way on any point to the Russians, but to return to Moscow and keep on negotiating pending further developments. It is quite clear that the United States do not at the present time desire Russian participation in the war against Japan.” Nevertheless, hearing from Truman that the bomb test had been successful, Stalin pushed up the invasion of Manchuria from Aug. 15 to Aug. 8—a mere two days, in the event, after the bombing of Hiroshima.

Opposition to the Decision

The decision to bomb was, however, meeting with considerable resistance. The initial reaction came from those who were most in the know on the subject—the Manhattan Project scientists. A nervous Groves was keenly aware of the growing opposition among the scientists to the use of the bomb without warning. In a poll taken among 150 of the scientists working at the Manhattan Project's Chicago facility, almost half of those polled also recommended “a military demonstration”

to be followed by renewed opportunity for surrender “before full use of the weapon is employed.”

Leo Szilard was perhaps more upset than anyone. The spiritual “father” of the atomic bomb. Szilard, like Bohr, knew something of the Soviet capabilities through his early contact with Russian scientist Peter Kapitsa, and realized that the atomic bomb would not long remain the monopoly of a single power. Indeed, its use in combat, he feared, threatened to set off an arms race which would upset all his plans for using it to establish the “world government.” In late May 1945, Szilard and fellow scientists Harold Urey and Walter Bartky met with Jimmy Byrnes. Byrnes told them that General Groves had informed him that Russia had no uranium, and that therefore there was no fear of them developing atomic weapons.

In reality, already in 1940, Russian scientist Vladimir Vernadsky had appointed a committee to investigate the uranium resources of the Soviet Union. While they did discover uranium deposits in Central Asia, it would be the countries of Eastern Europe and Soviet-occupied East Germany which would provide the great bulk of the uranium for the Soviet nuclear program. In a memorandum to Byrnes, Szilard underlined that it was the post-war organization of the atomic bomb threat which would be of utmost importance. In accordance with his Wellsian program, he urged that there be established international controls on atomic research, with the direct involvement of the scientists in the decisions as to its use. Byrnes found the idea rather ludicrous. “He [Szilard] felt that scientists, including himself, should discuss the matter with the Cabinet, which I did not feel desirable. His general de-



Gen. Douglas MacArthur receives a medal from President Harry Truman in 1950. MacArthur, the wartime commander of the Pacific theater, knew that the Japanese were close to surrender; the Utopians only informed him of the decision to bomb Hiroshima five days beforehand. MacArthur insisted until his death that the bombing of the Japanese cities had no military value whatsoever.

meanor and his desire to participate in policymaking made an unfavorable impression on me.”

More significant opposition came from the military leadership of the country, most of whom were adamantly opposed to the use of the atomic bomb. Alperovitz documents this resistance quite extensively in separate chapters dealing with the reaction from each of the uniformed services; all regarded the bombing as militarily unnecessary. Stimson himself, when in Europe for the Potsdam talks, saw fit to solicit the opinion of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of Allied Forces in Europe. “The incident took place in 1945 when Secretary of War Stimson, visiting my headquarters in Germany, informed me that our government was preparing to drop an atomic bomb on Japan,” Eisenhower would later write in his autobiography, *Mandate for Change*. “I was one of those who felt that there were a number of cogent reasons to question the wisdom of such an act. . . . The Secretary, upon giving me the news of the successful bomb test in New Mexico, and of the plan for using it, asked for my reaction, apparently expecting a vigorous assent. During the recitation of the relevant facts, I had been conscious of a feeling of

depression, and so I voiced to him my grave misgivings, first on the basis of my belief that Japan was already defeated and that dropping the bomb was completely unnecessary, and secondly because I thought that our country should avoid shocking world opinion by the use of a weapon whose employment, I thought no longer mandatory as a measure to save American lives. It was my belief that Japan was, at that very moment, seeking some way to surrender with a minimum loss of ‘face.’ The Secretary was deeply perturbed by my attitude, almost angrily refuting the reasons I gave for my quick conclusions.”

Although Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the Pacific theater commander, wasn’t informed of the existence of the atomic bomb until five days before it was dropped on Hiroshima, he had already, in the Spring of 1945, sent his air force chief, Maj. Gen. George Kenney, to Washington to explain his view that the Japanese were close to surrender. When Kenney came to Washington and explained this to Gen. George Marshall, Marshall called in his top advisers. Kenney would report to MacArthur later that he had not succeeded in convincing them. MacArthur, until his death, insisted that bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki had no military value whatsoever.

Truman’s Chief of Staff, Adm. William Leahy, who chaired the meetings of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, continually insisted that the Japanese were on the brink of surrender. As late as July 16, Leahy was urging the British Chief of Staff to have Churchill get Truman to modify the term “unconditional surrender.” Leahy would later say, quite accurately, of the decision: “Truman told me it was agreed they would use it, after military men’s statements that it would save many, many American lives, by shortening the war, only to hit military objectives. Of course, then they went ahead and killed as many women and children as they could, which was just what they wanted all the time.”

Adm. Ernest King, the Commander in Chief of the U.S. Fleet, was convinced that the successful blockade of Japan was bringing Japan to its knees. There was no need to invade Japan proper, King argued, because Japan was as good as defeated. This analysis would later be fully corroborated by the Strategic Bombing Survey, which in 1946 examined the destruction caused in Japan by a combination of the blockade and the incessant conventional bombing. The Survey concluded that Japan would likely have surrendered in 1945 without atomic bombing, a Soviet declaration of war, or an American invasion.

That the Utopians were also aware of these facts is attested by comments made to Truman on June 6 by Stimson. Stimson wrote in his diary. “I told him I was anxious about this feature of the war [massive conventional bombing] for two reasons: first, because I did not want to have the United States get the reputation of outdoing Hitler in atrocities; and second, I was a little fearful that before we could get ready, the Air Force might have Japan so thoroughly bombed out that the new weapon would not have a fair background to show its strength.

He laughed and said he understood.”

On Aug. 6 at 8:16 in the morning the bomber *Enola Gay* dropped “Little Boy,” with a yield equivalent to 12,500 tons of TNT, on the city of Hiroshima, with a population of 290,000 civilians and 43,000 soldiers. When calculations were made at the end of August, the death toll was in the realm of 100,000, but many more would die soon thereafter from the effects of the bombing. By the end of 1950, the toll had reached 200,000, with death rates calculated at 54%! On Aug. 9, “Fat Man” was dropped on Nagasaki, with 70,000 dead calculated by the end of 1945 and a total of 140,000 dead within the next five years. On hearing of the successful bombing of Hiroshima, Truman commented, “This is the greatest thing in history!” General MacArthur was dumbfounded, as MacArthur’s pilot, Weldon E. Rhoades, noted in his diary on the day after the bombing: “General MacArthur definitely is appalled and depressed by this Frankenstein monster. I had a long talk with him today, necessitated by the impending trip to Okinawa. He wants time to think the thing out, so he has postponed the trip to some future date to be decided later.”

The Reaction and the Cover-Up

More significant, perhaps, than the arduous plodding through the files to get a clear step-by-step picture of the events leading up to the decision, are the revelations by the Alperovitz team of the growing U.S. domestic reaction to the bombing and the frantic efforts by the perpetrators to cover their tracks—a story which has received very little publicity.

Reports of the terrible facts and consequences of the atomic bombings—most especially, author John Hersey’s “Hiroshima,” which filled the August 1946 issue of *The New Yorker* magazine and sold hundreds of thousands of copies—had a strong impact on the American public. A steady stream of criticism of the bombing came from key religious leaders in the United States. The effect of what James Conant derided as “this type of sentimentalism” moved Conant—now president of Harvard—to ask his friend Harvey Bundy to get Stimson to counterattack. Conant agreed with Bertrand Russell that the demonstration of the atomic bomb in a war situation had been essential to force the world into a control regime. But the American citizen had to be “convinced” by a counter-story on Japan.

At the time Stimson was working on his memoirs, being assisted by Harvey Bundy’s son, McGeorge Bundy. The two now readily undertook the task of providing the “cover-up” for the atom bomb decision. McGeorge Bundy would write a draft for Stimson’s perusal and signature. After his discussions with Conant, Harvey Bundy himself had drafted a number of “pointers” that he felt should be included in such an article: namely, that the bomb decision was primarily ordered with the thought that it would save American lives; that no major person in authority thought that Japan would surrender on terms acceptable to the Allies; that the Interim Committee had rejected targets “where the destruction of life and property



A newspaper being read by General Groves’ daughter reports the obliteration of the city of Hiroshima by the bomb in a surprise U.S. attack. Public shock and opposition grew in the United States, and was met by a famous Stimson-McGeorge Bundy article launching the claim that the atomic bombing “saved a million American lives that would have been lost in an invasion of Japan.”

would be the very greatest”; that the committee had discussed “intensively” whether the bomb should be used at all; and that the committee had also considered the possibility of a demonstration prior to its use in war. In particular he wanted to downplay any inference that the bomb played any role in U.S. relations with the Soviet Union.

With “old Bundy’s” notes in hand, “young Bundy”—who later, as National Security Adviser to Kennedy and Johnson, would help to maneuver these Presidents into the jungles of Vietnam—went to work on the draft. Various people, including Groves, Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter, Secretary of War Robert Patterson, and Bernard Baruch, who would shortly present Truman’s first draconian nuclear control plan to the United Nations, had their say in the draft. Groves underlined the basic lie of the piece: that the dropping of the bomb shortened the war by months and

saved many human lives which the planned invasion of Japan would have exacted.

Conant himself wanted to make the point that, given the tremendous destruction of the conventional bombing of Japan, the atom bomb was just like any other bomb, only a bit more destructive. Tellingly, Conant urged Bundy to drop all reference to the issue of the Emperor in the paper.

In the final draft, Bundy so exaggerated the figures that it stated twice that the dropping of the bomb had saved over a million lives. And yet, the best estimates given to General Marshall of the possible casualty rates of American forces in a full-scale invasion, were always in the range of 40,000 to 46,000. The big lie just kept getting bigger.

The essay was published in the February 1947 issue of *Harper's* magazine. Breaking all precedent as regards copyright, *Harper's* gave permission for anyone who wanted to reproduce the article to do so. It was therefore quickly reprinted in the *Washington Post*, the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, the *Omaha World Herald*, *Reader's Digest*, the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*, and many other papers. McGeorge Bundy quipped to Stimson, "The *Harper's* article has been read by everyone I meet, and it seems to have covered the subject so well that I find no follow-up work needed. . . . I think we deserve some sort of medal for reducing these particular chatterers to silence."

Not everyone felt that the effect was sufficient, however. Conant had Karl Compton, the president of MIT, launch a parallel defense of the bombing in the *Atlantic Monthly*, upping the ante in terms of the outrageous claims of the number of lives saved. "I believe, with complete conviction, that the use of the atomic bomb saved hundreds of thousands—perhaps several millions—of lives, both American and Japanese," Compton wrote. This was, for them, not merely an attempt to justify their actions. "If the propaganda against the use of the atomic bomb had been allowed to grow unchecked," Conant wrote Stimson, "the strength of our military position by virtue of having the bomb would have been correspondingly weakened, and with the weakening would have come a decrease in the probabilities of an international agreement for the control of atomic energy." Indeed this, and not the defeat of Japan, had been the real Wellsian purpose of the bomb project to begin with.

The Cold War Begins

The effect on Russia of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings was immediate. Visiting Moscow together with Marshal Zhukov a few days after the bombing of Hiroshima, Eisenhower, according to Edgar Snow, answered "a private question privately," with the following remarks: "I would have said, I was sure we could keep the peace with Russia. Now, I don't know. I had hoped the bomb wouldn't figure in this war. Until now I would have said that we three, Britain with her mighty fleet, America with the strongest air force, and Russia with the strongest land force on the continent, we

three could have guaranteed the peace of the world for a long, long time to come. But now, I don't know. People are frightened and disturbed all over. Everyone feels insecure again."

Three policies emerged for dealing with the advent of the nuclear age. Bertrand Russell and his Utopian co-thinkers demanded the United States get ready for preventive nuclear war against the Soviet Union, to enforce a U.S.-British nuclear monopoly.

The policy of Truman, and of Wall Street, was the "Baruch Plan" for world government enforcement of complete nuclear technological *apartheid*. Among Truman's circles there was still the illusion that the United States would remain sole proprietor of nuclear weapons for a long time to come. On Oct. 8, 1946, Truman was asked if the United States would keep control of all nuclear technological information. "Well, I don't think it would do any good to let them in on the know-how," Truman said, "because I don't think they could do it, anyway."

Truman's initial response to this was to attempt to use the forum of the United Nations to impose top-down control on the nations of the world with regard to the research and development and the production of nuclear technology, and the top-down control of the nuclear materials themselves—one of the key elements in the Groves post-war plans for nuclear weapons, as Norris documents. Truman appointed the aging financier Bernard Baruch, formerly head of the War Production Board during World War I, as the head of the U.S. delegation to the UN Atomic Energy Commission, assuring a hard line on the control issue. Baruch's plan demanded "swift and sure punishment" of any nation which attempted independently to develop nuclear technology, and insisted that the veto power of the UN Security Council be suspended entirely in matters of atomic control.

Bertrand Russell was also delighted with the Baruch Plan, as the realization of his "world government" idea. And the Soviet Union's swift and complete rejection of the Baruch Plan in 1946, provided grist for Russell's "preventive war" mill; in 1949 George Eliot published a book entitled *If Russia Strikes*, in which he called on the United States to present Moscow with an ultimatum: Cease research and production efforts on the atomic bomb and accept the Baruch Plan, or face an American attack that would "raze the U.S.S.R. with an air atomic offensive." The "preventive war" scenario also won its adherents among some U.S. military layers, particularly those Air Forces officers who had bought into the supremacy of "air power" as the real war-winning capability.

The head of the newly founded United States Air Force, Gen. Henry H. (Hap) Arnold, in a report to Secretary of War Stimson, asserted that the "one defense against the atomic bomb" was "to hit it before it starts." In a speech at the Boston Navy Yard on Aug. 25, 1950, Navy Secretary Francis Matthews gave a speech which supported the Utopians' thesis. Matthews said that the United States should consider "insti-

tuting a war to compel cooperation for peace.” Many other leading figures in the Truman Administration supported Matthews’ call—including Stuart Symington, director of the National Security Resources Board and former secretary of the Air Force, and Gen. Albert Wedemeyer, commander of the Sixth Army.

By the time of the Matthews’ speech, however, the Soviets had eliminated the U.S. atomic monopoly on nuclear weapons, exploding a nuclear device on the steppes of Kazakstan in August 1949. The proposals for “preventive war” would continue on and off for several years, but neither Truman, nor much less Eisenhower—who effectively judoed the Utopian gameplan—were ever prepared to go that far. The world now entered the era of Mutual and Assured Destruction.

Eisenhower’s Atoms for Peace

From here on in, preventive war with the Soviets would be viewed as more and more suicidal. The resulting ‘balance of terror’ would now be used by the same Utopians as the argument for bringing the world into the era of world government, including Russell’s attempt during the Cuban Missile Crisis to bring the Americans and the Soviets into an “arms control regime.”

The third post-war nuclear policy, however, and the initiative that promised to break through this controlled environ-

ment, was the “Atoms for Peace” program launched in 1953 by President Eisenhower. Envisioning international cooperation between states as the means of fostering their development by the peaceful uses of nuclear power, rather than the establishment of the institutional straitjacket of a world police regime, Ike succeeded in engaging the Soviet Union in cooperation for development. In the course of that program, between 1956 and 1959, the United States concluded nuclear cooperation agreements with 40 countries, with the Soviet Union providing nuclear power for the satellite countries of Eastern Europe.

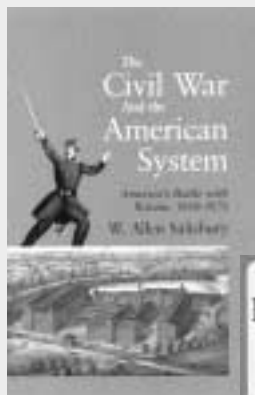
From 1956 to 1962, the Atoms for Peace program provided research reactors, nuclear training, and fissionable material to 26 states. Later, in a similar peace-through-development initiative, President Ronald Reagan adopted Lyndon LaRouche’s technology-sharing concept for his Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) proposal. The Utopians in the Reagan Administration—who included such well-known figures in today’s “Get Saddam” operation as Richard Perle, Doug Feith, and Paul Wolfowitz—succeeded in sabotaging that program, creating the basis for their “comeback” under George Herbert Walker Bush. They are now intent on realizing the nightmare of the Wellsian-Russellite vision by the establishment of a new Roman Empire under Anglo-American direction.

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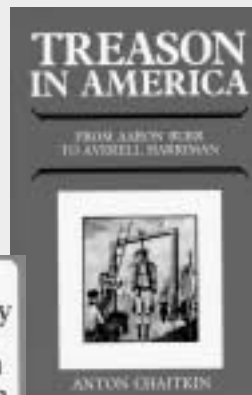
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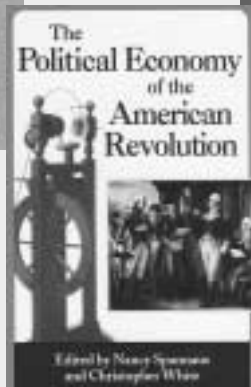
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Moongate Eclipses Chinagate, Koreagate

Following the 1996 Presidential elections, the Radical Right in America launched a wild campaign against President Bill Clinton, charging him with having been “bought off” by Beijing, via clandestine campaign contributions from corporate fronts for the People’s Liberation Army (PLA). Nothing much came of the wildly exaggerated “Chinagate” allegations, save a handful of Federal prosecutions of foreign influence peddlers, trying to buy a night at the Lincoln Bedroom at the White House.

However, some of the very Radical Rightists who led the charge against President Clinton and promoted the “Chinagate” scandal, including the not-so-reverend Jerry Falwell, are emerging as the biggest recipients of corrupting money from Reverend Moon and his offshore dirty-money empire. “Moongate” is a scandal that dwarfs all previous foreign campaign and foreign payola scandals combined. By *EIR*’s best estimates, the Moonies pass billions of dollars a year into a far-flung apparatus of right-wing organizations, churches, political action committees, and Republican politicians, including former President George Bush.

Just how significant a contaminant this Moon money represents for the American political process is a matter that warrants the immediate attention of Congress and the Executive branch, particularly Federal law enforcement. In the late 1970s, to its credit, the House of Representatives conducted a massive probe of South Korean influence peddling, known as “Koreagate.” The Moonies were at the very center of that operation, providing a veritable harem of some 300 prostitutes, who swarmed over Capitol Hill. A KCIA (Korean CIA) and Moonie bank, Diplomat National Bank of Washington, was a small-scale conduit of Moonie offshore cash into the “Koreagate” operation.

Today, the Moonies operate on a vastly larger scale. By some published accounts, offshore Moonie enterprises, including a growing operation in some of Ibero-America’s biggest drug-money-laundering centers, subsidize the Washington Times Corp. to the tune of \$30-100 million a year. Defense Intelligence Agency

documents, recently declassified, show that Moon and his controller, Col. Bo Hi Pak, funneled \$3.5 billion into North Korea during 1991-94.

In May 2002, law enforcement authorities in Brazil raided the Moonies’ headquarters in São Paulo, and other offices across Brazil, charging the group with money laundering and tax evasion. Other officials, citing the Moonies’ recent purchase of vast tracts of land on all sides of the Brazil/Paraguay/Bolivia borders, charged that the group posed a threat to Brazilian national security.

What are the Moonies up to, creating a cross-border territory in one of the most narcotics-infested regions of the globe? A team of American law enforcement officials would do well to visit their Brazilian counterparts, and determine the implications for the United States of the tax evasion and money-laundering allegations in South America.

One of the most visible of the recent Moonie operations was the buy-off of Rev. Jerry Falwell, whose \$73 million in debt to his supporters was “disappeared,” through what one retired Federal law enforcement official considered a criminal transaction.

In recent years, unsuspecting U.S.-based Muslim clerics have been targeted by the Moonies for cooptation, through lavish gifts and the promise of “ecumenical” support against the would-be promoters of a new Crusade. Nowhere in these discussions with leading Muslim- and Arab-Americans do the Moonies acknowledge that they are also the main financiers and controllers of the entire so-called “Christian Zionist Right” in America—typified by Falwell, Gary Bauer, Tim and Beverley LaHaye, and “Diamond Pat” Robertson.

The flood of Moonie money, from very dubious, predominantly offshore sources, into the right wing, and, now, into the Islamic and African-American political leadership institutions in America, is a matter too big to ignore. It is time for the Congress and the Justice Department to take a long-overdue look into the multi-billion-dollar Moon pipeline of cash.

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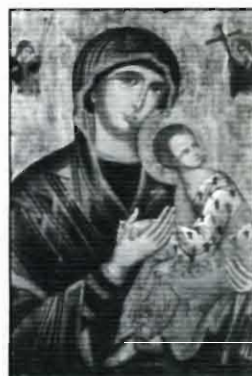
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