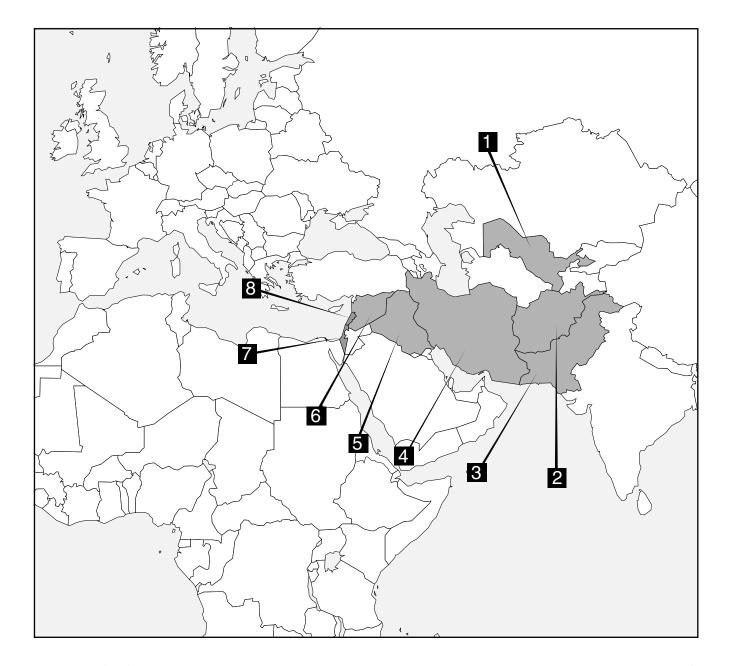
Strategic Map

Storms of Chaos Gather Over Asia

As Lyndon LaRouche warned in his near-prophetic "Storm over Asia" video in the Fall of 1999, the response of the international financial oligarchy to the monetary breakdown crisis would be to detonate firestorms of destabilization, especially in nations around the former Soviet Union. The geopolitical intent can be described as twofold: 1) breaking up the power, and even the nations, of major powers like Russia and China, in hopes of removing any blockage to consolidation of global empire; and 2) preventing the process of cooperation among Eurasian nations, which is establishing the political basis for a new world monetary system which would end the current system of globalized looting.

From this standpoint, it is a mistake to look at any particular point of strategic confrontation, such as Iran or Lebanon, as a crisis in itself. These blow-ups can only be seen as the product of a deliberate geopolitical provocation, by a Bush Administration gone mad, and acting on the script printed out



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by the global financial oligarchy.

In his 1999 show, LaRouche pointed out that the agents of much of this destabilization were deliberately created by British and U.S. intelligence, in the form of de facto mercenary armies, often funded through drug monies. With sponsors such as Zbigniew Brzezinski, Samuel P. Huntington, and Margaret Thatcher, they have created everything from terrorist groups, to "democracy movements," all of which have been used to try to subvert sovereign nation-states which the financial oligarchy believes to be threats to their rights to dictate policy to the planet. The object, however, has not been to put other regimes in place, so much as to create chaos, so that the global ruling elite can maintain its power.

LaRouche also stressed in his "Storm Over Asia" tape that one should not forget that this strategy is challenging the world's second greatest nuclear power, Russia, which might not always sit back and acquiesce.

We highlight recent major points of confrontation on the accompanying map, some of which you will find discussed in more detail in accompanying articles:

- **1. Uzbekistan:** The outbreak of bloody violence can be traced directly to assets of the British geopolitical mafia. Its ramifications affect both Russia and China.
- **2. Afghanistan:** Rioting against the U.S. was detonated by rumors of U.S. officials desecrating the Koran, but reflects a deeper growing resentment against the U.S. occupation, and may have been organized by the same British-based group that detonated unrest in Uzbekistan.
- **3. Pakistan:** Rioting against reported desecration of the Koran spread into border areas close to Afghanistan.
- **4. Iran:** The U.S.-led pressure, allegedly against Iran's nuclear program, is vectored toward a showdown in June. It also targets Russia, the supplier of Iran's nuclear reactor, and China, which depends upon Iran for a portion of its oil supplies.
- **5. Iraq:** The increasingly bloody insurgency against the U.S. occupation shows no signs of abating.
- **6. Syria:** Pressures on this close military ally of Russia are increasing on two pretexts: its alleged role in the insurgency in Iraq, and its alleged continued influence in Lebanon, despite its troop withdrawal.
- **7. Israel-Palestine:** Between renewed threats by Zionist fanatics to detonate a crisis around the al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's moves to pull the plug on the planned Israeli military withdrawal from Gaza, this situation continues to be a powder keg.
- **8. Lebanon:** The elections scheduled for May 29 could provide the setting for a renewed outbreak of violence. In the meantime, Israel has renewed overflights and shelling in Lebanon's south.

LaRouche: U.S. Must Withdraw From Iraq, Now

by Jeffrey Steinberg

American statesman and political economist Lyndon LaRouche has called on the Bush Administration to withdraw all American troops from Iraq immediately. Such a departure would probably require the interim establishment of an American zone, into which the U.S. forces could regroup, pending the logistical plans for the pullout.

LaRouche had earlier called for a several-year American mission, radically redefined to include accelerated training of Iraqi military and security forces, and an emphasis on U.S. Army Corp of Engineers' projects, to rebuild Iraq's destroyed infrastructure, but with primary emphasis on putting Iraq's own population back to meaningful work.

However, the continuing fiasco of the U.S. military engagement prompted LaRouche to revise his proposals. There is no longer any viable basis for a continued American presence, he recently told colleagues. The continued presence of the U.S. and other international occupation forces is only making things worse, and foreclosing any prospects of a viable governing arrangement among the Iraqis themselves.

'Operation Matador' a Failure

U.S. military sources, just returned from fact-finding tours of Iraq, have reported to Pentagon officials that the situation on the ground in Iraq is hopeless for American forces. The insurgents are operating in 70% of the country; American troops have been forced to mostly remain in the barracks, to avoid politically unacceptable levels of casualties. When they go out on patrols, they must travel in larger units, to be able to counter enemy attacks, and thus, the ability to cover major portions of the country is lost.

As one senior U.S. intelligence official told *EIR*: "We have 150,000 troops on the ground in Iraq, and the largest contingent of spies anywhere in the world, and we still don't know who the insurgents are."

Operation Matador, the just-concluded military counterinsurgency operation in western Iraq, near the Syrian border, has been hailed by the Pentagon as a total success. However, well-informed senior U.S. military officials say that, even though insurgents were routed from several villages after intense fighting, the U.S. has no force to leave behind to secure the area, and within days or weeks, the insurgents will be back.

One official told *EIR* that in one particularly heavy fire-fight in a village in al-Anbar province, American troops were

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