

Russians Put Forward Several SDE Proposals

Rachel Douglas, EIR Russia and Eastern Europe Editor, presented a video on IGMASS (International Global Monitoring Aerospace System) to the Schiller Institute Conference (the video-script follows.) Helga Zepp-LaRouche introduced Douglas.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche: I want to actually end with a presentation, or have presented, a video which was sent to us by [our collaborators in] Russia, from the IGMASS program, which is really the offer on the table. And the reason why we had this conference on the 30th anniversary of the SDI [Strategic Defense Initiative], was because we want to rally forces, especially in the United States, who answer positively to the proposals that Russia has put on the table. And I'm very happy to say that the Europeans have already agreed that they will study these proposals and cooperate with them.

So, I think I would like to ask Rachel Douglas to make a couple of remarks on the significance of this video which then will conclude this morning's panel.

Rachel Douglas: The very short video that we will see is actually Russian television coverage of the asteroid defense program called IGMASS, which stands for International Global Monitoring Aerospace System. And this is the group at which one of our speakers this morning, Ben Deniston, and Jason Ross [also of the LaRouchePAC science team], addressed their conference in Ukraine, last Fall, as actually the only U.S. representatives for an important international scientific discussion of this question. And they greet our conference and have asked us to look at the video featuring their work, as their contribution to it.

I just wanted to put that in a context. I'll talk real fast (maybe not as fast as 1993, at our SDI anniversary conference, when my speech started at 10 minutes to midnight after the fire drill!), but I wanted to put it in the context of the fact that there are on the table a whole range of Russian proposals, inclusively, not only on SDE [Strategic Defense of Earth], but on strategic [military] defense.

And it's really such a case of the tables turning, because back during the Andropov-Gorbachov period, one of the reasons they could get away with this, even in the Soviet establishment, which was not entirely in the pocket of the British, but included people who, since Marshal Sokolovsky's book in 1962 had held that lasers against ICBMs were an essential development—the reason they could get away with it, was total control of the media, saying that Reagan's SDI was an attempt to achieve a first-strike capability disarming the Soviet deterrent.

Today, we have an ironical situation, where, starting at the Vancouver summit in 1993, when even under the Yeltsin regime, some Russian representatives brought to the Yeltsin-Clinton summit in Vancouver, a proposal called "Trust," for a joint Russian-American anti-missile experiment. Since then, the Russians have had actually a whole string of such strategic proposals, which you don't know about unless you read *EIR* and monitor larouchepac.com, because they've been *as blacked out* in our media today, as the true intent of the LaRouche-Reagan SDI was in Russia 30 years ago. Those include, for example, Sept. 11, 2001, when then-Russian Prime Minister Putin was the first foreign leader to contact President George W. Bush—he actually spoke with Condoleezza Rice, the Secretary of State, after the attacks on our country, and said, "We know what's going on; we are taking all our nuclear force alerts down, and cancelling all scheduled exercises, because we realize that this could be a danger to world peace, and we want a strategic collaboration."

Instead of that, under the guidance of Vice President Cheney, the United States *did* exit the ABM Treaty (which was lousy, but that's another whole story), and said, "Now we're going to take missile defense," which as Jeff [Steinberg] pointed out, *was no longer* what Reagan had envisioned with the SDI! So, "we're going to take missile defense and we're going to set up a global shield," ostensibly against potential attack from Iran or elsewhere. But the Russian strategists and the Chinese strategists saw it as aimed as a threat to their deterrent.

So, in 2007, Putin came to Kennebunkport, met

with Bush, the second Bush, and proposed *joint deployment* of anti-missile defense between not the United States and NATO, but *the United States and Russia*, against any potential threats. So far, the United States has said, “We’ll talk about it, but we won’t allow it. We will not allow an actually jointly operated program.” And therefore, those Russian proposals are still on the table, at the same time that Chief of Staff Gerasimov and others have underscored that they perceive not only Phase 4 but *Phase 3* of the phased implementation anti-missile program, the BMD program, as a threat to Russia’s deterrent, the Topol-M regiment based in Teykovo, north of Moscow.

So the several strategic defense proposals are on the table, *as is* the SDE proposal which will be a much-expanded version of what the nice people from IGMASS have asked you to look at today.