LaRouche: Bush in 'flight forward' from financial collapse

Lyndon LaRouche made the following comments on Aug. 14 regarding the policy background to the heating up of the Persian Gulf crisis. See also pages 28 and 37 for further observations by him regarding the strategic situation.

The fact to be featured urgently, at this moment, is that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Gulf caddy, President George Bush, has rushed back from the golf fields in Kennebunkport to Washington, to carry the bag for Mrs. Thatcher's military escalation in the Middle East.

The following facts are to be emphasized:

First of all, as has been made clear by press reports and also by statements from the French government, the United States and Britain, in conducting a military blockade, i.e., an act of war, have gone beyond, and thus violated, the United Nations' earlier order in this affair. They are, in a sense, doing it on their own, putatively on the prompting of the ousted Emir of Kuwait.

The French, and others, are now rushing to distance themselves from the United States on this matter, as is Moscow.

What this represents, is what is called in military science, a "flight forward" by George Bush, who is seeking, obviously, a refuge from the collapse of the U.S. economy, by a

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dangerous military adventure in the Middle East.

The facts are as follows.

The entirety of this particular form of conflict was initiated, not by Saddam Hussein of Iraq, but by British intelligence. The name, rank, and serial number, of the British intelligence operatives controlling the present government of Israel, and orchestrating the Arab reactions, are known. If somebody is to be held to blame for the conflict in the Middle East at this time, it is the British Establishment—particularly a section of the Establishment which includes Hollinger, Maxwell, et al., and Lord Carrington, of course: Henry Kissinger's friends.

This is extremely dangerous. It turns the Middle East into something analogous to the Balkans on the eve of World War I. George Bush is in over his head, way over his head. He has no understanding of how history works; he's working from a blind, personalist conception, seeing himself as the virtual emperor, and demanding that everyone get in line with whatever caprice he has just recently emitted from his mouth. This is dangerous; it is out of control; and, Mrs. Thatcher, apparently, is controlling George Bush every step of the way. This is a dangerous and disgusting situation.

There is a way out

What we are going to have to do, if we wish a way out of this mess, is to come down a bit, and look at the offer which Saddam Hussein has made, or the proposal he has made, for implementing *all* of the U.N.O. resolutions, and the spirit of those resolutions outstanding, on the Middle East. That is: Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, including those in Lebanon; Syrian withdrawal from the occupied territories in Lebanon; and, so forth and so on, including the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. Such a course of action, such an initiative, would tend to bring the situation in the Middle East under control, and take it down from the present point, at which it is a cockpit for potential larger war, in which it is already a cockpit of inspiration for outbursts of international terrorism, on perhaps an unprecedented scale, right now.

So, if George Bush will come to his senses, we will back down from this a bit, and go to find a Western nation to sponsor what Saddam Hussein has offered, perhaps coming from a different source than Saddam Hussein, and go to work on it, with the idea of re-orchestrating the process of developing an Arab initiative, on the Iraq and related problems—an initiative which is keynoted by the proposition: The time has come to clean up the Middle East mess. That is, Israel out of the occupied territories, including those of Lebanon; Syria out of occupied territories in Lebanon; a straightening out of the remains of the Iraq-Iran war; and Iraq's pullout from the area of Kuwait.

That would be a statesmanlike act; that would be an end to George Bush's present, highly dangerous flight forward posture.