

holding of oil and gas supplies has already plunged Ukraine into its worst winter catastrophe since the World War II. Across the nation, lack of energy has forced the wholesale closure of factories. Homes go unheated in bitter cold. School classes are cancelled for the same reason. Electricity is rationed in most cities to several hours per day.

The escalation was signaled by Yeltsin on Dec. 15 in his meeting in Moscow with U.S. Vice President Albert Gore, where once again the superpowers used the phony nuclear arms issue to slander Ukraine and cover their intent to subject Ukraine to genocidal destruction. Yeltsin blustered, "Ukraine is deceiving all of us; it is deceiving the United States, Russia, Europe, deceiving the entire world, and we are so helpless that we are not dealing with this evil."

Unfortunately, some leading Ukrainians do not yet see that the Anglo-American group is even more evil. The reaction of Dmitro Pavlychko, chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the parliament, typifies this. "I believe that many in the West will now better understand our position on disarmament questions," he said, referring to why Ukraine has been reluctant to surrender the nuclear weapons on its territory. Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Tarasyuk expressed the Kiev government's concern over the high vote Zhirinovskiy received from officers and sailors of the Black Sea Fleet.

The reaction was even stronger in the small Baltic republics, who know that Zhirinovskiy's program calls for their reconquest. Zhirinovskiy has made statements such as, "Who has oil, has power. When I'm President, in three days, there'll be no more Latvia." Estonian Prime Minister Mart Laar said, "Our worst prognoses have come true." He blamed the West for the result: "If the West now believes that Zhirinovskiy now will not be so dangerous, then there will be a development threatening like in Germany in the 1930s. However, if the West has learned from history, then nothing tragic need happen." On Dec. 15, the Presidents of the three Baltic republics met in the Estonian capital of Tallinn to discuss the Russian situation. Estonia is especially nervous. Although only 25% of its ethnic Russians took part in the Russian elections, 60% of them voted for Zhirinovskiy.

The mood in Belarus among those still hoping to cling to independence is completely bleak. The government, prime minister, President, and official press are silent. A pro-independence Minsk daily commented that if Zhirinovskiy ever became President of Russia, he wouldn't have to reconquer Belarus, he would merely have to appoint a governor. The independent newspaper *Zvyazda* wrote, "The victory of the Reds and Browns means the end of Belorussian independence."

The situation, however, is not necessarily hopeless. Often in the course of history, a shock, which may be provided this time by the Zhirinovskiy vote, may alert enough people to the dangers and thereby start to force through the types of policy changes required to shift humanity away from the fate of a global war.

Interview: Lyndon LaRouche

Dump the free trade insanity toward Russia

Lyndon LaRouche made the following comments on the weekly radio program "EIR Talks" on Dec. 15.

Forget Mr. Yeltsin. He didn't do all well or all badly. The problem is, that the U.S. media coverage of this thing is absolute childishness, infantile irrelevance; and the State Department, while a little bit shaky in their coverage of the elections, are trying to keep up a stiff upper lip or something; and they're pretending to go along with the usual nonsense about the Russian elections; about "Yeltsin up," "Yeltsin down," that kind of nonsense, which the rest of the news media is doing. . . .

The reality is something which anyone would understand who had read my reports on the Third Rome tendency in Russia from the spring of 1983, or who might recall a half-hour program on the subject of the Third Rome which was broadcast as a part of my 1984 presidential primary campaign. He would know more about the current Russian elections from those two pieces of my production back in the 1983-84 period, than he would know from paying any attention to any of the news reports. . . .

Very simply, President Boris Yeltsin, with the bloody coup of Oct. 4 shutting down the Parliament and throwing away the Constitution, which was actually planned four days in advance, became totally dependent upon the people who made the coup for him, that is, on the consent of those forces in the military and security forces which went along with him.

So Yeltsin, in a sense, *has no independent power*. He is owned by the military and security forces. That's his constituency, that is who rules Russia today. The leading candidate, [Vladimir] Zhirinovskiy, the one who causes the nervousness in the stomachs of the State Department, is an outright, avowed, imperial Third Romer. He is also a creature politically of the Russian military and security forces. However, he reflects their policy more accurately than does Yeltsin.

Yeltsin is being used by the military and security forces because the West wants him; and therefore, in order to placate Washington and London in particular, the Russian military and security forces are engaged in a time-buying operation. They're keeping their figurehead, Yeltsin, totally owned by them, up there as part of their arrangements with London and Washington, *arrangements which are not permanent*. . . .

Washington has the idea that you get elected, you have an agenda, you think you have a constituency for it, you think that by political controls and other things you can ram

it through. You don't pay any attention, according to the current trends in Washington—as was true under Bush and even somewhat before Bush—that if your policy is wrong, it has an *effect*, an effect you won't like. So these fellows in Washington think that the game is *to win for their policy, even if it kills them*. And that's what we're seeing in the Russian situation.

The Russians are reacting on the basis of a cultural paradigm which is called the Third Rome or peasant cultural paradigm embedded in the majority of the Russian people. You squeeze them from the outside world, as with these kinds of austerity measures, this shock therapy, these International Monetary Fund (IMF) conditionalities; you starve them, you loot them, which is what's happening to them, and they become angry at the outside world.

When they become angry at the outside world, what bubbles up is what Dostoevsky described, what others have described, as a Third Rome paradigm. That acts through institutions such as the military and the security forces, especially the military; and those institutions go into what is called a Third Rome: To the devil with the rest of the world, the rest of the world is the enemy; we must exert Russian power, we must make Russia supreme on this planet, it's the only way we can be safe. That is what is happening in Russia. It has nothing to do with a Third Rome faction, or any of that sort of nonsense; it has to do with the basic, intrinsic character of the Russian cultural problem. And if people in Washington would pay attention to that, and stop playing their little utopian games, they would be a lot better off on this.

Now, the other side of this is the economic policy, which was put into effect in the name of monetarism, in the name of people like Milton Friedman; the present Harvard crowd; the people behind derivatives; the Bush faction, that is, the crowd around Bush which in 1982 pushed through the advanced financial deregulation that led to the looting of the savings and loans and other banks.

This crowd is going with a program which the British approved which is called Project Democracy, called democracy plus free trade, which is an insane policy. Forget the words, look at what it really means. And as long as the United States is running on the basis of that policy, we are destroying our own economy by asset-stripping. We are destroying other economies by asset-stripping; we are destroying the Russian economy and eastern Europe by asset-stripping. It is that asset-stripping policy which runs under the banners of democracy plus free trade. It is that policy which is driving a thermonuclear power, Russia, to reconsolidate itself around its military and security forces, with figures in Moscow who represent, as Yeltsin does, or the other leading candidates, *nothing but* figures whose destinies are controlled by this military-industrial complex. And that is what's happening, and that is what Washington does not wish to see.

Washington says, "Yeltsin is good." Why? Because he's pushing our economic policy.

Well, to the degree Yeltsin is doing that, *we are headed*

Zhirinovsky and the emerging 'Third Rome'

Liberal Democratic Party leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky epitomizes the emergence of a "Third Rome" outlook in Russia, i.e., that Moscow will be the center of a third and final Roman Empire. In an interview on North German Radio, before the Dec. 12 elections, he said:

● "If a German looks at Russia the wrong way when I am in the Kremlin, you Germans will pay for all that we Russians have built up in Germany. We will create new Hiroshimas and Nagasakis. I will not hesitate to deploy atomic weapons."

● "You will get your own Chernobyl in Germany," he said at the same interview.

From earlier statements:

● "I say quite plainly. When I come to power, there will be dictatorship. I will beat the Americans in space. I will surround the planet with our space stations so they'll be scared of our space weapons. I don't care if they call me a fascist or a Nazi," Zhirinovsky said at the Kremlin in 1991.

● "I'll bury radioactive waste along the Lithuanian borders and put up powerful fans and blow the stuff across the border at night. . . . They'll all get radiation sickness. They'll . . . either die of it or get down on their knees. . . . What I'm going to do is bad, but it'll be good for Russia," Zhirinovsky said at a parliamentary session soon after the August 1991 Soviet coup.

● "There's nothing like fear to make people work better. . . . Those who have to be arrested will be arrested quietly, at night. I may have to shoot 100,000, but the other 300 million will live peacefully," Zhirinovsky said at the Kremlin in 1991.

● "We side with the Serbs. Our position is clear: The Serbs must be saved. They are our Orthodox brethren."

for World War III. Not tomorrow, not the next day, but down the line, if it continues in this direction. And we're headed for the kind of government in Russia which will hate us, which will be as bitter and as effective an adversary—perhaps more effective—than the old communist dictatorship. And Washington is refusing to see that plain, simple fact.

We can have one of two choices in Russia, and time is running out. If we dump this so-called free trade policy and go back to the kind of policies we in the United States had prior to the assassination of Kennedy, then we can come out of this. If we don't, we're headed for hell.