Editorial

Between Good And Bad Angels

As of Nov. 1, the anti-terror strategy of bombing Afghanistan was evidently a failure, and the dangerous breed called "neo-Conservatives" were raising a drumbeat in Washington, for what is called in military parlance a "flight forward." They were demanding that the Bush Administration stop "dithering" with Afghanistan, attack Iran, Iraq, and Syria, and issue war threats to Malaysia, Indonesia, and even Saudi Arabia. In other words, act imperially and deliberately pursue an armed "clash of civilizations."

This flight forward, as "exit strategy" from a failed bombing campaign, was in direct opposition to the change in policy being publicly recommended by Lyndon LaRouche. LaRouche was telling the White House, urgently: Stop the Afghanistan bombing now and change course to the "home front": Attack the flanks of international terrorism by attacking drug trafficking, gun running, and money laundering; rebuild U.S. national sanitation/public health capabilities against epidemic disease and bio-terrorism; start a determined push for Mideast peace.

At a Carnegie Endowment even in Washington on Oct. 30, Richard Perle and Robert Kagan of the neo-Conservative faction, which intersects the Israeli rightwing military factions, showed the link between this "flight forward" strategy and the attacks themselves, of Sept. 11 and following. They said they hoped the "losing" American strategy could be changed after *a second attack on the United States*, "in a hard way, in a devastating way" (Kagan); "at that point we will move very quickly...with an entirely new, military and other political grand strategy." Recently Kagan, Perle, Michael Ledeen, and others of this powerful faction have been publicly calling, as well, for the radical overthrow of the Saudi royal family—a major objective of Osama bin Laden!

For Perle, the shadowiest of this crowd, this was a direct attack on the administration he belongs to: He is a director of policy planning in the Defense Department.

But more broadly, this statement of intent of those

neo-Conservatives who also want an aggressive Israeli military breakaway from U.S. restraint, shows this political faction—including its Israeli military components—to have had a strong *interest* in the events of Sept. 11 themselves. This was pointed to publicly by LaRouche on a radio interview the morning of Sept. 11, when he warned of the policy-intent of stampeding a destabilized Bush Administration into support of a religious war against the whole Islamic world, spearheaded by the Sharon-Israeli Defense Forces leadership in Israel.

The Perle crowd know quite well that their frenzied policy-advice is being directly and effectively opposed by Lyndon LaRouche. At a similar event on the previous day, Oct. 29, LaRouche associate Bill Jones of *EIR* commented from the audience to Perle and other neo-Conservative speakers that their proposals were manifestly "nuts." They were giving indirect confirmation, Jones pointed out, that the terrorist attacks may be perpetrated for the purpose of preparing police-state measures at home, and an all-out war against Islam. Former CIA Director James Woolsey's shouted rejoinder was revealing: "These are the views of Lyndon LaRouche! These are the views of Lyndon LaRouche, aren't they?"

These are the two opposed alternatives before the Bush White House, in response to the growing acknowledgement that the knee-jerk bombing of Afghanistan is a failure.

The neo-Conservatives, with the Brzezinski-Kissinger "geopoliticians" lurking behind them, are demanding a "flight forward" which will very rapidly plunge the United States into a new and terrible "Hundred Years War."

LaRouche is proposing an "exit strategy" for the President, an immediate turn from futile and destructive bombing, to attacks on the *flanks* of the enemy. It is a policy that will work, and can rapidly win the grateful support of an American population beseiged by economic collapse, war, and terror at the same time. It is the President's only sane choice.

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