Editorial

Pearl Harbor Day and the Will To Fight

It was 70 years ago this week, when Americans woke up on Dec. 7 to find that we had been subject to the Japanese surprise attack at Pearl Harbor. From that moment on, the United States was set on the course of war, a war which changed the world for the better, and turned us into a superpower with immense power for good.

Today, as we seem to be approaching the nadir of our national life, we would do well to recall certain lessons from that horrific event.

First, it should be understood that in 1941, the global fascist onslaught by the marcher-lord nations, Germany and Japan, had already been underway for more than two years. Enormous devastation and suffering had been inflicted, and the danger of a global takeover by these forces of evil loomed large. President Franklin Roosevelt was well aware of this reality, and had been doing everything that he possibly could, within political and legal constraints, to provide support for those waging a resistance.

But, until the Pearl Harbor attack, FDR was unable to muster sufficient support to actively join the war against Germany and Japan. He knew that the United States was also a prime target of the fascist legions, and he had periodically briefed the American people in his Fireside Chats, on the nature of the assault on human civilization which they represented. He also knew that, even within his own military, there was fierce resistance to mobilizing against fascism. There had to be a shock, in order to get people to face reality—and Pearl Harbor provided it.

Could there be a parallel to today, when we are again under fascist assault, this time by a globalized British Empire-run financial system, and yet our leading institutions and people are unwilling to fight?

The second lesson, however, is that, in the face

of that attack, and under FDR's leadership, the American people were prepared to take up the fight, to sacrifice their lives and living standards for the sake of future generations, not only here in the U.S., but around the world. As Lyndon La-Rouche has often recounted, the world changed dramatically on that Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941, when American citizens decided they finally had to take responsibility to act.

Under what circumstances can the American people be inspired to undergo that same kind of transformation today?

Clearly, we cannot afford to wait for an assault, such as that which occurred on Pearl Harbor Day. We've already seen such an attack in the form of the 9/11 terror assault. But, under the misleadership of Bush and Cheney, we never publicly acknowledged the real enemy behind those attacks—the British Empire and its Saudi handmaidens. The shock did not arouse us to take the necessary measures to restore our nation, in alliance with others, but rather was used by our enemies to get us to reject our heritage, and virtually become a police state. It was a Reichstag fire, not a Pearl Harbor.

Today, the shock that will turn us into patriots willing to fight for the highest ideas of our nation, must come within the mind. Already, this shock is hitting certain layers of our military, who see with horror, that a British puppet President is leading us to World War III. There are signs that this recognition is spreading to other leading circles who see how Obama's dictatorship is destroying our nation. But the pace is dangerously slow.

The real challenge faces us all: To mobilize the nation in defense of the principles of our Constitution with all our mental and physical powers, *before* it is too late.

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