

Crazed London Steps Up Attacks on Argentina

by Cynthia R. Rush

Jan. 21—London’s repeated provocations and wild accusations that Argentina is preparing an attack against the Malvinas Islands, which the British call the Falklands, suggest that the British Empire could unleash military conflict in yet another region of the planet to serve its global strategic goals.

In a Jan. 18 speech before the British Parliament, Prime Minister David Cameron bellowed that he had convened his National Security Council, which includes the top military brass, in order to send “a clear message” that *Argentina* should stop acting like a “colonial aggressor”!

As Prince William will be deployed as part of the British military presence on the Malvinas for six weeks beginning in February, on the eve of the 30th anniversary of Britain’s 1982 colonial war against Argentina, Cameron announced menacingly that he had ordered the Islands’ military forces to be beefed up, and prepared contingency plans to send a rapid deployment force to the South Atlantic, in the event that Argentina attempted a military attack.

The Prime Minister’s deranged message, which brought immediate denunciations from voices around Ibero-America, is the latest in a series of provocations directed at Argentina over the past several months, causing tensions to intensify. What is driving London’s belligerence?

It’s not just that Argentina continues to claim sovereignty over the Malvinas—even though the British *did* steal the islands outright from Argentina in 1833, in blatant violation of the U.S.’s Monroe Doctrine.

Rather, at the moment that the British Empire’s bankrupt monetary system is breaking apart, Argentina stands as an “in your face” example of a country that successfully defied the City of London, and repudiated those criminal monetarist policies which brought it to its knees in the late 1990s, and led to the largest debt default in history, in December of 2001.

Then-President Néstor Kirchner, who took office in the midst of a catastrophic crisis in 2003, and then his wife and successor, President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, insisted that their nation had the *sovereign* right to economic, scientific, and technological development—that is, a future for their people. They put human

beings' welfare first, ahead of honoring debt paper. The 75% write-down Argentina achieved in its 2005 debt restructuring earned it London's eternal hatred.

In 1982, as Britain pursued its savage colonial war against Argentina for daring to retake the Malvinas in April of that year, Lyndon LaRouche identified that war as a precedent for NATO out-of-area deployments to collect debt. Similarly today, the British are determined to unleash wars and smash the *principle of sovereignty* everywhere, to defend their dying system. The City of London knows that, were the crisis-wracked nations of Europe to follow the Argentine model, by wiping out their speculative debt, this would mean the Empire's demise.

Hence the crazed shrieks of "Greece is *not* Argentina" heard in London over the past period, whenever an analyst suggested that Greece should reject austerity and restructure its debt the way Néstor Kirchner did.

'Britain Synonymous with Colonialism'

Since the current occupant of the White House is unlikely to respond to the Empire's provocative behavior by invoking the Monroe Doctrine, it has been left to Argentina and other Ibero-American governments to say what British tool Barack Obama won't.

"Great Britain is synonymous with colonialism," Argentine Foreign Minister Héctor Timerman pointed out in a Jan. 18 response to Cameron's ravings. He added the next day that the best response to the Prime Minister's accusation would be "to send him a history book as a gift," as Cameron had clearly never studied British history. "It makes no sense that the country that was the symbol of colonialism in the 17th, 18th, 19th, and even the 20th Century, would accuse a country that has been the victim of that colonialism. People are laughing at this." The only option for Britain now, is to enter "into direct negotiations with Argentina" over the Malvinas.

Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil, Peru, and several Central American nations all quickly issued statements supporting Argentina's claim to sovereignty over



Fernando Gens/Telam/cf

Argentine President Cristina Fernández is hated by the British for defending her nation's sovereignty.

the Malvinas, naming Britain as the colonial aggressor.

Britain is out for more than "defending" its colonial enclave in the region, however. Foreign Secretary William Hague has been blunt in recent weeks, saying that Britain intends to reestablish the direct domination it "enjoyed" over Ibero-America as a whole in the 19th Century.

The imperial offensive includes securing Brazil once again as Britain's key strategic asset in the region, the colonial role relegated to Brazil since the Portuguese royal family was carried to Brazilian shores on British warships in 1807 to set up a would-be Brazilian "empire." During his two-day visit there Jan. 18-19, Hague trumpeted during a speech that "the days of Britain's retreat from Latin America are over.... We have begun Britain's most ambitious effort to strengthen ties

with Latin America in 200 years."

A few days before his trip, Hague had told the *Daily Telegraph* that Britain is especially interested in Brazil, and bragged of the Cameron government's "trebling, quadrupling of our effort ... into the relationship with Brazil." His trip was the opening of a "U.K.-Brazil strategic dialogue," with the Malvinas, Iran, and Syria, high on the agenda.

But given the breathtaking collapse of the trans-Atlantic financial system, Brazil may not find a strategic alliance with the decaying British Empire to be to its advantage.

During the joint Jan. 18 press conference held by Hague and his Brazilian counterpart Antonio Patriota, the latter did not join Britain's anti-Argentina crusade, pointedly stating that "Hague knows that Brazil, UNASUR [the Union of South American Nations], and I would say, the whole Latin American community and the Caribbean ... support Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas, and we support the UN resolutions which urge the British and Argentine governments to dialogue on this issue." Clearly not pleased, Hague could only sputter nonsense about "self-determination of the people of the Falkland Islands."