

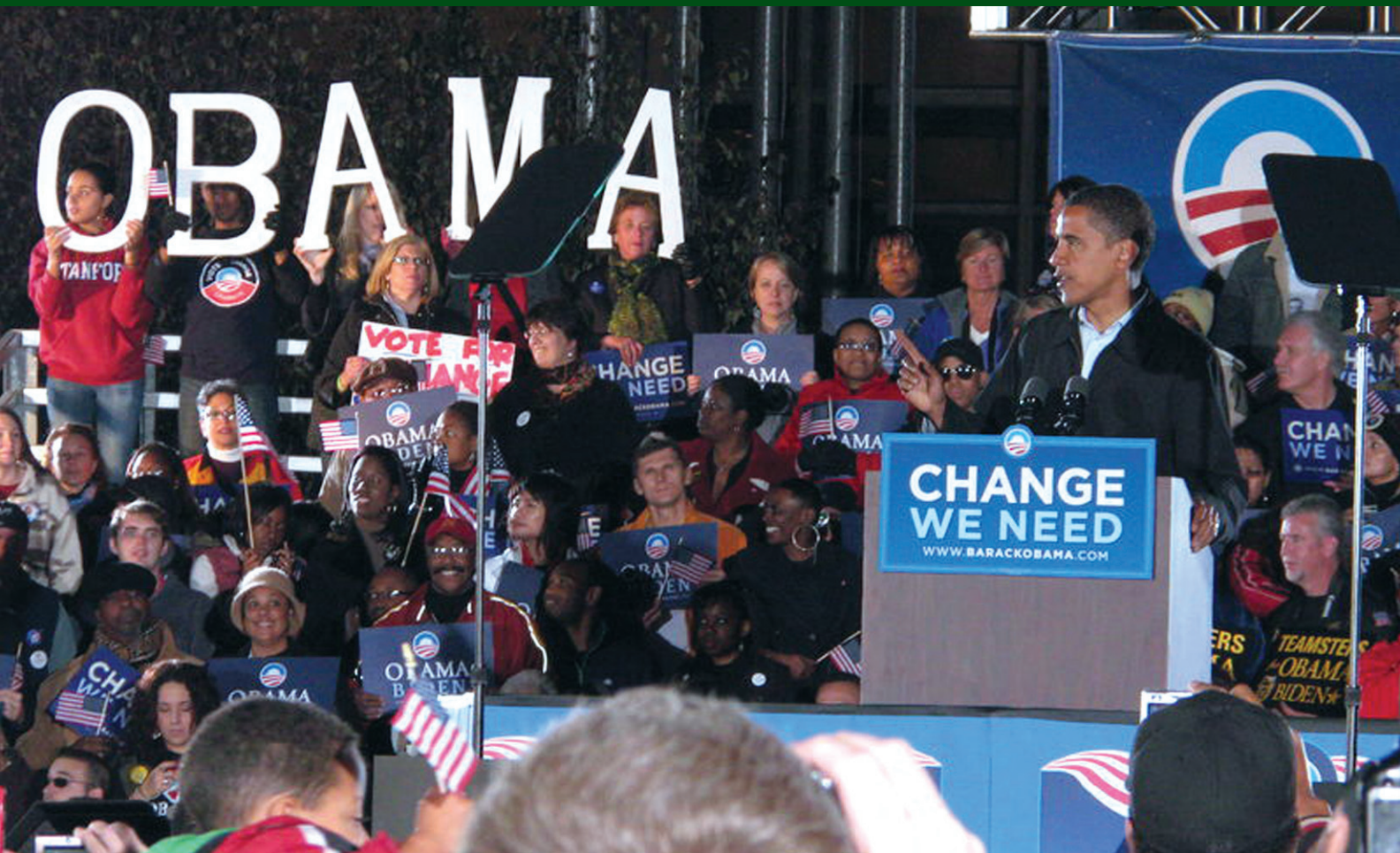
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Joint Chiefs, LPAC Take Lead in Drive To Stop World War
Rep. Walter Jones to Obama: 'Abide by Our Constitution'
Glass-Steagall Raised at Jackson Hole Bankers' Meet

When Democracy Becomes Tyranny: A Warning to Patriots



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EIR

From the Managing Editor

Is it possible, even now, for the United States to elect a President other than Barack Obama or Mitt Romney? No one would deny the difficulty; but on Dec. 6, 1941, who would have thought that President Franklin Roosevelt could have persuaded the nation to go to war? We hope to convince you that the fight has to be waged, even at this late hour.

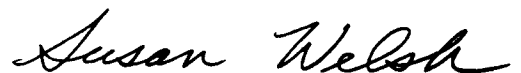
First though, I bring your attention to a new video from LaRouchePAC, “Unsurvivable” (<http://larouchepac.com/unsurvivable>). It presents, in 35 minutes, the full horror of the thermonuclear war to which President Obama is currently leading the world.

Our three news leads approach the war danger from various angles. In *Economics*, Helga Zepp-LaRouche emphasizes that the combined push for hyperinflation and drumbeat for war put the world on a trajectory like that which preceded the two prior world wars—with the situation in Southwest Asia looking like the Balkan chessboard in 1914. In *International* we report in greater depth on Obama’s war drive, as well as the opposition to it from the U.S. military. In *National*, we highlight the open letter to Obama from Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.), insisting that he obey the Constitution’s requirement that Congress approve any declaration of war—a requirement which, if violated, must result in impeachment.

Why, then, is there no gigantic anti-war movement in the streets? Why is there no determined effort in Congress to impeach this President? Nancy Spannaus takes on the core problem in our *Feature*: the catering to “popular opinion” (aka “democracy”) by the Congress and others, instead of providing actual republican leadership based on truth, reason, and the general welfare.

Recent statements by Jonathan Turley and Bruce Fein—both of who are civil libertarians and constitutional lawyers—give powerful arguments against Obama’s “assault on American liberty.” Our synopsis makes the case that Obama’s war crimes are beyond anything G.W. Bush ever dreamed of.

With so much grim news in the world, don’t miss the *Science* coverage of Neil Armstrong’s life, and the continuation of his mission in the Curiosity Mars rover victory; and the article on Russia’s ambitious proposals to develop the Arctic region.



Cover This Week

*A Bruce
Springstein
Bacchanalia for
candidate
Obama, Nov. 2,
2008.*



Creative Commons

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Will the United States, even the world, survive the Presidency of that “democrat” Barack Obama? asks Nancy Spannaus, who reviews the case against “democracy,” drawing on American and world history, to show that the manipulation of citizens by “popular opinion,” also known as “democracy,” is at least as old as ancient Greece, viz, the judicial murder of Socrates by the mob. Today, we have the British imperial puppet Obama, who, like the traitor Andrew Jackson before him, appeals to the “popular will,” while trampling on the principles embedded in our Constitution.

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As foolish Democrats were herded into the Convention to renominate Obama, LPAC released a videodocumentary titled “Unsurvivable,” which presents a frightening but true picture of the threat of thermonuclear war and its consequences, as the centerpiece of a mobilization to defeat those plans. LaRouchePAC’s campaign dovetails with the war-avoidance efforts of top military figures in the U.S. as well as Russia and China.

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When Democracy Becomes Tyranny: A Warning to Patriots

by Nancy Spannaus

Aug. 31—Will the United States survive the Presidency of that “democrat” Barack Obama? For that matter, will the world survive? Not if current trends, particularly those in the thinking of the currently leading political circles of the United States, continue to reign.

Only look at those travesties called the national political party conventions, to see the horrifying degeneration of a culture in which would-be political leaders pander to an increasingly ignorant, cowardly population which is ready to accept dictatorship.

We have to admit that the current trends run very deep. Ever since the days of Andrew Jackson, who is still much viewed as the virtual “patron saint” of the Democratic Party and, in fact, of American populists on the right and the left, the dominant political philosophy has been to pledge allegiance to the creed of democracy, and set this nation on a pathway to destruction. For “democracy” is the very antithesis of the concept of the *republic* upon which this nation was based. *The rule of democracies leads directly to the triumph of tyranny.*

The American Founding Fathers knew that; Plato knew it; and, it is about time that the the leaders of today’s United States learned it—before we go into a disaster that could lead to the disintegration of our nation, and thus our planet.

The irony is this:

Obama, even more flagrantly than his predecessor, and Cheney’s toy, George W. Bush, is in fact moving the nation inexorably toward a dictatorship, one in which Obama has thrust aside the rules (and principles) that were established by the U.S. Constitution, under the claim of protecting the interests of the American people. Whereas, while Bush and Cheney had used the mere name of “national security” as their pretext, Obama, has gone to heretofore unseen limits, with his claims of “we can’t wait.” He



White House photo/Pete Souza

With a demagogic appeal to “the people,” Obama is moving toward a full-fledged dictatorship. In fact, history shows that the rule of democracy lawfully leads to the triumph of tyranny. Here, Obama in October 2011 speaking to youth in Emporia, Va.

pretends to be “saving” the U.S. population by exercising merely alleged Executive powers which are, in fact, violations of the Constitution. All this being done “in the name of the popular will.”

The so-called “democratic” system thus put into place has led to such a state of paralysis and conflict on the policy front, while people are terrified into a virtual stupor, and tolerate lies of politicians from all parties, that the conditions have been created which allow an Obama to continue to destroy the last shreds of what had once been our Constitutional system.

The Danger that Must Be Prevented

The danger is imminent: The powers sponsoring Obama in this dictatorial course of action are the contemporary representatives of an oligarchical system modelled axiomatically on the series of Mediterranean imperialist systems represented, successively, by the original Roman Empire, Byzantium, and the original and New Venetian imperial Empire, a presently almost global system of virtually global, political and financial control over the community of nations.

It is a system now centered in such locations as the U.S. Presidencies since the beginning of this new century, together with the British monarchy and its subordinated political and economic systems exerting virtually dictatorial control over the present European continen-

tal system. It is a system committed, as the British monarchy has aptly described its policy, to extermination of the human race, through “greenie” policies which that monarchy has identified as representing a commitment to the rapid, ongoing genocide among nations, whose intent is to reduce the human population from an estimated 7 billion people, to approximately 1 billion. Such a policy leads inexorably to depopulation, and global thermonuclear war.

I am referring, of course, to that British financial oligarchy which is centered around the British monarchy, and which controls Obama. But, because Obama is appealing to the “democratic will” of the people, not policies or principles, this reality is not directly addressed, and most people choose to ignore it.

This model, again, is nothing new. “Democratic” leaders (some would say demagogues) have repeatedly been the vehicles for mustering popular or populist support for policies that will enslave and destroy those whom they are allegedly championing.

The American Founding Fathers, most of whom had carefully studied the history of ancient Rome and Greece, had attempted to establish a system that would avoid precisely this pitfall. They wished to have no political parties whatsoever, and no pure democracy. But no formalisms, such as the separation of powers, would do the job, *if the population itself has lost the concept of the republic.*

In a republic, the people have sovereignty, but are committed to both understanding and implementing the *public good*—something which the adherents to “democracy” deny as even existing as a knowable scientific principle. To the “democrats,” of whatever political party, the public good is only an average of what “public opinion” might be at a certain period of time, a public opinion which can become increasingly manipulated, especially in a mass-media-dominated society, such as ours has tended to become, more and more, today.

Democratic stupidity, as it is so rampant today, could now lead to the death of us all.

‘The People’

Unfortunately, even in the most successful periods of our republic—the best that’s ever existed—republican principles and modes of thinking did not dominate the popular mind. Rather, it took the extraordinary lead-

ership of a few political leaders, such as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, to mobilize the people behind the correct policies that would put the country on the course to progress. They ruled from the standpoint of principle, “deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,” as the Declaration of Independence specifies.

Contrast the Fireside Chats of FDR, where he patiently explained the Constitutional reasoning behind the decisions he was making on banking, infrastructure development, and even war-fighting, with the depraved pandering which the American population now accepts as political leadership, or campaigning. That kind of leadership, which was echoed by President Kennedy in his discussions of our mission to space and water infrastructure development, provided the basis for Americans to move out of the stupidity of tradition, and make breakthroughs that have been crucial for all mankind.

But, today, outside a handful of leaders around the world, including in the LaRouche movement, there is no leadership, no mission, no high standard set for political action. An appeal to “the people” is worse than useless. Without leadership, informed by republican and scientific principles, and fortified with courage, leadership which *rejects* opinion polls and the lure of popularity, we will not survive.

As I shall show in two crucial cases—Classical Greece, and the Andrew Jackson era in the United States—the triumph of “democracy” as a political paradigm necessarily heralds the degeneration of a society into tyranny. Armed with that knowledge, today’s patriots must gain the courage to stand up against the trend, starting with disarming Obama in order to prevent nuclear war, but then proceeding to restore the principles of our republic, before it is too late for our nation’s survival.

Plato Knew the Score

All good law or government must presume that it is truth, not opinion, which must reign in a form of government qualified to survive. The famous European



In a republic, leadership involves raising up the population through informed dialogue. Exemplary was the Presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, shown here socializing with government officials, and the workers, at a Civilian Conservation Corps camp.

empires, such as those of ancient Rome and Byzantium, that of old Venice, and that of the New Venetian system of such as the William of Orange who crushed the Massachusetts Bay Colony, have been intrinsically evil systems for exactly this principal reason.

The principle which implicitly satisfies such a requirement, is the unique quality of the human species which no other living species has demonstrated. Mankind, the species of “fire-burners” which succeeds through the successive discoveries of a physical increase of human productivity through successive stages of “energy-flux density” of usable power, presents us with the evidence for true success of the specific mission on which human progress and survival depend.

Thus, “truth” can never be honestly defined by mere popular opinion. It is the survival of the human species through successive increases of its power per-capita, which permits the progress of the condition of the human individual, and that survival, and progress of man’s power to overcome the adversities with which not only the human species, but our Solar System itself, challenge our powers to progress. Truth, not opinion, must prevail to that end. It is the urgency of sustaining a relentless commitment to the improvement of the life of the human species, of the respective nations, and of

the development of the individual's powers of creativity employed to those ends, which measures truth in practice, per capita and per square kilometer.

On precisely that account, Plato knew from bitter personal experience the disaster represented by the rule of democracy. I refer to the condemnation and execution in 399 B.C. of Plato's mentor Socrates. Socrates was convicted of "corrupting the youth" and "impiety" by a jury of hundreds of Athenian citizens, under the influence of the Democratic Party demagogues of the time. As you can read in his *The Apology*, Plato's reproduction of Socrates' speech to the jury, the 70-year-old teacher refused to kowtow to public opinion in any way, shape, or form, and went uncomplainingly to his death.

While Plato does not directly reference this particular travesty of justice in the discussion of democracy in his ten-book dialogue, *The Republic*, it is impossible to conclude that it did not affect his negative view of that political system. Others, of course, have either implicitly or explicitly attacked Socrates for his arrogance in not propitiating democratic norms, concluding that he actually deserved to die. That's the "democratic" way: Go along with the majority, also known as public opinion, no matter what the truth of the matter, or suffer the consequences.

Plato's discussion of forms of government takes up considerable length in the eighth and ninth books of *The Republic*, and is well worth reviewing here (although people will want to study it for themselves). He takes each of five forms of government, and analyzes their dynamics in the functioning of the city-state, and the characteristic behavior of individual citizens in those types of states. There is a clear correspondence between the nature of the state and the dominant character of its citizens, Plato argues—and he draws out the consequences with devastating accuracy. Plato is clear that the form of government directly reflects the dominant character of its people.

The five forms of government are: 1) the republic, which could also be called the rule by the best, an aristocracy; 2) the timocracy, a society ruled by those seeking honor (public approval); 3) the oligarchy, ruled by the successful seekers of wealth, above all other goods; 4) democracy, in which the "will of the people" rules; and 5) tyranny, in which the strongman comes in to impose order in the face of the chaos created by democ-



The Socratic method represents a mortal threat to the oligarchical and democratic system, as his judicial murder by the Democratic Party of Athens reflected. Socrates is depicted here in dialogue, with hands outstretched. Detail from Raphael's "The School of Athens" (1509-10).

racy. Plato shows how each of these models can lawfully degenerate into the next, ending with the dictatorship that enslaves and destroys the population. But this is not an "objective" process; the degeneration of the state follows precisely from the degeneration of the moral character of the citizenry.

Do you recall how frequently George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and others insisted that the ability of the United States to avoid tyranny depended upon the American citizenry clinging to the path of virtue? That was not rhetoric to them, but a solid commitment which they lived, to govern themselves as they governed the state, by the pursuit of the public good. They lived by the very standard that the so-called idealist Plato had elaborated so many centuries before. And no other method will work today.

How Tyranny Evolves

Putting aside the still ongoing battles about the actual prescriptions Plato (and Socrates) outlined for the maintenance of a republican form of government (Plato's dialogue form deliberately avoids the simple-minded declarative answers which shallow minds seek), we can clearly identify the principles that this

greatest of Greek philosophers considers inherent in such a state. The republic, and the republican citizen, are governed by the rule of *Reason*, which, in Platonic thought, corresponds to the Good and to Truth, both of which are not to be found in the day-to-day experiences of sense-perception, but in the principles that govern both the physical universe and the mind of man.

Contrary to some, the Good and Truth are not objects in themselves—some Baal-like idols to be worshipped—but lawful processes, new aspects of which mankind is constantly discovering. It is here that the coherence of morality and science reside, and the role of the state is not only to foster the Good itself, but to provide conditions under which individuals and society can constantly improve their knowledge and powers of reason.

Thus, the successful republic must be governed by those with the best knowledge of the Good, who also are committed to imbuing more and more of their fellow citizens with that same knowledge. Its opponents have consistently smeared this concept by calling it dictatorship, because it asserts the supremacy of Reason governing the laws of the universe. How foolish! What else but Reason, embedded in natural law, dictates that societies that fail to follow the laws of progress fall into decay, and die? Deny natural law's existence, and it's *you* who die. That, as LaRouchePAC videos have shown in reviewing the history of the biosphere, and as

the history of the decline of civilizations through human history has also shown, is the hard reality.

Call it an aristocracy of merit, or a republic, the ideal form of government is one which is based on, and governed by, citizens committed to the principles of universal justice and truth—the very opposite of seeking approval from public opinion.

But, as Plato describes it, there is a lawful process of devolution from the concept and practice of an aristocracy. The first level he calls a timocracy, where individuals strive for the *appearance* of merit, rather than working to actually achieve it. There is a deterioration in culture, the abandonment of the study of philosophy, and the introduction of ambition and other baser motives into leading individuals in this system, including the desire for an accumulation of wealth.

From this condition, it is a small step to what Plato calls an oligarchical society, one in which wealth is the dominant value, rather than virtue and knowledge. Those motivated by the acquisition of wealth take over the leading offices, and move to turn the rest of the population into a class Plato calls “drones,” who share the characteristic of being motivated by greed, but are largely poor, even beggars. Property qualifications, explicit or implicit, are established for political positions, and any aspiration other than the acquisition of riches is devalued.

LaRouche: ‘Democracy Is Not a Rational Solution’

Lyndon LaRouche made the following remarks to associates on Sept. 1, 2012.

First of all, the problem lies in the fact that most people are corrupted. They're corrupted by what they accept, as what they think is their own opinion, and their own interest. And this is expressed most clearly, when they start talking about “my interest.” “It's in my interest.” That's where the problem starts. Because you're living in an oligarchical society, and the oligarchical society was designed a long time ago, as history tells us. You go back to think about the siege of Troy, for example, Homer's account of

this, and you begin to get a sense of how mankind degenerated. And how all human cultures are degenerated cultures, in that sense.

Therefore, you try to say, let's define a morality, based on our experience, and our desires, and our opinions, and let's have a “democratic” opinion, which as facts have shown, is the worst thing you can do. Because democracy can not be a rational solution for the human problem. You have to step outside popular opinion entirely, because that's what the problem is.

The failure of humanity lies in popular opinion, as a belief. Because the belief that they adopted was the belief that was embedded in them by oligarchism. And therefore, even without their master, they'll behave as slaves. They'll be slaves to one another. Democracy, as we see with the case of a certain President of the United States, was simply a process of slavery. But it was jointly shared.

From the oligarchical society evolves the democratic one—a society in which every individual is out for himself, for pleasure and gain. In the name of spreading the wealth, social cohesion increasingly collapses, creating a culture of licentiousness and factionalization which defeats every attempt to maintain the pursuit of reason and virtue. Such a society's vices—insolence, anarchy, prodigality, shamelessness—are mirrored in the character of the average citizen in such a society, who has no moral compass but yields to every appetite of the moment.

It is this “democratic” anarchy that creates the conditions (as sought by the oligarchy) for the emergence of tyranny, which then brutally suppresses the population.

A Closer Look at ‘Democracy’

With a view to the mindless adulation of “democracy” today, look more closely at Plato’s insights into the fundamental characteristics of this system, and how it leads to tyranny. Reflect on how these characteristics dominate not only our culture today, but *the way you think*.

We take up in Section XI of *The Republic*, Book VII, with Socrates asking the questions about the nature of the democracy, and Adeimantus answering:

“‘What, then,’ said I, ‘is the manner of their life and what is the quality of such a constitution?... To begin with, are they not free? and is not the city chock-full of liberty and freedom of speech? and has not every man licence to do as he likes?’

“‘So it is said,” he replied.

“‘And where there is such licence, it is obvious that everyone would arrange a plan for leading his own life in the way that pleases him.’

“‘Obvious.’

“‘All sorts and conditions of men, then, would arise in this polity more than in any other?’...

“‘Possibly, this is the most beautiful of polities; as a garment of many colours, embroidered with all kinds of hues, so this, decked and diversified with every type of character, would appear the most beautiful.’...

“‘Owing to this licence, it includes all kinds, and it seems likely that anyone who wishes to organize a state, as we were just now doing, must find his way to a democratic city and select the model that pleases him, as if



In pure democracies, the passions and opinions of the mob are allowed to run loose, until people virtually beg for a tyrant to impose order. That was the British strategy in the mob-dominated French Revolution, depicted here.

in a bazaar of constitutions, and after making his choice, establish his own.”¹

Sound familiar? Is this not what we praise today as our “democratic society”?

But Socrates draws very different conclusions, as he goes along. He notes that this democratic spirit “tramples underfoot” the noble ideals of mastering the principles of justice and well-being needed by the state, and honors a politician “if only he says that he loves the people”! I.e., the demagogue.

And the character of the democratic “soul”? Plato

1. Quotes are from the translation by Paul Shorey (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1935).

describes the appetites running rampant:

“They seize the citadel of the young man’s soul, finding it empty and unoccupied by studies and honourable pursuits and true discourses, which are the best watchmen and guardians in the minds of men who are dear to the gods.” And when they have emptied virtues such as reverence and temperance from the youth’s soul, “they proceed to lead home from exile insolence and anarchy and prodigality and shamelessness, resplendent in a great attendant choir and crowned with garlands, and in celebration of their praises they euphemistically denominate insolence ‘good breeding,’ licence ‘liberty,’ prodigality ‘magnificence,’ and shamelessness ‘manly spirit.’”

This, then, is the “liberty” of the democracy, which was established in reaction to the oligarchy, *not* in order to set aside the base criterion of gaining wealth as the social ideal, but to give everyone the chance to exercise

a pursuit of his own interest, including wealth, and ultimately pursue “liberty” to the point of anarchy. In the midst of this war of each against all, factions proliferate and men turn into wolves, forming packs which band together to make war on others. The beasts take over, inside the human soul, and in society as a whole. It is from this process that the strongest, the tyrant, backed by the oligarchy which was never crushed, and supported by the unmoored population itself, emerges to take over and suppress the others.

The U.S. Republic

Even in seeking to throw off the tyranny of the British monarchy, the American Revolutionary leaders were acutely aware of the dangers of anarchy, or what might be called the “democratic mob.” They were constantly fighting against the eruption of mob rule, and attempting to set a standard of the pursuit of the

Jeremy Bentham’s Public Opinion Tribunal

Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832), the hired pen commissioned to write a rebuttal to the American Declaration of Independence for the British oligarchy, spelled out the principles of the British Empire’s manipulation of public opinion as a path to tyranny in his infamous tract *An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation* (1780), in which he dismissed any notion of human creativity. He declared instead:

“Nature has placed mankind under the governance of two sovereign masters, pain and pleasure. It is for them alone to point out what we ought to do, as well as to determine what we shall do.... Every effort we make to throw off our subjection, will serve but to demonstrate and confirm it. The principle of utility—the greatest happiness or greatest felicity principle—recognizes this subjection, and assumes it for the foundation.... Systems which attempt to



Painting by Henry William Pickersgill (detail).

question it deal.... in caprice instead of reason, in darkness instead of light.”

For Bentham, as for his master, Lord Shelburne, the architect of the post-1763 British Empire, public opinion was to be created, manipulated, and used as

the ultimate mechanism for social control. Bentham and Shelburne were the architects of the French Jacobin Terror, exploiting their network of traitors to the French Republic, to spread mob violence, as the means to impose the Napoleonic dictatorship and war.

To make pure mob democracy an instrument for oligarchical tyranny, Bentham drafted a model constitution, based on his pleasure-pain principle. In the over 1,000-page document, Bentham established an absolute dictatorship, led by what he called the Public Opinion Tribunal, a “liberal” junta with absolute authority, utilizing their manipulation of popular opinion to secure their power.

Bentham’s Public Opinion Tribunal is the essence of the British Empire’s system of tyrannical control by mob manipulation.

—Jeffrey Steinberg

“common good” or “general welfare” of the nation as a whole, as against the spirits of faction and localism. A mob swayed by the passions of the hour—as the British utilized to ultimately defeat the attempt to carry out an American-style revolution in France in 1789—was recognized as a tried-and-true tactic used by the oligarchy, in this case the British monarchy, to re-establish power.

The form of the U.S. government was set up in order to avoid such a pitfall. George Washington famously described the division of the Legislative branch as the equivalent of a tea cup and saucer, where the House of Representatives was the tea cup, holding the hot liquid, but the hot tea was allowed to pour into the saucer where it would cool. The role of the saucer, Washington said, was to be played by the Senate, which would cool down the passions reflected in the House. The Legislative branch as a whole then was balanced by the Executive and the Judiciary, which had their own separate functions.

Politics should not involve the pursuit of popularity, but of the proper policies for the development of the nation, protection of its sovereignty, and improvements in knowledge and conditions of life for its people: that was the credo of Washington, Alexander Hamilton, John Quincy Adams, and others. Hamilton, in particular, was famous for intervening to prevent mob violence, even by his revolutionary allies, and gave his life in the attempt to abort the rise of a man whom he saw as a would-be Caesar, Aaron Burr.

Writing to a friend in 1792, when he was working to prevent Burr from becoming Vice President in the second Washington Administration, Hamilton said: “Mr. Burr’s integrity as an individual is not unimpeached. As a public man, he is one of the worst sort—a friend to nothing but as it suits his interest and ambition. Determined to climb to the highest honors of the State, and as much higher as circumstances may permit; he cares for nothing about the means of effecting his purpose. . . . In a word, if we have an embryo-Caesar in the United States, ’tis Burr.”

And Caesar, of course, as Hamilton had explained in earlier debates with the Jeffersonians, was “the Whig of his day.” His antithesis, the Tory Cato, “frequently resisted, the latter [Caesar—ed.] always flattered, the follies of the people. Yet the former perished with the republic—the latter destroyed it. . . .”

Pure democracy, based on the whims of public opinion, is the pathway to dictatorship.

The Travesty of Andrew Jackson

As we have described at some length in previous articles,² the election of Andrew Jackson as President, and the way he destroyed the Bank of the United States, was a crucial turning point toward the destruction of the United States as a republican form of government. Jackson governed in a style that can only be compared to that of Adolf Hitler, throwing aside the lawful procedures of government, including the prerogatives of the Congress, in the name of directly representing the “people”—and thus putting the country on the course toward the divisions that the British Empire exploited to instigate the Civil War.

Again, this was not a matter of political party. Populists from all sides of the spectrum adulate the scoundrel Jackson, lying that he was defending “the people” from the “aristocrats.”

A recent video production by LaRouchePAC, “The Condemnation of Andrew Jackson for Treason,”³ documents step-by-step how Jackson violated the Constitution in the way he went about the filthy business of manipulating public opinion in order to get rid of the national bank on which the credit of the rapidly industrializing United States depended. A stupid man himself, whose popularity rested on some successful military exploits such as the Battle of New Orleans, Jackson was a pawn of Wall Street and the British financial interests which owned it. Author Bray Hammond, in his book *Banks and Politics in America, from the Revolution to the Civil War*, documents at some length the fact that the key opposition to the Second Bank of the United States did not come from agrarian America, as many claim, but from the “money power” of Wall Street. Wall Street and its British sponsors simply used Jackson, states’ rights, and agrarian sentiment to achieve their goal.

The LaRouchePAC video provides a case study of how the “democrat” Jackson used the manipulation of a gullible public to assert his will, to the nation’s peril. It could just as well be a case study of what Obama and his crowd are doing today.

The overarching theme of the video documentary is

2. Anton Chaitkin, “The American Industrial Revolution that Andrew Jackson Sought To Destroy,” *EIR*, June 22, 2012, http://www.larouche.org/eiw/public/2012/eirv39n25-20120622/06-23_3925.pdf; Michael Kirsch, “The Credit System vs. Speculation: Nicholas Biddle and the 2nd Bank of the United States,” *EIR*, July 20, 2012, <https://www.larouche.org/eiw/public/2012/eirv39n28-20120720/eirv39n28-20120720.pdf>

3. <http://larouche.org/eiw/public/2012/eirv39n28-20120720/eirv39n28-20120720.pdf>



Library of Congress

Jackson the Democrat was widely recognized by his opponents as having turned into an autocrat, by ignoring Constitutional procedures in pursuit of aggrandizing his own power. Thus the cartoon, King Andrew I.

established by its use of the “La Calumnia” aria from Rossini’s opera “The Barber of Seville.” That aria portrays the building of a campaign of whispers and lies, which grows like a tempest, until it utterly destroys its victim—*despite the fact that there’s absolutely no truth to it*. That reality is then elaborated step by step in the way that Jackson, his “kitchen cabinet” of advisor-controllers, and the Democratic Party-controlled press of the time orchestrated popular opinion against the Bank of the United States, ultimately permitting the Jackson Administration to take it down.

The first chapter of the documentary, “Formation of the Kitchen Cabinet,” sets the stage for what Jackson would do. The new President immediately established, for the first time, what is called the “spoils system,” in

which he replaced as many officeholders as he could, especially in the postal system, with “his own people.” Attempts by the Presidency to turn the branches of the Bank of the United States into political tools were rebuffed by the bank’s president, Nicholas Biddle—and the war was on. A massive press campaign condemning the Bank as “against the people” was launched, with Sen. Thomas Benton of Missouri taking the point in a widely reported speech in 1831. At that point, Jackson’s clique was able to utilize 150 newspapers around the United States in its campaign to destroy the Bank.

But what were the facts? As the second chapter “Failed Investigation and Veto,” details, a Jackson ally in the House of Representatives, Augustin Clayton of Georgia, in 1832, called for an official investigation of charges of corruption by the Bank. Lurid testimony was given before the House, and a report produced in May. Included with the majority report was a minority report by then-Rep. John Quincy Adams, which rebutted Clayton’s charges decisively. The House endorsed the minority report, and voted to recharter the Bank, whose charter was set to expire in 1836.

Did Jackson listen to the facts? No. He vetoed the recharter, as his masters demanded. The minority report was suppressed in the press, so that the public was basically unaware of it. Nor were many ever to learn that Representative Clayton himself, albeit in 1834, ultimately *recanted* his charges, admitting that they were false.

Jackson’s action did not go unchallenged. While the Congress did not have the votes to override the veto, the President’s action was widely seen as a threat to the legislature’s power over the control of the currency. One paper compared Jackson to King George III. In an effort to assert reality, in the face of a new slander campaign against the Bank—claiming it was insolvent and thus unsafe for government funds—Congress set up a new investigation—which again said the Bank was okay. Jackson’s allies responded by commissioning another investigation, which came up with the conclusion he wanted, but that was rejected by Congress. Stalemate!

Jackson the Dictator

Unable to get Congress on his side, Jackson went the next step—much as we can see President Obama

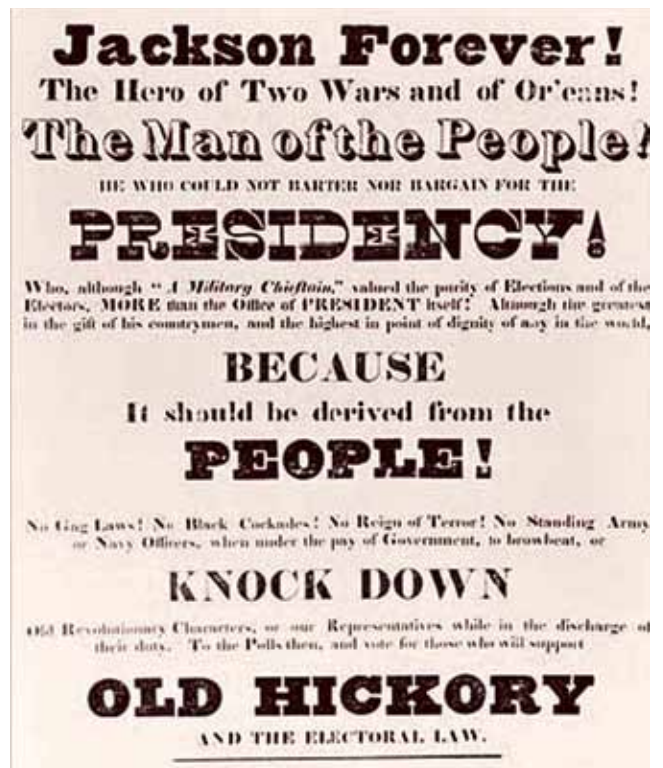
doing today. Whipped up into a rage by his kitchen cabinet controllers, over the fact that Congress would not bend to his will, he set about usurping the powers of the legislature and judiciary by removing U.S. government deposits from the Bank. This was such an insane thing to do, from the standpoint of the economic welfare of the country, that Jackson had to fire *two* Secretaries of the Treasury who refused to carry out his orders. Ultimately, it was the infamous *unconfirmed* Treasury Secretary Roger Taney (later to become the Supreme Court chief justice of *Dred Scott* infamy) who did the deed in the Fall of 1833—leading straight to a raging economic crisis within a couple of months.

What Jackson did, Rep. John Quincy Adams correctly charged, was nothing less than to exercise unconstitutional, dictatorial power, claiming he was acting for “the people.” Through the action of his agent, Taney, he had become prosecutor, judge, jury, and executioner of the Bank of the United States, and had taken all the revenues of the nation into his own hands, for disposition as he would—to the pet banks of his choosing.

And what did the people do? To their credit, as the LaRouchePAC video documents, hundreds of them from all over the country mobilized memorial resolutions to the House and Senate, blasting the President’s usurpation of power. The Senate passed a motion of censure against Jackson in the Spring of 1834. *But until Abraham Lincoln became President in 1860, and under the war emergency, set up the equivalent of national banking through his Greenback system, the population showed itself incapable of reversing Jackson’s destruction of the Bank of the United States.* And, perhaps equally important, the reputation of the traitor Andrew Jackson as a “defender of the people” continues to be the widely popular view up to this very day.

The Issue Before Us Today

The corruption rampant in the United States (and other nations) today as a result of “democracy’s” usurpation of the republic and its values, is not a partisan issue. We have seen the degeneration proceed over generations, step by step—after the British assassination of Lincoln, after the British assassination of McKinley, after the death of Franklin Roosevelt, and the British assassination of John Kennedy. Not just political culture, but literature, music, and art have all become increasingly degraded, to the point that the depravity and stupidity may even rival that of ancient Rome. It only takes a couple of minutes of listening to the disgusting



Andrew Jackson’s campaign poster reflects the appeal to personal popularity that is characteristic of democracies—in stark contrast to the appeal to policies and programs that will save the nation.

“music” at the national political conventions to confirm this judgment.

But, in facing the political tasks before us, we cannot be “even-handed.” It is Barack Obama who occupies the Presidency of the United States, the most powerful position in the world, from which he has the power to press the button for thermonuclear war. It is Barack Obama, with his well-known psychological profile as a Nero-like malignant narcissist, who represents a clear and present danger to our nation’s survival, well before the Presidential elections in November. It is Barack Obama who must be removed from political power immediately—constitutionally, but definitely.

It is not necessary, on this occasion, to review the record of Barack Obama in violating his oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States, or of acting to endanger the very existence of this nation by his adoption of policies of Nazi health care, Hitler-like aggressive war, and provocations toward a World War III that could render the human race extinct. Those facts are widely available. A large number of those who defend him today are well aware of this record, and feel twinges

of conscience, but refuse to act, citing their respect for “democratic” opinion. Others rely on the ruse that “Romney would be worse,” ignoring the reality that Obama’s incumbency is threatening our very existence *now*, and showing the cowardice that will kill us all.

Is anyone prepared to address the standard of truth, as Plato would? Does anyone have the courage of a

John Quincy Adams, who braved the wrath of friend and foe alike, particularly when serving in the House of Representatives, in order to stand up for principle? Who in the political arena in the United States will join Lyndon LaRouche and his movement, in heeding Benjamin Franklin, when he said the Constitutional Convention had created “a *republic*, if you can keep it”?

LaRouche: ‘Public Opinion Is Fatal Stupidity’

Lyndon LaRouche made the following remarks to associates on Sept. 1, 2012.

The U.S. population, U.S. institutions generally, are not competent to save their own butts! Public opinion is not competent to save its own butt. And that’s the lesson to learn. Popular opinion is fatal stupidity.

Because what people share as poop is criminal stupidity. They believe in things, they believe in practices, they believe in ideas, which are foolish, and which can kill them. Now, thermonuclear war is obviously the big killer, the big threat. But there are other threats down the line, which can come, if mankind continues to think the way it thinks now.

Anybody who likes popular opinion is too stupid to govern nations. Popular opinion, of all forms—forget it! What people popularly believe, what they share, as affirmed authority, with their friends: “Me and my friends, we believe this, we don’t believe what you believe. We believe this.” Stupid jerks! They don’t realize that it is they who have brought this upon themselves. It’s the human species that has voted to kill itself, exterminate itself, because it has evolved habits of thought, habits of opinion, habits of tendencies, which they smugly believe: Popular opinion, popular opinion, you’ve got to go by popular opinion! What killed the United States was popular opinion! Like the case of Andrew Jackson: Jackson was a case of popular opinion that killed the United States, at that time. And the American people are going to die, probably, because they killed themselves, by popular opinion.

Threat of Thermonuclear War

Now, this threat of thermonuclear war is a product of popular opinion. Even thinking about something as foolish as this idea was part of popular opinion; that’s how it came into circulation. And if this [danger] is passed over, then you’re going to have the same problem to solve: Popular opinion will still be there. You saved these guys’ butts, and they’ll still believe in popular opinion, after a shocking effect! They will still believe that their ideas are right, that popular opinion is right. They will still believe that; they’ll just change it a bit. They’ll modify it just a little bit. But if they think what they think now, *they’re incompetent to save their own butt!*

Because the rottenness, the evil, inside mankind will still be there. If we get them out of one way of killing themselves, they’ll come up with another one. That’s the issue you have to deal with. And you have to deal with that now, otherwise, you don’t understand how to deal with the problem as it stands now. You can not make a compromise with popular opinion! That’s the one thing you can not do, if you wish to survive. You have to recognize *the inherent evil of popular opinion*.

And people should recognize, that’s what kills people, that’s what destroys them, is popular opinion. They create an atmosphere of popular opinion. Society is susceptible to this atmosphere of popular opinion; people are controlled by that, because they say they depend upon support from popular opinion. They want acceptance by popular opinion; they want a job, which they get through popular opinion; they want another source of income; they want this kind of gratification, this kind of entertainment. And that’s what kills them; sends them into one trap after the other.

Mankind has got to wake up, to realize what mankind must become. All the cheap-shot solutions don’t work. If we can stop this thermonuclear war, we’ll do it, but that’s not the end of the problem. That’s the beginning of the end of the problem.

Joint Chiefs, LPAC Take Lead In Drive To Stop World War

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Sept. 5—In a tight, stark 35-minute presentation, LaRouchePAC's latest videodocumentary, "Unsurvivable," presents the horror of the thermonuclear war toward which President Barack Obama is currently leading the world. Its release is timed to coincide with the opening of the Democratic National Convention, where delegates are being herded into a pep rally for a man who is destroying the United States and its Constitution; "Unsurvivable" demands an all-out mobilization to guarantee that Obama is removed from the power of the Presidency.

The LPAC video is a dark, gruesome, but wholly true depiction of the threat of thermonuclear war, its consequences, and Obama's deployment of a major portion of the U.S. thermonuclear arsenal in multiple theaters, threatening both Russia and China.

During the past three years under Obama, thermonuclear war has become a more imminent reality than at any other time in recent history. From the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, to top Russian and Chinese military officials and political leaders, the warning is stark: If there were a direct U.S. attack on Syria, or an Israeli or U.S. attack on Iran, the war that would follow would rapidly and suddenly escalate into a strategic conflict in which the thermonuclear extermination of life on Earth could not be ruled out. Even to dabble with the risk of such a war is sheer madness.

There is one issue and one issue only in this elec-

tion: thermonuclear war and the power to destroy the American people. That power is now in the hands of Barack Obama. Lyndon LaRouche warned early this week, "If that President is reelected, you are dead! You have no other issue to celebrate or to even worry about. It will all be taken off your shoulders when they kill you. Remove Barack Obama and remove the threat of thermonuclear war."

LaRouche continued, "This fight is winnable. There is already a fracturing of support for Barack Obama's reelection. At the top strategic level, the fissures are great. Gen. Martin Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, recently delivered multiple public messages during his appearance in London that directly contradict Obama's drive for war."

General Dempsey in London

The *Independent's* Aug. 30 story, headlined "Obama Wrong Over Syria Action, Says Top General," quoted Dempsey saying that comparisons made between Libya and Syria are, at best, a source of amusement. On Iran, Dempsey said he had not asked for advanced notification of an attack from Israel, in part because "I don't want to be complicit if they [Israel] choose to do it." While in London, as the head of the U.S. delegation to the Paralympics, Dempsey met with British military counterparts and then held a high-visibility press availability with the international press,

where he voiced his most powerful public opposition to date, to both an Israeli strike on Iran, and a U.S. or NATO no-fly zone in Syria.

Dempsey's decision to make these strong remarks in London reflected his concern, according to Pentagon sources, that British Prime Minister David Cameron is playing a re-run of former British Prime Minister Tony Blair's aggressive push for the invasion of Iraq in 2003. After their phone conversation a week ago, both Obama and Cameron came out with warnings that any sign of movement of Syria's chemical weapons would be a "game-changer" and could provoke outside military intervention. French President François Hollande voiced the same warning several days later, provoking outcries from a number of retired French military officers, including the former head of the French Air Force, warning of the perils of such an escalation.

According to a senior U.S. intelligence official, Dempsey delivered the same message to his British counterparts that he had delivered to top Israeli military and intelligence officials, as well as to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Ehud Barak: Any Israeli attack on Iran at this time will almost certainly lead to Iranian asymmetric retaliation against U.S. forces in the region. Now that the U.S. and NATO are in the process of drawing down the forces that have been in Afghanistan for the past 11 years of war, the remaining troops are highly vulnerable to attack, as evidenced by the growing number of killings of U.S. and NATO forces by Afghan Army troops and police officers. The force protection vulnerabilities in Afghanistan today are even worse than the exposure during the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Vietnam.

Given that there is no rationale for an Israeli attack on Iran at this time—when Iran is years away from a nuclear bomb, and talks continue between Iran and the P5+1 (UN Security Council Permanent Five plus Germany) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)—any Israeli action, resulting in the deaths of American troops would cause a profound breach in



DoD/Helene C. Stikkel

JCS Chief Gen. Martin Dempsey delivered multiple public messages in London, that directly contradict President Obama's drive for war.

U.S.-Israeli relations, particularly strategic cooperation.

In fact, days after the Dempsey statements in London, the Pentagon announced that long-planned U.S.-Israeli joint missile defense maneuvers, set for October, have been reduced in size and scope.

A Message to Tehran

The Dempsey message has been clearly heard in Israel, and the reaction has been one of hysteria from the Netanyahu-Barak camp. On Sept. 3, the Israeli daily *Yedioth Ahronoth* reported, "The United States has indirectly informed Iran, via two European nations, that it would not back an Israeli strike against the country's nuclear facilities, as long as Tehran refrains from attacking American interests in the Persian Gulf. According to the report, Washington used covert back-channels in Europe to clarify that the US does not intend to back Israel in a strike that may spark a regional conflict.

"In return, Washington reportedly expects Iran to steer clear of strategic American assets in the Persian Gulf, such as military bases and aircraft carriers.

"Israeli officials reported an unprecedented low in the two nations' defense ties, which stems from the

Obama administration's desire to warn Israel against mounting an uncoordinated attack on Iran."

A White House spokesman immediately denied the report about secret channels to Tehran, but a senior U.S. intelligence official had briefed *EIR* journalists on precisely such back-channel discussions with Iranian officials months ago. The idea that a war-avoidance faction within the military and intelligence community is conveying such messages to Tehran, without direct Obama support, is not at all surprising, given the fact that Obama himself is committed to global conflict if it suits his Nero-like narcissistic whims and the objectives of his masters within the British monarchy.

By way of confirmation that Dempsey was absolutely right in delivering his warnings to London, the *Wall Street Journal*, one of British propaganda baron Rupert Murdoch's flagship publications, issued a scathing Sept. 1 editorial attack on Dempsey under the headline, "Why Israel Doesn't Trust Obama." The editorial leads with an implicit demand that Obama fire his JCS chairman to prove his commitments to Israel's security. "Barack Obama is fond of insisting that he 'has Israel's back.' Maybe he should mention that to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs."

The editorial went on to declare, "If Gen. Dempsey or Administration officials really wanted to avert an Israeli strike, they would seek to reassure Jerusalem that the U.S. is under no illusions about the mullahs' nuclear goals or about their proximity to achieving them. They're doing the opposite. Since coming to office, Obama Administration policy toward Israel has alternated between animus and incompetence. We don't know what motivated Gen. Dempsey's outburst, but a President who really had Israel's back would publicly contradict it."

A Voice of Courage in Congress

Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.) delivered yet another powerful warning to the White House, in a personal letter addressed to Obama, dated Aug. 30, stating that committing the nation to war without the consent of the Congress, constitutes an impeachable high crime and misdemeanor. Jones, whose district houses one of the largest Marine Corps bases in the country, began his letter to the President: "This letter is written to you out of grave concern that you will once again lead our nation into war without authorization from Congress. As tensions and rhetoric rise in Syria and Iran, the

power to declare war remains vested in the Congress. No resolution from the United Nations or NATO can supersede the power carefully entrusted with the representatives of the American people.... I call on you to abide by our Constitution, and rely on our country's representatives to decide when war is necessary" (see article p. 34).

A LaRouchePAC spokesman today declared that more of these voices must come forth in the coming weeks before Nov. 6. LaRouche has warned, in a series of recent statements, that President Obama represents the greatest threat to the survival of humanity, and that he must be removed from office by Constitutional means. "There is no greater threat to the survival of this planet than Obama's continuation in office."

LaRouche first identified Obama's predilection for murder on April 11, 2009, when he diagnosed him as a modern incarnation of the Roman Emperor Nero. This President's pathological, Nero-like narcissism makes him capable of mass murder. He has already committed mass murder in Libya, in his targeted drone killings, his weekly kill list, and his economic policies for the United States that have left millions of Americans unemployed, on the verge of starvation, and at the mercy of killer health care. Thermonuclear war, or threatening thermonuclear war against the superpowers of Russia and China, would be the ultimate act of mass murder, a holocaust beyond comparison.

It is understood by leading military figures throughout the world, that any regional confrontation would inevitably escalate into world war. A U.S. intervention into Syria, where Obama has drawn a red line on the movement of chemical weapons, would bring this about. An Israeli strike against Iran, which Israelis say has essentially been condoned by Obama, would result in such a confrontation. This thermonuclear world war scenario is precisely the intention of U.S. President Barack Obama and his British controllers, the same British controllers of the international war criminal, Tony Blair.

There is currently a very short timetable for a dramatic changing of the guard. The trans-Atlantic economic collapse is a pressing force that has pinned both Obama and his British masters into their current war posture. This faction would sooner end the world, and themselves, than fall behind in a geopolitical, economic-financial power struggle against the rising nations of the trans-Pacific. The situation demands action.

Europe's Choice: A Two-Tier Banking System or World War

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Aug. 31—Between the threat of financial collapse in the trans-Atlantic region and explosive developments in the Middle East, the threat of World War III is greater than ever before. The very existence of human civilization is at stake; what we need are actions by courageous people to implement the existing alternatives and prevent a catastrophe.

The debate on so-called “Quantitative Easing III” clearly shows how far things have gone, such that the question is whether the Federal Reserve, the European Central Bank (ECB), and other central banks should bring out the “Big Bertha” artillery now, and print unlimited money so as to delay the collapse of the trans-Atlantic banking system, or whether they should wait. One section of the financial establishment, around U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Fed chairman Ben Bernanke, is convinced that only flooding the markets with liquidity will prevent immediate collapse, and thus head off the danger that Obama will not be re-elected. Another section of the establishment is afraid that obvious hyperinflation would ruin Obama's chances for re-election. Thus, Bernanke's speech today at the annual meeting of central bankers in Jackson Hole, Wyo., was highly ambivalent: The Fed will provide new stimulus injections, although not immediately, but “as needed”—i.e., quite soon.

ECB chairman Mario Draghi met with a vigorous counter-reaction after his pretentious announcement

that he would do “everything” to save the euro—including direct ECB financing of governments and banks. Bundesbank head Jens Weidmann reportedly threatened to resign in protest against this hyperinflationary policy. An even fiercer battle is raging between the sections of the establishment that want to reintroduce a two-tier banking system, along the lines of the former U.S. Glass-Steagall law, and those who believe, in the imperial tradition, that they will only be able to hold onto their power by igniting new wars. The first faction includes some from the City of London and Wall Street—most recently James Rickards, the former general counsel of the Long Term Capital Management (LTCM) hedge fund, which in 1998 had to be saved by an unprecedented rescue operation by the 16 largest banks in the world. “Repeal of Glass-Steagall Caused the Financial Crisis” was the headline of his commentary in *US News & World Report* on Aug. 27.

Triggers for War

Meanwhile, the situation in the Middle East now looks like that in the Balkans in 1914—a chessboard on which local operatives are moved about by the imperial chess players, and on which, as in 1914, a proverbial single shot could launch a world war and set all the interlocking alliance agreements ablaze in a worldwide conflagration.

Potential trigger for world war #1: Syria. Goeb-

bels would be jealous if he could follow the Western media coverage of the events in Syria. Just as the lies were fabricated about alleged weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, so President Obama and President Hollande of France are raising the possibility of the Syrian government using chemical weapons as a pretext for Western military intervention. In reality, the British and American special forces are waging an irregular aggressive war against the Assad government, in perfect harmony with the Islamic fundamentalist Salafists, al-Qaeda, and the PKK (Kurdish separatist terrorists), funded by Saudi Arabia and Qatar. There is genocide going on in Syria, but the main culprits are to be found in London, Washington, Riyadh, and Doha.

The former Chief of Staff of the French Air Force, Gen. Jean Fleury, warned the French government against a military intervention, including the attempt to establish a no-fly zone, in an article published in *Le Monde* on Aug. 23. The French Air Force, he wrote, is far from being in a position to do this. "Today, in order to finish off Bashar al-Assad's Air Force, we would have to deploy the entire American war machine, and use the air bases of Greece and Cyprus, even the Middle East."

The chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey also warned against the idea of establishing a no-fly zone over Syria, because the planes would have to be defended against Syrian missiles, and "any broader activities inside Syria" could only be discussed and implemented in the NATO framework, the *Guardian* reported on Aug. 30. Dempsey, who was addressing journalists during a visit to London, warned that the worst-case scenario in Syria is that it will become "an unstable state with all the risks that involves," according to the *Independent*. Even now, armed extreme jihadists and al-Qaeda sympathizers are spreading throughout the country.

Not only does Syria have a military alliance with Iran; a NATO operation against Syria would also mean total confrontation with Russia and China.

Potential trigger for world war #2: an Israeli attack on Iranian nuclear facilities. Here, too, there are pieces on the chessboard: a dubious IAEA report about alleged acceleration of the Iranian nuclear program, which contradicts the latest official overall evaluation by all American intelligence services (NIE). Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu announces in response that he wants to address the UN General Assembly in New York at the end of September, "to tell

the nations of the world in a clear voice the truth about the terror regime of Iran which represents the greatest threat to world peace." Netanyahu and Defense Minister Ehud Barak have recently said repeatedly that they would launch a short-term military strike against Iran.

General Dempsey, however reiterated his belief that an attack by the Israeli Defense Forces could "clearly delay but probably not destroy Iran's nuclear program." He said that an Israeli attack on Iran would have broad consequences in a highly volatile region, and that he had not asked for advance notification of such an attack, in part because "I don't want to be complicit if they [Israel] choose to do it," the *Guardian* reported.


War Avoidance

Thus, the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Armed Forces has made it quite clear that in the cases of both Syria and Iran, the U.S. military does not support confrontation with Russia and China. Behind the scenes, the American and Russian military are working flat-out on a war-avoidance strategy; without such very specific

**Lyndon
LaRouche**

On

**Glass-Steagall
and
NAWAPA:**



The North American Water and Power Alliance

"The greatest project that mankind has ever undertaken on this planet, as an economic project, now stands before us, as the opportunity which can be set into motion by the United States now launching the NAWAPA project, with the preliminary step of reorganizing the banking system through Glass-Steagall, and then moving on from there."

"Put Glass-Steagall through now, and I know how to deliver a victory to you."

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DoD/Staff Sgt. Sun L. Vega

Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Martin Dempsey told journalists in London that he does not want to be “complicit” in an Israeli strike on Iran’s nuclear facilities—a strike which probably would not destroy them anyway. He is shown here at an earlier event.

and multi-faceted cooperation, the great catastrophe would already have occurred.

In this context, the Open Letter of Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.) to President Obama is of the greatest significance. Jones declared that another war without Congressional approval would be a violation of the exclusive right of Congress to declare war, under Article I, Section 8, Clause 11 of the U.S. Constitution; according to Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution, this would result in impeachment for high crimes and misdemeanors.

The whole arsenal of military hardware that has been stationed since last Autumn in the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Indian Ocean, and the eastern Mediterranean, including the thermonuclear capacity there, is enough to wipe out the human race a few dozen times over. By the very nature of things, a confrontation with Russia and China over Syria and Iran would immediately mean the deployment of thermonuclear weapons.

The most frightening thing about this situation is the absence of any public reflection of the fact that we are on the brink of a third, this time thermonuclear, world war. In the context of the Cuban Missile Crisis, President Kennedy said that those who die first in a

nuclear war would be luckier than those who lived to endure radioactive pollution and other consequences. During the crisis over the medium-range missiles in the early 1980s, there were scientific conferences that dealt with the consequences to the planet of a nuclear winter, and hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets.

And today? When the existence of the human species is at stake?

Back in March of this year, Wolfgang Ischinger, chairman of the Munich Security Conference, wrote in a commentary in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*:

“Two questions are posed. First, how would we act if Israel were to attack? Second, would a containment and deterrence policy be the better alternative, if Iran actually proceeded to build a bomb?”

“Angela Merkel’s speech to the Knesset in 2008 is relevant to the first question; she described Germany’s historical responsibility for Israel as ‘part of the German *raison d’état*.’ ‘The security of Israel is never negotiable for me as German Chancellor. And if that is so, then at the moment of truth, this cannot be just words,’ she said. German policy in an Israeli-Iranian war could hardly go against that. . . .

“Looking at the German public debate about the escalation of the Iran conflict, one might think that this crisis had hardly anything to do with us. Do we in Germany understand the huge impact that an Israeli-Iranian war or an Iran with nuclear weapons would have, and what difficult questions we may soon face?”

But thanks to the media dictatorship and the enforced political conformity of the parliamentary parties, no such debate has yet taken place.

But there is a way out. We need to immediately move to a two-tier banking system in the tradition of FDR’s Glass-Steagall Act, regain sovereignty over monetary and economic policy, and, with the help of a credit system, place on the agenda a real infrastructure program in Southern Europe, the Mediterranean, and Africa, as the BüSo, uniquely among Germany’s political parties, has specifically proposed.

If we take the road to 1923-style hyperinflation by means of unlimited bailout packages, submit to the creation of a permanent bankers’ dictatorship in the form of European Stability Mechanism, and submit to a world empire in which all the governments that oppose these policies will be swept away by regime change through irregular warfare, then we put the existence of the human species at risk.

Glass-Steagall Option Raised At Jackson Hole Bankers' Meet

by Paul Gallagher

Sept. 2—Over the entirety of the two-day annual Jackson Hole, Wyo. bankers' retreat Aug. 31-Sept. 1, debate raged over the threatening prospect of both the U.S. Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank (ECB) resuming "open-ended qualitative easing"—massive money-printing—within the next few weeks. The fact that the fundamental economic failure of this central bank money-printing policy since 2008 was admitted there in a speech by its chief practitioner, Fed Chairman "Helicopter Ben" Bernanke, made the debate at Jackson Hole more intense.

In many respects, this debate is nothing new. It's been going on at one crisis inflection point after the other. What's new is that, for the first time at this internationally followed banking policy conference, there were several strong supporters of restoring President Franklin Roosevelt's Glass-Steagall Act present, including one, Bank of England (BoE) official Andy Haldane, who made a notable presentation at Jackson Hole.

With deep economic contraction spreading from European economies to the United States, food and energy inflation already taking off, central banks' renewed multi-trillion money-printing to buy bonds and prop up securities markets now threatens an irreversible hyperinflationary explosion.

Restoring Glass-Steagall and enforcing it in the United States, U.K., and then in continental Europe, ending the failed global "bailout policy" and restoring national credit and banking, is the diametrically opposed policy to the danger of hyperinflation. With a bipartisan Glass-Steagall bill in the House of Representatives, and a written but not-yet introduced Senate companion, a U.S. breakout for restoring Glass-Steagall could come at any time—if the intense opposition of the Obama White House and Geithner Treasury is defeated or collapses. And in the U.K., indications continue to surface of a fight among political and banking

circles to get Glass-Steagall brought into the House of Commons.

Bernanke's Successful Failure

At Jackson Hole, on Aug. 31, Bernanke admitted the economic failure of the past four years' money-printing of \$8.5 trillion (and short-term liquidity loans of another \$15 trillion) by the central banks of the U.S., U.K., European Union, Switzerland, and Japan. Unemployment, in real terms, including the forced shrinkage of work forces, is above 15% across Europe, and 12% in the United States, and still growing in both. Governments do not invest in real economic infrastructure; major banks do not lend to the real economies.

Bernanke claimed that large-scale central bank money-printing is a success historically, theoretically, and in the recent financial crash—but a failure for the economy. He also appeared to be promising more money-printing from the Fed in the near future. European Central Bank (ECB) chief Mario Draghi has proclaimed over the last month, repeatedly for extra market effect, that the ECB will resume large-scale money-printing—bond purchases from banks—after its Sept. 6 meeting.

Bernanke reviewed all the many trillions of liquidity facilities for, and asset purchases from, the banks since August 2007, to prove: We have done the money-printing, on a grand scale. He reviewed at length, the theoretical economic literature on central bank money-printing, to prove: It *should* have worked. And he reviewed the financial effects, 2007-12, insisting that the great good of higher asset prices and lower long-term interest rates had been achieved across the board, including in the stock market. This was to prove: It was successful.

But, Bernanke then acknowledged, it has failed. The state of (Obama's) economy is "far from satisfactory," he said. "We have seen no net improvement in the unemployment rate since January. Unless the economy begins to grow more quickly than it has recently [and



U.S. Treasury

A U.S. breakout for Glass-Steagall could come at any time—if the intense opposition of the Obama White House, the Geithner Treasury, and Bernanke’s Fed, is defeated.

actually, he noted, the very low growth is now slowing down further—ed.], the unemployment rate is likely to remain far above levels consistent with maximum employment for some time. This is a grave concern not only because of the enormous suffering and waste of human talent it entails, but also because persistently high levels of unemployment will wreak structural damage on our economy that could last for years.” Also, “The unemployment rate remains [far] above what most FOMC [Federal Open Market Committee] participants see as its longer-run normal value, and other indicators—such as the labor force participation rate and the number of people working part time for economic reasons—confirm that labor force utilization remains at very low levels.”

Bernanke added that the U.S. housing sector has remained in depression for five years, and that there is no government spending or employment against the collapse at the Federal, state, or local level. He placed blame on Europe, where the same policies have produced an even worse “debt spiral” plunge of economies.

But Bernanke concluded by promising more of the same “quantitative easing.” “The costs of non-traditional policies, when considered carefully, appear manageable, implying that we should not rule out the further use of such policies if economic conditions

warrant.” He is likely to go for hyperinflation at the Fed’s Sept. 12 meeting, with Draghi’s ECB resuming the same failed policy.

The stuff of tragedy.

Against ‘The Tower of Basel’

In contrast, the speech at Jackson Hole of the Bank of England’s executive director for financial stability, Andy Haldane, directly reflected the serious fight in Britain to substitute the tough, simple, and effective anti-speculative Glass-Steagall Act for separation and regulation of banks, for the thousands of pages of nonsense, unenforceable Dodd-Frank regulations, Vickers Commission rules, and “Basel III” bank capital rules.

Since the *Financial Times* started editorializing for Glass-Steagall in the U.K. on July 3, many bankers and political leaders have urged that it is five

minutes to midnight for the financial system, if this is not done. On Aug. 30, the *New Statesman* revealed that opposition Labour Party leader Ed Miliband wanted “to support a full Glass-Steagall-style separation of retail and investment banking,” but had been blocked by his party’s so-called “shadow Chancellor,” Ed Balls; the magazine demanded Miliband overcome this obstacle. The *Financial Times* is demanding the same from Labour.

Also on Aug. 30, Britain’s influential Investment Management Association announced that “certain of our members consider there should be full [bank] separation” by Glass-Steagall.

Haldane was unambiguous about the need for Glass-Steagall. He compared regulators trying to enforce the coming 60,000-page “Tower of Basel,” or the likely 30,000-page (including regulations) Dodd-Frank Act, to a dog having to know the laws of physics before running to catch a frisbee. Such systems are doomed to failure, and more bank crashes, Haldane said, and continued: “Contrast the legislative responses in the U.S. to the two largest financial crises of the past century, the Great Depression and the Great Recession. The single-most important legislative response to the Great Depression was the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933. Indeed, this may have been the single-most influential piece of financial legis-

lation of the 20th Century. Yet it ran to a mere 37 pages.”

Glass-Steagall, Haldane said, prohibits or restricts the *quantity* of risk commercial banks can take, rather than crazily trying to build the big banks’ own speculative, frequently failing “risk models” into government regulations! “Simple, quantity-based restrictions are the equivalent of a regulatory commandment: ‘Thou shalt not.’ These are likely to be less fallible than: ‘Thou shalt, provided the internal model is correct.’ That is one reason why Glass-Steagall lasted for 60 years longer than Basel II,” Haldane concluded.

‘Big Banks’ Arguments’ Refuted

Phil Angelides, former chairman of the Congressionally appointed Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, was quoted Aug. 31 on a Wharton School blog characterizing the mobilization for Glass-Steagall, for which Lyndon LaRouche’s movement has been the catalyst. “‘It’s no longer a small movement,’ said Angelides. The list includes at least three former CEOs of top banks or brokerages, Republican and Democratic Congressmen who voted to break up Glass-Steagall, several heads or governors, past and present, of regional Federal Reserve Banks, a former chair and a current board member of the FDIC, a former chief economist for the International Monetary Fund, a Republican presidential candidate and the governor of the Bank of England.”

In *USNews & World Report* for Aug. 27, another well-known Wall Street voice emphatically called for Glass-Steagall restoration, in the person of James Rickards, an investment manager, government consultant, and lawyer for 35 years, and author of the 2011 book, *Currency Wars*. “Repeal of Glass-Steagall Caused the Financial Crisis” was the headline of Rickards’ op-ed. “If there is any hope of avoiding another meltdown, it’s critical to understand why Glass-Steagall repeal helped to cause the crisis,” he wrote.

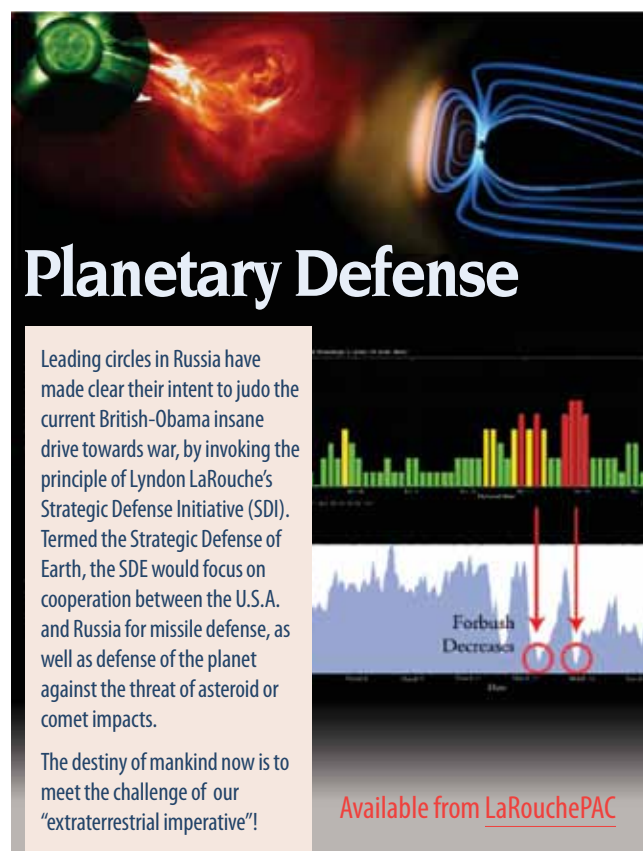
Rickards took on the arguments of Tim Geithner and fellow Wall Street apologists against Glass-Steagall, precisely those by which they pressure members of Congress not to move the Glass-Steagall legislation, H.R. 1489.

“One bank supporter says you cannot blame banks for fraudulent loan originations because that was done by unscrupulous mortgage brokers. This is nonsense. The brokers would not have been able to fund the loans in the first place if the banks had not been buying their production. Another apologist says the fact that no big banks failed in the crisis proves they were not the cause

of the problem. This is also ludicrous. The reason the big banks did not fail was because they were bailed out by the government. . . . Yet another big bank spokesman says that nonbanks such as Lehman and Bear Stearns were more to blame for the crisis. This ignores the fact that nonbanks get their funding from banks in the form of mortgages, repurchase agreements, and lines of credit. Without the big banks providing easy credit on bad collateral like structured products, the nonbanks would not have been able to leverage themselves.”

Rickards concludes, “Without the banks providing financing to the mortgage brokers and Wall Street while underwriting their own issues of toxic securities, the entire pyramid scheme would never have got off the ground. It was Glass-Steagall that prevented the banks from using insured depositories to underwrite private securities and dump them on their own customers. . . . Now, when memories are fresh, is the time to reinstate Glass-Steagall.”

Either this mobilization succeeds, or in the not-too-distant future, the renewed massive money-printing promised by Bernanke and Draghi will trigger a hyper-inflationary blowout.



Planetary Defense

Leading circles in Russia have made clear their intent to judo the current British-Obama insane drive towards war, by invoking the principle of Lyndon LaRouche’s Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). Termed the Strategic Defense of Earth, the SDE would focus on cooperation between the U.S.A. and Russia for missile defense, as well as defense of the planet against the threat of asteroid or comet impacts.

The destiny of mankind now is to meet the challenge of our “extraterrestrial imperative”!

Available from [LaRouchePAC](#)

The graphic features a dark background with a green sphere on the left and blue magnetic field lines on the right. Below the title, there are two charts: a bar chart with green and red bars, and a line graph with a blue area. Two red arrows point from the text 'Forbush Decreases' to two red circles on the line graph. The text 'Available from LaRouchePAC' is at the bottom right.

Russia Prepares To Develop the Arctic As Earth's Next Great Project

by William C. Jones

The Russian government under President Vladimir Putin has laid out an ambitious program for the development of its extensive Arctic region, in what should be an object of collaboration with the United States, another Arctic nation. In addition, the Russian plans for Siberian development entail the building of a tunnel across the Bering Strait between Chukotka and Alaska, which would be a natural extension of Arctic development for both these nations. The failure of the Obama Administration to grasp this opportunity, indeed, its push to foment, via its policy in the Middle East, a direct confrontation with Russia, can only be deemed as criminal in nature.

The direction taken by the Putin government in attempting to develop its Arctic domain, and, in cooperation with the other Arctic nations, to develop the region as a whole, represents a clear trajectory away from the type of confrontational policies launched by the Obama White House.

A number of developments of the last few years have helped precipitate that process. The increased temperatures in the Arctic region, more pronounced in the Russian Arctic than anywhere else, and the discovery of extensive oil and gas resources in the Arctic region, have made Arctic development a prime focus of Putin's long-term vision for Russia. Oil and gas ex-

ports are presently a mainstay of Russian economic development.

The Vision of Peter the Great

Russia, however, has been active in the Arctic for a long time. Indeed, the history of Russia as a modern nation, and particularly the history of Russian science, is intricately linked with Russia's exploration and development of its Arctic region ever since the meeting in 1711 between German philosopher Gottfried Leibniz and Tsar Peter the Great, in which Leibniz encouraged the Tsar to send an expedition to the far northeast of Siberia to determine if there were a land-bridge to the North America continent.

Even before that time, Russian explorers had been as



Russia is one of the only countries with a fleet of icebreakers, and they are working on the newest generation of nuclear-powered icebreakers for use in the Arctic. Shown: the Russian nuclear-powered icebreaker Yamal.

far as the Arctic region of Novaya Zemlya, and had expanded the territories of old Muscovy to the White and Barents Seas, providing Russia with its first access to a seacoast. Tsar Peter organized several expeditions to the East, the Great Kamchatka Command of 1716-20, the First Kamchatka Expedition, 1725-30, and then, the large Great Northern Expedition, 1733-43.

The Northern Expedition's leader was the Danish explorer Vitus Bering, who was tasked with investigating the feasibility of a Northern Sea Route (NSR), exploring the American coast, and reconnoitering a sea route from the Kamchatka Peninsula to Japan. It consisted of seven independent detachments, not counting the scientific and support teams, totaling some 977 men. While often working under extreme weather conditions, they compiled such a mass of scientific and geographical knowledge, that it lay the basis for the further advancement of the geographical and mineralogical sciences in the Russian Empire.

The entire Arctic coast had been surveyed and charted from Arkhangelsk to Mys Bol'shoy Baranav. The expedition produced 62 maps and charts of the Arctic coast and of Kamchatka, generally of a high standard, and compiled soundings and sailing directions which were to be put to good use by later navigators. Later, under Catherine the Great, Russian explorers navigated the last bit of the envisioned NSR along the coast of Chukotka. The great Russian scientist Mikhail Lomonosov, a strong proponent of an NSR, attempted repeatedly to sail across the North Pole, believing firmly in the existence of an open polar sea.

The famous Russian chemist Dmitri Mendeleev, who, with Adm. Stepan Makarov, developed the first Russian icebreaker, and who did more than anyone to promote the development of the Arctic region, was prevented from himself leading an expedition to the North



This history of Russia as a modern nation, and particularly the history of Russian science, is intricately linked with its exploration and development of the Arctic region. In 1711, the German philosopher Gottfried Leibniz (left) encouraged Tsar Peter the Great, to send an expedition to the far northwest of Siberia to determine if there were a land-bridge to the North America continent.

Pole by a lack of funding.¹

The Arctic expeditions were continued under the Soviet regime. During World War II, the Northern Sea Route was used extensively to deliver matériel under the Lend-Lease program to Soviet forces on the front. Between 1942 and 1945, a total of 120 ships carried some 450,000 tons of Lend-Lease goods from American West Coast ports to Soviet Arctic ports, via the NSR. The largest number of these ships (54) were bound for Tiksi at the mouth of the Lena River, but 13 of them rounded the Taymyr Peninsula to reach the ports on the Yenisei River, and one continued west to Arkhangelsk.

With the onset of the Cold War and the development of nuclear weapons, much of the Soviet Arctic, where many of the nuclear tests were conducted, became a closed military region.²

1. [EIR](#), Jan. 6, 2012.

2. The Russians had, in 1967, to everyone's surprise, issued an open invitation to the international shipping community to make use of the NSR as an alternative to the southern ocean route. Yet, until the end of the Cold War, the Arctic was a closed military zone. Even transpolar flights were prohibited until the 1990s. In 1987, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachov gave a speech in Murmansk calling for cooperation in the Arctic region, before the actual break-up of the Soviet Union.

Russia Gears Up for Life in the Arctic

But it wasn't until the U.S. Geological Survey's World Petroleum Report in 2000 indicated that 25% of the world's undiscovered energy resources were in the Arctic, that it became a priority for all of the countries of the Arctic region.

The first major Russian declaration on a new Arctic policy was issued in 2001. The increased ice melt also revived interest in the Northern Sea Route. In 2007, the Arctic Sea, monitored by satellite for three decades, reached a record minimum of ice pack. In 2009, two German ships made the first commercial voyage through the passage with a minimum of help from Russian icebreakers. In September 2008, the Russian government issued a second Arctic policy report, made public in 2009.

The 2008 report pointed to the Arctic region as a "strategic resource base of the country," which would require the development of new social and economic infrastructure, as well as an upgrading of the military presence in the region to safeguard the Arctic territory. The report, however, underlined that this was not a question of militarizing the Arctic, and expressed the need to forge agreements among the Arctic nations on the utilization of the resources of the region as a whole.

Although there was a very dramatic placement of the Russian flag on the floor of the continental shelf by the noted Arctic explorer Vladimir Chilingarov, which created a great deal of press hype about Russia "usurping" the Arctic, the Russian government has also taken the legal path, and filed a request with the UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. According to the UN Law of the Sea, of which the Russian Federation is a signator, if a country can prove that an underwater shelf is connected to its continental land mass, it can claim the shelf as an exclusive economic zone.

The area encompassed by the NSR, however, is firmly Russian territory, and is generally recognized by most of the Arctic nations as such, although a few of the straits that must be traversed during the course of a voyage along the Route are designated by the United States as international waters. The U.S. is also in a dispute with similar Canadian claims on the Northwest Passage through northern Canada.

The Northern Sea Route is actually a series of different shipping lanes stretching between 2,200 and 2,900 nautical miles, depending on ice conditions. The route would cut off 4,000 miles in the distance between Rotterdam and Seoul. To the overall costs of the short-

ened route must also be included the cost of icebreaker assistance on certain sections of the route. But the higher average temperatures in the region have made that trip much more feasible. If the energy resources of the Arctic are also factored in to the equation (resources that would also have to utilize the same travel route on their way to the consumer), maintaining an open passage year-round becomes economically feasible.

A Strategic Necessity

In January 2012, at the request of the Russian government, the Council for the Study of the Productive Forces released another extensive report on the question of Arctic development, entitled "Strategy of Development for the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation and the Maintenance of National Defense in the Period to 2020." This report is an ambitious program for Arctic development, but it has not yet received legislative approval and funding.

The "Strategy" document points out that the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation (AZRF) comprises an area of around 9 million square kilometers with more than 2.5 million people, comprising less than 2% of the population of Russia, but about 40% of the population of the Arctic as a whole. Its production represents around 12-15% of the GDP, and provides around one-fourth of the exports of Russia. The Russian zone of the Arctic is the most developed of all the polar regions, comprising 60% of the value of Russia's extractive industries, as compared to the less than 15% provided to their respective nations by the Arctic regions of Greenland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland, and around 30% for Alaska and Arctic Canada.

The key concept in the "Strategy" is the need for "modernization of the economy and social sphere of the AZRF on the basis of innovation." While oil and gas are major items in Arctic development, there will also now be a greater emphasis on the extraction of other important raw materials which the Arctic contains in abundance. While non-ferrous and precious metals—lead, nickel, cobalt, platinum, gold, diamonds, antimony, apatite, phlogopite, vermilion, barite—and the rare metals, tend to predominate, nearly the entirety of the Periodic Table of Dmitri Mendeleev is contained under the surface of the ice and permafrost. These are the materials that will be needed by the growing economies in the South, notably India and China, as they struggle to bring their expanding populations up to a modern standard.

But the extraction will be done far differently than it was during Soviet times, the environmental devastation of which remains a heavy legacy on the present generation of Russians, and requires a good deal of clean-up in order to pave the way for a modern industrial economy north of the Arctic Circle.

The goals of the new Arctic strategy are multifaceted. In addition to creating the resource base in the Arctic, the plan focuses on environmental protection as economic activity increases. "Clean-up battalions" have already started their work with a recent expedition to Franz Josef Land, an archipelago which served during Soviet times as a base of military operations and nuclear tests.

In bidding farewell to the squad before they left on the ship from Arkhangelsk, President Putin told them: "This is a symbolic event for Russia. First, it confirms our growing presence in the Arctic. We will increase our efforts and work in many areas here, developing new deposits and building new infrastructure, above all, ports, roads, bridges and so on. Of course, we will also bolster our military presence here too. In all of this work, we will strive for a balance between development and preservation of the natural environment."

Maintaining the NSR as a national transport corridor of the Russian Federation will require an entirely new system of oversight and corridor maintenance, the organization and control of shipping traffic, the creation of an administrative fleet, and hydrographic maintenance of the entire route. It will require modernization of the Arctic ports of Khatanga, Tiksi, Pevek, Dydinka, Dickson, and the establishment of new port complexes and transit terminals in Indiga, Kharacavei, Varandei, as well as container terminals at Murmansk, Evgekinot, and Provideniya.

There will also be rail and highway connections from these terminals for transiting goods to the South. It will also require a modernization of the Arctic fleet, including small and medium-sized ships for sea and riverine use, dry cargo and liquid cargo vessels, vessels for the transit of container traffic, tankers of an icebreaker class, specialized vessels for the fishing industry, and scientific research vessels.

The icebreaker fleet must also be upgraded. Russia is one of the only countries with a fleet of icebreakers, and they are working on the newest generation of nuclear-powered icebreakers and the development of specialized icebreakers, reinforced icebreakers, and dou-

ble-plated tankers. The Northern Sea Route is intended to operate year-round from Murmansk in the West to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatka in the East.

Building the Infrastructure

Bringing the Arctic region into the mainstream of world economic development will require a major commitment in terms of investment in transportation and other infrastructure to bring the far reaches of the North into contact with each other, and with the other nations of the Arctic. This will also require the development of a new communications infrastructure: guidance systems for ships and aircraft, equipment for long-distance maritime soundings, and systems of hydrometeorological and hydrographical support for the region, and for the planned scientific expeditions that are to become an integral part of this regional development. New ports are already being planned to service the expected surge in maritime traffic.

Nikolai Patrushev, the chairman of the Russian National Security Council, on Aug. 6, announced that Russia would build ten major sea and air stations along the coast of the Northern Sea Route. Three of the larger centers will be built in Nadjan Mar near the Pechora River, at Dudinka on the mouth of the Yenisei River near Vorkuta, and at Anadyr in Chukotka in the Far East. The other seven smaller emergency centers would be located along the Route at Tiksi, Nadym, Vorkuta, Murmansk, and Arkhangelsk.

The "Strategy" also calls for the development of north-south river and rail corridors to link the Arctic development region with the other regions of the Russian Federation, connecting to the east-west rail lines of the Trans-Siberian and the Baikal-Amur Mainline (BAM) railroads traversing the southern part of Siberia. These will utilize the north-south river systems, the Yenisei, the Ob system, and the Lena River in the East. One meridional corridor will be along the Lena River, connecting to a rail link that will travel from Berkakit to Yakutsk, where it will intersect with the BAM System. From Yakutsk, the goods can be transmitted to the Asian markets, and, when the envisioned Bering Strait Tunnel becomes a reality, to Alaska and to the North American market.

In addition, new highways and north-south rail lines will be built criss-crossing Siberia. By 2020, the reconstruction of a motorway is supposed to be completed to the Kola Peninsula from Saint Petersburg through Petrozavodsk, Murmansk, and Pechenga, to the border

with Norway, connecting the Murmansk port with the central regions of the Russian Federation. Also planned are motorways from the port of Anadyr on the Bering Sea to Pevek on the East Siberian Sea, and from Salekhard to Surgut, as well as the reconstruction of part of the motorway from Severo-Vostok to Polyarny Ural.

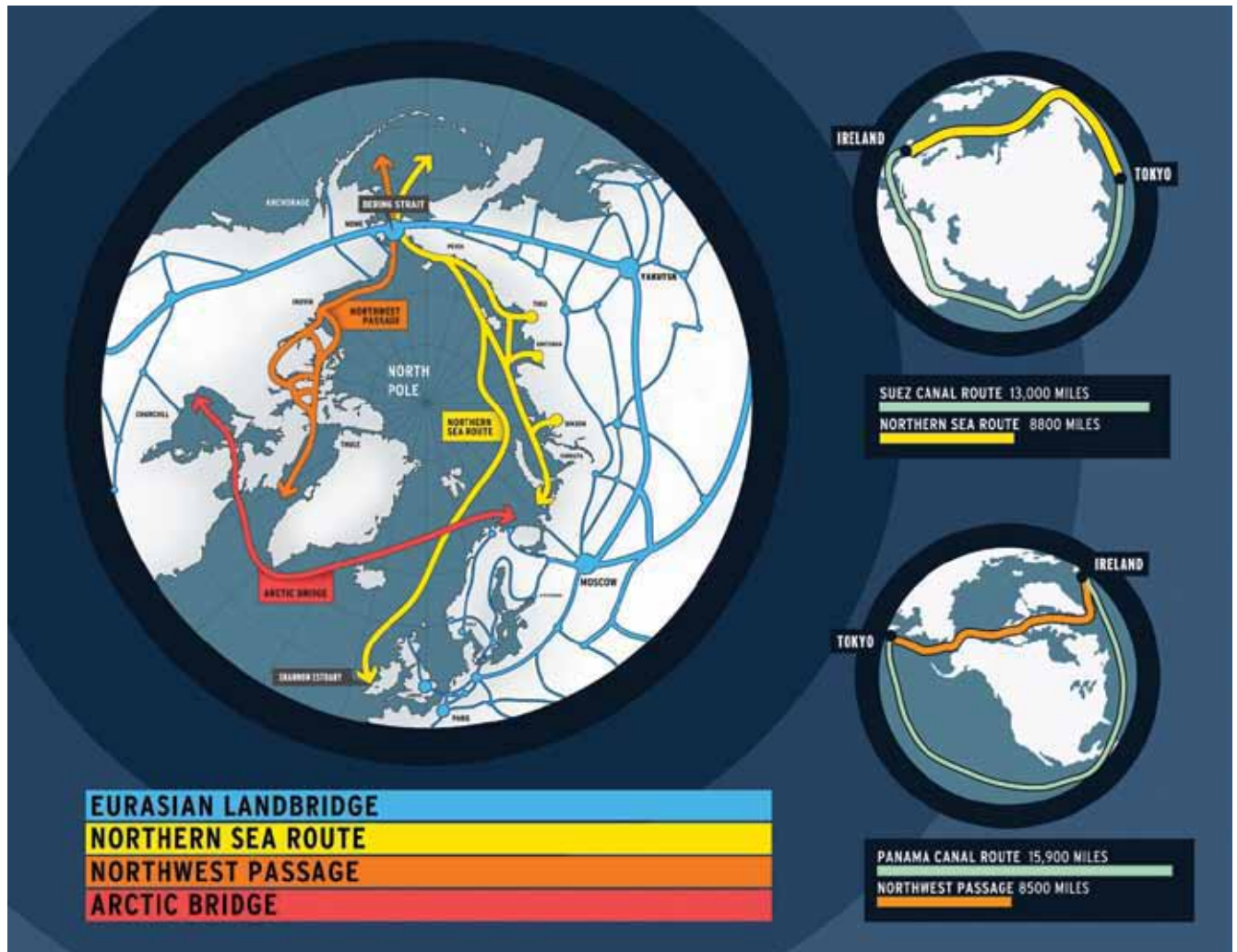
Proposals are also on the table for modernization of the airports in the region. International airports will be built in Murmansk, Archangelsk, and Anadyr. Air-



President Putin has led his nation in its determination to develop the Arctic. Figure 1 shows the Arctic as a major world center, as the ice continues to melt, and trade and transport routes open up along the Northern Sea Route, as well as the Northwest Passage and others.

permier.gov.ru

FIGURE 1
World Sea Routes



LPAC/Chris Jadatz

ports for national traffic will be established at Naryan-Mar, Salekhard, Norilsk, Khatanga, Tiksi, and Pevek. In addition, there will be a network of local airports supporting smaller aircraft, sea planes, and all-use helicopters. New types of amphibious transport are being developed, high-velocity amphibious vessels on dynamic and static air cushions, maritime vessels with wheels or tracks for land passage, platforms on air cushions. The fleet of cross-polar craft will be expanded for passenger traffic.

This infrastructural program will not only benefit the raw materials and energy sectors of the economy, as important as these might be; the fishing industry will receive a new lease on life, with new transportation corridors to bring products to the larger markets in the south of Russia and in Asia. The same goes for regional industries, such as that of the reindeer herders, comprised primarily of the indigenous peoples of the region. The loss of profitability in this industry was largely due to the sparse system of transportation and the distance of the nomadic herders from the social and transport infrastructure. The support that they will receive by the new transportation and communications systems will make possible a renewal of the reindeer herds.

New Centers of Scientific Research

Above all, the new Arctic thrust is science-vectored, emphasizing and enhancing that capability which is of the most value for Russia—its scientific cadre. The Arctic will become a new field for scientific exploration, an area of the world in which we still have so much to learn regarding the dynamics of our planet. The “Strategy” includes plans for the creation of an entire new generation of scientific vessels to study the deep-sea environment and the hydronautics of the region and will entail the use of instruments adapted for use in polar conditions.

This will involve not only land-based and sea-faring capabilities, but also space-based capabilities. The “Strategy” envisions the creation of a new “Arktika” system of satellite observation. The system will focus on three main areas: polar hydrography (geodesic fields in the Arctic Ocean, the character of the soil and the shores, the dynamics of the ocean bottoms, geophysical conditions, the state of the upper atmosphere, polar hydro-meteorology (ice conditions, weather and climate), as well as a study of the natural eco-system, plant and animal life in the sea). There will also be more

specific monitoring, examining, and predicting of the ice conditions, serving the interests of Arctic navigation.

“The creation of the Arktika system will not only allow us to monitor the ecology of the Arctic shelf, the water temperatures, the thickness of the ice floe and the pollution levels, all year round, but will also ensure the effectiveness and safety of the exploration of the shelf for our own and foreign companies,” Anatoly Perminov, former head of the Russian Federal Space Agency Roscosmos told reporters in April 2010. This entails a collaboration among space assets, hydrographic vessels, aircraft equipped for monitoring the ice floe, and observations from on-shore facilities. The goal is to ultimately develop an automated process for Arctic navigation with the aid of an electronic map. By 2020, it is planned to have a network of control and monitoring stations for the GLONASS GPS system all along the Northern Route.

The educational system of the Arctic region will be upgraded. There are two major universities in the Russian Arctic, the M.V. Lomonosov Northern Federal University in Arkhangelsk, established by then-Prime

Breaking the Ice on Arctic Development



LPAC's Michelle Fuchs reports on two sides of a potential global perspective for Arctic development: One, Russia's planned Arctic City, dubbed "Umka," which will be modelled on the International Space Station; and two, the planned expansion of the River Shannon Estuary, which will make Ireland a lead player in deep-sea science. (27 minutes).

<http://larouchepac.com/node/20614>

FIGURE 2
The Arctic Region



Minister Putin in 2010, by combining the resident Pomor University and the Technical University into a top-rank federal institution, and the M.K. Ammosov Northeastern Federal University in Yakutsk. It has also been proposed that an Arctic Research Center in the Arkhangelsk Region be created, under the Russian Academy of Sciences, to focus on interdisciplinary studies of the Arctic, to give a fresh boost to science in the North.

There will be a significant upgrading of teaching staffs, and the universities are supposed to be provided with generous funding in order to conduct research in a variety of fields important for the region: hydrocarbon and coal chemistry, information technology and telecommunications, biotechnology and biochemical-biophysical diagnostics, and preventive and medical technologies. Other regional colleges will be affiliated with these two full-scale universities in order to meet the requirements for providing bachelors degrees and developing new university complexes that combine both research and teaching.

This year, students of the Northern Federal University participated in the first “floating university” for 40 days in the Arctic region, conducting experiments along the way, and collecting specimens from the places they visited. President Putin proposed that they conduct such expeditions on an annual basis.

Improving Living Standards with Nuclear Power

The government’s intention is that the infrastructure will encourage migration to the northern regions. This requires a leap forward in creating the conditions for long-term habitation in the Arctic climate, including research on new materials (particularly basalt fibers), and technologies for construction of modular units adapted to Arctic conditions, for example, better heat insulation. Much of this research will also be applicable in the planning of habitats for



To supply the region with energy, the Russian government has decided to place eight floating nuclear power plants along the northern coast. This photo shows the Akademik Lomonosov, a floating nuclear power station, being launched at Baltiyskiy shipyard in St. Petersburg.

man in other aversive environments, such as on the Moon or Mars.³

To supply the region with energy, the Russian government has decided to place eight floating nuclear power plants along the northern coast. Russia took the lead in the 1970s in developing the floating nuclear plant technology, but what with the Gorbachov/Yeltsin years of destruction of the Russian economy, and the simultaneous rise of the Green movement, much of this was put on hold. Now, with the determination of the Putin government to proceed with a major program of Arctic development, floating nuclear power plants are again on the agenda. These are also being developed for use as the gas and oil production proceeds closer to the region of the North Pole along the Lomonosov Ridge. The first such reactor, the Akademik Lomonosov, is already completed and waiting to be deployed.

The medical facilities in the Far North will also have to be significantly upgraded. The “Strategy” calls for creating new first aid stations, training a new generation of paramedics, raising the level of the medical professionals in the region, including the introduction of more

3. See “Man in the Arctic—But How?,” a speech by Ulf Sandmark, EIR’s Stockholm Bureau Chief, to the Schiller Institute Conference in Berlin Feb. 25-26, 2012.



www.pryroda.gov.ua

The importance of the Arctic project for the overall development of Russia's industrial infrastructure, including the space program, cannot be underestimated. Here, an Arctic explorer launches his boat into the icy waters during the International Polar Year 2007-2008.

medical specialists, integrating medical computerization and telecommunications technology to tap into medical assets and specialists available in other parts of the country. New medical clinics will be created throughout the region. Mobile medical brigades will be established for specialized treatment, including deployment of mobile stomatological and X-ray units. Ambulance services and airborne medical evacuation units will also be deployed.

The "Strategy" also broaches the problem, so prevalent in the dark northern Winters, of psychological depression. Additional outlays from the federal budget will be earmarked for creating centers of culture and community in the outlying regions. In the cities, it will be possible to develop an active artistic and cultural life. For the smaller towns and villages, multi-functional centers could be set up (cultural-sporting complexes), and mobile services in the cultural realm could be provided to the residents.

A Phased Approach

Three distinct phases are envisioned in the "Strategy." The first, scheduled to last until 2014, will be to create the preconditions for a stable socio-economic development of the Arctic region. This will include a coordinated response between federal and local author-

ities, the establishment of public-private partnerships for regional development, the creation of a financial platform for the needed infrastructural investment, regulating the federal laws governing utilization of the Arctic zone, and the establishment of the needed investment projects for regional development region.

The second phase, which is scheduled to last until 2017, calls for establishing an "innovative trajectory" for the region. This would involve, among other things, establishing the competitive predominance of Russia in the region's mining industry and in the transport of energy and mineral resources; a defense system for the Arctic zone, including a frontier and border guard infrastructure; comprehensive control of the adjacent waters of the region; developing the infrastructure of the sea route; and opening up some of the other mineral and maritime biological resources of the region.

The third phase, scheduled to be completed by 2020, involves the activation of sub-regional and international collaboration in order to form a general social-cultural and economic space, and division of labor together with the adjacent Arctic regions.

The plan for starting to build the ten emergency stations along the NSR has already been set into motion, with ground already broken on the first station. The Russian shipbuilding industry is constructing the next-generation atomic icebreaker, but is tied up in a financing dispute, an indication of the type of pitfalls the plan faces. It is a new design, and will be one of the biggest and most powerful icebreakers in the world. Four ships this year have already traversed the Northern Sea Route between the Pacific and the Atlantic Oceans, including the *Snow Dragon*, the first Chinese icebreaker to make the trip, and doing it in ten days.

The importance of the Arctic project for the overall development of Russia's industrial infrastructure, including the space program, cannot be underestimated. Building in the difficult conditions of the Arctic is not unlike building a station on the Moon or on Mars. Lessons learned from overcoming the difficult weather and geological conditions of the Russian Far North can be and will be applied as we move for construction in the

more far-flung reaches of our galaxy.

And as Lyndon LaRouche has always emphasized, by learning to build cities on the Moon, we will more effectively be able to build cities and renovate here on Earth. Conversely, by learning to build a habitat for Man in the frozen conditions of the Arctic or Antarctic, we will learn the capabilities needed for building a habitat for man on other relevant celestial bodies. For man, the explorer and scientist, the “New Frontier” is always just ahead of us.

But putting plans on the table is only the initial—and easiest—stage in such a grand undertaking. Mobi-

lizing the resources needed will require a determined political fight with those forces in Russia—and internationally—intent on satisfying the demands of the London-Wall Street financial oligarchy to impose austerity and population reduction, in a frantic attempt to save the bankrupt system. Unless decisive changes are made in the direction of a Glass-Steagall firewall for the world economy, many of these far-sighted plans will go unrealized. And the Arctic will become, not a project for world development, but rather a new arena for conflict among nations, fighting over the dwindling resources in a stagnant world economy.

Russian Government Gears Up for APEC Summit

Aug. 28—The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC 2012) summit will bring leaders from all around the Pacific Rim (but not U.S. President Barack Obama) to Russia’s Pacific coast port city of Vladivostok on Sept. 7-8. First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov today gave a press conference on the Russian perspective for the meeting: Moscow wants a big surge in its Asia trade. “Our trade potential with these countries is underdeveloped; we’re barely using a quarter of it,” Shuvalov said.

Woven throughout Shuvalov’s remarks was the growing Russian concern, which President Vladimir Putin has also voiced, about its economy getting hit by the Eurozone crisis, because 50% of Russian foreign trade is with Europe and the majority of its budget revenue derives from foreign trade (oil and gas exports). “The future of faster growth for us is to have two strong legs, a European one and an Asian one,” he said. Russia will try to use the APEC summit to engage its neighbors more seriously in investing in Siberia and the Russian Far East.

Underinvestment there is a major issue right now. Victor Ishayev, the Presidential Representative to the Far East Federal District and now also Minister for Far East Development, warned July 2 that so far this year, “the federal government has slashed by 80%

the amount of investment going into the Far East. . . . The Far East can be developed only through federal investment and big projects,” but such projects have not been approved. Even the site-preparation work at a flagship project such as the building of Cosmodrome Vostochny, Ishayev said on July 24, is slogging along because only 2 billion rubles were disbursed for it this year, although nearly 8 billion rubles worth of work has already been done, and more like 15-16 billion rubles were needed.

With the Russian budget-formation process still operating under monetarist rules, the Finance Ministry last month announced it will seek to cut at least 12% from 2013 federal spending (equivalent to tens of billions of dollars). Since defense, debt service, and the social spending promised by Putin during the Presidential campaign are protected from cuts, the Finance Ministry seeks to slash funds for “the regions” and for Russian Railways, among other needs—exactly the spending areas that would include projects in Siberia and the Far East.

At a July session of a new State Council working group on “issues of improving the economic and demographic development of Siberia and the Far East,” Amur Region Gov. Oleg Kozhemyako, who heads the Council, cited a recent alarming poll that found 40% of the population of these regions wanting to leave because of economic stagnation and living conditions. Kozhemyako announced that the working group’s team of economists will prepare new proposals for deliberation this Autumn.

—Rachel Douglas

Rep. Walter Jones to Obama: 'Abide by Our Constitution'

Sept. 4—Congressman Walter B. Jones, Jr. (R-N.C.), author of a House Concurrent Resolution, introduced March 7, 2012, that effectively threatens the President with impeachment should he start a war without explicit Congressional approval, took a new step on Aug. 30, and sent the following letter to President Barack Obama, by e-mail and hard copy:

Dear Mr. President:

This letter is written to you out of grave concern that you will once again lead our nation into war without authorization from the Congress. As tensions and rhetoric rise in Syria and Iran, the power to declare war remains vested in the Congress. No resolution from the United Nations or NATO can supersede the power carefully entrusted with the representatives of the American people.

Whether it is Korea, Yugoslavia, or Libya, presidents have continually disregarded the Constitution and sent Americans to war without congressional authorization. In order to prevent further encroachment of executive power, I have introduced House Concurrent Resolution 107. My Resolution states:

“except in response to an actual or imminent attack against the territory of the United States, the use of offensive military force by a President without prior and clear authorization of an Act of Congress violates Congress’s exclusive power to declare war under article I, section 8, clause 11 of the Constitution and therefore constitutes an impeachable high crime and misdemeanor under article II, section 4 of the Constitution.”

The above simply *restates* the Constitution. Our founding fathers had the unique perspective of living subject to the wars of choice waged by a King. As James Madison wrote, allowing the President alone to take the country into war would be “too much of a temptation for one man.”

Outside of an actual or imminent attack on America, the only precursor to war can be the authorization of Congress. I call on you to abide by our Constitution, and rely on our country’s representatives to decide when war is necessary. There is no greater responsibility than to send our sons and daughters to war. That responsibility remains with the United States Congress.

Sincerely,

Walter B. Jones

Member of Congress

Where Are the Patriots?

Since Representative Jones put forward HCR 107 back in March, he has received enthusiastic feedback from the public—but only gained *nine* co-sponsors. This, despite the fact that the Obama Administration has been increasingly beating the drums for war, especially in Syria, since the Spring, and that such a war would lead directly toward thermonuclear confrontation with Russia and China.

In alphabetical order, the co-sponsors are: Rep. Dan Benishek (Mich.); Rep. Dan Burton (Ind.); Rep. Mike Coffman (Colo.); Rep. John J. Duncan, Jr. (Tenn.); Rep. Louie Gohmert (Tex.); Rep. Tom McClintock (Calif.);



Courtesy of Rep. Walter Jones

Representative Jones (second from right) at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He asks the President to “abide by our Constitution.” Why have so few Congressmen had the courage to support him?

Rep. Michael H. Michaud (Me.); Rep. Ron Paul (Tex.); and Rep. Reid, Jr. (Wisc.).

The only Democrat among this group is Representative Michaud of Maine—a shameful reflection of the fact that the Democratic Party is functioning under the heel of the power-crazed Obama White House, which puts extraordinary effort into intimidating the Congress. Thus, even those prominent anti-war Democrats who have joined with Congressman Jones in drafting legislation against the permanent war in Afghanistan, or who worked with him in opposing illegal wars previously, have sat on the sidelines. This includes such self-proclaimed iconoclasts as Dennis Kucinich (Ohio) and John Conyers (Mich).

Equally shameful is the fact that so few from the Republican majority in the House have been willing to co-sponsor a resolution which, as Jones notes in his letter to Obama, primarily restates the language of the Constitution, which they have sworn an oath to uphold. Jones reports having extensive discussions with his colleagues, including Judiciary Committee chairman Lamar Smith (R-Tex.), about the urgent necessity of hearings on HCR 107. So far, those pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

Kerry’s Disgusting Role

Despite considerable interest among Senators opposed to the Obama permanent war policy—and push

toward thermonuclear confrontation by a repeat of the unconstitutional Libya operation—no Senator has yet introduced a parallel resolution in the Senate. Thus Congress is signalling that it will “roll over” to Obama’s British Empire strategy of eliminating national sovereignty once again.

The key culprit in Congress in the Libya case was none other than the previously anti-war John Kerry (D-Mass.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who ran interference for President Obama’s illegal operation. The crucial point came at a hearing June 28, 2011, at which he rammed through a decision which enabled President Obama to flagrantly override the Constitution and the War Powers Resolution, to launch a war against Libya without

Congressional approval.

Obama’s defense for violating the Constitution, as he stated in a July 6 press conference, is that he doesn’t have to justify his actions in Libya, with reference to the Constitution, but can act on his own, for “humanitarian” missions.

Kerry refused to challenge Obama’s lies. He ignored those members of the Senate who opposed the illicit war, and refused to have the Foreign Relations Committee demand of Obama that he get approval of Congress. That action would have prevented Obama from continuing the U.S. military contribution on which the nominally French and British-led mission depended—and might perhaps have prevented the barbaric, extra-judicial murder of Muammar Qaddafi. The global war drive, which the British Empire has demanded in the face of its own imminent collapse, would have been aborted.

Kerry, whom some believe to have been viciously threatened in order to abandon his traditional anti-war stance, has not recanted, or changed his behavior in the least. Not only has he refused to join other Senators, such as James Webb (D-Va.), who is retiring from the Senate, in raising the alarm against a possible war against Syria, but he is scheduled to grandstand for Obama’s killing policy at the Democratic National Convention.

If America’s political leaders continue to allow this kind of behavior from their elected officials, we are on a rapid trajectory toward thermonuclear war.

Patriots Cannot Vote For Killer Obama

by EIR staff

Sept. 4—In two prominent op-eds, published in the second half of August, two prominent legal commentators from different ends of the political spectrum excoriated President Barack Obama for his crimes against the Constitution. Their message was clear: Anyone who votes for Obama is endorsing a killer.

‘A Limitless Presidency’

In the Aug. 17 nationalinterest.org commentary with the above title, former Reagan Administration official Bruce Fein, who had also called for the impeachment of George W. Bush, and has drafted articles of impeachment for Obama,¹ wrote a scathing column about the character of the Obama Presidency.

He wrote: “President Obama’s uncircumscribed power to kill through drone strikes sits alongside numerous other usurpations. He maintains that entrustment of executive power to the president in Article II crowns him with authority to commence war at any time, in any place, for any reason. He unilaterally initiated war against Libya in violation of the Constitution and the War Powers Resolution. And don’t expect Obama to seek congressional authorization, as required by Article I, section 8, clause 10, if he chooses to unleash war against Iran, Syria, Yemen, Mali, Pakistan, North Korea or China. Obama also insists that the so-called war against international terrorism is perpetual

and occupies every square inch of the planet where he may use military force....

“At home the president takes a blithe attitude toward the tradition of separation of powers. He invokes state secrets to block judicial redress for constitutional wrongdoing—for example, government-sponsored murder, torture, or kidnapping related to the war on terror. He issues presidential signing statements denying congressional authority to restrict his discretion in foreign affairs. In such matters, Congress has surrendered without a whimper because of party loyalties and a cowardly craving to escape accountability.”

Fein concludes with an assessment that parallels Lyndon LaRouche’s recent admonition that it is we, the American people, who are responsible for continuing to numbly sit under a sword of Damocles: “President Obama believes in secret government unaccountable to Congress, the courts, or the American people. If he announced he was suspending the Constitution and ruling by decree to defeat international terrorism, it wouldn’t be fanciful to predict that Congress and the American people would simply acquiesce like vassals. As the historian Tacitus observed, when Republics yield to tyranny, ‘the worst crimes are dared by a few, willed by more, and tolerated by all.’”



Center for American Progress/Ralph Alswang

Bruce Fein: “President Obama believes in secret government unaccountable to Congress, the courts, or the American people.”

Obama Has ‘Crossed the Rubicon’

Approximately two weeks later, the more liberal legal scholar, Jonathan Turley, gave a lengthy interview to actor, producer, and screenwriter John Cusack, published on truth-out.org, in which he blasted the Obama Administration’s violations of the Constitution, and the acquiescence of most liberals to these crimes. The argument that Mitt Romney is “no better or worse” does not excuse the voter from voting for Obama, Turley argues.

“For many civil libertarians it is impossible to vote for someone who has blocked the prosecution of war

1. See [EIR](#), March 23, 2012.

crimes. That's where you cross the Rubicon for most civil libertarians. That was a turning point for many who simply cannot vote for someone who is accused of that type of violation."

The interview demonstrates that Turley was not just commenting, but forcefully asserting that Obama and his crimes cannot be tolerated. Turley was the attorney for ten Congressmen in their lawsuit to try to halt President Obama's illegal war on Libya.

Here are excerpts from the interview:

Turley: In fact, President Obama has not only maintained the position of George W. Bush in the area of national securities and in civil liberties, he's actually expanded on those positions. He is actually worse than George Bush in some areas.

Cusack: Can you speak to which ones?

Turley: Well, a good example of it is that President Bush ordered the killing of an American citizen when he approved a drone strike on a car in Yemen that he knew contained an American citizen as a passenger. Many of us at the time said, "You just effectively ordered the death of an American citizen in order to kill someone else, and where exactly do you have that authority?" But they made an argument that because the citizen wasn't the primary target, he was just collateral damage. And there are many that believe that that is a plausible argument.

Cusack: By the way, we're forgetting to kill even a foreign citizen is against the law. I hate to be so quaint....

Turley: Well, President Obama outdid President Bush. He ordered the killing of two U.S. citizens as the primary targets and has then gone forward and put out a policy that allows him to kill any American citizen when he unilaterally determines them to be a terrorist threat. Where President Bush had a citizen killed as collateral damage, President Obama has actually a formal policy allowing him to kill any U.S. citizen....

Turley: Indeed. I heard from people in the adminis-

tration after I wrote a column a couple weeks ago about the assassination policy. And they basically said, "Look, you're not giving us our due. Holder said in the speech that we are following a constitutional analysis. And we have standards that we apply." It is an incredibly seductive argument, but there is an incredible intellectual disconnect. Whatever they are doing, it can't be called a constitutional process.



Jonathan Turley: "We have what used to be called an 'imperial presidency.'"

Obama has asserted the right to kill any citizen that he believes is a terrorist. He is not bound by this panel that only exists as an extension of his claimed inherent absolute authority. He can ignore them. He can circumvent them. In the end, with or without a panel, a president is unilaterally killing a U.S. citizen. This is exactly what the framers of the Constitution told us not to do....

Turley: The greatest problem is what it has done to us and what our relative silence signifies. Liberals and civil libertarians have lost their own credibility, their own moral standing, with the sup-

port of President Obama....

Under international law, shielding people from war-crime prosecutions is itself a form of war crime. They're both violations of international law....

Turley: We appear to be in a sort of a free-fall. We have what used to be called an "imperial presidency."

Cusack: Obama is far more of an imperial president than Bush in many ways, wouldn't you say?

Turley: Oh, President Obama has created an imperial presidency that would have made Richard Nixon blush. It is unbelievable....

You have Obama doing the same thing that George Bush did sitting there like Caesar....

Throughout the interview, Turley paralleled the approach of Lyndon LaRouche, in directing much of his fire at the American people, particularly the liberal civil libertarian community, which has knuckled under to Obama's imperial Presidency. Attorney General Eric Holder defends Obama's violations of the Constitution, and "people have greeted this erosion of civil liberties with this collective yawn," Turkey concludes.

IN MEMORIAM

Neil Armstrong: 1930-2012

The Mission and the Man

by Marsha Freeman

The death of former Apollo astronaut Neil Armstrong, on Aug. 25, obliges us to remember who we are, and where we are going. His footprints on the Moon, made on July 20, 1969, were celebrated around the world as the greatest technological triumph of the 20th Century, and the fulfillment of the dream of past civilizations. It was the quintessential expression of what it means to be human.

The Apollo program was an expression of the optimism for the future of President John F. Kennedy, and of a generation which had defeated fascism in the Second World War, and saw the remainder of the 20th Century as an opportunity to take man to new heights. For Armstrong, it was not his personal accomplishment, but a product of the tireless efforts of nearly a half million Americans who made the success of his mission possible, and whom he felt deserved the credit.

The Apollo 11 mission was watched with breathless anticipation by hundreds of millions around the world, some of whose governments had brought access to television to their nation, just so their people could see history in the making. The plaque that the Apollo 11 astronauts left on the surface of the Moon, announced that they had come, not for the greater glory of the United States, but “in peace for all mankind.”

But the first lunar landing also came at a time when American society was in great upheaval; when the Constitutional foundations of this Republic, which were the foundation for the success of Apollo, were being buried



NASA

Neil Armstrong's "small step" off the lunar lander on to the surface of the Moon on July 20, 1969 fulfilled a dream of generations. It was, Armstrong always stressed, the dedicated work of hundreds of thousands of Americans, which made the first lunar landing possible.

under anti-science, anti-social anarchy, and political mediocrity. The very concepts that drove the Apollo program—that there are no limits to human creativity; that it is the responsibility of the Republic to provide for the “general welfare” of its citizens, and that this is realized through great national projects; that it is technological progress that is the measure of the health and wealth of our society—were all being challenged.

When, in May 1961, President Kennedy instructed NASA to “land a man on the Moon and return him safely to the Earth” by the end of the decade, knowledgeable people at the space agency thought there was a 50/50 chance that NASA could do it. When Neil Armstrong lifted off on July 16, 1969 to fulfill the President’s Apollo mandate, he gave his mission the same odds for success.

But the President had given the nation a mission. He had announced it before a joint session of Congress, and before the American people. He said the mission would be dangerous, difficult, and costly. And he advised that if the Congress were not prepared to support the effort to go all the way, it were better not to go at all. The Apollo program succeeded because the nation had a mission.

All of the Apollo astronauts trained long and hard for their flights. Any one could have been given the privilege of being “the first man.” This assignment was given to Armstrong because he best symbolized what the first manned landing on the Moon would represent for all of human history.

Neil Armstrong had been fascinated by aviation as a youngster, and had his pilot’s license at the age of 16. In 1949, he signed up for Navy flight training, and after the Korean War, earned an aeronautical engineering degree at Purdue University. Six years later, he joined NASA’s predecessor, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, and test-piloted an array of research planes. In 1962, he applied to become an astronaut.

Armstrong proved his mettle in the first in-space incident which could have ended in disaster, during the Gemini 8 attempt to rendezvous and dock with another spacecraft. Here was a man, having flown 78 combat missions in the Korean War, who could call upon what he knew to stay focused under stress.

But it was his “lack of ego,” as described by Apollo flight control director Chris Kraft, which was a decisive factor in NASA’s choice. For Armstrong, it was not his personal glory, it was the mission. After retiring from NASA, rather than seeking fame or fortune, Armstrong continued the mission. He had already inspired many thousands of young people around the world, who had seen him walk on the Moon, to follow in his footsteps. He became a professor of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Cincinnati, educating the next generation of scientists and engineers. He lent his expertise to smaller high-technology companies, to help them solve the engineering challenges they faced.

No one contributing to the Apollo program through-

out the 1960s ever considered that the first handful of Moon landings would be the end of lunar exploration, but, instead, just the beginning. In his message to Congress in 1961, in addition to the lunar mission, President Kennedy had recommended increasing funding for the space nuclear power program, so man could go even farther than the Moon in the future.

In speeches in later years, Armstrong lamented the discarding of a long-range plan for space, beginning with the Nixon Administration’s cancellation of the follow-on lunar program in the early 1970s. Then, in 2004, there was hope that the Constellation initiative of President George W. Bush would reestablish the return to the Moon and later manned missions to Mars, as the nation’s goals for space exploration.

Former NASA Administrator Mike Griffin, upon learning of Armstrong’s death on Aug. 25, stated that the “real lessons from his life lie in how he behaved in the 43 years after Apollo 11. He showed us how to be famous with dignity, how to be celebrated without becoming a celebrity, and how to do it with a gracious modesty and the unyielding courage to do the right thing as he saw it.”

When President Obama cancelled the Constellation program in 2010, Armstrong had “the unyielding courage” to do what he did very rarely in public—speak out. Never one to come to the nation’s capital seeking publicity, but generally at the behest of the White House to celebrate an Apollo anniversary, Armstrong traveled to Washington to “do the right thing,” and testify before Congress, in the Spring of 2010.

‘Descent into Mediocrity’

Campaigning for the Presidency in 2008, Barack Obama had proposed that NASA’s Moon-Mars Constellation program be “delayed”; that instead of a space mission, those billions of dollars be put into some undefined programs in education. Under pressure from Space Coast political figures and citizens in the electoral swing state of Florida, the campaign was forced to backtrack somewhat. But the incoming Obama Administration was determined to kill the manned space program.

In the February 2010 submission to the Congress of the White House’s proposed NASA budget for fiscal year 2011, the Constellation program was cancelled. The Congress was outraged. So was Neil Armstrong.

In April, Armstrong penned a letter to President Obama, also signed by Apollo 13 Commander James Lovell and Apollo 17 Commander Gene Cernan, warning the President that his cancellation of Constellation



House Committee on Science, Space, & Technology

After decades of staying out of the public limelight, Neil Armstrong traveled to Capitol Hill, to protest President Obama's cancellation of NASA's manned space exploration program. Here Armstrong (speaking), and Apollo 17 Commander Gene Cernan, testify at a hearing Sept. 22, 2011, to consider the future of NASA's human space flight programs.

was “devastating” to America’s leadership in space. Hiving off Earth-orbital space transportation to the private sector, and cancelling the Ares I rocket and Orion space capsule, meant that the U.S. “is far too likely to be on a long downhill slide to mediocrity,” they stated.

In extremely rare public appearances in front of television cameras, Armstrong testified before the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on May 12, and before the House Committee on Science and Technology two weeks later. In direct juxtaposition to the statements of his Apollo 11 crewmate, Buzz Aldrin, Armstrong ridiculed Aldrin’s statement, repeated by Obama, that there was no need to go back to the Moon, because we [meaning, Aldrin] had already “been there, done that.”

“Some question why America should return to the Moon,” Armstrong told Members of the House of Representatives on May 26. “I find that mystifying. It would be as if 16th-Century monarchs proclaimed that ‘we need not go to the New World, we have already been there.’ Or, as if President Thomas Jefferson announced in 1808 that Americans ‘need not go west of the Mississippi, the Lewis and Clark Expedition has already been there.’ Americans have visited and examined six locations on Luna,” he stated. “That leaves more than 14 million square miles yet to explore.”

Armstrong challenged each specific proposed policy change of the Administration, explaining that the end

result would be that America would be abandoning its half-century of leadership in space exploration. Putting his credibility on the line, for a cause that he felt passionately about, he would mince no words, nor compromise.

Immortality

During the May 26, 2010 House hearing, Rep. Michael McCaul, Republican from Texas, addressing Armstrong, said: “One thousand years from now, no one in this room will be remembered, except for you.” While it is certainly the case that Armstrong has achieved a secure place in the history of civilization, there is no assurance that his immortal contribution will not be lost for generations into the future, without concerted action to change the present.

In 2005, actor Tom Hanks, an enthusiastic supporter of space exploration who had portrayed Commander Lovell in the film “Apollo 13,” produced and narrated a movie, “Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3D.” His reason for making the film was his concern that the lunar landing, which he describes as “an evolutionary step” in mankind’s development, and Neil Armstrong himself, were losing their immortal place in universal history.

Hanks makes this point clear in the opening scene of the film, where children at the California Science Center are asked to name the first man who stepped on to the Moon. The responses are disappointing.

Today, as Armstrong has eloquently insisted, the nation is on the verge of throwing away, not only a half-century of stunning breakthroughs in science and technology, but the promises for the future that were the fruit of those accomplishments.

In 2005, at the age of 75, Armstrong was asked by CBS’s Ed Bradley if a later mission to Mars was something he would consider, at this point in his life. “I don’t think I’m going to get the chance,” he responded. “But I don’t want to say that I’m not available.”

With the passing of Neil Armstrong, one is reminded of the words spoken by Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, early on the morning of April 15, 1865 as he left the bedside of the just-deceased President Abraham Lincoln: “Now, he belongs to the ages.”

And now is the time to take responsibility for ensuring that the accomplishments of Neil Armstrong and the Apollo program are but the stepping stones to the missions of exploration that lie in the future.

Curiosity Is a Game-Changer; Will There Be Future Missions?

EIR Technology Editor Marsha Freeman, who has written widely on the U.S. space program, and most recently about the Mars rover Curiosity mission, was interviewed on Aug. 22, by Liona Fan-Chiang of LaRouchePAC, on the historical significance of the Curiosity landing, and where we go from here. The interview was made available to EIR.

LaRouchePAC: What made the recent NASA Mars landing success possible?

Marsha Freeman: Curiosity is really the culmination of a 40-year, very methodical series of missions to Mars.

When we started out in the mid-1960s, we were very lucky if we got a rocket off the launch-pad without it exploding. And the first few missions to Mars were really just a matter of launching a spacecraft, throwing it out there, and heading it in the direction of Mars. We really couldn't control it very much, and we just hoped for the best. We didn't have rockets on board that could slow the spacecraft down, so we couldn't go into orbit around Mars.

So the first couple of spacecraft—these were Mariners—just flew by. On their way, as they came close to Mars, they were able to snap a few dozen pictures. And, of course, the spacecraft were moving pretty quickly, and it was 1960s photographic technology, not even what you have on your cellphone today; very far from it.

Those pictures were very disappointing. We saw sort of something fuzzy, kind of featureless, maybe some craters, but nothing that looked like the creatures that people writing science fiction had envisioned as living on Mars.



By the early 1970s, our rocket technology was better, and we could actually launch a spacecraft that would not just whizz by the planet, but that could actually go into orbit. So Mariner 9 in 1971 slowed down, got captured by Mars' gravity, and, for about a year, took pretty good pictures of Mars. Then, we began to see something very different: You could see mountains, craters, canyons, and large-scale geographic formations. So it became very clear that this was not a boring place; that it was a place that probably had

changed over time, maybe over billions of years, but that definitely had changed. So this now became much more interesting.

The Viking Mission

One of the questions that posed itself from the very beginning was the question of life; not "little green men," and the things that science fiction imagined, but maybe microbes, maybe something even a little bit bigger, that might have lived on Mars in the past, or might even still be there today.

That drove the next series of missions. Could we go there and find life on Mars, or maybe fossils?

So, in the mid-1970s, we sent a pair of fabulous spacecraft. This was the Viking mission. It included two landers and two orbiters, so that while the landers would be looking at Mars on the ground, the orbiters would be providing a larger context for what they were looking for, by looking down from orbit.

The Viking landers did chemistry experiments, some atmospheric experiments, took a look around. They saw frost on the rocks on Mars in the morning, which gave us an interesting idea of how water that is

trapped at the poles—the north and south poles of Mars—moves around and evaporates at certain times, and then freezes, and puts frost on the soil and the rocks.

There was a series of chemistry experiments on Viking, the life-science experiments: Would we find an indication of life? We didn't think that the cameras were going to see little things running around, but we figured that since all life on Earth involves carbon, in one way or the other, and organic compounds—would we find those?

Well, the instruments worked very well, they worked very hard, but when the results came back to scientists on Earth, there was disagreement. One of the primary experiments, called the Labeled Release experiment, actually indicated that there had been life—in the soil that was taken as a sample by the robot arm, and put into a little oven—they fed it with radioactive carbon, and they felt that if there were any organisms in the soil, the organisms would eat the carbon, and they would exhale the radioactive carbon, and we would be able to detect that.

The chief scientist on that experiment, Gilbert Levin, looked at the results, and he was convinced, and there were indications that that had happened. This was very, very exciting. The problem was that one of the other life-science experiments on the Viking lander showed no indication of organic material at all.

The scientists assumed that if there were no evidence of organics, there could not be any kind of living creatures. So, the evidence was contradictory. The scientific community—if you want to just make a whole group out of Mars scientists—decided that the Labeled Release experiment, which indicated that there might have been organics, was contaminated, and whatever it showed, did not show life.

For many years, the scientific community was willing to close the book on life on Mars. Gil Levin, however, the scientist, never gave up. He continued to do research; he continued to investigate his results; and in the years following that, some very, very interesting things were found.

One, they took the instrument that showed no organics on Mars, and they took it around to the Atacama Desert in Chile, which is very, very dry; hardly anything lives there. They took measurements of the soil, like they did on Mars, and this equipment could not find organics, had no indication of life. And the scientists said, if Viking had landed here in the desert

in Chile, we would assume that this planet, Earth, had no life!

Well, that threw people for a loop! It just wasn't sensitive enough—and again, it was early 1970s technology.

The Phoenix Lander

Then, in the late 1990s, a small lander, called Phoenix, landed in the north polar region—not right on the polar cap, but a high-latitude region, which has a lot of water ice in the soil, almost like permafrost. And its mission was, again, to dig up some soil, which it had some trouble doing, and analyze it; and get a much better sense of what the water ice inventory is on Mars. And it did that very well.

It also made a very surprising discovery, which no one expected: It found, in looking at the chemical composition of the soil near the lander, a chemical called perchlorate, which is a chlorine compound.

Now, what is interesting about that: One, we know that liquid water, under the circumstances—what we know about the environment on Mars, the temperature, the pressure—we don't have liquid water on the surface now. There is plenty of evidence that there were lakes, that there were rivers; you see deltas, you see channels; but we don't expect to find liquid water on the surface now. It's too cold, for one thing.

Interestingly, perchlorate is a chlorine salt that lowers the freezing temperature of water. On Earth, we know that water freezes at 32°F, but on Mars, maybe it doesn't freeze until it goes down to 20°F or 15°F, in places where this chemical exists. That's very, very intriguing! Not just for the surface, but even underground. Maybe there is more liquid water underground than we can imagine, even where it's cold.

But the other thing, in terms of the Viking life experiment, that was very intriguing, is, first of all, perchlorate can be a food for microbes! There are certain microbes that we have found in extreme environments on Earth, that actually can take this chlorine compound, and ingest it and metabolize it, and use it as food.

The other very, very interesting thing is that they found that if you heat perchlorate to certain temperatures, it will oxidize other chemicals. Let's just take an example out of the air, so to speak—carbon dioxide. Perchlorate will pull the oxygen out of the carbon dioxide, and oxidize the chemical.

Well, this means that if there were perchlorate where



NASA

In the mid-1970s, the Viking mission sent two landers and two orbiters to Mars, so that, while the landers looked at the planet up close, the orbiters would provide a view of the larger context. Shown: an artist's impression of the Viking orbiter releasing the lander descent capsule.

the Viking experiment took the sample, when they put the Viking sample into an oven and raised the temperature, the perchlorate may have destroyed any organics, meaning carbon-oxygen compounds. We wouldn't have found them.

This raises a lot of questions.

Now, the Viking instruments did not find perchlorate where Viking landed. But Viking was not a rover; it could not move. All it could do was to take samples and pictures, and examine the area right around it, so that's a very small sample. Again, if you landed in the desert on Earth, you would think there was no life. So, you can't take the two landers of Viking, and say that what they found characterizes the whole planet. That wouldn't make any sense.

LPAC: If you landed in the polar regions around

Earth, you would find similar circumstances?

Freeman: Yes. I mean, this is a planet, not like Earth, but one that, in a similar way, has weather, has climate, has geologic changes, had volcanoes; it still has Mars-quakes. It's changing.

The wonderful thing about the way NASA engineers these programs, is that a spacecraft that is supposed to last two years, lasts ten years. And the Mars Odyssey, which has been in orbit now for 11 years, has been able, actually, to see Mars change. It has seen landslides. It has seen the sides of craters crumble, and sand dunes move, and dust devils whirl around. It's like having, not just a snapshot, but a moving picture, over 11 years.

These more recent results, after Viking, have really thrown the question open again.

Now, Curiosity—regardless of what people say—is not looking for life. What it is looking for is an environment that would make life possible; evidence of there having been running water. The Gale Crater site, where Curiosity came down, was chosen because there are layers in the side of the mountain, which we know

contain chemicals, and clays, and minerals, that form in water. So, the site was picked to send a rover with just “A+” amazing equipment to take a very close look, an “in situ” look, right there on the ground.

And if we find more evidence, there is going to be continued re-evaluation of the Viking results. So, everything we thought we knew maybe 30 years ago, maybe we didn't know at all!

Will Obama Be Allowed To Kill the Space Program?

LPAC: What's next?

Freeman: There had been a very well-thought-out plan, that Mars scientists had worked on for many years. In a certain sense, you do plan future missions based on what you learn, and we've always done that.



NASA

Curiosity landed at the Gale Crater site, chosen for its proximity to the layers of rock on the side of Mount Sharp (as shown in this NASA photo from Curiosity), which contain chemicals, clays, and minerals that form in water; which the rover can examine.

In another sense, we've always known that until we can bring samples of soil and rock from Mars back to Earth, there are questions we really will not be able to answer. And life is probably one of them.

So, forever, it's been the goal of scientists to have a series of missions which culminate in bringing something back. You know, Curiosity weighs a ton; it has wonderful chemistry, weather, and all kinds of other experiments, but one thing that is very interesting about it is how limited it is. One ton is really not that heavy when you consider that you have science instruments, you have power supply, redundant computers; you have to put an awful lot of stuff on that machine to make it work, so you have less than a couple of hundred pounds of scientific equipment.

Think about what you have at a laboratory on Earth, with the X-ray diffraction, and all kinds of magnificent equipment. So, the culmination of our unmanned Mars exploration, the goal, has always been to bring samples back. And Curiosity will definitely push forward our knowledge of where to go, what to look for, and help along that path.

But what you bring up is a very important question, because all of the Mars planning missions for the U.S. were thrown into complete chaos, starting over a year ago, and made very definite in February of this

year, when the Obama Administration released its proposal for NASA's budget for the fiscal year that starts this October, FY2013. The Mars programs for the future had been cut 40%!

That is life-changing. That's not a little trimming here, or, you know, "we'll take a mission, and we'll cut off one instrument, but we'll fly it"—that is a complete assault on any future missions for Mars!

There is one mission called "Maven" [Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution Mission]. It's an orbiter, not a lander. It will launch next year, in 2013, and it will give us important information—largely, a very detailed view of the atmosphere, and therefore, the hydrology of Mars. That will be done from orbit, and that will be important.

But the follow-on missions, to launch and land more robots, even series or groups of smaller robots that will carry out missions and coordinate with each other—the missions that Europe is going to do, which we were supposed to be part of, and then pulled out of—all of these things are now completely up in the air.

So that's where we stand. The Mars scientists are furious. The Congress is furious. And there are hopes that this Curiosity mission, which got 2.3 billion hits on the Internet, and brought down NASA's servers on the night of the landing—that the excitement that we've seen all over the world, from people watching it in Times Square (and this was at 2 o'clock in the morning), to people watching in South Africa at the Radio Astronomy Facility; to all of the countries that participated: Russia, Spain, Canada, Italy; France built the laser—that the excitement about this is global, and its reach is to all of mankind.

And there is hope on the part of some Congressmen, and definitely on the part of the scientists; and absolutely in terms of what the LaRouche Political Action Committee is doing, to make this really the leading edge of the fight for what has to be the policy for the future.

Lyndon LaRouche at 90

EIR adds its voice to those from around the world who are now sending birthday congratulations to our Founder and Contributing Editor, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. As of Sept. 8, this great American thinker, economist, and patriot will turn 90 years of age, passing a milestone which few of his generation have reached, and which will be celebrated by patriotic fighters for economic justice and scientific progress all around the world.

Early greetings to LaRouche have already been printed in the Russian political weekly *Zavtra*, in its Sept. 5 edition. The extensive biographical article published in that edition leads with an expression of “heartfelt congratulations to this outstanding American economist and political figure on his jubilee,” and wishes him “strong health and continued achievements.” The weekly paper, which is read in all layers of the Russian political elite, also publishes a short interview with LaRouche highlighting the danger to the continued existence of the United States which the Obama incumbency represents.

LaRouche’s global role has been particularly appreciated in Russia, because of his determination to create the basis in scientific and technological progress for lasting world peace. LaRouche’s contributions begin with his groundbreaking work in economics, which provides the basis for international cooperation to replace war, and were the decisive element in the creation of the Strategic Defense Initiative program of the 1980s, which had the specific mission of preventing a thermonuclear confrontation between the superpowers. While the Soviet leadership, under British imperial influence, rejected LaRouche’s proposal, a significant portion of the post-Soviet Russian intellectual and political leadership has become a close collaborator of the American statesman.

Those ideas of LaRouche, which rely on an un-

derstanding of how man’s unique creative powers give him the basis to constantly develop new powers over nature, in collaboration with his fellow man, are even more desperately needed today than they were in the 1970s and 1980s, when LaRouche first put them forward. Fortunately, leading political and military leaders internationally are working with him and his movement on the top priority: preventing the British Empire and its puppets like Obama, from provoking a thermonuclear war.

LaRouche’s invaluable contributions to man’s future have been felt in many other areas of the world, and fields of endeavor, over the last more than 50 years of his public life. He will be remembered for his prolific economic writings in favor of development in India, South America, Africa, and almost every underdeveloped region of the world. His advocacy of a return to Classical culture, as the key to man’s ability to think—particularly Classical music—has been an inspiration to large sections of the music world, and kept the spark of such a commitment alive.

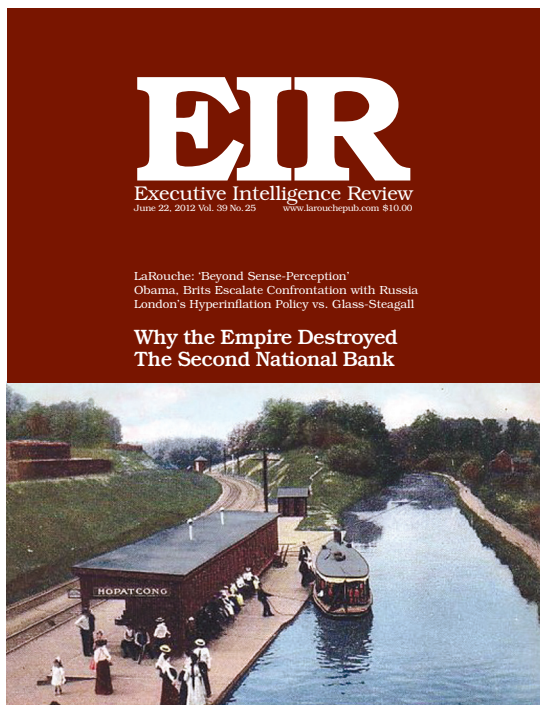
From “practical” programs—such as the revival of FDR’s Glass-Steagall law—to the vision of man as a creature of the Solar System, which goes back to his 1988 TV ad “The Woman on Mars,” Lyndon LaRouche has profoundly shaped the political and intellectual environment of the world as a whole. The fact that he is simultaneously hated by the British Imperial establishment, which spent millions, if not billions, to imprison and try to kill him, and controls much of the mass media and culture worldwide, only highlights the mark he’s made on the world.

We invite all to join us in wishing that American patriot and world citizen Lyndon LaRouche, a happy birthday, and many more.

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