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U.S. Moves Toward Nuclear First Strike Capability
Author of 'Big Bamboozle' Dead: Was It Murder?
LaRouche: Stop the Coverup of Brit-Saudi Role in 9/11

**Emerging Bipartisan Alliance:
End the Imperial Presidency**



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EIR

From the Managing Editor

Sometimes a single act by an unlikely protagonist can redirect the course of events. Think of Rep. Thaddeus Stevens, a radical Abolitionist, who had profound disagreements with President Lincoln over slavery, but who nonetheless, when Lincoln needed his support to pass the 13th Amendment abolishing the “peculiar institution,” Stevens rose to the occasion, to ensure its passage in Congress. Whether we will remember and honor Sen. Rand Paul’s inspired stand against the imperial Presidency of Barack Obama in the same way, only time will tell; but we do know that things will never be the same in Washington, as they were before March 6.

Our *Feature* analyzes the significance of Paul’s Constitutional challenge, from the standpoint that Lyndon LaRouche laid out March 8. The lead article, “Emerging Bipartisan Alliance: End the Imperial Presidency,” is followed by excerpts from the Senator’s 13-hour filibuster, and responses from the Administration.

In *International*, a sober warning from the U.S. Air Force’s *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, makes clear that the Obama Administration’s continuation of the Bush-Cheney policy of strategic confrontation with Russia, particularly over Iran and Syria, could trigger nuclear World War III.

LaRouche’s March 8 webcast opened another flank against Obama, by demanding that the Administration release the suppressed 28 pages from the Congressional 9/11 report, in “Stop the Coverup of Brit-Saudi Role in 9/11” (*National*). Immediately following is a review of *The Big Bamboozle: 9/11 and the War on Terror* by Philip Marshall, on the role of Saudi Arabia in running the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, with complicity of the Bush-Cheney Presidency.

Our *Economics* section focuses on the food crisis, leading with “More Food-for-Fuel; More Lies: Obama Updates British Famine Policy for 2013,” followed by “Drought, Food Scarcity Threaten Mexico.” “To Feed the World, Change the System,” reports on last year’s international conference of agronomists on how to feed a world population of 9 billion people, where Dr. Victor Villalobos was interviewed by *21st Century Science & Technology*.

An approach to solving many of the problems that face us today is suggested in our *History* feature: “Europe Needs a Charlemagne,” by Theodore Andromidas.



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*President Obama
with then-
Counterterrorism
Advisor John
Brennan, in the
Oval Office,
2009.*



White House/Pete Souza

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“We don’t have a majority party system anymore,” was Lyndon LaRouche’s response to Senator Paul’s filibuster on a matter of fundamental constitutional principle. “Glory Hallelujah!” He added that “what Rand Paul did, in his particular action, went a long way, as of now, toward setting the end of the party system into motion. People can still have political parties, but the idea of rule by party majority, that has to come to an end.”

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Emerging Bipartisan Alliance: End the Imperial Presidency

by Edward Spannaus

March 12—The highly successful “talking filibuster” mounted by Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) on March 6, exposed the fragmentation of the two-party system which has ruled the United States since the Andrew Jackson Presidency, and marked the emergence of a new, bipartisan alliance against the imperial Presidency of Barack Obama. While the filibuster was ostensibly aimed at forcing the White House to respond to issues surrounding the nomination of John Brennan as CIA Director, Paul made clear that he was in fact addressing deeper Constitutional issues.

In the wake of Paul’s action, the news media was full of talk of how he had “scrambled the politics of left and right” (*New York Times*); “forced Washington slightly off its axis” and “revealed some surprising alliances and divisions on Capitol Hill” (*Washington Post*); and exposed “deepening divisions within Republican ranks” (*Washington Times*)—just to name a few examples.

But, Lyndon LaRouche cut to the chase, highlighting the deeper significance of the week’s events, in his Friday, March 8 weekly webcast. Since Andrew Jackson was brought into power, LaRouche said, we have not had—except for rare intervals—a system of government based on our Constitution, but “we’ve had a system of Congressional rule, Congressional *party* rule, and it was a question of a fight between two parties” for the majority position.

Now, in the wake of the Paul filibuster, “We don’t have a majority party system anymore,” LaRouche de-

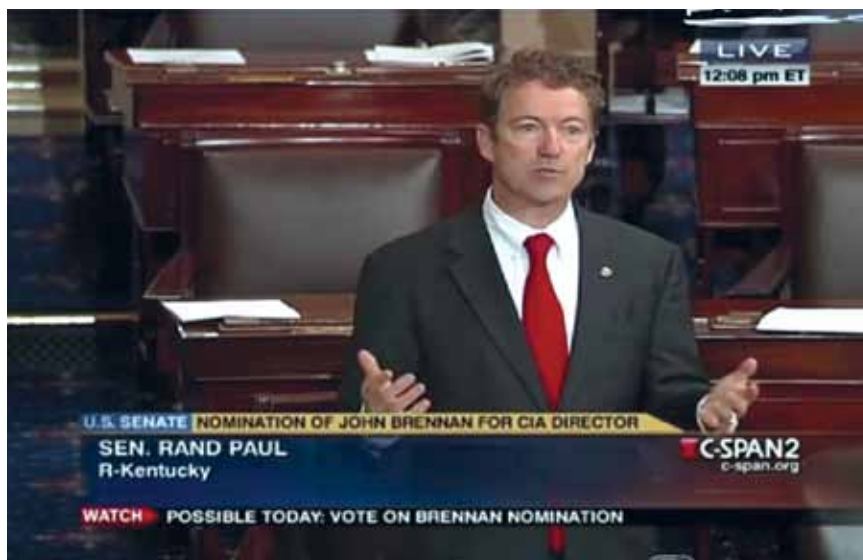
clared. “Glory Hallelujah! We don’t have a majority party system anymore! We have a system which is fragmented; [there] are people who may be Republican, or they may call themselves Democrats, that’s their choice, in running for office and occupying office.”

“The Republican Party is now in a sense a fragmented, in terms of its views on hot issues,” LaRouche continued. “The Democratic Party is going to go through the same process, slowed down by the factor of Obama, but the Obama thing is going to backfire against the Democrats, too. So now we’ve come to the point, we have to get *rid* of that kind of party system. People can choose their parties that they want to affiliate with, but the idea of operating on the basis of control of United States policy by a *party system*, that must come to an end.

“And what Rand Paul did, in his particular action, went a long way, as of now, toward setting the end of the party system into motion. People can still have political parties, but the idea of rule by party majority, that has to come to an end.”

Obama Plays Emperor

As background to Paul’s filibuster, recall that for months, no one had been able to get a straight answer to the simple question of whether the President could conduct a targeted killing of an American, within the United States. Obama’s top spokesmen on the drone policy, Counterterrorism Advisor John Brennan and Attorney General Eric Holder, had both refused to give direct



Sen. Rand Paul speaking during the filibuster on March 6.

answers to that question, which had been raised by Senators Paul and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.); Brennan and Holder continued to stonewall on supplying the legal documents by which they justify their use of drone strikes, often against unnamed targets, internationally.

Brennan would not give a direct answer during his Feb. 7 confirmation hearing before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. His responses to follow-up questions were equally vague (see Documentation, below).

On Feb. 14, during a Google-sponsored online question-and-answer session, President Obama was asked a similar question, and he also equivocated, responding, in effect, that “we haven’t done it so far, but we might.”

After Paul had repeatedly threatened to hold up Brennan’s confirmation until he got a straight answer, the Attorney General sent a letter to Paul on March 4, but equivocated again.

Meanwhile, the uproar about the Administration’s stonewall on providing legal documents continued to grow, and had spread from the Senate Intelligence Committee to the House. On Feb. 27, the House Judiciary Committee held a hearing where both Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) and Ranking Member John Conyers (D-Mich.), voiced their outrage over the withholding of all legal documents upon which drone strike decisions are based. Holder refused an invitation to come, reflecting Obama’s view that he, the President, can act as he alone deems fit—the imperial Presidency.

A Bipartisan Challenge

On March 6, Senator Paul began his filibuster on the occasion of the vote for Brennan’s confirmation as head of the CIA, declaring that, “I will speak as long as it takes, until the alarm is sounded from coast to coast that our Constitution is important, that your rights to trial by jury are precious, that no American should be killed by a drone on American soil without first being charged with a crime, without first being found guilty by a court.”

As Paul commenced, Holder was being grilled by the Senate Judiciary Committee, which was conducting a Justice Department oversight hearing. Under intense questioning,

Holder continued to refuse to rule out the possibility that President Obama could lawfully kill an American citizen inside the United States, whom he considered to be plotting to attack the United States, without granting that person due process of law.

While Republicans were the most aggressive in interrogating Holder, the Administration was put on notice by the Committee Chairman, Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), that the Committee could issue a subpoena to the Justice Department for the legal memoranda justifying targeted killings of Americans. Among those raising the drone issue was the senior Republican on the Judiciary Committee, Sen. Charles Grassley (Iowa), who pointed out that the Committee’s letters to Obama and Holder seeking access to classified memos “have gone unanswered.” He also complained that the legal memoranda that were made available to the Senate Intelligence Committee, were not made available to the Judiciary Committee, which is, of course, the committee of jurisdiction for the Justice Department, and needs them as part of its oversight function. “American citizens have a right to understand when their life can be taken by their government, absent due process,” Grassley said.

Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) came the closest to eliciting an answer from Holder, when he asked, “if an individual is sitting quietly at a cafe in the United States, in your legal judgment, does the Constitution allow a U.S. citizen on U.S. soil to be killed by a drone?” After equivocating that it would not be “appropriate” to kill an American who didn’t pose an imminent threat, who

wasn't doing something "imminent," Holder eventually said he wanted to "translate my 'appropriate' to 'no.'" But Cruz did not pin Holder down as to what he means by "imminent," which was defined extremely loosely in the DOJ White Paper. Holder's refusal to directly answer the questions on targetting killings were cited repeatedly during the filibuster on the Senate floor, including by Cruz.

Other Senators Join the Fight

During his 13-hour talkathon, Paul was joined on the Senate floor by 13 other Senators. While under Senate rules, Paul had to remain standing on the Senate floor at all times; he was permitted to entertain "questions" from other Senators who expressed their support for what he was doing. Those Senators who "joined" the filibuster included 11 Republicans, one Democrat (Ron Wyden of Oregon), and one Independent (Angus King of Maine). Wyden cited other Democratic Senators, e.g., Jay Rockefeller (W.Va.), Mark Udall (Colo.), and Martin Heinrich (N.M.) as members of the Intelligence Committee who share the concern over drones. The Republicans who directly participated were: John Barrasso (Wyo.), Mitch McConnell (Ky.), Saxby Chambliss (Ga.), John Cornyn (Tex.), John Thune (S.D.), Patrick Toomey (Pa.), Ron Johnson (Wisc.), Mike Lee (Utah), Jerry Moran (Kan.), Ted Cruz (Tex.), Marco Rubio (Fla.), Jeff Flake (Ariz.), and Tim Scott (S.C.).

Although they were not allowed to speak, 16 House Republicans showed up in the Senate to show solidarity. They were: Louis Gohmert (Tex.), Thomas Massie (Ky.), Justin Amash (Mich.), Ron DeSantis (Fla.), Doug LaMalfa (Calif.), Garland Barr (Ky.), Trey Radel (Fla.), Michael Burgess (Tex.), Jim Bridenstine (Okla.), Raul Labrador (Id.), Keith Rothfus (Pa.), Paul Gosar (Ariz.), Steve Daines (Mont.), Bill Huizenga (Mich.), Richard Hudson (N.C.), and David Schweikert (Ariz.).

After about five hours, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid tried to cut off the discussion. Paul said that he would be glad to comply, but only after getting a written statement from the President or the Attorney General, that the President does not have the authority to kill a non-combatant in America. Reid then declared the sessions over, but Paul and Co. ignored him, and continued talking.

Significantly, in discussing Obama's (and Holder's) claim that only the President can interpret the Constitution regarding war powers, a number of Senators explicitly raised the January 2012 Federal Appeals Court

ruling which slammed Obama for violating the Constitution in making so-called recess appointments, and by unilaterally asserting that only he had the power to decide when Congress was, or was not, in session.

Paul ended the filibuster at about 12:45 on Thursday morning, saying that he was hopeful that he and the others had "drawn attention to this issue," and that the President would come out with a response later in the day. He thanked all those who had participated and supported him.

Paul Declares Victory

In a desultory Senate session Thursday morning, pro-war Republican Senators John McCain (Ariz.) and Lindsey Graham (S.C.), still glowing from their special dinner with President Obama the previous night, took to the Senate floor, to ridicule and denounce Paul for the filibuster, calling his concerns about domestic drone strikes "totally unfounded."

They each read approvingly from a *Wall Street Journal* editorial which lectured Paul: "Calm down, Senator, Mr. Holder is right, even if he doesn't explain the law very well," and which went on to sputter: "If Mr. Paul wants to be taken seriously he needs to do more than pull political stunts that fire up impressionable libertarian kids in their college dorms." As to Paul's question about killing Americans, Graham spluttered, "I find the question offensive," adding, "I do not believe that question deserves an answer."

About an hour after the McCain-Graham show, the White House released a letter to Senator Paul from Attorney General Holder which finally gave a direct answer to Paul's question—even if it didn't clear up all the ambiguities surrounding the issue of drones and targeted assassinations (see Documentation).

While Paul was being interviewed on Fox News, the Holder letter was obtained by the network, and was read to the Senator, who exclaimed: "Hooray! For 13 hours yesterday, we asked him that question, and so there is a result and a victory. Under duress and under public humiliation, the White House will respond and do the right thing. . . . My next question would be, why did it take so long, why is it so hard? . . . But I am glad, and I think that answer does answer my question."

In a later statement, Paul said: "This is a major victory for American civil liberties and ensures the protection of our basic Constitutional rights. We have Separation of Powers to protect our rights. . . . I would like to congratulate my fellow colleagues in both the House



Democrat Ron Wyden spoke during the filibuster, in support of Senator Paul.

and Senate, and thank them for joining me in protecting the rights of due process.”

The cloture vote, conducted after Paul had withdrawn his objection, carried by 81-16. This was immediately followed by the vote on Brennan’s confirmation, which carried by a narrower margin, 63-34, with over one-third of Senators voting against Brennan. Among those voting “no” were two Democrats, Leahy and Jeff Merkley (Ore.), plus Independent Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

Only the Beginning

Brennan’s confirmation does not signify, by any means, that Obama’s problems with the Congress are over. The top Democrat and the top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee (Leahy and Grassley), both of whom voted against Brennan, let it be known that they are still determined to obtain access to the Administration’s secret legal memos on targeted killings. Senator Leahy, the Committee chairman, had already signalled, in the March 6 hearing with Holder, that some of the votes that would be cast against Brennan’s confirmation, “will be because of the inability to get that memo here.”

And after the confirmation vote, Leahy issued a statement saying that “the Administration has stonewalled me and the Judiciary Committee for too long on a reasonable request to review the legal justification for the use of drones in the targeted killing of American citizens.” Both Leahy and Grassley, the senior Republi-

can, are insistent that the Committee must get access to the same legal memos that were provided to the Intelligence Committee, and Chairman Leahy is threatening a subpoena.

In the aftermath of the Paul filibuster, there erupted an explosion of commentary, recognizing that the political landscape in the U.S. has irreversibly shifted in the direction of an emerging bipartisan fight against Obama’s imperial policies. Within the “conservative” wing of the Republican Party, a deep split has emerged between the McCain-Graham wing, and those backing Rand Paul. On the Democratic side, while many are still enmired in a slavish defense of Obama, a significant

number of liberal commentators have praised Paul’s actions, despite their distaste for some of his other policies.

In a CNN interview on March 8, Wyden was asked if he had gotten a lot of “blowback” from fellow Democrats for joining with Paul. “Not too much,” Wyden said, “because I think there is a sense that there is a new political movement emerging in our country, and it crosses party lines, and it is all about Americans who want to see policymakers strike a better balance between protecting our security and protecting our liberty.”

Rand Paul underscored the same point on Fox News March 8: “Four or five Democrat[ic] Senators, which is, to me, a great compliment, came up afterwards and said they agreed with what I was saying and they appreciated the spirit, they appreciated the zeal. And so, you know, it was a great compliment to me that people felt like I was fighting for some higher cause than simply partisanship.”

And on March 11, eight House Democrats, members of the Progressive Caucus, released the text of a letter which slams the unconstitutionality of Obama’s drone policy and global war doctrine, and which demands full disclosure of the legal rationale for Obama’s drone program. In releasing the letter, Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.) emphasized “Congress’s vital oversight role in these matters,” and the need for counterterrorism policies to be “consistent with the commands of our Constitution, including our system of checks and balances.”

Excerpts from the Filibuster

For 13 hours on the evening of March 6, Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) conducted a filibuster against the nomination of CIA Director John Brennan, in a way that has rarely been done in recent years. (Sen. Bernie Sanders made the last one in 2010, for eight hours.) Paul was ultimately joined by at least ten of his colleagues, including one Democrat, Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon, in a discussion which ranged from excoriating the “imperial Presidency”—including Obama’s refusal to consult Congress, including on the question of going to war—to specific attacks on the Administration’s drone policy, and many quotes from civil libertarians on the “left,” such as Glenn Greenwald and Conor Fridersdorf.

Paul’s determination to get answers from an Administration that had refused to say it was bound by the Constitution not to carry out drone strikes against Americans, created excitement around the nation, as it was broadcast live on CSPAN. There are reports that some members of the House of Representatives came over to the Senate to show their support.

We provide highlights here, to give a flavor of this historic debate. The first half is from an unofficial transcript on Paul’s website; the second half is from the Congressional Record.

Senator Rand Paul Speaks

I rise today to begin to filibuster John Brennan’s nomination for the CIA. I will speak until I can no longer speak. I will speak as long as it takes, until the alarm is sounded from coast to coast that our Constitution is important, that your rights to trial by jury are precious, that no American should be killed by a drone on American soil without first being charged with a crime, without first being found to be guilty by a court. That Americans could be killed in a café in San Francisco or in a restaurant in Houston or at their home in Bowling Green, Kentucky, is an abomination. It is something that should not and cannot be tolerated in our country.

I don’t rise to oppose John Brennan’s nomination simply for the person. I rise today for the principle. The principle is one that as Americans we have fought long and hard for, and to give up on that principle, to give up

on the Bill of Rights, to give up on the Fifth Amendment protection that says that no person shall be held without due process, that no person shall be held for a capital offense without being indicted. This is a precious American tradition and something we should not give up on easily.

I will speak today until the President responds and says no, we won’t kill Americans in cafés; no, we won’t kill you at home in your bed at night; no, we won’t drop bombs on restaurants. Is that so hard? It’s amazing that the President will not respond. I’ve been asking this question for a month. It’s like pulling teeth to get the President to respond to anything. And I get no answer. . . .

Hitler, or the Rule of Law?

You know, when World War I ended, the currency was being destroyed in Germany. In 1923, the paper money became so worthless that people wheeled it in wheelbarrows. They burned it for fuel. It became virtually worthless overnight. The beginning of September 1923, the paper, I think it was like 10, 15 marks for a loaf of bread. September 14, it was a thousand marks. September 30, it was 100,000 marks. October 15, it was a couple of million marks for a loaf of bread.

It was a chaotic situation. Out of that chaos, Hitler was elected, democratically. They elected him out of this chaos. The point isn’t that anybody in our country is Hitler. I am not accusing anybody of being that evil. It is a misused analogy. In a democracy you could someday elect someone who is very evil. That’s why we don’t give the power to the government. And it’s not an accusation of this President or anybody in this body. It’s a point to be made historically that occasionally even a democracy gets it wrong. So when a democracy gets it wrong, you want the law to be there in place. You want this rule of law.

The Administration’s Outlook

But here’s the real problem: When the President’s spokesman was asked about al-Awlaki’s son, you know what his response was? This I find particularly callous and particularly troubling. The President’s response to the killing of al-Awlaki’s son, he said, “He should have chosen a more responsible father.”

You know, it’s kind of hard to choose who your parents are. That’s sort of like saying to someone whose father is a thief or a murderer or a rapist, which is obviously a bad thing—but does that mean it’s okay to kill their children? Think of the standard we would have if



White House Photo/Sonya N. Hebert

President Barack Obama is given his Oath of Office by Chief Justice John Roberts, Jan. 21, 2013. Senator Paul points out that the President swears that he “will” protect, preserve, and defend the Constitution—not that he’ll do it “when it’s practical.”

our standard for killing people overseas is, you should have chosen a more responsible parent.

It just boggles the mind and really affects me to think that that would be our standard. There’s absolutely no excuse for the President not to come forward on this. I’ve been asking for a month for an answer.

Due Process of Law

The Fifth Amendment says that no person shall be held for a capital or otherwise infamous crime unless on the presentment or indictment of a grand jury. It goes on to say that no person will be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process. Now, some hear “due process”—and if you’re not a lawyer (I am not a lawyer), when you first hear that you think, what does that mean? What does it mean to have due process? What it means is you’re protected. You get protections. Is our justice system perfect? No.

Sometimes you go all the way through due process in our country. We’ve actually convicted people who are innocent. Fortunately it’s very rare, but think about that. We’ve actually convicted people who are innocent.

What are the chances that the President, going through PowerPoint slideshows and flash cards, might make a mistake on innocent or guilty? I would say there

is a chance. Even our judicial system—it goes through all of these processes with the judge reviewing the indictment, with a jury reviewing it, then with the sentencing phase—with all of that going forward, we sometimes make mistakes. What are the chances that one man, one politician, no matter what party they’re from, could make a mistake on this? I think there’s a real chance that that exists. That’s why we put these rules in place....

The White House’s Contempt

I have written a couple of letters to John Brennan, who has been put up for the CIA nomination. It looks like the

first letter was sent January 25. So here we are into March, and I only got a response when he was threatened. So here’s a guy who the President promotes as being transparent and wanting to give a lot of information to the American people; he won’t respond to a U.S. Senator.

How do they—they treat the U.S. Senate with disdain, basically. Won’t even respond to us, much less the American people, when I asked him these questions. He finally responded only when his nomination was threatened, so when it came to the Committee, and it appeared that I had bipartisan support for slowing down his nomination if he didn’t answer his questions; then he answered his questions. It doesn’t give me a lot of confidence that in the future going forward, if he is approved, that he is going to be real forthcoming and real transparent about this. I don’t have a lot of anticipation or belief that we’re going to get more information after this nomination hearing....

The Battlefield’s in America

Be worried. Be alarmed. Alarm bells should go off when people tell you that the battlefield’s in America. Why? Because when the battlefield’s in America, we don’t have due process. What they’re talking about is they want the laws of war. Another way to put it is to

call it martial law. That's what they want in the United States when they say the battlefield is here.

One of them, in fact, said if you—if you—if they ask for a lawyer, you tell them to shut up. Well, if that's the standard we're going to have in America, I'm quite concerned that the battlefield would be here and that the Constitution wouldn't apply. Because, to tell you the truth, if you are shooting at us in Afghanistan, the Constitution doesn't apply over there. But I certainly want it to apply here. If you're engaged in combat overseas, you don't get due process. But when people say, oh, the battlefield's come to America and the battlefield's everywhere, the war is limitless in time and scope, be worried, because your rights will not exist if you call America a battlefield for all time....

A Non-Partisan Issue: Illegal War

And I don't see this battle as a partisan battle at all—I don't see this as Republicans versus Democrats. I would be here if there were a Republican President doing this. And really, the great irony of this is that President Obama's position on this is an extension of George Bush's opinion. It basically is a continuation and an expansion of George Bush's opinion.

George Bush was a President who believed in a very expansive power. Virtually, some would say, unlimited. He was accused of running an imperial Presidency. The irony is that this President that we have currently was elected in opposition to that. This President was one elected, who when he was in this body, was often very vocal at saying that the President's powers were limited.

When I first came here, one of the first votes that I was able to cast was a vote on whether or not we should go to war without Congressional approval. And so the interesting thing is that the war was beginning in Libya; it turned out to be a small war, but small wars sometimes lead to big wars. In fact, that was one of Eisenhower's admonitions: Beware of small wars, that you may find yourself in a big war. Fortunately, the Libya war didn't turn out to be a big war, although I think it's still a huge mess over there, and I think it's still yet to be determined whether Libya will descend into the chaos of radical Islam. I think there is a chance they still may descend into that chaos. But when the question came up about going to war in Libya, there was the question of, doesn't the Constitution say that you have to declare war? And so we looked back through some of the President's writings as a candidate.

One of the President's writings I found very instructive, and I was quite proud of him for having said it, the President said that no President shall unilaterally go to war without the authority of Congress unless there is an imminent threat to the country.

I guess we should be a little wary of this now, since we know "imminent" doesn't have to be immediate, and imminent no longer means what humans once thought imminent meant. But he did say that the President doesn't go to war by himself....

I took his exact words, we quoted them and put them up on a standard next to me and we voted on a Sense of the Senate that said: No President should go to war without the authority of Congress. Which basically just restates the Constitution. You would think that would be a pretty easy vote for people. I think it got less than 20 votes....

Why Won't He Say?

I don't question the President's motives. I don't think the President would purposely take innocent people and kill them. I really don't think he would drop a Hellfire missile on a café or a restaurant like I'm talking about. But it bothers me that he won't say that he won't. And it also bothers me that when he was a Senator in this body and when he was a candidate, he had a much higher belief and standard for civil liberties, and that he seems to have lost that as he's become President....

[In response to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's (D-Nev.) attempt to obtain consent to move to cloture:]

Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I would be happy with the vote now. I have talked a lot today. But the only thing I would like is a clarification: if the President or the Attorney General will clarify that they are not going to kill noncombatants in America. He essentially almost said that this morning. He could take his remarks, that he virtually agreed ultimately with Senator Cruz, put it into a coherent statement that says the drone program will not kill Americans who are not involved in combat. I think he probably agrees to that. I don't understand why he couldn't put that into words, but if he does, I want no more time; but if not, I will continue to object if the Administration and the Attorney General will not provide an adequate answer. And I object....

Mr. President, in late January, we sent a letter to John Brennan, the nominee for the CIA, asking a bunch of questions, but included among those questions was: Can you kill an American in America with a drone

strike? And we got no response and no response and no response. Thanks to the intervention of the Ranking Member on the Intelligence Committee, as well as members from the opposite aisle on the Intelligence Committee, we finally got an answer about two days ago.

The answer from John Brennan was that he acknowledges the CIA cannot act in the United States. That is the law and that was nice. But the Attorney General responded and said that they don't intend to, they haven't yet, but they might. . . .

I can be done any time, if I can just get a response from the Administration or from the Attorney General saying that they do not believe they have the authority to kill noncombatants in America.

Alice's Wonderland?

But there is a question—has America the Beautiful become Alice's Wonderland? We can hear the Queen saying “No, no,” but her response is sentence first, verdict afterwards. Well, that's absurd. How could we sentence someone without determining first whether they are guilty or innocent? Only in Alice's Wonderland would you sentence someone before you try them, would you sentence someone to death before you accuse them. Do we really live in Alice's Wonderland? Is there no one willing to stand up and say to the President, for goodness sakes, you can't sentence people before you try them. You can't sentence people before you—he determined whether they are guilty. . . .

Nobody is told who is going to be killed. It is a secret list. So how do you protest? How do you say, “I'm innocent”? How do you say, “Yes, I e-mail with my cousin who lives in the Middle East, and I didn't know he was involved in that”? Do you not get a chance to explain yourself in a court of law before you get a Hellfire missile dropped on your head? So I think that really, it just amazes me that people are so willing and eager to throw out the Bill of Rights and just say, “Oh, that's fine. You know, terrorists are a big threat to us. And, you know, I am so fearful that they will attack me, that I'm willing to give up my rights, I'm willing to give up on the Bill of Rights.” I think we give up too easily.

Now, the President has responded and he said he hasn't killed anybody yet in America. And he says he doesn't intend to kill anyone in America, but he might. I frankly just don't think that's good enough. The President's oath of office says that “I will”—not that “I might” or not that “I intend to”—the President says “I

will” protect, preserve, and defend the Constitution. He doesn't say, “I'll do it when it's practical” or “I'll do it unless it's unfeasible, unless it's unpleasant and people argue with me and I have to go through Congress and I can't get anything done; then I won't obey the Constitution.”

What About the Fifth Amendment?

These are questions that I can't imagine why we can't get an explicit answer to unless the answer is no. Unless the answer is they don't want limitations on their power, unless the answer is that they don't want to be constrained by the Constitution, unless their answer is that the Bill of Rights doesn't apply to them when they think it doesn't apply to them.

And see, that's the real danger. Eric Holder was asked about this and asked about the Fifth Amendment; he was asked, does it apply? He said, well, it applies when we think it applies. What does that mean? I know it is a debatable question overseas, American citizens, this and that, but I don't think it is a debatable question in our country.

Does the Fifth Amendment apply? I don't know how you can argue the Fifth Amendment doesn't apply. I don't know how you can argue that we have an exception to the Bill of Rights when we want to.

Overreaching Power

But this is the same President that did argue that he could determine when the Senate is in recess. Because he didn't get a few of his appointees last year, he argued that the Senate was in recess and said he could appoint anybody he wanted and he did. The case went to court and the court rebuked him. The court says you don't get to decide all the rules for government. The Senate decides when they're in recess. You decide when you're in recess. But you don't get to decide the rules for the Senate. They struck him down. And has he obeyed the ruling? Has he listened to what the court did? Has he been chastised and rebuked by the court?

The people that he appointed illegally are still doing that job. All of their decisions are probably invalid. So for the last two years, or year and a half, however long these recess appointments have been out there, all of these decisions are going to be a huge mess. They've made all these decisions and it is going to be uncertain whether the decisions are [going] to be valid. All of this happens because for some reason he thinks he has power that he doesn't actually have.

A Proposed Resolution

[Senator Paul suggested that maybe the Senate should pass a resolution on the issue. He asked for unanimous consent to adopt it. Sen. Richard Durbin (D-Ill.) objected, and vaguely promised a hearing sometime in the future.]

The resolution that we've talked about says, "To express the sense of the Senate against the use of drones to execute American citizens on American soil." "Expressing the sense of the Senate against the use of drones to execute American citizens on American soil..."

"The American people deserve a clear, concise, and unequivocal public statement from the President of the United States that contains detailed legal reasoning, including but not limited to the balance between national security and due process, limits of Executive power, and distinction between the treatment of citizens and non-citizens within and outside the borders of the United States. The use of lethal force against American citizens and the use of drones in the application of the lethal force within the United States territory."

'Signature Strikes'

[After describing how most of the CIA's strikes are against nameless targets—called "signature strikes"—Senator Paul said:]

So the question is: Is this the kind of standard we will use in the United States? Will we use a standard where people don't have to be named? We don't know. The President has indicated that his drone strikes in America will have different rules than his drone strikes outside of America, but we've heard no rules on what those drone strikes will be. So we have drone strikes inside and outside. They're going to have different rules. But we already know that a large percentage of the drone strikes overseas were not naming the person.

Is that going to be the standard? We also know that we have targeted people for sympathizing with the enemy. We talked about that before. In this 1960s, we had many people who sympathized with North Vietnam. Many people will remember Jane Fonda swiveling herself around in North Vietnamese artillery and thinking gleefully that she was just right at home with the North Vietnamese. Now, while I'm not a great fan of Jane Fonda, I'm really not so interested in putting her on a drone kill list either. We've had many people who have dissented in our country. We've had people in our

country who have been against the Afghan War, against the Iraq War. I was opposed to the Iraq War. . . .

Will the White House Answer?

We have been in contact with the White House throughout the night. We have made several phone calls to the White House. We told them we are willing to allow a vote on the Brennan nomination. All we ask in return is that we get a clear indication of whether they believe they have the authority under the Constitution to target Americans on American soil. I think it is a question that is fair to ask, and we have been willing to let them have the vote at any time either earlier tonight, obviously, as well as in the morning. All we ask in return from the White House is a clarification.

And in Conclusion

Mr. President, I am hopeful that we have drawn attention to this issue; that this issue won't fade away; that the President will tomorrow come up with a response. I would like nothing more than to facilitate the voting and the continuation of the debate tomorrow. I hope the President will respond to us. We have tried repeatedly throughout the day, and we will see what the outcome of that is. . . .

But what I would say is that it is worth fighting for what you believe in. I think the American people can tolerate a debate and a discussion. There has been nothing mean-spirited about this debate for 12 hours. I think, in fact, more of it would be even better. I wish we had more open and enjoined debate. The senior Senator from Illinois [Durbin] has brought up good points, and I think there is much discussion. I just hope that this won't be swept under the rug and that this isn't the end of this, but that it is the beginning of this.

I would go for another 12 hours to try to break Strom Thurmond's record, but I have discovered there are some limits to filibustering, and I am going to have to go take care of one of those in a few minutes here. But I do appreciate the Senate's forbearance in this, and I hope that if there are some on the other side of the aisle who have been listening and feel they may agree on some of these issues, they will use their ability to impact the President's decision and will, No. 1, say the Senate should be trying to restrain the Executive branch, Republican or Democratic, and, No. 2, will use their influence to try to tell the President to do what I think really is in his heart, and that is to say: Absolutely, we are not going to be killing Americans, not in a combat situation. We will obey the

Fifth Amendment; that the Constitution does apply to all Americans and there are no exceptions. I thank you very much for your forbearance, and I yield the floor.

Sen. Ron Wyden

The issue of American security and American freedom really doesn't get enough discussion here in the United States Senate and it's my view that the Senator from Kentucky has made a number of important points this day.... Mr. President, what it comes down to is [that] every American has the right to know when their government believes that it is allowed to kill them. So now the Executive branch has gradually provided Congress with much of its analyses on this crucial topic, but I think more still needs to be done to ensure that we understand fully the implications of what these heretofore secret opinions contain, and we have a chance to discuss them as well.

Now, in his capacity as Deputy National Security Advisor, John Brennan has served as the President's top counterterrorism advisor and one of the administra-

tion's chief spokesmen regarding targeted killings and the use of drones. He would continue to play a decisive role in U.S. counterterror efforts if he is confirmed as Director of the CIA. and the Intelligence Committee is charged with conducting vigilant oversight of these particular efforts. Now, a number of colleagues on the Senate Intelligence Committee, of both political parties, I think, share a number of the views that Senator Paul and a number on this side of the aisle have been expressing today and the past few days.

Replies from Brennan And the Administration

CIA Director-nominee **John Brennan's** answered questions from members of Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee posted the unclassified portions. A number of these related to drone strikes were submitted by Committee chair Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.).

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3. On making public details and numbers of collateral deaths, Brennan's response only addressed the "numbers," not the "details." He said that "to the extent that U.S. national security interests can be protected, the U.S. Government should make public the overall numbers of civilian deaths resulting from U.S. strikes targeting al-Qaida."

6. On the question of "Could the Administration carry out drone strikes inside the United States?" Brennan wrote, "This Administration has not carried out drone strikes inside the United States and has no intention of doing so."

9. Referring to the "well-informed, high-level officials" whom Feinstein asked about who makes the ultimate decision for a targeted killing, Brennan replied: "The process of deciding to take such an extraordinary action would involve legal review by the Department of Justice, as well as a discussion among the departments and agencies across our national security team, including the relevant National Security Council Principals and the President."

On Feb. 14, **President Obama** participated in an online question-and-answer session with Google's Hangout.

He was asked: "A lot of people are very concerned that your administration now believes it's legal to have drone strikes on American citizens, and whether or not they are specifically allowed on citizens within the United States. And if that is *not* true, what will you do to create a legal framework to make sure that American citizens within the United States know that drone strikes cannot be used against American citizens?"

Obama replied: "Well, first of all, there has never been a drone used on an American citizen on American soil. . . . We respect—and have a whole bunch of safeguards in terms of how we conduct counterterrorism operations outside of the United States. The rules outside of the United States are going to be different than the rules inside the United States, in part because our ability to capture a terrorist in the United States is very different than in the foothills or mountains of Afghanistan or Pakistan. But what I think is absolutely true is it's not sufficient for citizens to just take my word for it that we're doing the right thing. . . . I am not somebody who believes that the President has the authority to do whatever he wants, or whatever she wants, just under

the guise of counterterrorism. There have to be checks and balances on it."

On March 4, **Attorney General Eric Holder** sent this letter to Sen. Rand Paul:

"On February 20, 2013, you wrote to John Brennan requesting additional information concerning the Administration's views about whether 'the President has the power to authorize lethal force, such as a drone strike, against a U.S. citizen on U.S. soil, and without trial.'"

"As members of this Administration have previously indicated, the U.S. government has not carried out drone strikes in the United States and has no intention of doing so. As a policy matter, moreover, we reject the use of military force where well-established law enforcement authorities in this country provide the best means for incapacitating a terrorist threat. We have a long history of using the criminal justice system to incapacitate individuals located in our country who pose a threat to the United States and its interests abroad. Hundreds of individuals have been arrested and convicted of terrorism-related offenses in our federal courts."

"The question you have posed is therefore entirely hypothetical, unlikely to occur, and one we hope no President will ever have to confront. It is possible, I suppose, to imagine an extraordinary circumstance in which it would be necessary and appropriate under the Constitution and applicable laws of the United States for the President to authorize the military to use lethal force within the territory of the United States. For example, the President could conceivably have no choice but to authorize the military to use such force if necessary to protect the homeland in the circumstances of a catastrophic attack like the ones suffered on December 7, 1941, and September 11, 2001."

"Were such an emergency to arise, I would examine the particular facts and circumstances before advising the President on the scope of his authority."

On March 7, **Holder** sent this follow-up letter:

"It has come to my attention that you have now asked an additional question: Does the President have the authority to use a weaponized drone to kill an American not engaged in combat on American soil? The answer to that question is no."

U.S. Moves Toward Nuclear First Strike Capability

by Carl Osgood and Rachel Douglas

March 9—On March 1, the *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, a journal published by the U.S. Air Force's Air University, published an article admitting what both Lyndon LaRouche and *EIR*, and the Russians, have long been warning against: that U.S. strategic policy under the Obama Administration is seeking to create the capability to launch a first strike against Russia and/or China, without fear of nuclear retaliation, and that this is making nuclear war *more*, not less, likely.

While the two authors, Keir A. Leiber, associate professor at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, and Daryl G. Press, an associate professor of government at Dartmouth University, have been warning against this danger since at least 2006, this is the first time one of their articles has appeared in a U.S. military publication, a tacit admission, perhaps, that their argument has merit, and must be considered.

The *Strategic Studies* article comes on the heels of a report from Moscow, by the Izborsk Club, an association of high-level Russian intellectuals who characterize themselves as “patriotic and anti-liberal,” warning of the same danger of an emerging “counterforce” threat to Russia’s strategic deterrent, and laying out the steps that Russia must take, militarily, to defend against it.

Since Barack Obama ascended to the office of the Presidency, he has *expanded* the Bush-Cheney policy of strategic confrontation with Russia, most notably,

with respect to Iran and Syria. In Syria, the U.S. policy is one of regime change, a policy strongly opposed by Russia. At the same time, the U.S. has been ringing Russia with missile defenses, including land-based sites in Poland and Romania, and moving forward with a plan to forward-base four Aegis missile defense destroyers in Rota, Spain.

On May 3, 2012, then-Chief of the Russian Armed Forces General Staff Gen. Nikolai Makarov declared that further advances in the deployment of a BMD system by the United States and NATO in Europe would so greatly threaten Russia’s security, as to necessitate a pre-emptive attack on such installations: The outbreak of military hostilities between the U.S.A. and Russia would mean nuclear war. “Considering the destabilizing nature of the BMDS,” Makarov told an audience including U.S. officials, “*specifically the creation of the illusion of being able to inflict a disarming first strike without retaliation*, a decision on the pre-emptive use of available offensive weapons will be taken during the period of an escalating situation” (emphasis added).

What Makarov was pointing out is that ostensibly defensive systems can be used in offensive warfare—in this case, to enable the West to launch a pre-emptive first strike without fear of a retaliatory response. Just two weeks later, at a conference in Virginia, former U.S. Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. James Cartwright acknowledged that “there’s the potential that you could, in fact, generate a scenario



Last May, Gen. Nikolai Makarov warned that deployment of a U.S./NATO BMD system on Russia's borders could quickly lead to nuclear war. Here, Makarov addresses a meeting with NATO in May 2010.

where, in a bolt from the blue, we launch a pre-emptive attack and then use missile defense to weed out" Russia's remaining missiles launched in response. "We're going to have to think our way out of this," he said. "We're going to have to figure out how we're going to do this."

If the alleged threat from Iran, which is used to justify the missile defense deployment in Europe, is so great, then why not cooperate with Russia on missile defense? Indeed, Russia has been proposing such cooperation since 2007, when then-President Vladimir Putin traveled to Kennebunkport, Maine, to propose to then-President George W. Bush, cooperation with the U.S. and NATO on missile defense. Bush never accepted the proposal, and neither has Obama.

If the U.S.-NATO European system is not aimed at Russia, then the U.S. ought to be able to provide guarantees that that's the case, as Russia has been demanding, but this is dismissed by the U.S. and NATO as "unnecessary." The Russians have repeatedly warned that the U.S.-NATO plan upsets the strategic balance and increases the risk of war, and have acted accordingly, even as they have made numerous proposals that would avoid such a confrontation. The U.S. refusal to acknowledge Russian concerns, in concert with its regime-change policies in Syria and

Iran, is setting the stage for that confrontation.

U.S. Seeks Strategic Primacy

In their March 1 article, "The New Era of Nuclear Weapons, Deterrence, and Conflict," Leiber and Press posit that, number one, "technological innovation has dramatically improved the ability of states to launch 'counterforce' attacks—that is, military strikes aimed at disarming an adversary by destroying its nuclear weapons." Number two, they argue, is that "in the coming decades, deterring the use of nuclear weapons during conventional wars will be much harder than most analysts believe."

The basis of the authors' first argument is that: "Very accurate delivery systems, new reconnaissance technologies, and the downsizing of

arsenals from Cold War levels have made both conventional and nuclear counterforce strikes against nuclear arsenals much more feasible than ever before." During the Cold War, they note, neither the U.S. nor the Soviet Union could launch a disarming first strike against the other because each side had so many weapons deliverable by different modes, that an attempted counterforce strike could not prevent a retaliatory reply. This is no longer the case. The reduction of nuclear arsenals on both sides means there are now fewer targets to hit, especially on the Russian side.

In 2006, Leiber and Press modeled a hypothetical U.S. first strike against Russia. "The same models that were used during the Cold War to demonstrate the inescapability of stalemate—the condition of 'mutual assured destruction,' or MAD—now suggested that even the large Russian arsenal could be destroyed in a disarming strike." Their point was to demonstrate that the Cold War axioms of mutual and assured destruction and deterrence no longer apply.

But the authors go further to argue that the U.S. is knowingly pursuing a strategy of strategic primacy against potential adversaries, "meaning that Washington seeks the ability to defeat enemy nuclear forces (as well as other WMD) but that U.S. nuclear weapons are but one dimension of that effort. In fact, the effort to

neutralize adversary strategic forces—that is, achieve strategic primacy—spans nearly every realm of warfare: for example, ballistic missile defense, antisubmarine warfare, intelligence, surveillance-and-reconnaissance systems, offensive cyber warfare, conventional precision strike, and long-range precision strike, in addition to nuclear strike capabilities.”

Rather than pointing out the obvious—that the U.S. is building a first-strike capability against any potential adversary, including Russia and China—they ask, instead: “How is deterrence likely to work when nuclear use does not automatically imply suicide and mass slaughter?”

Their second point is equally disturbing. If the United States gets involved in a conflict with a power that has nuclear weapons, the risk that those weapons will be used is actually increasing. They dispense with the counter-argument that no one in his right mind would launch nuclear war against the United States. In peacetime, this is certainly true, but if you are already being attacked by the United States, then regime survival may depend on what they call escalatory coercion. “Leaders of weaker states—those unlikely to prevail on the conventional battlefield—face life-and-death pressures to compel a stalemate,” they write. “And nuclear weapons provide a better means of coercive escalation than virtually any other.”

This is not so far-fetched. In fact, this was NATO’s strategy during much of the Cold War. It is Pakistan’s strategy against India, and is used as a hedge by Israel, should its conventional forces ever face catastrophic defeat. “Those who were weak during the Cold War are now strong, and another set of militarily weak countries—such as North Korea, Iran, Pakistan, and even China and Russia—now clutch or seek nuclear weapons to defend themselves from overwhelming military might, just as NATO once did,” they write.

U.S. and Russian Strategic Nuclear Forces

In Russia, the strategic intention, and Russia’s weaknesses in the face of it, are very well understood. Russia’s nuclear forces collapsed quickly after the end of the Cold War. As of Sept. 1, 2012, at the time of the last data exchange between the U.S. and Russia under the new START treaty, Russia had 1,499 warheads on 491 delivery vehicles, putting it already below the treaty limitation of 1,550 warheads. The U.S., on the

other hand, declared 1,722 warheads on 806 delivery vehicles. Most of the Russian warheads, 1,092 of them, in fact, are concentrated in its ICBM force of 334 missiles of various types, all silo-based except for 36 road-mobile systems.

The most important element of the U.S. strategic force is the Ohio-class ballistic-missile-armed submarines, 14 of which are in service, and at least 4 of which are reportedly on deterrent patrol at any one time, capable of carrying up to 8 warheads per missile, of either the 100-kt W76 model or the 475-kt W88 model. According to data provided by the Navy, in response to an *EIR* Freedom of Information Act request, U.S. Trident submarines conducted 38 patrols in 2009; 33 in 2010; and 28 in 2011, in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. To this, must be added Britain’s nuclear ballistic-missile submarine force of 4 Vanguard-class submarines, 1 of which is on patrol at all times, carrying 48 warheads.

The Russian ballistic-missile submarine force, which consist of 11 vessels, is not known to be maintaining a continuous at-sea posture, but Russia has been making efforts to upgrade it with the addition of the Borey-class of missile-launching submarines, the first of which was accepted into service in January, out of a total of 8 that are planned.

The Izborsk Report

In late January, the Izborsk Club, Russia’s new policy-shaping group, released a report entitled “Defense Reform as an Integral Part of a Security Conception for the Russian Federation: a Systemic and Dynamic Evaluation.” The sections of the 85-page report dealing with a potential thermonuclear global showdown demonstrate that leading Russian circles are well aware of the developments discussed in the latest Leiber-Press article, regarding U.S. attempts to develop a “counterforce” capability—to be able to take out Russia’s means to retaliate against a nuclear attack, thus making thermonuclear war more likely.

The Izborsk Club, founded on Lyndon LaRouche’s 90th birthday, Sept. 8, 2012 (a fact of which the group officially took note), brings together leading patriotic, anti-liberal Russian analysts with figures close to the Kremlin. Its new report was co-authored by Gen. Leonid Ivashov (ret.) (former head of the International Relations Department of the Ministry of Defense), Academician Sergei Glazyev, editors Alexander Prokhanov

and Alexander Nagorny from the weekly *Zavtra*, and historian Andrei Fursov, among others.

The document was issued in a setting of turmoil within the Russian Armed Forces. Former furniture-store manager and tax collector Anatoli Serdyukov, who, as Defense Minister, oversaw defense reform for four years under Dmitri Medvedev's Presidency, is under interrogation by the federal Investigative Committee in connection with the embezzlement scandal around the Ministry's real estate agency, which had been headed by a woman who was apparently his mistress.

On Feb. 27, President Putin and his appointee as Defense Minister, Sergei Shoygu, addressed an expanded meeting of the Defense Ministry Board, to deal with the past year's developments, and what Putin called "a difficult and at times painful" modernization process in the military. In this speech, Putin stated that, "We see methodical attempts to undermine the strategic balance in various ways and forms. The United States has essentially launched now the second phase in its global missile defense system." In this and several other passages, Putin's remarks were consonant with the assessments and recommendations of the Izborsk Club.

Like LaRouche, the Izborsk authors soberly assess the danger of thermonuclear war, and its finality, as stemming from utopian policies reigning in the West. They write:

"Washington is escalating its efforts to achieve overwhelming military-technological superiority over Russia, such that the R[ussian] F[ederation] would dismantle its strategic nuclear arsenal, thus losing its retaliatory nuclear-strike capability and, consequently, losing strategic parity with the U.S.A. Washington is pursuing this goal both by developing advanced strategic rearmament programs, and through diplomatic efforts to impose upon Russia strategic and conventional arms reduction agreements that are advantageous to the U.S.A....

"Washington's likely line in its Russia policy in the near future will be to involve Russia in a NEW RESET scheme, using the NATO bloc in order to (a) prevent Russia's rapprochement with China, and (b) weaken Russia's military potential as much as possible. This weakening will be accomplished through a series of disarmament agreements, reducing Russia's strategic nuclear missile potential, as well as tactical

nuclear weapons, to a minimum; the latter are especially important in the event of regional and local conflicts, including in Central Asia and the Caucasus region....

"For the decades ahead, however, any real threat of a massive nuclear-missile strike against Russia would originate only from the U.S.A and its allies. For the time being, the likelihood of such a war can be regarded as very small, as long as as Russia maintains its strategic nuclear forces and its deterrent capability of launching an assured retaliatory nuclear-missile strike. This turns nuclear weapons into the military-political *ultima ratio*, and makes them the subject of continuous military-technological competition between the superpowers, in attempts to neutralize this power factor. At the same time, in wars on a local or regional scale, tactical weapons are gaining more and more importance. Over the last decade, the USA and the NATO countries have been intensely developing the conception of a disarming non-nuclear strike against Russia's control systems and its strategic nuclear forces. Such a counterforce strike would rule out the possibility of Russian nuclear retaliation that would cause unacceptable damage to the U.S.A."

Concerning a "major war scenario," the report continues:

"The nature of such a war will be:

—high-intensity and high-technology, since any of the countries named above would seek to deliver a preemptive, disarming strike with HPW [high-precision weapons] against our strategic nuclear forces, reconnaissance, control, and communications systems in outer space, in the air, and on the ground;

—"based on a massive employment of HPW and conventional forces and means of battle in the first attack echelon (in all-or-nothing mode), in order to destroy our forces and achieve the basic war objectives before a retaliatory nuclear strike can be launched and before the initiation of political negotiations.

"—In strategic terms, such a conflict may be preceded by a period of escalating conflict potential, which could allow the timely detection of war preparations by intelligence/ reconnaissance forces and assets, and the ability to carry out the needed countermobilization."

The Way Out

The Leiber-Press article appears to have only one major weakness—how the U.S. should get out of the

strategic trap it has marched into. They offer the alternatives of either avoiding war with nuclear-armed states, which they say may not be possible, or doing more of what it is currently doing, that is, building its counterforce capabilities to the point that it overcomes the danger of coercive escalation. They don't suggest, however, a complete change in the *strategic policy* of the United States, but such a strategic change would require the Constitutional removal of President Obama from office and a paradigm shift in the way that strategic policy is made in Washington.

Recently, two top-level Russian officials, Sergei Ivanov, former Defense Minister and present head of the Russian Presidential Administration, and Vladimir Kozin, a member of an interagency working group attached to the Russian Presidential Administration and a researcher at the Russian Institute of Strategic Studies, both argued that the U.S. must stop surrounding Russia with missile defenses, and instead should join with the world community to develop the defenses necessary to protect the Earth from asteroid strikes.

Ivanov told *Komsomolskaya Pravda* on March 5 that the U.S. ABM system in Europe "does not appear to respond to potential threats coming from North Korea and Iran. This affects Russia's strategic nuclear forces and undermines the balance of forces. In this case Moscow can't afford a new round of nuclear arms reduction as the U.S. currently outnumbers Russia in nuclear weapons."

Ivanov said that Russia sees "no light at the end of tunnel" in missile defense discussion with the U.S." *Pravda* added, "Mr. Ivanov implied that Washington's position is not sincere and cannot be taken seriously." On planetary defense, he said, "No country, not even the United States, can solve this alone," and therefore there must be a collective effort.

Ivanov's remarks followed a hard-hitting Feb. 28 article in the *Moscow Times* by Kozin, who warned that the U.S. anti-ballistic missile (ABM) systems are out to "destroy Russia intercontinental ballistic missiles," and advising that instead of trying to surround Russia, the United States should be working *with* Russia to defend the Earth from meteorites and similar dangers. Kozin's piece is an unusually detailed analysis that rips into President Obama's phony offers of reducing offensive systems, and shows that Obama is covering up the buildup of tactical nuclear weapons at the same time as the ABM systems are built up.

"U.S. operational missile defense systems to be de-

ployed in Romania and Poland in 2015 and 2018, respectively, are not designed to intercept potential ballistic missiles launched by Iran—the reason that the U.S. gave for introducing the missile shield," Kozin writes. "This is the task of the missile defense systems of the United States and its allies deployed in the Gulf region. *The only purpose of the U.S. missile defense equipment deployed in Europe is to destroy Russian intercontinental ballistic missiles* [emphasis added].

"The fact that our country is never mentioned in the missile shield program as a potential participant, proves that it is aimed at Russia. Russia is missing from both the NATO Missile Defense Action Plan and the U.S. and alliance's 'rules of engagement' concerning the use of anti-ballistic missiles, endorsed shortly after the NATO Chicago summit last year."

In conclusion, Kozen puts the defense of Earth question onto the table. "Quite frankly, instead of thinking how to encircle Russia with nuclear and missile defense weapons," he writes, "the American side should think about how it can work together with us and other interested parties to prevent meteorites from raining down on our planet."

GENOCIDE RUSSIA AND THE NEW WORLD ORDER

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LaRouche: Stop the Coverup Of Brit-Saudi Role in 9/11

by Nancy Spannaus

March 12—During his March 8 webcast, American statesman Lyndon LaRouche demanded immediate release of the crucial 28 pages in the Congressional Joint Inquiry into the 9/11 attack on the United States, which have been redacted to protect the collaboration between U.S. traitors and the Saudi monarchy, in perpetrating that history-changing crime.

The timeliness of LaRouche's demand is shown by fact that the Obama Administration is continuing the very alliance with the arm of the British Empire's Saudi kingdom that was operative with the Bush family in 9/11/2001—an alliance which could lead directly toward World War III. Specifically, Obama has given the green light to escalating Saudi support for terrorist groups fighting Syria's Assad government, and continues to protect, if not encourage, the Saudi-funded jihadis who are running amok in North Africa, and were the assassins of U.S. Amb. Christopher Stevens, among others.

At this point, where the Obama Administration is already reeling from the bipartisan revolt against its murderous drone policy, and Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.) has called for the release of the 28 pages, an escalation of political pressure could expose the traitorous coverup, and derail the war drive.

A Damning Indictment

The second question addressed to LaRouche at the March 8 webcast, took up 9/11/2001, in terms of how it laid the basis for the current killer-drone and global-

war policy of first the Bush, and then the Obama administrations, by getting Congress to agree to the Authorization of the Use of Military Force (AUMF) on Sept. 14, 2001. That resolution—which, only now, some members of Congress are introducing legislation to repeal—authorized “the President to use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or persons, he determines planned, authorized, committed or aided the terrorist attacks . . . or, who harbored such organizations or persons, in order to prevent any future acts of international terrorism against the United States. . . .”

Bush used the AUMF to authorize the war in Afghanistan, the 2003 war in Iraq—in reality, a whole process of “global war” which Obama has not only continued, but expanded by his terror drone warfare around the world. Domestically, it was used to drastically increase police-state measures against American citizens and residents as well.

This was, indeed, the outcome which the real authors of 9/11—tools of the British monarchy such as then-Prime Minister Tony Blair, and the Saudi royal family—desired. But, to achieve it, they had to carry out a coverup of how 9/11 was actually run.

LaRouche and *EIR* have long exposed the British-Saudi role, with the complicity of de facto traitors like Bush and Obama, in 9/11 and its coverup which continues to this day. In his March 8 response, LaRouche insisted this coverup must end now.

“We know that the 9/11 operation, as it's been called,

was organized by a trio of agencies: the British monarchy, the BAE military institution, and the Saudi government. And we also know that the ambassador of Saudi Arabia to the United States *was involved in organizing the funding of the pilots who participated in those attacks*. And we also know that the Bush Administration knew that this was this case, because it was the Bush Administration that organized the safe exit of those Saudi families which were tied to that part of Saudi business in the United States. The whole nation was shut down at that point; no one could fly in or out, except the Saudis, who were escorted out from Texas and other places where they had been, meeting with the Bush family, for example.

“So this whole operation then, was entirely that. But what’s the significance? The significance is very simple: Who could get the United States, which had just suffered a major attack from Saudi and British forces, who were involved in this because the British institutions, the BAE, and the Saudi institutions, were all part of this operation? So, who could do that? We know exactly who did it: It was done by the British monarchy! The British monarchy set the whole thing up. That’s the guilty party, and that’s what the coverup is all about.

“Now, I think the simple thing is, I think the British monarchy should, shall we say, be restrained. . . .

“And what we have, is we have people in the United States, in high positions of government, high positions of politics, and of business interests, of banking interests, of the kind that have swallowed everything up: That’s where the enemy lies. And the point is, the United States has been *betrayed by its own government, knowledgeably*. Don’t you think that they know what this thing is? Don’t you think this is known? How can you suppress something without knowing what it is you’re suppressing?

“No, this is the great crime, this is a great *treason*, by all of those officials of the government in the United States, who are complicit in the coverup! The evidence was there. Why, then, if the evidence is not there, why don’t they just publish the 28 pages? Why don’t they? Because they’re covering it up. *Because they’re working for a foreign power against the people of the United States*. That’s the truth of the matter, and if the people of the United States realize what has been done to them, they will demand relief from the kind of crap they’ve been put through all of these years, especially since 2001.”

Congress Has the Power

It is the U.S. Congress, which, as a body, has consistently shown the backbone of a worm for more than a decade, which has the responsibility, and power, to break the coverup. The CIA has responded to Freedom of Information requests for information on the Congressional report by saying that it is Congress, not the CIA, which alone has the authority to declassify the information.

Taking the lead, once again, in goading Congress to act is Rep. Walter Jones, who has worked across party lines from the time of the Clinton Administration on, against wars started by administrations without authorization from Congress, and other matters.

On Feb. 26, Jones posted on his website the following letter, calling for the release of the infamous redacted 28 pages of Congressional Joint Inquiry on 9/11. Dated Feb. 14, the letter is addressed to the Republican and Democratic leaders of the House Permanent Committee on Intelligence:

“Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Ruppersberger:

“I want to thank you for conducting the very important hearings last week on the killing of U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and the three other State Department officials during the Benghazi attack on September 11, 2012.

“In light of those hearings, I urge you, as chairman and ranking member, to recommend a declassification of the 28 pages of the Congressional Joint Inquiry report describing what role the Saudi Arabian government had in the terrorist attack on 9/11. As you know, former Senator Bob Graham has conducted extensive research into this issue and has been nationally recognized and interviewed for his belief that these 28 pages should be declassified.

“The families of the victims of 9/11 have a right to this information, as do the American people. Since your committee has jurisdiction over this matter, I ask you and the ranking member to please review the attached correspondence from Mr. Mike Low, who lost a daughter on American Airlines flight 11 on that tragic day. As Mr. Low states, ‘Our hope is that over time, history will have the total truth of all the events of 9/11.’

“Mr. Chairman, the American people have a right to know the truth. It is critical for the citizens of this country to have trust in their government. I hope that you will take this into consideration and I look forward to hearing back from you.”

Book Review

Was It Murder? Philip Marshall, Author of 'Big Bamboozle,' Dead

by William F. Wertz, Jr.

The Big Bamboozle: 9/11 and the War on Terror

by Philip Marshall

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform,
February 2012 166 pages, paperback, \$14.99

March 9—In February 2012, Philip Marshall, a veteran airline pilot, published *The Big Bamboozle: 9/11 and the War on Terror*, which documents the role of Saudi Arabia in running the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and of the Bush Presidency in facilitating it by standing down. One year later, on Feb. 2, 2013, Marshall was found dead, along with his two teenage children and his dog, at his home in California.

Local police have called it a murder/suicide. But former National Security Agency officer Wayne Madsen, who spent a week at the scene investigating, says that it was a black-ops assassination, not only for what Marshall reveals in the book, but also for what he might have revealed in the future.

In addition to being an experienced pilot—Marshall had captain ratings on the Boeing 727, 737, 747, 757, and 767s—and was familiar with the training needed to fly such planes, and to carry out such maneuvers as the 9/11 hijacker pilots did, Marshall had experience in a DEA sting operation against Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar, and was the pilot for Barry Seal, who participated in the George H.W.

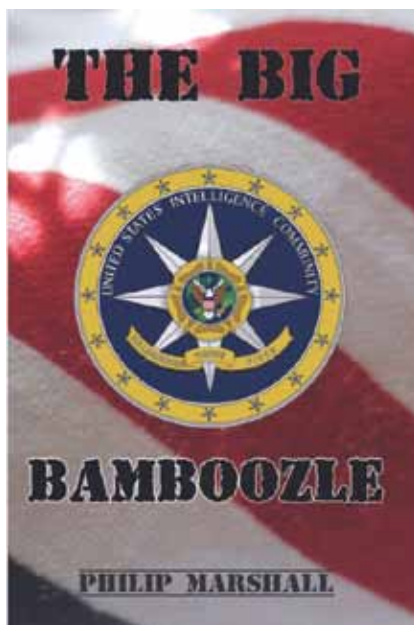
Bush/Oliver North operation to arm the Contras in the 1980s.

The story that Marshall tells, although failing to identify the role of the British, corroborates in fine detail the essential features of the assessment of 9/11/2001, presented by Lyndon LaRouche at the time that the attack was occurring. Interviewed that morn-

ing on K-TALK radio from Salt Lake City, LaRouche said: "This is not some dumb guy with a turban some place in the world, trying to get revenge for what's going on in the Middle East. This is something different." LaRouche emphasized that "this is a very systematic operation ... to get that kind of thing, to snatch planes like that, that's a pretty sophisticated operation." He also stressed that "Osama bin Laden is a controlled entity. Osama bin Laden is not an independent force." In a webcast address on Jan. 3, 2001, LaRouche had warned that a terrorist incident could be used, as in the case of the Reichstag Fire, to introduce a dictatorial policy in the United States. In that webcast La-

Rouche said: "Special warfare types of the secret government, the secret police teams, will set off provocations, which will be used to bring about dictatorial powers and emotion, in the name of crisis management."

The possibility that Marshall was assassinated cannot be ruled out. In former Sen. Bob Graham's novel *Keys to the Kingdom*, the lead character, who is a Senator investigating 9/11, is killed. Graham was the co-chair of the Joint Congressional Inquiry into 9/11. In



similar, true-life cases, Barry Seal was killed on Feb. 19, 1986, in Baton Rouge; J.H. Hatfield, author of *The Fortunate Son*, in which he reported that George W. Bush's "missing year" was spent in drug rehab, was also found dead, allegedly by suicide, on July 18, 2001; journalist Gary Webb, who exposed the fact that crack cocaine was being shipped to the U.S. to fund arms for the Contras, in a newspaper series entitled "Dark Alliance," allegedly committed suicide on Dec. 10, 2004; and on Feb. 19, 2005, Hunter S. Thompson also allegedly committed suicide while working on a major article on 9/11.



Marshall, a veteran Boeing pilot, writes that the 9/11 hijackers could not possibly have carried out the attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon, without "critical inside help from aviation and tactical experts." Shown: United Flight 175 about to crash into the World Trade Center South Tower on Sept. 11, 2001; the first tower had already been hit.

Bin Laden: A False Flag

In the introduction to his book, Marshall cites the fact that in the final version of the Joint Congressional Inquiry into 9/11, the indisputable evidence about the role of Saudi intelligence was redacted.

Marshall presents evidence that bin Laden's role in 9/11 was a false flag, to cover for the fact that the funding, logistical support, tactical planning, and training of the 9/11 terrorist attack were all supplied by Saudi Arabia, whose role was covered up by blaming Osama bin Laden, who did not have the means to carry out such a sophisticated operation.

Secondly, he demonstrates that the operation was effectively facilitated, and then exploited, by the Bush family apparatus, which effectively stood down while the attack was occurring, and ignored warnings of the impending attack.

And thirdly, he exposes the roles in the coverup of Porter Goss, the House Chairman of the Joint Congressional Inquiry; Philip Zelikow, the director of the 9/11 Commission; and FBI Director Robert Mueller, who was appointed on Sept. 4, 2001. That coverup persists to this day.

Marshall is known to have been in contact with Bob Graham, who has demanded the declassification of the 28-page section of the 9/11 report on the Saudi role in the attack.

The book covers material already reported by *EIR* and LaRouchePAC from the report of the Joint Congressional Inquiry. This includes the fact that Prince Bandar's wife, the sister of Prince Turki bin Faisal, then-head of Saudi intelligence, sent money to Saudi Intelligence agent Omar al-Bayoumi; that Bayoumi met with a member of the Saudi consulate in Los Angeles before meeting at a restaurant with the first two hijackers who came to the U.S., Khalid al-Mihdhar and Nawaf al-Hazmi, and invited them to San Diego; that Bayoumi worked for the Saudi Civil Aviation Authority; that the two hijackers lived for a time in the home of a longtime FBI informant, whom the Joint Inquiry was prevented from interviewing. In fact, the FBI refused to serve the informant a committee subpoena.

Marshall points out that the 9/11 Commission never heard testimony from a civil aviation expert. As an expert himself, he writes that, "The flight profiles revealed that a tailored operating procedure was used to

fly directly to predetermined targets, followed by a series of advanced hand-flown maneuvers that included rapid descents, steep turns and coordinated roll outs.” None of this could have been done without “critical inside help from aviation and tactical experts.” As a 20-year Boeing pilot and captain, he writes that he would have been “challenged to duplicate this performance without several practice flights.” The pilots could not have done this on the basis of the training they received in single-engine airplanes. Moreover, their civilian flight instructors all said afterwards, that in early 2001, none of the pilots was competent to fly Boeing airliners.

His conclusion is that they received advanced training in the final phase from Saudi instructors.

The Saudis and the Pilots

Marshall presents the following evidence:

In the six months leading up to 9/11, four of the eventual hijackers travelled to Las Vegas. These hijackers were the pilots of the four planes that were used on 9/11. None of the other hijackers went to Las Vegas. Marshall concludes that they must have received training at a site somewhere between Las Vegas and Tucson, Ariz. One possible location he identifies as Pinal Airpark, which had 757 and 747 Boeing planes on site at that time, and which is known to have been used by the CIA and the private mercenary company Blackwater.

Many sources have reported that after 9/11, a number of Saudi nationals, who were in the U.S. at the time, including members of the bin Laden family, were allowed to fly out of the country after the attacks.

Marshall also reports that a large entourage of Prince Turki was also in the United States prior to and on Sept. 11, 2001: “Tucked in the back of the commission’s report (and later removed) was an account of three separate chartered airliners carrying about 100 Arab men (mostly Saudis) from Las Vegas on midnight transatlantic flights beginning on September 19.” Marshall reports that Turki “was near Las Vegas during the time that the 9/11 Commission ‘could not explain’ why all the hijackers had made trips to Las Vegas in the months leading up to 9/11.”

In the week after the attack, there were at least five chartered flights with high-ranking Saudi officials that flew out of Las Vegas, Newark, Boston, and Washington. Three of these were from Las Vegas.

“The chartered departures from Las Vegas were a four-engine DC-8 for Geneva on September 19, 2001, with 69 passengers, including 46 Saudis; a Boeing 727 for England with 18 Saudis on September 20; and on September 23, a jumbo Lockheed L-1011 for Paris. Only 34 passengers were listed on that plane, which has a capacity of nearly 400. On that flight was Prince Turki.”

Marshall makes the point that the presence of Turki’s entourage in the U.S. in the Summer of 2001 “entailed a perfect opportunity to get the needed Saudi Boeing flight instructors into the country and out after the attacks without anyone interviewing them.”

To support this, Marshall points out that Prince Bandar—now the head of Saudi intelligence—is, himself, a pilot. He was Top Gun for his unit in the Royal Saudi Air Force, and the two Saudi intelligence operatives in San Diego, Bayoumi and Bassan, were associated with the Saudi Civil Aviation Authority.

The Saudi-Bush Connection

The role of Prince Bandar, and his relationship to the Bush family, are key. Marshall does not report on the money Bandar had at his disposal as a result of the (British) BAE-Saudi Al-Yamamah arms deal. But he does demonstrate that Bandar has a decades-long close relationship with the Bush family, and with dirty covert operations. For instance, during the Iran-Contra affair, when George H.W. Bush was Vice President, Bandar agreed to fund the Contra operation in 1984 when the Congress had banned U.S. funds for Nicaraguan Contra rebels. Oliver North testified that Bandar “had sought to keep under wraps his role in funneling millions through a Swiss bank account.”

Thus Bandar has been the Bush family connection to Saudi Arabia for decades. As Marshall points out, in the past two decades, the Prince “has spent time with the President’s family at their Texas ranch, their Kennebunkport home, at Camp David and of course the White House. He has had visits to the Pentagon and has been flown on Air Force One.” George H.W. Bush celebrated his 80th birthday on Bandar’s A-340. At one point, the Vice President proclaimed that Bandar was an official member of the Bush family. His new name in Kennebunkport was announced as Bandar Bush.

In less than 48 hours after 9/11/2001, Prince Bandar and George W. Bush would be smoking cigars together



This photo, which appears in Marshall's book, was taken in a Mexico City nightclub on Jan. 22, 1963. The three men on the left foreground have been identified as Felix Rodriguez, Porter Goss, and Barry Seal. Independent investigators believe that the men in the photo were all members of Operation 40, the Kennedy assassination team.

on the White House balcony. In his book *State of Denial*, Bob Woodward reports that when George W. Bush was planning to run for the Presidency, Bush Sr. told him to visit Bandar. According to Woodward, Bush Jr. said to the prince, "My dad told me before I make up my mind, go and talk to Bandar."

Although Marshall does not make this point, Prince Bandar, now, as head of Saudi intelligence, continues to do the bidding of the British, in arming al-Qaeda in Syria. The only difference is that today his partner in crime is President Barack Obama who, in following the Bush family tradition, has continued to cover up the Saudi role, both in the original 9/11, and also in 9/11/2012 in Benghazi.

No Defense

Marshall argues that on 9/11, all four of the planes were supposed to hit their targets at the same time, but the hijackers of two of the planes that targeted Washington, D.C., were delayed in taking over the cockpits, which resulted in those planes flying further west than intended, and thus delaying the operation. Marshall's point is that this delay exposed the fact that the Bush White House stalled in responding to the attack. Two military jets were sent up after it became clear that the first plane had been hijacked. However, no additional planes were deployed.

Not a single airplane was sent out to defend Washington. Vice President Dick Cheney claimed afterwards that he recommended to Bush that orders be given to shoot down any incoming plane, but there is no record of any such orders being given, even two hours after the attack began. And even if such orders had been given, there were no planes in the air to follow the orders.

The Coverup

The coverup of 9/11 is well documented by Marshall, and echoes the coverup of the Kennedy assassination by the Warren Commission. Just as Allen Dulles was appointed to the Warren Commission to control it, similar ap-

pointments were made to obstruct the investigation of both the 9/11 Commission and the Joint Congressional Inquiry.

The person appointed as Executive Director of the 9/11 Commission was Philip Zelikow, a former member of the National Security Council for Bush Sr., and co-author of the 1995 book, *Germany United, Europe Transformed*, which he co-authored with Condoleezza Rice. Zelikow was a member of the G.W. Bush transition team, and the author of the policy paper that the White House used to justify a pre-emptive invasion of Iraq. The 9/11 Commission staff would describe him as a "White House mole." He was in daily contact with Bush senior advisor Karl Rove and with National Security Advisor Rice. Evidence against Bandar was hidden in the final report, because Zelikow argued that it was not conclusive.

In respect to the Joint Congressional Inquiry, Marshall asserts that the mole was former Rep. Porter Goss, the co-chair from the House. He was named by President George W. Bush in 2004 as Director of National Intelligence and Director of Central Intelligence. As to Goss's background, Marshall presents a photo taken in Mexico City on Jan. 22, 1963, which includes Felix Rodriguez of Contra fame, Barry Seal, and Porter Goss, 20 years before the Iran-Contra affair. Goss was a CIA agent at the time of the the Bay of Pigs. According to

Marshall, “some independent investigators believe that this [photo] was the assassination team, nicknamed Operation 40,” that was responsible for the Kennedy assassination.

Marshall also reports that Cheney tried to intimidate Senator Graham. Mueller, who was appointed FBI director one week before 9/11, also launched an investigation of the Joint Congressional Inquiry staff itself during their investigation, as a means of intimidation.

A Ploy for War

Marshall’s overall thesis is that to bring about the change which has occurred since 9/11, a Pearl Harbor-style attack on the U.S. would be necessary. He quotes a document published by the Project for a New American Century (PNAC), “Rebuilding America’s Defenses,” which states: “the transformation would be a long one—absent some catastrophic and catalyzing event—like a new Pearl Harbor.” Moreover, by blaming the attack on Osama bin Laden, it could be used to justify a policy of pre-emptive warfare, which was then carried out against Iraq, and eventually Syria and Iran.

Marshall argues that such a false flag operation was run to cover up the Saudi involvement and the true in-

tention of the plotters of 9/11.

To support this, Marshall quotes from Steve Pieczenik, who served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State under the Nixon, Ford, and Carter administrations, worked under Reagan and Bush Sr., and now works as a consultant for the Department of Defense. Pieczenik, who is also a physician, stated on May 3, 2011, in two radio broadcasts shortly after it was announced that Osama bin Laden had been killed, that he knew that bin Laden had died in 2001. Back in April 2002, Pieczenik said that bin Laden had already been “dead for months.”

Pieczenik had met bin Laden, and worked with him during the proxy war against the Soviets in Afghanistan. According to Pieczenik, bin Laden died in 2001, “not because Special Forces had killed him, but because as a physician, I had known that the CIA physicians had treated him and it was on the intelligence roster that he had marfan syndrome. He died of marfan syndrome, Bush junior knew about it, the intelligence community knew about it.” Pieczenik reported that CIA physicians had visited bin Laden in July 2001 at the American Hospital in Dubai. “He was already very sick from marfan syndrome and he was already dying, so nobody had to kill him.”

Pieczenik also said that he was prepared to tell a Federal grand jury the name of a top general who told him directly that 9/11 was a false flag attack.

Marshall also argues that key to the false flag operation was producing the torture-induced confession of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the so-called mastermind of 9/11.

Time for the Truth

Unfortunately, Marshall will not write his next book. It is certainly reassuring that Attorney General Eric Holder and CIA Director-designate John Brennan have finally stated, on behalf of President Obama, that it is unconstitutional to kill an American who is a non-combatant on American soil ... with drones.

Marshall does not mention that Obama, along with Brennan, has continued the Bush policy of covering up the Saudi involvement in 9/11 by refusing to declassify the Joint Congressional Inquiry 28-page chapter on Saudi involvement in 9/11, which he promised the families of 9/11 victims he would do.

Given the explosive nature of his revelations, the time is now overripe to push for that chapter finally to be declassified. The truth must now come out.



The Al-Qaeda Executive

Financed and deployed by the British-Saudi Empire, al-Qaeda has been protected by the Obama Administration to accomplish the Empire's global war. In this feature [video](#), LaRouchePAC documents President Obama's use of the al-Qaeda networks to overthrow Qaddafi in Libya, and to carry out bloody regime-change against Assad in Syria, by the same forces who attacked the U.S. consulate in Benghazi.

www.larouchepac.com

MORE FOOD-FOR-FUEL; MORE LIES

Obama Updates British Famine Policy for 2013

by Marcia Merry Baker

March 11—The Obama Administration, in its statements to the institutional events held at the beginning of each year on food and farm policy, has reiterated its commitment to “markets,” speculation, and biofuels, which practices, unless stopped, will lead beyond the current food shortages, to famine. The occasions were the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s annual Agricultural Outlook Forum, Feb. 21-22, where keynotes were given by the USDA chief economist, Dr. Joe Glauber, and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, who also, on March 5, was the witness at the hearing on “The State of the Rural Economy,” at the House Agriculture Committee.

In brief, the immediate factors of alarm in the U.S. and world food supply situation are: Firstly, weather patterns are extreme and persistent—in particular, the multi-year drought in the North American High Plains farmbelt—which comes on top of decades of lack of water- and land-improvement infrastructure projects. Secondly, food stocks are at critical lows, and there are no reserves, per the World Trade Organization, which disallows them as “trade distorting” for the globalist cartels. Feed for livestock is in short supply and high-priced, causing mass culling of meat and milk animals. Thirdly, the monetary/markets system itself is in meltdown, prolonged by bailouts for bankrupt elite banks. There is no “reform” that can save this; what is required is a swift restoration of Glass-Steagall to banking, issu-

ance of credit for needed projects and activity, and an end to speculation and hyperinflation.

Relative to these three general areas of crisis, the Administration’s agriculture spokesmen simply issued what amounts to decrees, and lies. First, they said that in 2013, weather and crop yields are expected to be “normal”; so the empty bins will just start to refill. On the financial meltdown, there is, conspicuously, no acknowledgement. Instead, there is Administration focus on how to accommodate to cuts in Agriculture Department activity, in the name of being team-players with Obama, to relieve the Federal budget deficit. Otherwise, there is the low-level blame game, as to who is responsible—Republicans or Democrats, the Executive or Congress—for the budget impasse. Finally, topping it off, the Administration is calling for expanding food-for-fuel and a “bio-product”-based economy.

All this adds up to a policy-path to famine. Moreover, it comes, not from a mass outbreak of stupidity and venality, but right from the blueprint for destabilizing nations and imposing depopulation, by the financial networks centered in the City of London/Wall Street, best understood as the neo-British Empire. The theme of their policy is: Don’t dare change the system; comply with myths of free markets, and the green myth that resources are fixed, and weather will happen. Population has “peaked.”

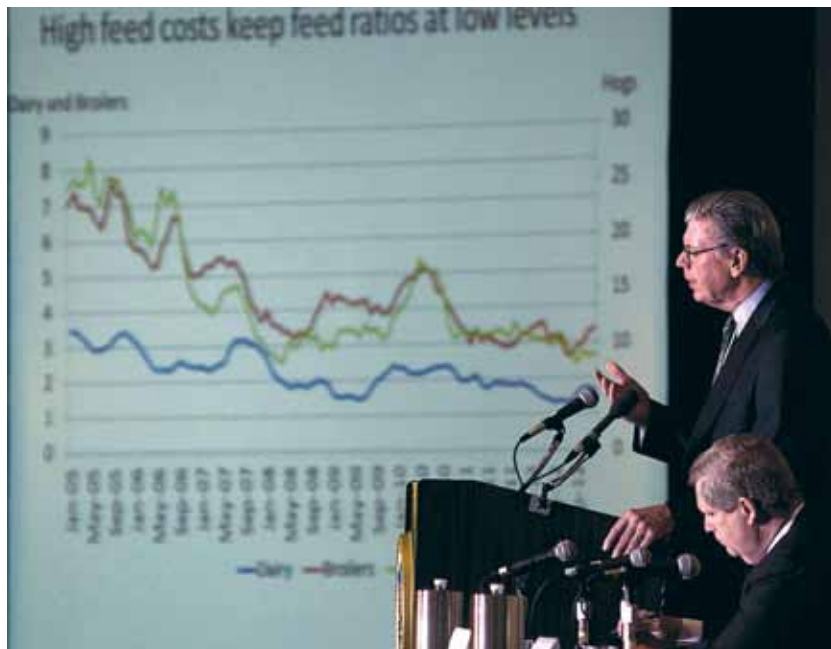
The overview for this was given in a report in December 2012, by none other than Chatham House (a.k.a. the Royal Institute for International Affairs), the British imperial intelligence think tank. On Dec. 10, its *Resources Futures* document was released. Chatham House spokesmen said at their press conference, that the “new normal” includes commodity price swings, weather extremes, “resources price volatility,” and other aspects of the fact that the planet is facing peak food, peak minerals, peak water, and peak population. Governments should just accept it.

USDA Decreases: ‘Normal’ Weather in 2013!

Just as King Canute ordered the waves to roll back from the seashore, Obama agriculture spokesmen are decreeing that the weather this year is to be “normal.” This goes against even the USDA/NASA Drought Monitor forecast for February through April, which foreshadows extensive “drought persistence.”

On Feb. 21, the USDA’s Glauber gave a keynote to the 89th annual Agricultural Outlook Forum, with wild-eyed, money-based formulations, based on “normal” weather ahead. He said that the way low corn stocks will be rebuilt, is that a large corn crop acreage will be planted this year, because farmers will be induced to do so by today’s high prices, and the weather will be fine. “High prices [for crops] ahead of planting should encourage large corn and soybean acreages, and, assuming normal yields, stock levels should rebuild and prices should moderate.” He foresees the area planted for corn, soy, and wheat to be the most this year since 1982. As a consequence, he said, corn prices will drop 33%, soy prices will drop 26%, hay prices will drop 11%—and all of this will help the livestock producers, now in desperate financial straits.

Secretary Vilsack presented this same “things-will-be-good” view on March 5, in his testimony to the House Agriculture Committee, saying that he expects the weather ahead to be satisfactory, which will improve prices for livestock producers. He claimed that the farm sector will “continue to provide ever-increas-



USDA/Lance Cheung

In the face of the drastic decline of U.S. food stocks, and the specter of famine, Agriculture Secretary Vilsack (seated) and chief economist Glauber (speaking), offered “happy talk” at this year’s Agriculture Outlook Forum.

ing food” to this country, despite the fact that there has been an absolute decrease in U.S. grain production over the past three years; a dramatic decline in cattle numbers, and loss of prime dairy herds.

What about the eating public? Glauber was asked specifically about the food supply and consumer price inflation, at a Senate hearing in February. He said there are no grounds for concern! In testimony Feb. 12, to the Senate Agriculture Committee hearing on “Drought, Fire and Freeze,” he stressed that the farm commodity portion of the consumer dollar, such as for corn, for example, is only 14 cents. Therefore, he said, for the consumer, retail food-price inflation is lagging way behind the rising farm commodity prices. He reported that there is only a 1.3% inflation rate now for food consumed at home.

This is simply unreal. In January, retail beef prices, for example, jumped to a record.

Meat, Dairy Disaster

In mockery of the livestock sector, Both Vilsack and Glauber like to speak of how U.S. aggregate farm income (from all sales of all farm commodities) is running at record rates. This is due to the run-up in prices from the drought-hit corn, soy, hay, and similar crops.

As Glauber testified in February, “Row crop producers [corn, soybeans, etc.] have generally fared well despite the adverse weather, in part due to high prices from the Federal crop insurance programs which have helped offset losses. . . .” He went on to acknowledge the financial harm for cattlemen, and poultry and hog producers, facing scarce feed and lack of water and pasture. They have no income loss insurance; nor do most specialty crop producers (orchards, truck-gardening operations, etc.). But the Obama Administration, under the “new normal” London farm/food policy, will not intervene.

A statement on “The Dairy Crisis” was issued by the National Farmers Union as a “Special Order of Business,” at its annual convention, which concluded March 5. It opens:

“Federal dairy policy has failed dairy farmers across the country, resulting in a decrease of 81 percent of the dairy farms since 1980. The crisis today caused by chronically low dairy producer prices and record high production costs, particularly feed costs, has caused multigenerational family dairy farms to go out of business at a record pace. It is not possible to produce milk with 2013 costs and sell that milk at 1970 prices, and yet today, the price paid to dairy farmers has remained virtually unchanged for the past 43 years, except for occasional, usually very short-term, price spikes. . . . [T]oday’s dairy farmer gets the same return per hundredweight of milk in unadjusted U.S. dollars that he or she got nearly a half-century ago.

“The debate over the ‘dairy cliff’ [the contingency of reverting to standing parity law—in the absence of a new farm bill, which would mandate a higher milk price to farmers—ed.] alerted all to the fact that a parity-level milk price would result in more than doubling the price to dairy farmers. The ‘dairy cliff’ demonstrated that dairy producers are substantially underpaid under the current system. Currently, those dairy farmers who are managing to hang on, are doing so by heavily subsidizing their family farms’ operations with off-farm work, borrowing from family and friends, and mortgaging their children’s futures. . . .” The NFU ends with an appeal to Congress to act, spelling out measures to be taken.

Obama ‘Bio-Economy’ Destroys Food, Farming

In the face of the crisis, the Obama Administration is boasting of its record increase in biofuels, and issu-

ing support of more “bio-based products.” At present over 40% of the corn crop is going for ethanol, and 26% of soy oil, from the soybean crop, is going for biodiesel.

In January, Obama signed a Congress-passed measure to reinstate the Biodiesel Tax incentive, for a two-year period, retroactive to December 2011, which means more soybeans for biodiesel. There are new Obama Administration financial incentives for sorghum ethanol; for camelina (false flax) biodiesel, and others. In February, the Administration announced an effort for U.S. production of “energy cane”—a cousin to sugar cane—for more biofuels. The target cane states are Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi.

Vilsack gave the keynote at the 18th annual National Ethanol Conference of the Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) Feb. 7 in Las Vegas. The RFA praised the Obama Administration for its “continuing investment in next-generation biofuels,” and preparing infrastructure for more domestic biofuels usage “through the installation of blender pumps,” and more exports.

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—Lyndon LaRouche, Feb. 11, 2013

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Drought, Food Scarcity Threaten Mexico

by Cynthia R. Rush

March 11—Mexican authorities are sounding the alarm that severe drought and resulting food scarcity threaten the country in the short term, contrary to the lying assertion that the drought “was over,” made at the end of last year by José Luis Luege Tamargo, the agent of the British monarchy’s Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), who headed up the National Water Commission (CONAGUA) in the Felipe Calderón Administration.

Currently, drought afflicts 37% of Mexico’s national territory, jeopardizing cattle and agricultural production, especially in the central and northern parts of the nation. According to Felipe Arrequín Cortés, CONAGUA’S general technical deputy director, it is very likely that the drought will expand this year, just as occurred in 2009 and 2011.

President Enrique Peña Nieto has announced a National Program Against Drought, and has ordered aggressive preventive and proactive measures as well as the creation of early-warning systems, aimed particularly at reducing the population’s suffering. The new CONAGUA head, Dr. David Korenfeld, reports that the President has created an Inter-Sectoral Commission on the Drought, under his direct supervision, which includes the ministries of Economics, Agriculture, Education, Energy, Health, National Defense, and Social Development, among others. This body will determine and monitor actions and projects to be undertaken to both prevent and mitigate drought.

This is a welcome change from the “Let the market decide” policies of the Calderón government, and Luege Tamargo’s insane insistence that farmers and ranchers learn how to ration “scarce resources.”

Absent plans to build such crucial infrastructure as the North West Hydraulic Plan (PHLINO), and the related North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA), however, the government’s plan to address the drought with palliative measures is inadequate,

at best. At least 170 of Mexico’s most important dams are at an average of 56% of their capacity, which is 14% of the historic average.

The drought, which devastated northern Mexico in 2011 and 2012, has already intensified in this region. Eduardo Espronceda Galina, head of the Tamaulipas Federation of Rural Property Owners, reported Feb. 4 that the state’s severe drought has affected more than 10,000 farmers and ranchers, forcing the latter to sell their herds at very low prices; at least 100,000 animals have been sold so far this year.

In Nuevo León, water levels in dams are at the lowest in 15 years. CONAGUA specialist Doroteo Treviño warns that should the crisis continue, the state would be forced back to a situation like that of September of 1998, when the state’s dams had no more than 212 million cubic meters of water.

Exacerbating the situation is the fact that several southern states are now also at risk, including Chiapas, Veracruz, and Tabasco, as well as the Valley of Mexico, in the nation’s central region, where the low water level of dams has provoked a “yellow alert.” Rainfall for April is expected to be very low, and 2013’s national rainfall is expected to be 30% *below* the historical average.

Peña Nieto has also launched a National Crusade Against Hunger, an attempt to address the disaster wrought by decades of murderous globalization, which have decimated productive family farms, while *increasing* Mexico’s food exports, as well as domestic hunger and poverty. According to recent reports, only two out of every ten Mexicans *are not considered to be poor*. One in five Mexicans, 22 million people, experience hunger, a number equal to the combined populations of Chihuahua, Jalisco, Guerrero, and the Federal District (the capital), or all of the country’s rural inhabitants. These are families which may spend all their income on food, yet still can’t buy enough nutritious food to adequately feed themselves.

New Agriculture Secretary Ricardo Aguilar Castillo made the obvious point at the end of January that in order for Mexico to combat hunger, it must “first produce food,” and expressed regret that farmers have no access to credit or subsidies. He especially pointed to price volatility, which has placed basic staples out of reach of much of the population. “Today,” he said, “we import more food than we produce.”

To Feed the World, Change the System

At a conference in Quebec City, Agronomists from around the world discussed how to feed 9.1 billion people. Robert Hux, Ph.D., reports.

March 9—As of the approach of Spring planting season in the Northern Hemisphere, the combined impact of worldwide weather extremes, lack of food reserves, and consequences of failure to build up soil and water infrastructure, has put us in a breakdown process, headed toward global famine. The dynamics involved in this crisis, and what the solutions can be, were discussed by some 800 agriculture experts at a conference in Canada on Sept. 17-21, 2012, attended by representatives of *21st Century Science & Technology*, who have provided *EIR* with this report.

The gathering, in Quebec City, with attendees from more than 25 nations, convened to address the topic of how to feed the 9.1 billion people expected to inhabit our planet by 2050. The event was the 5th World Congress of Agronomists and Agrologists, titled “Feed the World: Agronomists and Agrologists Front and Centre in Facing the Challenges of Local and Worldwide Food Production.” This Congress is an initiative of the World Association of Agronomists (AMIA), which in 1996 held its first World Congress in Santiago, Chile, followed by events every four years since.

Over this same time period, world hunger has worsened, not improved. In 1996, there were an estimated 827 million people suffering from hunger, which number increased to 1.05 billion as of 2008, at the time of the acknowledged global food system crisis.¹ Today, the situation is even worse. In absolute tonnage terms, the 2012 world harvests of wheat and corn were below the previous year; carryover stocks are plunging to record lows; meat animals are being culled; and food crops—especially corn—are being diverted in record amounts for biofuels. The process is now at the threshold of world famine, unless changed.

The Congress attendees represent the echelon of those scientists with agriculture expertise, who are im-

portant to reverse this deadly trend. Many of the speakers and participants have first-hand experience in aspects of what brought this about: green mythology, globalized markets, privatized patenting of crop genetics, undercutting of public research in agro-science, food cartelization, prevention of new water supplies and nuclear power, commodity speculation, financial bailouts, and killer-austerity. Various of these points were raised by speakers and in discussion.

However, the measure of policy discussion now, including for this conference of agro-specialists, is the question of *changing the system*.

There are three main planks of emergency action required:

1. Restore a nation-serving financial system, based on re-establishing the principle, and practices embedded in the 1933 Glass-Steagall Act in the United States. This means to separate commercial banking, from speculative, so-called investment banking. No more multi-trillion-dollar bailouts of private financial interests, and killer austerity, as is now seen in the Eurozone, among other places.

2. Extend credit, through sound national banking systems, for necessary economic activity of all kinds, from agro-industrial sectors, to local, province-level, and national government functions.

3. Undertake priority large-scale projects to vastly upgrade the productive platform for all nations. In North America, the continental-scale NAWAPA XXI (North American Water and Power Alliance) is on the agenda, and long overdue. These projects literally create new “natural” resources of water and land for agriculture, and all other purposes; and in the process, they employ millions of people in productive activity, and create conditions to improve the biosphere itself.

Understanding the nature and urgency of these economic emergency measures, requires facing the reality that we are in an end-phase of many decades of neo-British Empire policies. National economies have been

1. Marcel Mazoyer, 5th World Congress of Agronomists and Agrologists, conference program, graph on p. 31.



EIRNS

The 2008 food crisis saw mass demonstrations by both farmers and eaters, but the current situation is getting even worse. Shown are Australian farmers in Canberra, protesting the takedown of the Australian Wheat Board, June 15, 2008.

undermined by forced globalization through the World Trade Organization (WTO), through “intellectual property rights,” through cartels of mega-companies, and controlling financial networks. Under the rule of “the markets,” food reserves are not permitted, with the excuse they would be “trade distorting.” Add to this, the anti-technology, green ideology, and the problem becomes a threat to civilization itself.

This means facing the controlling interest—the British empire—and mobilizing for a revolutionary policy shift.

Several speakers and participants brought forward important information and passion for what could be done. For example, **Per Holten-Andersen**, the president of the Copenhagen Business School, brought up the debt crisis in Greece, Italy, and Spain. He said that our generation is grabbing the wealth and not investing in the future; that in the present system, we are not able to build infrastructure. He told this reporter that he has been involved in the fight for Glass-Steagall, and when briefed on NAWAPA, he replied, “That’s what the U.S. needs!”

Lyda Michopoulou, an agronomist from Greece and president of the International Association of Students in Agriculture, addressed why young people would want become agronomists in a society which

does not value their work. She noted that, contrary to popular opinion, the food crisis of 2008 proved that food is more valuable than money or gold.

Michel R. Saint-Pierre, the chair of the organizing committee for the conference, a former Deputy Minister of Quebec’s Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Oceans (MAPAQ), and an agronomist, said that expanding food supplies to support 9 billion people will require a mobilization like putting a man on the Moon!

OECD: Let the ‘Markets’ Prevail

In complete opposition to this outlook, there were speakers and participants who insisted that the world must remain within the confines of the dying monetarist system. One of these was **Ken**

Ash, Trade and Agriculture director of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), one of the opening plenary speakers. He argued using the sophism that hunger exists because of poverty, and shamelessly called for more of the same free-trade monetarism which has been the major cause of the crisis. He asserted that it is efficient (=unregulated) markets which determine what farmers produce (whether it be food, animal feed, or biofuels) by the self-evident rules of supply and demand; whether farmers receive a price that covers their costs of production; and whether sufficient quantities and types of foodstuffs are available, at affordable prices, to feed people. The security of individuals and nations under monetarism supposedly lies in having sufficient money to buy needed food and other goods, rather than the necessary organization of productive capabilities and resources to create them—a suicidal proposition in the presently dying financial system.



World Congress of Agronomists & Agrologists

Ken Ash

National governments, he argued, have no right to subsidize domestic agricultural inputs (water, fertilizers, seed, fuel), or to establish tariff barriers to limit food imports and ensure that farmers receive a price for their produce which covers production costs. Although such an approach to “supply management” has always been a central aspect of the policies that nations have used in the past to overcome hunger and even become net food exporters, such “trade-distorting” measures must be eliminated, he said. Instead, governments should focus on improving the “efficiency” of supposedly fixed water and land resources (rather than creating new resources by diverting water from areas of excess to arid regions, or desalination); research and development of “high value crops” (opium perhaps?); “opening markets,” allowing “market demand” to determine food prices (while doing nothing to prevent speculation) and providing farmers and consumers with “risk management tools.”

Nations, Not ‘Markets’

This imperial view was challenged the second day by **Marcel Mazoyer**, a prominent French agricultural engineer and consultant to the OECD and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), who stated in a presentation on the causes, consequences, and outlook of world hunger that the global food crisis “was a totally predictable”



World Congress of Agronomists & Agrologists
Marcel Mazoyer

consequence of the policy of free trade. In remarks published in the Congress program,² he described the nature of the problem. Large farming operations, which move into poor countries where land is cheap and manpower underpaid, are able, with modern technology, to produce abundant food at low cost, for export at a low price. However, he noted that the simple fact that food is available does not provide a solution to the food crisis, but only makes it worse! Since 70% of the malnourished people in the world are themselves peasant farmers who are poorly equipped and not able to compete with the lower-priced food, they find themselves increasingly

impoverished and unable to replace their equipment, or to adequately feed themselves.

What is needed, Mazoyer said, are national governments which act to guarantee a fair price for agricultural producers, whether rich or poor, by creating common agricultural markets protected from cheap food imports through variable tariffs. In addition, research and development programs need to be directed towards an improved system of agricultural production. Based upon this approach, he said, after the 1940s, we produced food faster than the rate of population growth, disproving the view of British East India Company’s prophet of doom, Parson Thomas Malthus. He commented that the productivity of peasant farmers globally must be raised through increased access to modern farm machinery. Presently only 28 million tractors are in use worldwide and 450 million farms still depend upon animals for subsistence agriculture.

Marcel Groleau, the President of Quebec’s Union of Agricultural Producers (UPA), at a workshop on “Agricultural Policies and the Ability to Produce,” emphasized the importance for nations to control the production and prices of their agricultural products by establishing barriers to cheaper food imports, as exemplified by



World Congress of Agronomists & Agrologists
Marcel Groleau

Canada’s policy of Supply Management. Groleau said, in an interview with *21st Century Science & Technology*, that this policy has come under attack in recent years by the WTO, because of fears by those who want to keep the present system that other countries may adopt the same approach.

In comments reported in the Congress program,³ Michel Saint-Pierre (mentioned above) noted the ruinous effects on global food security of monoculture crops for export and the conversion of grain into fuel. “We are at a breaking point,” he said. “It is a very disconcerting framework that has become a latent crisis which is not likely to solve itself.” In 2050, if the trend continues, 1 billion people will not have enough food to eat. He pointed to the productivity gap between peasant

2. Marc Gallichan, “What have we learned from the 2008 and 2011 food crises?” *ibid.*, p. 30.

3. Julie Mercer, “Agronomists and agrologists will require assistance,” *ibid.*, p. 36.

Double Food Production! Now, or in Fifty Years?

A word of caution is in order, on the formulation that the world must double food production in 50 years. This formulation was spun in the Summer of 2008, to thwart an international upsurge during the food crisis at the time, demanding a change in policy. There were many figures, agencies, and nations in Spring 2008 demanding immediate international collaboration to double world food supplies as soon as possible. They called for such measures as setting aside the WTO free-market system, and returning to national sovereignty over food and agriculture policies, including a return to food reserves and the goal of national food self-sufficiency.

For example, in Argentina in May, the Chamber of Deputies Agriculture Committee held a hearing, at which its chairman, Federal Deputy Alberto Cantero, called for his nation to double food production at the earliest time possible. He said that Argentina could produce enough food to feed 500 million people—its own 40 million population, plus 460 million more.

In the Pacific, six leading rice-producing nations—China, India, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam, and Myanmar—met in May, and announced their intention to revive an organization founded in 2002, but which never got off the ground, the Council on Rice Trade Cooperation, to confer on ways to dra-

matically increase rice output, to the benefit of all. Many African leaders also spoke out.

Internationally, the Schiller Institute, led by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, called on the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Food Summit, June 3-5, 2008, in Rome, to initiate action to double food production as early as possible.

But this was all blocked at the Rome confab, where functionaries connected to London financial and commodities networks, issued statements about “doubling food production,” but in 50 years! They used the FAO “High Level Conference on Food Security and the Challenges of Climate Change and Bio-Energy” as a platform to demand continuation of WTO free markets. On July 3, FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf, speaking in Brussels, repeated the time-frame of 50 years.

This formulation was forced through in numbers of ways. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon appointed a High Level Task Force on World Hunger, with the mantra of “50 years.” In Fall 2008, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation funded the founding in Chicago of a global agriculture initiative, based at the Chicago World Affairs Council. In 2011, the Gates Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, and others formed AGree, a world agency dedicated to destroy any attempted resumption of national-economy-serving measures, while stating, “AGree envisions a world in 2030 in which people everywhere have access to affordable food...”

—*Marcia Merry Baker*

farmers in Africa and modern farmers, which has gone from 10:1 ten years ago to 3,000:1 today.

FAO: More Food, ‘But’...

The Independent Chairman of the Board for the FAO in Italy, **Luc Guyau**, gave the opening plenary keynote which appeared to counter the subsequent remarks by the OECD’s Ken Ash. Guyau said that it is inconceivable that, while we have enough money to go to Mars, finance wars, and save the banks, we are not capable of eradicating famine. Feeding people, he said, should not be subject to the same rules of the market that apply to cell phones and minerals. He attacked the criminality of speculating with the world’s food supply,

called for limits on food speculation, and said that the WTO must allow countries to maintain “minimum levels” of food production.

But, Guyau’s remarks also indicated a tendency (unfortunately shared by many other Congress participants) to go along with the poisonous “limited growth” paradigm promoted by the OECD and the WTO. For example, instead of the various formulations of the goal as “70% more food over the next 30 years” (Guyau), or “50-70% more food and feed by 2050” (Ash), or “double agricultural production in 50 years” (Mazoyer), shouldn’t we ask what can be done *immediately*, rather than in 50 years (see box)? The idea that all nations could achieve food self-sufficiency and diets comparable to those of

Europe and North America, was rejected as “utopian” by a representative of the FAO, even at the point that those nations are rapidly losing the ability to feed themselves.

Obeisance to ‘Limits to Growth’

One of the symptoms of the mental disorder which has prevented mankind from being able to feed itself, is the way the public, including scientists, go along subserviently with untruths, in particular, such false concepts as that of anthropogenic global warming. Yes, patterns of weather extremes and climate change occur, but because of solar and galactic cycles.⁴

The climate change hoax followed upon the Club of Rome’s 1972 *Limits to Growth* report, which used a computer model developed by Dennis Meadows and Jay Forrester at MIT Business School purporting to prove that human population growth was leading to an inevitable collapse through depletion of limited resources. Therefore, Forrester said, in order to avoid the collapse, we had to stop growing and live in equilibrium with nature.

As Lyndon LaRouche has demonstrated,⁵ the fundamental fallacy of Meadows and Forrester’s argument involved the attempt to model an actual human economy with nothing more than linear equations (systems analysis) and the Leontief model of input-output relations developed for national income accounting!

The entropic collapse forecast by Meadows and Forrester was the *intended consequence* of excluding from their “virtual reality” any representation of the nonlinear processes of creative development which occur in the real universe. The track record of the last 500 million years of life on Earth, as known to us today through the fossil record, demonstrates a creative principle driving the development of living organisms in the direction of increasing complexity, throughput of energy and matter, and capabilities to transform the world around them. The process is nonlinear in that, for example, there are periods of mass extinctions in which there are dramatic collapses in the number of distinct genera of life, and yet the biosphere has always emerged with a new organization of living organisms that are

more capable of further development.⁶

With the appearance of man several million years ago, a species emerged that, while part of the biosphere, was also distinct from it in its unique ability to consciously discover and use the creative principles of the universe to transform itself, in effect, into a more powerful “species.” In this process, reflected in the history of revolutionary advances in mankind’s scientific, technological and cultural capabilities, entirely new resources are created for man’s use, and the only things that must “go extinct” are the relatively stupid ideas which previously dominated human society.

For the greenies to deny man the right to change the environment through, for example, building dams to protect life from destructive flood waters, is not only anti-human, but anti-nature. Not only does man’s existence depend upon his ability to improve the productivity of the biosphere through such things as irrigated agriculture, but the biosphere depends upon mankind to conquer threats to its existence, as for example advancing deserts.⁷

At the Congress, it was the lack of clarity on such fundamental questions that allowed even well-intentioned individuals to be duped into going along with green falsehoods whose consequences are genocidal.

Some of the speakers who would say that we have to do things differently because of “climate change” were not prepared to abandon a rational approach to agriculture/food policy. For example, FAO representative Guyau challenged the idea that “climate change” is a valid excuse for the failure to develop adequate water resources. While it is necessary to save water, he said, we also need to create more fresh water, through such means as desalination. He also said, in response to a question from *21st Century Science & Technology*, that large water-management systems are necessary, citing the example of the Aswan Dam in Egypt. The Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at McGill University, **Chandra Madramootoo**, noted that one of the major problems affecting agricultural production has been “climate variability” leading to floods and droughts, and that according to the OECD, there has been an underinvestment in water infrastruc-

4. Zbigniew Jaworowski, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc., “The Sun, Not Man Still Rules Our Climate,” *21st Century Science & Technology*, Spring 2009, pp. 10-28, http://21stcenturysciencetech.com/Articles_2009/Sun_Climate_sp09.pdf

5. Marcel Mazoyer, 5th World Congress of Agronomists and Agrologists, conference program, graph on p. 31.

6. LaRouchePAC Weekly Report, Jan. 26, 2012, “The Economics of Extinction,” <http://larouchePAC.com/weekly/jan26>.

7. Robert Barwick of the Citizen’s Electoral Council of Australia has exposed in a video that the “limits to growth” hoaxes originated with, and were promoted by, the neo-British Empire. See “‘Ecosystems’: A Genocidal Fraud,” <http://www.cecaust.com.au/ecosystemsfraud/>.

ture in the last two decades.

But other speakers endorsed the greenie lies. The OECD's Ash, in remarks printed in the Congress program,⁸ rejected the idea of such large-scale water projects, which, he said, would upset the "fragile balance" between land and water resources that are "far from unlimited." He insisted that agricultural producers simply have to adapt to climate change. "We have already seen it and this will keep increasing. Production zones will be affected by heavy rains, while in other regions, it will be difficult to seed. It will be major. It will create uncertainty. Again, we must find water in the right place, in one region or another," he said. Asked whether there will be enough water remaining for agriculture, Ash replied: "It's ironic, but we will be asking farmers to produce more while reducing their water consumption. Farmers will be the victims of residential and commercial development."

These "no-development-share-the-water-scarcity" policies have genocidal consequences which could not be entirely covered up even by some of the speakers promoting them. This was the case with **Henning Bjornlund**, the Canada Research Chair in Water Policy and Management at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta, and an associate research professor at the University of South Australia, whose academic career has been focused on the role of water markets in reallocating water away from agriculture in drought-prone arid regions such as the Murray Darling Basin of Southeastern Australia and the South Saskatchewan River Basin of the Canadian Prairies. In his presentation on the role of water in agricultural production, Bjornlund admitted that farmers in the Murray Darling Basin were completely opposed to the Australian government policy of paying them to slash their water usage in favor of "protecting aquatic ecosystems." He noted that when farmers take land out of production because they have no water for irrigation, the abandoned fields are invaded by rats and other pests, which soon spread to neighboring fields.

In the South Saskatchewan River Basin, where this policy has led to a ban on any new water allocations since May 2005, he reported on the results of an extensive survey of 300 Alberta irrigators, showing very little support for Alberta's 2003 Water for Life policy of "sharing the water scarcity" through market-based in-

struments for water trading. He noted with frustration that his proposals for an amendment to water licenses to allow the sale of unused water have also met with widespread opposition, and not only from farmers.

The Biofuel Scam

One of the clearest indications of whether participants at the Congress could see through the "little green lies" and think about what is needed to actually feed the world's population, could be seen in their views on biofuels.

The easiest aspect for many participants to grasp was the inadvisability of increasing the production of ethanol from corn and other grains at a time of falling global production and end-of-year stocks. *21st Century Science & Technology* correspondent Jean-Philippe Lebleu posed this question to the speakers in one workshop, stating that without a change from the present policy, we face another famine like 2007-08. The UPA's Groleau framed his response in terms of the markets, saying that bio-ethanol is illogical right now; the only reason farmers backed ethanol production a couple of years ago was that the price of corn was low, and they were looking for ways to sell more of it. Agronomist **Juarez Morbini Lopes** of the Brazilian Federal Council of Engineers and Agronomists said that in his opinion, food is sacred, and producing ethanol with corn or any cereal appropriate for human consumption is criminal. These responses elicited vigorous applause from the audience.

What was not as clear to most, was the idea that biofuels are inherently destructive because they lower the level of organization of human society, making more of the necessary economic activities dependent upon the very low energy-flux density of solar energy hitting the surface of the Earth, rather than using higher energy-flux-density sources such as nuclear power. Thus some conference participants, such as agronomist **Victor Vilalobos** (see *Interview*, below) promoted the use of plants for biofuels that can grow under arid conditions, such as the inedible jatropha, as an opportunity for Mexican farmers who cannot make a living on their small plots of land, to make money producing biofuels.

What is needed instead, in this case, are policies that ensure that farmers receive a price for their crops which covers their costs of production (a parity price), as well as other policies such as the development of water resources.

David Bressler from the University of Alberta, again missing this fundamental point, described how

8. Yvon Laprade, "Public awareness is required, and quickly—Ken Ash," in 5th World Congress of Agronomists and Agrologists conference program, pp. 18-19.

soon it will not be ethanol which is produced from grains, but “second-generation biofuels” much closer chemically to petroleum-based fuels.

Change the Rules of the Game

In the Quebec City Declaration,⁹ the World Congress of Agronomists and Agrologists wrote that “The main goal of the Congress has been to analyze and discuss the key role of agronomists and agrologists in solving one of the greatest challenges in the history of humanity—to feed 9 billion people by 2050,” which will necessitate “a new ‘Green Revolution.’” But they want to do so under the constraints of environmentalism, claiming that “the fact is that humankind needs to produce more while also preserving resources.”

Agronomists who were involved in transforming California into a world bread-basket, or those who saved the arable soils of the Palliser Triangle in the Canadian Prairies during the “dirty” 1930s, knew that you cannot let nature decide the future, but that you had to intervene and qualitatively improve the whole region.

9. Quebec City Declaration: http://www.worldagro2012.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Anglais_Declaration2012_QC.pdf

You had to improve the rules of nature, just as today we need to change the rules of economics dictated by the WTO and similar international institutions representing British imperialism.

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An Agronomist's Perspective: How To Feed a Hungry World

Dr. Villalobos studied agronomy at the National School of Agriculture in Chapingo, Mexico, earning Bachelor's and Master's degrees; he received his Ph.D. in plant morphogenesis from the University of Calgary in Canada in 1983. He has twice served as Undersecretary in the Mexican Federal Government, first as Natural Resources Undersecretary for the Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries, and later, as Agriculture Undersecretary for the Secretariat of Agriculture, Ranching, Rural Development, Fisheries, and Food.

Robert Hux interviewed him on Sept. 19, 2012 for 21st Century Science & Technology magazine, which gave EIR permission to publish the transcript. The two were attending the 5th Congress of Agronomists and Agrologists in Quebec City, where Villalobos gave a presentation on "The Food Crisis in the World: Can the Americas Offer Solutions?"

Q: Dr. Villalobos, the organization that you are associated with, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) was established in 1942, at the time that Franklin Delano Roosevelt was President of the United States. Can you say something about what your organization represents?

Villalobos: The reason [it was founded] was Mr. Henry Wallace, who was the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture at this time. It was the middle of the Second World War, and it was considered very important to have an institution that would be able to provide natural resources, as well as different products that in those days were imported from Asian countries: tropical crops, particularly those that were related to industry, such as fibers and rubber. Mr. Wallace visited various countries and then decided, along with other members of this group, to create the IICA, in Costa Rica, for this particular reason.

When the organization was inaugurated a year later, Mr. Wallace was Vice President. He came to Costa Rica



World Congress of Agronomists & Agrologists
Dr. Villalobos addresses the Congress on "The Food Crisis in the World: Can the Americas Offer Solutions?"

and they proclaimed the inauguration of that institute. That was in 1943.

Q: One of the things that President Roosevelt expressed was the Four Fundamental Freedoms, one of which was the Freedom from Want. Can you say something about the orientation of your organization at that point?

Villalobos: The general idea was to be able to identify what Mother Nature provides to us: the biodiversity and natural resources of the tropical Americas. But at the same time, they were looking for mechanisms to share knowledge and build national capacities in agriculture. How could poor countries make better use of their resources and enhance the human capacity of those countries? Thus the institution was born with the



Dr. Victor M. Villalobos
Dr. Villalobos studied with agronomist Dr. Norman Borlaug (1914-2009), the Nobel laureate who is credit with having saved 1 billion people from starvation. This graphic is from Dr. Villalobos's presentation to the conference.

philosophy of sharing knowledge and bringing the experience of the most developed countries to the least developed countries, to raise the standard of living of poor people.

The Green Revolution

Q: I was told that you were a student of Nobel laureate Dr. Norman Borlaug, who is known as the Father of the Green Revolution.

Villalobos: Yes. I was in Chapingo (which is 3-4 kilometers from the International Center for Wheat and Corn (CIMMYT), when Dr. Borlaug was there as a scientist. In 1971, my university signed an agreement with Japan to establish the first laboratory of tissue culture, which in some ways is now part of biotechnology.

To me, it was very important to learn about plant genetics. My idea in those days was: How can I combine the conventional plant breeding that Borlaug practiced (and he made a tremendous impact, particularly in Asian countries) and myself as a young student with a potential to manipulate tissue cultures in test tubes, to accelerate the process of plant breeding. My first contact with him was in those days, and we built very good relations over the years. I accompanied him to different fora, and that was always an honor for me. One of these was when he was awarded a doctoral degree in England. He would always let me know when he would be coming to Mexico, and then I would find the time to talk with him. I shared

with him my views on plant biotechnology and I always learned from him. The last time I talked with him was when he gave me his views about my book on GMOs.¹ I thought, and he considered it a good idea, that we should have something in Spanish.

My experience in that field for many years, which is controversial, was very much stimulated by his words. He wrote the introduction to my book.

I want to share with you what his major concern was. He told me: “Victor, I am worried because there are no plant breeders anymore. We have to do something to stimulate young people to study plant breeding.” He thought that young people were very much interested to get into molecular biology, genetic engineering. But his view was that, whatever mechanism you use, someone has to evaluate the plants in the field. And he said, we don’t have these people anymore.

In the prologue to my book on transgenics, Dr. Borlaug wrote the following conclusion:

“Without an adequate supply of food at accessible prices, we cannot provide the world with health, prosperity, and peace in the 21st Century. Very possibly, in the next 50 years, the world’s farmers and ranchers will have to increase their productivity by 75%, and achieve this despite the formidable challenge of reduced resources. To achieve this, and especially to help the world’s poor and those that do not have food security, we need biotechnology, the responsible use of which cannot be viewed as an enemy to the population, as are hunger and poverty.”

Patenting Seeds

Q: What about the idea that private companies can patent a form of life—companies like Monsanto, which will sue a farmer if the wind blows their seed into his field?

Villalobos: You know, the patent is for a process. You can register a variety, but you cannot patent a live organism. You patent the process. That’s what most countries will agree with. In general terms, I think it is always good for the farmers to have the freedom to choose between different possibilities, or even to use

1. Dr. Victor M. Villalobos, *Los transgenicos/Genetically Modified Organisms: Oportunidades Y Amenazas* (Mundi Presna Mexico, 2008).

their own seed. The thought that you cannot use the same seed, for instance from GMO, for the next crop cycle, is not new. No hybrid, whether we are talking about cereals or about animals, will inherit the same genetic characteristics. That's something that was clear, even before GMOs were commercialized.

The important thing is to understand that we are talking about a variety. It costs money to develop, particularly if we are talking about a GMO, which implies important investment and knowledge. But in the end, if the farmer sees that this variety will raise production, will produce a better grain, will be cleaner, and will not imply more investment in agrochemicals or the manipulation of soil, he will go for that.

There were 160 million hectares being cultivated for genetically modified crops last year, which means that every year since these GMO varieties were commercialized in 1996, there has been an increase in the area cultivated, because farmers prioritize these things. So I think these technologies, which have been adopted very quickly even by very poor farmers, will not be reversed. In the end, if the farmer has the opportunity to choose, he will choose what makes a better crop.

Water Projects

Q: During this period of the Green Revolution associated with Dr. Borlaug, people still had the idea that if you were going to have an increase in the food supply, you would also have to increase inputs that would include water, among other things. For example, President John Kennedy, in the early 1960s, was making speeches all over the United States inaugurating various dams, saying this dam exists because 30 years ago someone thought about what was needed for the future. At that time, the Kennedy Administration was looking very closely at a plan called the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA).

One of the views put forward at this conference, particularly by the representative of the OECD, is that the amount of fresh water on the planet is not changing, while the demand for it is increasing. However, as the speaker from the FAO noted, the surface of the Earth is more water than land, and the greatest part of the surface water on the continents drains into the oceans, returning later as rain or snow—implying that we can increase the available fresh water by tapping into that cycle.

And 500 million years ago, life on our planet was confined to the oceans, and the continents were dry. It was only the movement of life forms onto land, initially

primitive plants, but later growing grasses and forests, which created the conditions for cloud formation, rainfall, and the development of river systems. So there has been a process of development in the biosphere, where life generates the conditions for its further development, which has included the creation of increasing amounts of the fresh water required not only by plants and animals, but also by man.

Why should someone say that we have to go in the opposite direction, that we have to use less water? It doesn't seem like we will be able to feed 9 billion people if that is our view.

Villalobos: Yes, you are right. You are talking about such an important period of time. I fully agree with you. What we see now, is that, in the short term, we have to raise production. And certainly we have to do it with less water, which is something that we have to take into consideration, and for that we should use all of the scientific and innovation tools that are available.

But what is really important is to look to the middle term or long term, and see how we will be able to guarantee water in the long term. And when you look at what has happened, particularly in less developed countries, they are destroying the forests, they are destroying the jungles, they are destroying the natural resources, apparently with the view of development alternatives, but with very short-term projects and programs. So, there is always pressure to raise [agricultural] productivity. And what we see in Latin American countries, is that the amount of water they are receiving is scarce and decreasing.

So while we are producing food, we have to be more careful about water. We have to look at the long term. We have to restore the forests, reestablish the watersheds. We have to organize the sources from which we got the water and *maintain* them. And for that, the magnitude of investment and development is higher, like the project that you mentioned.

I fully agree that we have to look at the broad perspective. We certainly have to involve different countries. When we are talking about rivers that start in one country and end in another, then there will certainly be a potential conflict, and that is something that we should be concerned about. But management, and establishing the regulations, and looking at these long-term visions are what we need to do.

But, the requests that we receive as an institution that provides the assistance and technology from the member countries is: "What will we grow and what

kind of harvest will we have in the next six months or a year?" That's the problem that we have!

Science and Innovation

Q: While meeting such short-term pressures, the view of the future is very important. Franklin Delano Roosevelt put it in terms of achieving the Four Freedoms. Later, President Eisenhower promoted the Atoms for Peace outlook—that nuclear energy and science should be available to advance all mankind. But after the 1971 end of the Bretton Woods fixed-currency system, and the advent of monetary speculation and globalization, it became increasingly difficult for any nation to engage in long-term development of power, transportation, water, agriculture, and even science.

Among the precious few national leaders to stand up against this decline was Mexico's President José López Portillo.

He fought for the vision of full-scale agro-industrial development in Mexico, including using oil for trade to acquire high-tech capital goods for rapid modernization, with mechanized agriculture, irrigation systems, and heavy industry. In the 1982 debt crisis, he met with Lyndon LaRouche on the latter's "Operation Juárez," to set aside speculative debt, and re-establish a credit-for-development system. López Portillo called for the creation of new towns, ports, and a network of 20 nuclear power plants.

What lessons do you see in these perspectives?

Villalobos: You make a very good point. My view is that when human beings are in trouble and are facing a very critical situation, like what happened in the 19th Century, and what has happened more recently with the Green Revolution, science always comes to rescue human beings. So, I believe in science. I believe in innovation.

To me, at this particular time we are at the end of an era of agriculture that is finished for, of different reasons. And now we are at the frontier of a new agriculture: more responsible, more productive, but at the same time more sustainable in different ways. So if we agree on that, and if we consider that we have a bunch of technologies that will accompany this process, I am optimistic about the future. And I don't think it will be too difficult to overcome the problems, even the ones that are out of our control, like climate change. So we



Dr. Victor M. Villalobos

"We are at the end of an era of agriculture that is finished for different reasons," Villalobos said. "And now we are at the frontier of a new agriculture: more responsible, more productive, but at the same time more sustainable in different ways."

have to put in place the proper tools to solve specific problems for the specific countries. And I don't eliminate any of the possibilities; perhaps as a result of the pressure, we will eventually create new ones.

Alternate sources of energy are being developed for people. For instance, look at today's hybrid cars. This technology was there for some years already, but now, since we have some problems with the availability or the price of oil, these technologies come out. But it's not because somebody finds them; it's because there is a history of research or accumulation of knowledge, and when it is necessary they put it forward. The innovation in the private sector is far ahead: There are many things that are there, and eventually will be used.

In agriculture practically, you mentioned Mexico and López Portillo. Mexico has a nuclear power plant at Veracruz, which has been there since those times and is working perfectly. Perhaps the particular situation was not right to have more plants, but the one that was built then is still working, and Mexicans never have any complaints about it. I think it's a good demonstration that technology works when you run it properly, when you properly maintain it. Any technology. That's my view.

Biofuels and the Corn Supply

Q: The situation in the United States now, with the drought affecting the corn crop and other crops—the

OECD is projecting that over the next eight years, the use of food stocks for biofuels will increase by 14% from corn, 16% from vegetable oils (soy, palm, canola), 34% from sugar cane. Oxfam has released a report saying that if the land used to produce biofuels had been used to produce wheat and maize instead, it could have fed 127 million people. Presently there are eight governors of U.S. agricultural states that are demanding that the Renewable Fuels Mandate should be rescinded or at least temporarily suspended, because of the impact on the corn crop. Leaders of U.S. livestock and animal feed producers, which include 19 groups covering all the top dairy, cattle, poultry, sheep, and meat- and feed-processing sectors, have filed a petition to the Obama Administration demanding the same thing. And yet, as of this morning, President Obama is calling for a 28% increase in conversion of food to biofuels.

What is your view of biofuels, considering that we have not adequately developed nuclear energy or other sources of energy that would not threaten the food supply?

Villalobos: Well, of course I respect any decision that any country and any authority in each country makes on this. And the private sector of course. I mentioned this morning that biofuels production is a good opportunity for farmers. Look at my country: There are many small producers with 3 or 4 hectares, which produce corn at very low yields. If we provide them an opportunity to move to another crop, perhaps with less investment required, and organize them to produce other crops that are less labor-intensive, and provide opportunity for them to gain more for their crops, that will be a very good alternative. In that respect, there is an opportunity to look at the biodiversity, to identify different crops that are not well developed, but that have potential.

One of the benefits that we have in some countries is biodiversity that is waiting there to have some science applied to it, some technology, to rescue many of these crops. And I know that there are possibilities that certainly will change the standard of living of many poor people, because some practice agriculture in very poor soils. But because of tradition, they still grow crops that they should not grow, because they cannot live on those crops. I see that as another opportunity for many small communities to be engaged, if we provide a set of techniques to rescue those resources. Rather than use crops that are could directly feed the population, like corn, I would rather see the other alternatives. I know that this has happened with castor beans or *jatropha*, which are plants endemic to tropical countries. Those crops are

waiting to receive some technology inputs, and they certainly present an interesting possibility for biofuels.

Q: One of the speakers at the conference showed a chart of the number of people in the world who are going hungry, which decreased from 900 million people in 1970 to a minimum in 1996, when it began to go up again. That was just about the time that the World Trade Organization was created, and the policy changed. Nations were told, "Don't try to produce food to feed yourself, just make money to buy food from someone else."

What do you think of the changes in food policies? For example, would it be important for Mexico to return to producing the food to feed itself, rather than depending upon the market?

Villalobos: Because of the price! Mexico decided that their policy is to promote production and to increase yields, and for that they launched a very important program with CIMMYT, to raise the productivity of the local landraces that the farmers want to work with; they don't want to give up these varieties.

But I think that during the 1990s, and even earlier, Mexico benefitted from the low price of corn in the United States. It was clear for us that the price of growing corn in Mexico was, I would say, 40% higher than taking advantage of the low price of corn subsidized by the government. Mexico took advantage of that, and in the end, we were able to produce very much cheaper animal protein for the poorest people. I'm talking about chicken. So we transformed this corn into chicken, and we transformed it into eggs, and that was a cheaper source of protein for the poorest people in Mexico. So we took advantage of this lower price of corn in the United States, which was about 40% cheaper than in Mexico.

Q: However, it is important here to mention the effects on nations historically of the policy of free trade. One of the arguments made by the American Founders, people like Alexander Hamilton, and others later, was that what is required is not that the price of food be cheap, but that the purchasing power of the population be raised.

Villalobos: Yes, that's true.

Q: I believe that one of the things that happened in the 1980s, when cheap corn was coming into Mexico from the United States, was that Mexican farmers were put out of business, and many of them had nowhere to go but to escape to the United States, where they became a source of cheap labor until they lost their jobs later on

and their living became precarious.

Villalobos: You are right; that's the situation; but it certainly goes beyond agriculture, because not all the people who went to the United States were from the rural areas.

That was a critical situation in Mexico. We in Mexico have had financial and social problems, with the inequities and what has happened in the rural areas versus the urban areas. They are so different that people have a tendency to move to the cities, and eventually to move to other places, such as to the United States.

The problem is that when we are looking at very poor rural people, they are so attached to their own culture and traditions that it is very difficult for them to give up cultivating corn. For them, corn is like part of their life. It doesn't matter what the yield is; they want to keep the seeds that they inherited from their grandfathers. It's difficult for the government to provide other alternatives. Even when you demonstrate that they can make a better living with other crops, they will not give up. They will always keep a little plot of corn, but they don't have much land. It's very deep in the culture. It comes from the Revolution in the last century, and it's more cultural than economic. It's hard to understand

perhaps for you, but this is what has happened.

But we are talking about corn for industrial purposes, which never affects the small campesino's cultural way of producing corn. So we are talking about yellow corn that is going to industry, to processing, and to feed chickens, pigs, and cattle. That is the difference.

Q: Do you think it would be desirable for Mexico to return to being food self-sufficient?

Villalobos: Mexico *is* self-sufficient in white corn, which is used to make tortillas. Politically, that is very important: If we start importing white corn for tortillas, then we are in trouble! We require about 20 million tons of corn per year for tortillas. Let me give you a figure: Mexicans consume 1 billion tortillas a day! Eight tortillas per Mexican per day, which is a big figure.

Now, the government, particularly this administration, is working very hard to increase the production of yellow corn for industry, and we import in the order of 7-9 million tons of it. But they have a program to reduce that, in the next five years or so. This is the policy and there are incentives, the most important of which is price. The price is convincing people very quickly to cultivate corn with better technology and access to more efficient production systems.

Released on Thanksgiving 2011, the LPAC-TV documentary "NAWAPA 1964" is the true story of the fight for the North American Water and Power Alliance. Spanning the 1960s and early '70s, it is told through the words of Utah Senator Frank Moss. The 56-minute video, using extensive original film footage and documents, presents the astonishing mobilization for NAWAPA, which came near to being realized, until the assassination of President Kennedy, the Vietnam War, and the 1968 Jacobin reaction, killed it
... until now.

NAWAPA 1964

PUEBLO, COLORADO
AUGUST 16, 1962

<http://larouchepac.com/nawapa1964>

Europe Needs A Charlemagne!

by Theodore Andromidas

On Christmas Day in the year 800 A.D., at the Basilica of St. Peter's in Rome, Pope Leo III crowned Charles the Great, the first Holy Roman Emperor. In so doing, he elevated the King of the Franks to an equal status and power with the emperors of Byzantium. But the Pope was proclaiming what was already an accomplished fact. By that Christmas Day, Charlemagne had already created the beginnings of what we call modern European civilization. The revolution in culture, the concomitant increase in population growth, which would continue for at least five centuries, rightfully earned him the title, "Father of Europe."

The collapse of the Roman Republic in the First Century B.C. was followed by an imperial epoch of death and devastation. From the First to the Third centuries A.D., population fell from an estimated 70 million, to less than 50 million, a decline of 30%; during that same period, trade within the Empire fell more than 40%. The savage looting by the Roman imperial oligarchy triggered a collapse of population and culture across Western and Central Europe from war, famine, and disease. Rome itself became ungovernable, and the Empire moved east to Byzantium.

Each year, from that point on, literacy and standards of living in the European Mediterranean world would dramatically decline. By 750, the situation had deteriorated to such an extent that illiteracy was nearly universal: None of the military and civil leadership, nor most of the clergy were able read, and writing had all but disappeared. There were fewer and fewer texts, and

each decade, the number of written documents of any kind declined dramatically. The Mediterranean had entered a dark age, only to be reversed by the radical change in government led by Charlemagne.

Charlemagne established the foundations of what we now call European civilization, including advances in education, literacy, agriculture, transportation, and public works. He was the first to conceive of modern, government-directed economic-development policies. His was the first modern Western government to order the construction of great infrastructure projects, building schools, monasteries, churches, and cities, and the transportation grid of canals and bridges, whose purpose was to improve the standard of living of his subjects.

His most visionary infrastructure project was the "Fosse Carolina," a man-made channel linking the Black Sea to the North Sea, by connecting the Rhine River and Danube River basins, an achievement not to be replicated until construction of the first Transcontinental Railroad in the young United States.

Charlemagne's Government

As Rosa Luxemburg, one of Europe's most insightful economists and historians of the early 20th Century, emphasized in her *Einführung in die Nationalökonomie* (Introduction to Political Economy), Charlemagne's government initiated economic and political policies which were "historical acts of civilization." He did this through the use of legislative and administrative acts called "capitularies," or administrative decrees, which

were dictated from the Frankish courts of both the Merovingian and Carolingian dynasties, but more of these capitularies were issued by Charlemagne than by all the previous Frankish rulers combined.

Luxemburg describes the famous *Capitulaire de Villis* (On the Management of the Estates) “as a precious jewel that has been historically transmitted in spite of the dust and mildew of the archives.”¹

She points out that Charlemagne founded much of modern Europe: “First, most of Charlemagne’s farms later became powerful imperial cities, such as Aix, Cologne, Munich, Basel, Strasbourg and many others which had originally been former farms of Emperor Charles. Second, Charlemagne’s economic institutions have served as models for all major secular and religious domains of the early Middle-Ages.”²

Luxemburg cautions against falling into the trap of judging the *Capitulaire de Villis* as the dictates of a prince for his private domain:

“Yes, indeed, the capitularies concern the economy of Emperor Charles’ farms and domains, but he ran his domains as a prince, not in particular. Or more precisely, the emperor was a landlord of his lands, as any important noble landlord of the Middle Ages, especially during the time of Charlemagne, was an emperor in the small; that is to say, by virtue of being a free and noble proprietor of the soil, he enacted laws, raised taxes, and dispensed justice for all the people of his domains. The economic provisions taken by Charlemagne were indeed acts of government, as evidenced by their very strength: they are one of the 65 ‘capitularies’ written by the emperor and published at the annual meeting of the Peers of the Empire.”³

In the *Capitulaire de Villis*, as in other capitularies, Charlemagne’s policy is to promote the general welfare. As he dictates instructions for how each of the imperial farms will be run, he warns the steward of each farm not to overwork “his people,” not to work them at night, unless they are compensated for the extra labor, and “That all our people shall be well looked after, and shall not be reduced to penury by anyone...”⁴

There is probably no better statement of Char-

1. Rosa Luxemburg, *Einführung in die Nationalökonomie (Introduction to Political Economy)*, (Berlin: Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1925).

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

4. H.R. Loyn and J. Percival, *Capitulaire de Villis: The Reign of Charlemagne; Documents on Carolingian Government and Administration*, Documents of Medieval History 2 (London, 1975), pp. 64-73.



Creative Commons

Charlemagne (742-814) established the foundations of modern European civilization, bringing about advances in education, literacy, agriculture, transportation, and public works. This equestrian statue dates from the 9th Century.

lemagne’s commitment to “establish justice,” according to Christian principle, than his General Capitulary for the Missi (officials), a general order sent to all officials under his jurisdiction, as can be seen in these excerpts:

“27. We decree that throughout our whole realm no one shall dare to deny hospitality to the rich, or to the poor, or to pilgrims: that is, no one shall refuse shelter and fire and water to pilgrims going through the land in God’s service, or to anyone traveling for the love of God and the safety of his soul. If anyone shall wish to do further kindness to them, he shall know that his best reward will be from God, who said Himself: ‘And who so shall receive one such little child in my name, receiveth me.’ And again: ‘I was a stranger and ye took me in.’”

“30. As to those whom the emperor wishes by Christ’s favor to have peace and defense in his king-



The Cathedral at Aachen (Aix la Chapelle) was one of the “great projects” constructed under Charlemagne’s reign. The painting by Jean Fouquet (ca. 1453) shows the cathedral under construction.



An example of Charlemagne's revolution in government can be seen regarding the use of tolls. The use of tolls on roads, bridges and rivers goes back at least 3,000 years. Until the reign of Charlemagne, most tolls were literally a form of highway robbery. Fortresses were built at the confluence of two rivers, and the builder would exact a toll for safe passage. Ropes would be stretched across bridges, preventing anyone from passing without paying the armed toll-taker. This was clearly an impediment to commerce and trade, not to mention the daily life of most subjects.

Therefore, in two capitularies on tolls, the Capitulary given at Diedenhofen (Thionville) and the Capitulary of Aix-la-Chapelle, Charlemagne instituted a modern approach to this particular form of taxation:

“As to thelony [tolls—ed.], it pleases us to exact old and just thelony from the merchants at bridges, and on ships and at markets. But let new or unjust thelony be not exacted where ropes are stretched or where ships pass under bridges, or in other similar cases in which no aid is lent to the travelers. Likewise con-

dom—that is, those who, whether Christians *or pagans*, hasten to his presence desiring to announce something, or those who seek alms on account of indigence or hunger—let no one dare to constrain them to do him service, or take possession of them, or alienate or sell them: but where they remain of their own will, there they, under the protection of the emperor, shall have alms from his bounty. If anyone shall presume to transgress this, he shall know that he shall atone for it with his life, for having so presumptuously despised the commands of the emperor” (emphasis added).⁵

cerning those who bring their goods from one house to another, or to the palace, or to the army, without idea of selling them....”

—*Capitulary given at Diedenhofen (Thionville)*

“Where thelony should be exacted and where not, We firmly wish it to be made known to all in our kingdom, committed to us by God, that no one shall exact thelony except in markets where common goods are bought and sold; and not on bridges except where thelony was exacted in the past . . . and not in forests, nor on roads, nor in fields, and not from those going under the bridge, and not

5. Capitulary for the Missi, 802 A.D. Source: *Translations and Reprints from the Original Sources of European History*; Vol. 6, No. 5

(1899), pp. 91-99. Transcribed by Briana Poyer.

anywhere except where anything pertaining to common use is bought or sold for any reason whatever...”

—*Capitulary of Aix-la-Chapelle*

Educational Reform

Before Charlemagne, during the rule of the Merovingians (5th to 8th century A.D.), despite the importance of the capitularies, the use of the written word had been decreasing steadily. Literacy levels, as well as the number and quality of written documents being produced, had declined significantly. With the collapse of the Western Empire several centuries earlier, as barbarism and isolation increased, communication throughout the Empire began to break down; isolation contributed greatly to the increase in illiteracy and the debasement of language into numerous local dialects.

Charlemagne could not govern his kingdom, let alone achieve the revolutionary improvements he intended, without widespread literacy, and the development of standardized spoken and written language. To do this, he needed to radically improve education, on all levels of society. For this, he turned to the great Irish monastic movement.

Charlemagne was himself most likely educated at what was called the “Palace School”; but his education was concentrated on military training and court manners. Reading and writing were not considered necessary skills for a Frankish king. Charlemagne grew up “on the march,” accompanying his father Pepin the Short on many of his military campaigns. Pepin was a warrior king who was grooming Charlemagne to follow in his footsteps.

With the death of his brother Carloman, and following his own victories over the Lombards, Saxons, and Saracens, Charlemagne began an aggressive campaign for educational reform, first at Aachen (in today’s Germany) in the Palace School, and later, in the various schools established or reformed by his impe-



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Charlemagne recruited the English/Irish scholar Alcuin of York to lead his education reform program. Alcuin is shown in this small panel instructing Charlemagne.

rial decrees. The first major reform was the change of curriculum in the Palace School, from one of military tactics and court manners, to a place of actual learning.

To ensure its success, he recruited Alcuin of York, one of the leading minds of the Irish/English monastery movement. Born in 732, in Yorkshire, England, Alcuin was a poet, educator, and cleric. His first 50 years were spent in Yorkshire, where he was first a pupil and then, later, headmaster of the Cathedral School of York, the most renowned of its day.

Alcuin and Charlemagne had met in Italy in 781, where Alcuin accepted an invitation to direct the work at Aachen. It was here that the King had begun to gather the leading Irish, English, and Italian scholars of the age. They were assembled at the Palace School, where Charlemagne, his family, friends, and friends’ sons were taught. Alcuin introduced the methods of Irish/English learning into the Frankish schools, systematized the curriculum, raised the standards of scholarship, and encouraged the study of liberal arts, including grammar, rhetoric, dialectic, geometry, astronomy, and music.

But Charlemagne was not content with revolutionizing the Palace School. He recruited the services of a small army of clergy and teachers to carry out his revolution in education. One of his first moves was to begin the education of the clergy, most of whom could not read or write. In 787, he issued a famous capitulary, known as the “Charter of Modern Thought.”

In this capitulary, Charlemagne addressed himself to the bishops and abbots of the Empire, informing them that he “has judged it to be of utility that,” in their bishoprics and monasteries, “care should be taken that there should not only be a regular manner of life, but also the study of letters, each to teach and learn them according to his ability and the Divine assistance.” He then presented a critique of the written communications he had received from the clergy of various monasteries, indicating that he found the language “not appropriate to the thoughts and ideas” that the clergy were attempting to express. “Let there, therefore, be chosen [to teach] men who are both willing and able to learn and let them apply themselves to this work with a zeal equal to the earnestness with which we recommend it to them.”

Charlemagne also introduced the beginnings of free universal education for all free men. Again, in the “Charter of Modern Thought,” he directs that, “every



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Under Charlemagne, Alcuin oversaw the development of a standard script, known as “Carolingian Minuscule,” shown in Figure 1, which made possible written communication throughout the far-flung regions of the empire. The painting, by Alexander White, which appears in the Library of Congress, shows monks copying ancient texts.

FIGURE 1
Freising manuscript in
Carolingian Minuscule



monastery and every abbey have its own school, in which boys may be taught the Psalms, the system of musical notation, singing, arithmetic and grammar.” There is no doubt that by “boys,” Charlemagne means not only the candidates for the monastic life, and the male children of nobles and other elites, who were normally committed to the care of the monks, but also the male children of the villages or country districts around the monasteries.

Development of Writing

Across Europe, from Ireland to Bavaria to Italy, there was no calligraphic standard for writing. Although Charlemagne was never fully literate himself, he clearly

understood the value of literacy, and of a uniform script, so that written communication could be established. For this, he once again turned to Alcuin.

So that the Latin script could be read by the literate classes from one region of Europe to another, Alcuin oversaw the development of standard script called the “Carolingian Minuscule”

(Figure 1). This standardized script was used in the Empire between approximately 800 and 1200. Codices, pagan and Christian texts, and all educational material were written in Carolingian minuscule throughout the Carolingian Renaissance and beyond. But, with Charlemagne’s death, heralding for Europe the descent into a dark age, this script became increasingly obsolete, eventually to disappear for centuries, only to be revived again during the Italian Renaissance (14th-15th centuries) to become the basis of modern European script.

There was a catastrophic drop in the production of documents, from 25 per decade for 0-700 A.D., to 1 per decade from 700 to 750, the last decades of the Merovingian Dynasty, reflecting the collapse in literacy. Then, a rapid rise, with the beginning of the Carolingian Dynasty, so that by the reign of Charlemagne, the dependence on oral communication had expanded to the written word.

During the Carolingian Renaissance, scholars sought out and copied, in the new standardized script, many ancient texts that had been wholly forgotten. Much of our knowledge of Classical literature today derives from copies made in Charlemagne’s scriptoria. Over 7,000 such manuscripts, written in Carolingian script during the Eighth and Ninth centuries, survive.⁶

The ‘Fossa Carolina’

Many reasons are given for Charlemagne’s initiating the construction of a man-made channel linking the

6. Edda Claus, *The Rebirth of a Communications Network: Europe at the Time of the Carolingians*, Département de sciences économique, Université de Montréal, June 1997.



The Fossa Carolina, Charlemagne's great canal linking the Rhine and Danube Rivers, provided access to the eastern borders of Constantinople's Adriatic holdings, and proved to be an example of his strategic foresight. Above: construction of the Fosse Carolina.

Rhine and Danube River basins, yet none are more compelling than the fact that it would become a strategic flank against the Eastern Roman Empire and its Navy. Just as the Transcontinental Railroad of Abraham Lincoln was a strategic flank against the British Empire's Navy, so, connecting the Rhine to the Danube was a strategic flank against the Byzantine fleets that controlled most of the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea. The Fossa Carolina created a safe, and relatively short connection between the seat of the Frankish Empire at Aachen, and the Black Sea, which would provide a secure avenue for the movement of men and matériel through much of the territory that Charlemagne would eventually conquer.

Following the collapse of the Roman Empire in the East, the Mediterranean Sea was no longer a “Roman lake.” The Byzantine fleets were critical for the defense of the Empire’s far-flung interests around the Mediterranean basin, and for the defense of the imperial capital at Constantinople. Although the Byzantine Navy was a direct descendant of its Roman predecessor, it played a far greater role in the survival of the Eastern Empire,

FIGURE 2
The Fossa Carolina



Byzantium. The Rhine and Danube River basins would be connected by a navigable channel between two smaller rivers, the Altmühl and the Rezat. Whether the Carolingian engineers completely succeeded in their task is disputed. Some historical sources tell us that there were long periods of heavy rains and unfavorable geo-

7. The *Annals of Lorsch* are records of the history of Frankish Kingdom, covering the years 703 to 803.

logical conditions that prevented completion. Geoarcheological evidence from a 2010 study done at the University of Leipzig indicates, though, that it was a success, and Charlemagne's successors let it fall into disrepair.

The Carolingian-Abbasid Ecumenical Alliance

The Frankish-Byzantine War began in 801, and following nine years of conflict on land and sea, Charlemagne had seized all of northeastern Italy, the Istrian Peninsula, and the Dalmatian coast to the borders of Greece. Constantinople was forced to surrender almost all of its holdings in Italy and the Istrian peninsula, and was forced to recognize Charlemagne as Emperor of the West.

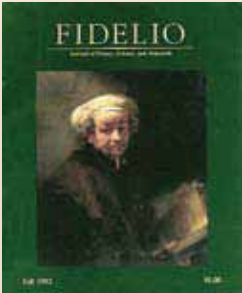
In the Eighth and Ninth centuries, the strategic alignment was between the Carolingian Dynasty and the Abbasid Caliphate on the one side, and the Eastern Roman Byzantine Empire and Umayyad Caliphate of Moorish Spain on the other. One of Charlemagne's key allies was the Islamic leader of the early Medieval world, Harun al-Rashid, fifth emir of the Abbasid Caliphate, then centered in what is today Iraq. Ruling from 786 to his death in 809, his reign was marked by scientific and cultural advances.

To counter the growing threat of Byzantine alliance with the Umayyads in Spain, Pepin the Short had sent an embassy to Baghdad in 765; an Abbasid embassy then visited France in 768. In 777, pro-Abbasid Islamic rulers of northern Spain responded positively to Charlemagne's offer of military support against the Umayyad Caliphate. To engage the enlightened Abbasid Caliphate as a natural ally against the Byzantine Empire, Charlemagne expanded his father's policy, and sent three embassies to Harun al-Rashid's court; the latter sent at least two embassies to the court of Charlemagne.

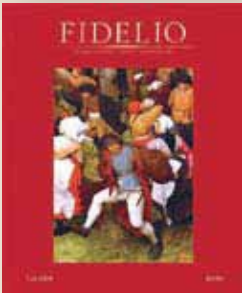
The death of al-Rashid in 809 put an end to the ecumenical alliance between these two great kingdoms. The death of Charlemagne four years later ensured that the Eastern Roman Empire would continue to dominate the Mediterranean and Black Seas. By the late Ninth Century, the Byzantine Navy was once again the dominant maritime power in the Mediterranean. By that time the Fossa Carolina was in disrepair and disuse, this great project all but disappearing from the landscape of Europe. By the Tenth Century, the chance to establish government based on the principle of the general welfare would not come again for 800 years, in America.

FIDELIO

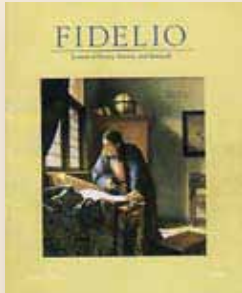
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From the first issue, dated Winter 1992, featuring Lyndon LaRouche on "The Science of Music: The Solution to Plato's Paradox of 'The One and the Many,'" to the final issue of Spring/Summer 2006, a "Symposium on Edgar Allan Poe and the Spirit of the American Revolution," *Fidelio* magazine gave voice to the Schiller Institute's intention to create a new Golden Renaissance.



The title of the magazine, is taken from Beethoven's great opera, which celebrates the struggle for political freedom over tyranny. *Fidelio* was founded at the time that LaRouche and several of his close associates were unjustly imprisoned, as was the opera's Florestan, whose character was based on the American Revolutionary hero, the French General, Marquis de Lafayette.



Each issue of *Fidelio*, throughout its 14-year lifespan, remained faithful to its initial commitment, and offered original writings by LaRouche and his associates, on matters of, what the poet Percy Byssche Shelley identified as, "profound and impassioned conceptions respecting man and nature."

Back issues are now available for purchase through the Schiller Institute website:
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Editorial

Now, on to Glass-Steagall

The tactical victory won by Sen. Rand Paul against Barack Obama's imperial Presidency, has shifted the political landscape in the United States, and none too soon. The Senator's willingness to stand up and fight on a question of Constitutional principle, brought forward a broad range of support from all across the political spectrum, and should energize the fight against the tyranny which the Obama Administration has increasingly represented.

Those who previously were simply crying in their beer about the illegal wars, the unlawful killings, and the police state measures which Obama has put into effect, far beyond what was done by the Bush Administration, have, in fact, been put to shame. Now it's clear that a determined fight-back against the Administration's decision to take the law into its own hands, can win concessions. If the battle were fully joined, victory could be won.

EIR has it on good authority, from its Washington sources, that the Administration has been stunned by the show of bipartisan support for Paul's filibuster. Now, therefore, is the time to advance the cause of Constitutional government, not only in the realm of the judiciary and war, but in the crucial field of economics.

As this magazine and Lyndon LaRouche have repeatedly emphasized, the first step to restoring the currently collapsing U.S. economic system to a form coherent with our Constitution is reinstating FDR's Glass-Steagall law. The bubble of unpayable, crushing debt created by trillions of dollars in bailouts of worthless paper, such as derivatives and mortgage-backed securities, is, by the testimony of many insiders, worse than it was before the blow-out in 2007-08. Revving up the money-machines

and imposing greater austerity—as all governments in the trans-Atlantic region are doing—will simply accelerate the collapse process, and the death rate.

Glass-Steagall is *not* a partisan issue. This is evident on the state legislative level, as can be seen by the bipartisan support for Glass-Steagall memorials introduced in Alabama, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and South Dakota. On a national level, bankers, generally considered in the Republican camp, have been among the most prominent campaigners for Glass-Steagall, along with “liberal” Democrats. Yet the line-up of co-sponsors for H.R. 129, Rep. Marcy Kaptur's Return to Prudent Banking Act, which restores the original Glass-Steagall, has only 3 Republicans among its 38 its co-sponsors.

What's holding things up? Party politics! The leadership of the Republican Party is totally tied into Wall Street, and on the Democratic side, the President—also a tool of the British and Wall Street—while he can't stop support from his party in the House, is exercising veto power over the Senate Democrats who, in private, show significant support for Glass-Steagall. Thus the alliances that are visible locally, including between Tea Party and Occupy Wall Street groups, are being prevented from emerging in Congress.

Enter the new dynamic evident in the Rand Paul filibuster, which shows an emerging rejection of party control on issues of principle crucial to the survival of the nation. Citizen activists must move *now* to insist that their representatives, no matter what their party, move immediately to reinstitute Glass-Steagall. Think American Revolution: Glass-Steagall, or die!

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