## **Editorial**

## A Planetary Defense Initiative

On March 23, 1983, President Ronald Reagan shocked the world by calling on "the scientific community in our country, those who gave us nuclear weapons, to turn their great talents now to the cause of mankind and world peace, to give us the means of rendering these nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete." At the same time, the President reached out to the leadership of the Soviet Union, asking it to join with the U.S., in this grand attempt to "reduce the threat of nuclear war."

Thus began the history of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), a proposal initially crafted by Lyndon LaRouche, which President Reagan and a wide swath of supporters adopted as a unique pathway to ending the existential threat to mankind represented by the danger of thermonuclear war. Yet, that initiative was *killed* by British agents determined to maintain the Empire's control through the "balance of terror." Mankind has paid bitterly for the abandonment of Reagan's concept of the SDI.

Today, two clearly visible threats should impel us to immediately put the SDI project back on the agenda of international relations.

As top military leaders around the world know, the threat of nuclear holocaust has not receded, but is perhaps closer to realization than ever before. The imperial forces at the core of the British financial empire, who killed the SDI, currently control the political leadership of Europe and the United States, and are pressing to destroy the major impediments to their unfettered world domination, particularly Russia and China. Through NATO, they have embarked on a program of encirclement of these two nuclear powers, with the obvious intent of destroying their ability to resist the global monetarist dictatorship

which is destroying the planet's ability to sustain itself.

Look at the conflicts in the so-called Middle East as the Balkans of the 21st Century. NATO is carrying out a confrontation, contrary to international law, that has brought us to brink of World War III. And the Russians have said so publicly.

The second threat mankind faces comes from a "higher" source, the galaxy itself. On Feb. 15, an asteroid, Apophis 2012 DA14, which was only discovered in February of 2012, will pass by Earth in what can only be considered a very close call. Scientists estimate that the asteroid will fly between Earth and the Moon, and travel on an orbit between the Earth and some of its satellites, at a speed of about 4.8 miles per second. Were this asteroid, estimated at 45 meters in diameter, actually to hit the Earth, it would be a devastating blow to the region affected, if not more.

But don't fixate on this near-miss. We are just now beginning to pay attention to the vast array of threats coming from asteroids (and maybe even comets), against which we are totally unprotected. There are an estimated million asteroids "out there," and we are like a pitiful blind man on the battlefield.

And yet, we have a solution to *both* these threats to human existence at hand. The concept of joint U.S.-Russian collaboration on the SDI can be expanded, as the Russians have proposed, to encompass a Strategic Defense of Earth. We can launch the kind of scientific revolution mankind so desperately needs, not only to deal with threats of destruction, but to advance his productive powers of labor to upgrade the condition of all humanity.

It's time for a Planetary Defense Initiative, to save mankind.