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EDITORIAL

October 27 Schiller Conference: Steering the World Past Thermonuclear War

Oct. 25 (EIRNS)—In two days, the Schiller Institute convenes a conference titled: “[For World Peace, Stop the Danger of Nuclear War](#).” Subtitled the “Second Seminar of Current and Former Elected Officials of the World,” this particular conference intervenes, in the midst of the 60th anniversary of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, to pull the world away from the brink of thermonuclear self-destruction. The only force we wield is the force of ideas—but that is, as Russian-Ukrainian physicist Vladimir Vernadsky

rigorously proved, the greatest force, geological or otherwise, on (and perhaps off) the planet.

The Institute's three-year conference process, of which this Thursday is the latest session, has defied the presumption of a necessarily-tragic outcome to a half-century-plus of trans-Atlantic civilizational policy-failure on the part of the "Western" so-called "inner elites." The assassinations of leaders, like Patrice Lumumba, the Kennedys and Rev. Martin Luther King, and the defeat and side-lining of others such as France's Charles de Gaulle, has, over decades, landed mankind on the doorstep of ultimate wars of self-annihilation. Once the door is opened, it will never be closed. We are now at the door. Who will decide when midnight arrives, and we open it?

In a February 1996 Schiller Institute conference in Reston, Virginia, in a speech called "If You Passed Economics 101, You Are Probably a Member of an Endangered Species," economist and statesman Lyndon LaRouche described the cultural principle that underlies the system of conferences, and congresses assembled by the Institute: "The subject, the actual subject ... is the subject of history as tragedy; because we are living in a real tragedy. When a person says to me, 'Why don't you give answers in byte-sized doses, like the other politicians? Why don't you take a poll and find out what the people want to hear, and state your proposition in terms of the prejudices which they already have, as the polls tell you?' my answer would be: 'I'm not a fool'....

"We now have a civilization, a worldwide civilization, which is doomed, in its present form. Over the next months or years, this civilization which people talk about—their opinions, their culture, their prejudices, their way of life, their traditions—are all gone! Nothing can save it. And it's like clinging to a stateroom on the *Titanic*: If you cling to those traditions, you'll go down and drown with it. We have to get the people of the *Titanic*, off traditions, into the lifeboats, so they may be saved."

The iceberg looms large in front of the "ship of fools" that is the Anglosphere, as this day begins. Today, at the United Nations, Russia's representatives intend to present evidence that Ukraine, with the assistance

of Great Britain, has deployed to prepare and detonate a “dirty bomb,” a radioactive device, in Ukraine. Such an act would be seen by Russia as “nuclear terrorism.” After Russia’s Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu contacted his counterparts in the United States, France, Great Britain and Turkey on Sunday, Oct. 23 to inform them of this, and the U.S., Britain, France and NATO Secretary Stoltenberg responded by rejecting Russia’s claims, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov responded to their denials. “Their distrust of the information that has been relayed by the Russian side does not mean that the threat of the use of such a ‘dirty bomb’ ceases to exist. The threat is evident.” It is “their business, whether to believe it or not.”

There is no sign, at present, that Russia has changed its thermonuclear posture, upshifted the level of attack readiness of its strategic rocket forces, or taken any measures whatsoever to initiate an attack either on Ukraine or on NATO with nuclear devices. And don’t be fooled: Though Ukrainian forces are inviting IAEA inspectors to look at their nuclear sites “because we have nothing to hide,” Russia is stating that the fabrication of the dirty bomb device is not being done at a nuclear site, but rather is occurring at the Eastern Mining and Processing Plant, located in the city of Zhovti Vody, Dnepropetrovsk region.

Further, it should be remembered that the official United States thermonuclear nuclear weapons policy in force since 2002, and not overturned by any Presidential administration since then, does *not* preclude first use of such weapons. As the Congressional Research Service Report, [“U.S. Nuclear Weapons Policy: Considering ‘No First Use,’ ”](#) revised in March of this year, states; “Since the end of the Cold War, the United States has modified its declaratory policy to reduce the apparent role of nuclear weapons in U.S. national security, but has not declared that it would not use them first.... In the 2010 Nuclear Posture Review Report, the Obama Administration stated that the United States ‘would only consider the use of nuclear weapons in extreme circumstances’ ... (but) the Administration was not prepared to state that the ‘sole purpose’ of U.S. nuclear weapons was to deter nuclear attack *because it could envision ‘a*

narrow range of contingencies' where nuclear weapons might play a role in deterring conventional, chemical, or biological attacks." [Emphasis added.]

More American observers, far too silent up until now, have wondered aloud about the factor of insanity in American, and Anglo-American politics. Noam Chomsky, with respect to the provocations of Nancy Pelosi in China, and Jeffrey Sachs with respect to Ukraine, have recently referred to the United States policies as "insane." Former Ambassador and Special Envoy to Haiti Daniel Foote recently called U.S. policy of military intervention insane. "The deportations (of Haitians) were the straw that broke the camel's back. But the major reason I resigned is because I saw U.S. policy moving in exactly this direction, toward intervention, which is, as Einstein said—and I'll paraphrase—trying the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result is insanity."

Historian Barbara Tuchman posed the question, in her book *The March of Folly: From Troy to Vietnam*: "A phenomenon noticeable throughout history regardless of place or period is the pursuit by governments of policies contrary to their own interests. Mankind, it seems, makes a poorer performance of government than almost any other human activity.... Why do holders of high office so often act contrary to the way reason points and enlightened self-interest suggests? Why does intelligent mental process seem so often not to function?"

Lyndon LaRouche supplied the uncomfortable answer many times, in many locations. In one of them, *Saudi Arabia in the Year 2023*, written in 1983—forty years ago—he stated: "The pioneers in 'post industrial' self-destruction have been Britain first and the United States second. This drift is motivated by policy-beliefs which go so far as to propose that the population of the United States of America be reduced to about 70 million individuals during the coming century. However, this reduction of the populations of Anglo-Saxon North America and Western Europe is also intended to be accompanied by an increase in the Anglo-Saxon percentile of the world's population as a whole. The population of black Africa is

intended to be obliterated, except for a reduction of the population of Nigeria by approximately half.... The population of the subcontinent of Asia and of Southeast Asia is intended to be reduced by more than half through insurrections, communalist bloodletting, regional wars, and ‘natural economic’ processes such as famine and epidemic disease.”

In the reaching of a “boundary condition” caused by the divergence of hyper-speculative and unpayable financial instruments, including currencies, from the real physical economy, a sudden, previously unthinkable “shock wave” of Malthusian breakdown occurs, eliminating whole populations overnight. Either that, or advanced industrial development, like that proposed in the Belt and Road Initiative, or the expansion of the BRICS nations, the continuing upward trajectory of China’s economic growth, and the failure of the “financial nuclear war” against Russia, is the future. Though LaRouche’s forecasts were often brutally truthful, they were never presented as the only policy options available to those who would choose durable survival over momentary survival. *Saudi Arabia in the Year 2023* was a nearly-100-page proposal, outline and program divided into three sections. First, “Overcoming 1000 Years of Looting and Subjugation of the Arab World”; second, the “LaRouche/Riemann Method”; and, third, “The Social Composition of Development.” Section subtitles included “National Income Accounting,” “The Arab World/Saudi Arabia: Mathematics,” “The Division of Labor,” and “What We Mean by ‘Potential Function.’ ”

There is no way to engage the “captive nations” of the Anglosphere in the solution-concept of Peace Through Development, including in the short term, if the name and work of Lyndon LaRouche is not put at center stage in these coming hours, days and weeks. The alternative will be thermonuclear war, sooner or later. It is we, not fate or destiny, that must choose to determine that mankind’s midnight of total war never comes.

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday October 25, 2022: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

Russian General Implicates U.K. in Nuclear Bomb Provocation

Oct. 24 (EIRNS)—Lt. Gen. Igor Kirillov, the commander of Russia's nuclear, biological and chemical protection troops, issued a statement this morning that, among other things, implicates the United Kingdom in the preparation of the dirty bomb provocation, that Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu began warning of yesterday. "According to the available information, two organizations of Ukraine have been directly ordered to create the so-called 'dirty bomb.' The works are at their concluding stage," Kirillov said. "Moreover, we have information about contacts between the Office of the President of Ukraine and representatives of the United Kingdom regarding the possible reception of technologies to create nuclear weapons. With this purpose, Ukraine has got relevant production and scientific capacities."

Kirillov noted that enterprises of the nuclear industry in Ukraine possess spent nuclear fuel containing up to 1,500 tons of uranium enriched with 1.5% oxide, over 22,000 spent fuel rods at the Chernobyl nuclear plant "as well as products that suppose using uranium-235 and plutonium-239 that constitute the backbone of a nuclear charge," and more than 50,000 cubic meters of radioactive waste at Ukrainian radioactive waste disposal sites. Ukraine also has a scientific base at the Kharkov Institute of Physics and Technology and the Institute for Nuclear Research of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine located in Kiev. "The Kiev regime plans to camouflage the explosion of this kind of ordnance under an extraordinary effect of Russian low-power nuclear warhead that contains highly enriched uranium in its charge," Kirillov said. "The presence of radioactive isotopes in the air will be recorded by the sensors of the

International Monitoring System installed in Europe with further accusation of the Russian Federation of using tactical nuclear weapons.”

Kirillov charged that the provocation will rely on the same methods employed in Khan Sheikhoun, Syria in April 2017. “Using this provocation as a pretext, the Americans launched the missile strike at Shayrat airbase without waiting for an investigation to begin and, all the more, a decision of the UN Security Council, grossly violating international law,” Kirillov said.

“To summarize, Ukraine has got a motive to use the ‘dirty bomb,’ as well as scientific, technical and production capacities to create it,” Kirillov said. “Ukraine expects ‘dirty-bomb’ provocation to intimidate the population, increase the flow of refugees, and accuse the Russian Federation of nuclear terrorism.”

Kirillov concluded: “The Ministry of Defense has arranged for countering possible provocations of Ukraine: the means and forces are alerted to operate amid radioactive contamination.”

30 Democrats Unexpectedly Break from NATO Total War Strategy

Oct. 24 (EIRNS)—The Biden White House got a surprise Monday afternoon, Oct. 24, when 30 members of the Democrats’ Progressive Caucus in the House issued an open letter to President Biden, initiated by the Caucus Chair [Rep. Pramila Jayapal](#) of Washington state. The letter asked the President, the *Washington Post* reported at 3:00 p.m., “to shift his strategy on the Ukraine war and pursue direct negotiations with Russia, the first time prominent members of his own party have pushed him to change his approach to Ukraine.”

The issuance of this letter has a context outside U.S. “electoral politics” as usually reported. During a furious months-long mobilization led by the Schiller Institute, against the growing threat of nuclear war arising from NATO’s “crush Russia” policy, several New York members of the Progressive Caucus sub-group called “the Squad” have been on the receiving end of extremely effective interventions at their constituent meetings, by workers for Diane Sare’s campaign for U.S. Senate in New

York. Those Representatives signed the letter with fellow “Squad” member Jayapal (more than half of Progressive Caucus members did not). Citizens from all over the United States have called their Representatives and Senators demanding their staffs meet with Schiller Institute organizers on the nuclear war threat, resulting recently in more than a dozen meetings on the Hill, all taken very seriously.

The American people as a whole, though not yet making a public point of it, clearly think that throwing tens of billions and weapons systems into Ukraine is far less urgent than dealing with runaway inflation and other economic problems. They are responding more and more readily to the LaRouche movement’s organizing appeals, and supporting them. And the people of Europe *are* making a public point of this, with increasing numbers demonstrating against government war and sanctions policies. The most warlike European government has just collapsed in the disgrace of complete economic immorality. Members of the U.S. Congress that are not blind war ideologues imitating Cato the Elder, are aware of the growing opposition in Europe to the U.K.’s and Biden Administration’s tempting nuclear war.

The public letter itself asks the President for a “proactive diplomatic push, redoubling efforts to seek a realistic framework for a ceasefire.” It says, “The alternative to diplomacy is protracted war, with both its attendant certainties and catastrophic and unknowable risks.” And cites, in addition, global food shortages and uncontrolled inflation.

The White House responded fast, with National Security Council spokesman John Kirby expressing administration appreciation for their concerns but repeating the NATO lockstep that “Mr. Zelenskyy gets to determine—because it’s his country—what success looks like and when to negotiate.” But that quick response itself seemed to emphasize the significance of this crack in the Armageddon coalition.

Saxony Minister President Kretschmer Argues Solution in Ukraine Is Not on the Battlefield but in Talks

Oct. 24 (EIRNS)—Saxony’s Minister President Michael Kretschmer, a leading voice of dissidence in the German political elite, has spoken out for diplomacy to replace sending weapons to Ukraine. “We must no longer settle these issues on the battlefield. Europe must put on more pressure for peace talks,” he told the *Bild am Sonntag* on Oct. 23. Kretschmer made clear that he wants to see an end to the war as soon as possible. In order to end the war, Germany should join other countries in pushing for a negotiated solution, he said. “There needs to be a joint diplomatic effort now by the EU, the U.S., China, India and Japan. This war must be stopped.”

Kretschmer also spoke in favor of resuming Russian gas supplies: “We need long-term contracts for liquefied gas supplies from the U.S., Qatar and other Arab countries. We also need to finally develop our own natural gas in the North Sea. And when the war is over, we should also use gas from Russia again,” Kretschmer said. Asked whether he expected the damaged Nord Stream 1 gas pipeline to be repaired, he said, “We’ll need pipeline gas, and that’s only possible with functioning pipelines.”

Kretschmer expressed skepticism about the impact of EU sanctions against Russia. “Sanctions are always better than using weapons. But they must also have the necessary effect on the aggressor.... We have to be clear about the impact of the sanctions on the German economy. There’s a tsunami building up right now.”

COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

Standard & Poor’s Reports Euro Economy Shrinking, Criticizes ECB

Oct. 24 (EIRNS)—The Standard & Poor’s purchasing managers’ index for October for the 19 countries in the Eurozone was published at 47.1, well down into contraction, with the manufacturing index even lower at 46.6. (below 50 for a survey indicates economic contraction). The overall index for Germany’s economy was easily the worst, at 44.1 and falling. “The

situation economically is getting worse quite rapidly,” said the S&P chief economist Chris Williamson. “These numbers pose downside risk to a lot of people’s forecasts, notably the ECB’s.”

The United States purchasing managers’ index survey figures are also in contraction in October, though less sharply than those of Europe. Williamson’s comment on this: “The U.S. economic downturn gathered significant momentum in October, while confidence in the outlook also deteriorated sharply. The decline was led by a downward lurch in services activity, fueled by the rising cost of living and tightening financial conditions. While output in manufacturing remains more resilient for now, October saw a steep drop in demand for goods, meaning current output is only being maintained by firms eating into backlogs of previously placed orders.... No surprise to see firms cutting back sharply on their input buying to prepare for lower output in coming months.”

Mervyn King: We Were Taught ‘Inflation Is from Too Much Money for Too Few Goods’ and That’s What Occurred in the Pandemic’

Oct. 24 (EIRNS)—Yesterday, in an interview with *Le Monde*, former Bank of England Governor Mervyn King offered his advice. Asked if we are seeing a turning point, [King](#) says: “We are returning to a world of more normal interest rates. The consequences will be very important because the world has accumulated debt. In the long run, there is reason to be optimistic because higher interest rates can improve the performance of the economy. But the transition may be very difficult.”

Asked if the central banks are responsible for the current inflation surge, King says that “Their big mistake was to stop thinking about the money supply, and to focus only on inflation expectations. Their theory was that if people thought inflation would stay low, then wages and prices would stay low. The problem was that it didn’t answer the question of what drives those expectations. The argument was completely circular.... Under these circumstances, in 2020 and 2021, central banks ended up printing a lot of money. The old-fashioned economics textbooks of the 1950s or 1960s would have said that inflation is the consequence of too much money for

too few goods and commodities. That is exactly what happened during the pandemic.”

King worries about the sudden “return” to the inflation under Fed Chairman Paul Volcker: “In the 1980s, Volcker was probably the most hated person in America when he raised short-term interest rates to 20%. But 25 years later, he became ‘St. Paul Volcker.’ Jay Powell decided that was the right strategy for him. He now doesn’t care if there is a recession in America, even if he doesn’t want one, if that is the price he has to pay to bring inflation down to 2%. In 1970, the total world debt was 100% of GDP. Today it is over 250%. Under these circumstances, can the world cope with interest rates of 4% or 5%? The problem is global. China, the United States, and 18 poor economies in the world have serious debt problems, according to the IMF. As for the big emerging economies: in 2009, after the end of the banking crisis, they helped pull the world out of recession. Today, they are stricken.

“As a result, the world will have to accept a lot of debt restructuring. In the short term, this will create more turbulence in the financial markets, and even crises. It will be very difficult to manage, because we don’t have the experience of restructuring on this scale.... The monetary tightening is likely to generate a recession not only in the United States, but also in the rest of the world and in particular in the developing countries that borrow dollars.... So there is a real risk of a very serious financial crisis. But we are not there yet.”

Former U.S. Special Envoy for Haiti Denounces ‘Insane,’ Racist U.S. Policy

Oct. 24 (EIRNS)—Former U.S. Special Envoy to Haiti [Daniel Foote](#) scathingly attacked U.S. policy toward that nation, particularly the likelihood there may be a U.S. or foreign intervention, as “insane,” in an Oct. 17 interview with [Breaking Point](#), covered in “[The Intercept](#)” Oct. 19. Recall that Foote resigned his position in September of 2021 in protest over the Biden administration’s brutal mass deportation of Haitian migrants who had gathered in Del Rio, Texas.

Haitians who had sought to escape the hell that is daily existence in Haiti were herded like cattle by the United States onto planes and flown back to Port-au-Prince, to a horrific situation Foote called “unlivable.” That policy continues today unabated, never opposed by the de facto Prime Minister Ariel Henry, which is one reason why Foote thinks the U.S. wants him to remain in power so the U.S. can continue its “self-defeating” immigration policy.

The former diplomat explains that while Biden’s deportations were “the straw that broke the camel’s back” for him, ultimately it was the U.S. interventionist policy that forced his hand because he sees U.S. policy moving in that direction. He referred to the fact that the U.S. historically has carried out multiple armed interventions into Haiti, always with the same disastrous results, as an example of what Albert Einstein called “insane ... trying the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result.” Previous interventions may have created temporary stability, Foote said, “but it never lasts, and becomes worse over time.”

The fact that the U.S., the United Nations and international institutions “are blindly stumbling through” with support for Henry, when Haitians are demanding “a different solution,” and are out on the streets every day demanding his resignation, is “unfathomable,” to Foote. He warns that in the event of another foreign intervention, there will be a civil uprising “similar to 1915 when we sent the Marines in for the first time,” and they stayed for 20 years.

Foote asserts that at the root of the U.S. bias toward intervention is “blatant racism.... If they support UN intervention, and we move forward with that, I’m heartbroken, frankly because it’s not going to work.” Better to let Haitian civil society come up with its own solutions. “Give them a chance to fix themselves. They can’t do any worse than the United States and the international community have done, and I guarantee you they’re going to do better because they know their country and they’re going to be bought into their own solutions—as opposed to being told what to do by white foreigners.”

Otherwise, he warns that if Henry's illegitimate government holds elections, Haitians won't accept them, and "we'll continue to be in a place where they are governed by foreigners." This, he says, goes back to the "unspoken U.S. policy that's been going on for 200-plus years, and I've heard this in hushed tones in the back quarters of the State Department: 'What drives our Haiti policy is this unspoken belief that these dumb Black people can't govern themselves.' "

UKRAINE CRISIS

U.S., Britain, France, NATO Reject Russian Warnings of a Dirty Bomb Provocation in Ukraine

Oct. 24 (EIRNS)—The U.S., U.K. and France, along with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg have rejected Russian warnings that the Kiev regime may be preparing a provocation against Russia using a so-called dirty bomb, a conventional explosive device packed with radioactive materials. "The allegation that Ukraine is preparing to use dirty bombs in Ukraine is absurd," Stoltenberg told *Politico* in an interview at the alliance's headquarters in Brussels. "What makes us concerned is that this is part of a pattern we have seen before from Russia—in Syria, but also at the start of the war, or just before the war started in February. And that is that Russia is accusing others [of] doing what they intend to do themselves," Stoltenberg droned on. "Russia should not use these false accusations or claims as any pretext for further escalating the war in Ukraine," he was quoted as saying.

The U.S., U.K. and France issued a joint statement yesterday, following Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu's round of phone calls to his counterparts in those countries in Turkey. "Our countries made clear that we all reject Russia's transparently false allegations that Ukraine is preparing to use a dirty bomb on its own territory," they said. "The world would see through any attempt to use this allegation as a pretext for escalation. We further reject any pretext for escalation by Russia."

CHINA

China's Economic Growth Remains Driven by New Infrastructure

Oct. 24 (EIRNS)—In spite of claims across the trans-Atlantic financial and other media of an “indefinite delay” in Chinese economic data releases, China issued its third-quarter economic report immediately following the Party Congress, and before that of the United States, for example. GDP growth was reported at 3.9% in the past 12 months (not as a “rate,” as GDP is reported elsewhere). It was lowered by the COVID lockdowns and global sanctions and dislocations, but more than half a percent higher than pundits of Wall Street expected. Industrial production had grown 6.3%; fixed asset investment by 5.9% (showing new infrastructure to be the continued driver); exports by 5.7% but imports by only 0.3%. Real estate property sales were way down, about –15%.

Infrastructure investment continues to be the focus for increasing productivity and raising domestic demand for new technologies. This is the strength which China can use to center its response to the attack by the U.S. military-industrial complex to deny it the most advanced semiconductor chips. Most of the applications for these most advanced chips are seen as military and cyber-military, so that the Biden Administration is urged to think that it is guaranteeing U.S. military superiority over China by this use of the power simply of financial sanctions. But China is more likely to keep its own nano-chip industrial development going by the demands of its new infrastructure, space exploration, and fission-fusion energy.