

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

Picking Up the Proffers

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—There is a single, unique trajectory out of the extinction crisis towards which the planet is otherwise careening. That trajectory involves President Donald Trump, in the three months remaining before the November Presidential election, picking up and driving forward full-throttle with the two, standing strategic proffers placed before the United States by our key potential allies against the British Empire, Russia and China.

In the case of Russia, we are referring to President Vladimir Putin's January 2020 call to convene an emergency summit of the Permanent Five (P-5) members of the UN Security Council, which would take up the vital questions of war and peace, a new security architecture, and the economic and health crises facing all of mankind.

The second proffer was made by China, in the form of an unusual, prominent editorial in the July 31 edition of the semi-official *Global Times*, which urged President Trump to stop trying to deflect blame for the COVID-19 and deep economic crisis besetting the U.S. onto the Chinese, but to instead “join hands” with China and make common cause to defeat those all-too-real problems. The editorial accurately stated that such an approach was also the best way for Trump to ensure an electoral victory in November, against a Democratic Party that will otherwise try to blame Trump personally for every ill besetting the nation—ills, we would hasten to add, that were principally caused by the Wall Street and City of London policies imposed by those same Democrats, and most Republicans as well, for the better part of the last half century.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche has welcomed the proffer communicated through the *Global Times*, while at the same time launching an international organizing drive to assemble a chorus of voices demanding that such a P-5 summit be convened immediately, in September. A series of Schiller

Institute conferences over the coming weeks are scheduled to culminate in a major Sept. 5-6 international online conference to take up exactly those issues. The conference—to be held with simultaneous interpretation into Spanish, French, German and other languages—will meet under the headline “War Drive Towards Armageddon or a New Paradigm Among Sovereign Nations United by the Common Aims of Mankind.” The conference invitation states, in part:

“We are confronted with the simultaneous escalation of a pandemic out of control, an economic collapse triggered, but not caused by the pandemic, a pending collapse of the transatlantic financial system, and an increasing danger not only of a new Cold War, but the danger that the unthinkable might truly happen, and a third, this time, thermonuclear world war could break out. We are surely facing a systemic collapse—the end of an epoch. It is now becoming more and more apparent to many forces throughout the world, that Lyndon LaRouche’s 1971 warning was absolutely prophetic: that Richard Nixon’s ending of the Bretton Woods system by replacing fixed exchange rates with an international floating exchange rate system, and his striking out on the path of monetarism would lead to the danger of a new fascism, depression, pandemics, and war.... Lyndon LaRouche long called for a Four Power Agreement among the U.S., China, Russia, and India as the best starting point for bringing about such a new paradigm. Today, the only visible realistic framework to move in that direction, in the short term, is the conference of the permanent five members of the UN Security Council that was proposed by President Putin in January.”

The invitation goes on to specify the policies such a summit must adopt:

“A mechanism of solving all international problems through dialogue and diplomacy.

“A New Bretton Woods system—as it was intended by Franklin D. Roosevelt and elaborated by Lyndon LaRouche—with the explicit aim of overcoming poverty and the underdevelopment of the so-called developing countries, starting with a modern health system in every country.

“An agreement to make the program: ‘The New Silk Road becomes the World Land Bridge’ the basis for building to the best modern standards the infrastructural and industrial development of all countries on the planet.

“A new security architecture based on the common economic interest of the world community, which includes the security interest of every single nation. There must be an end to the color revolutions and destabilizations now being orchestrated by the British Empire and its bankrupt financial interests against governments they don’t like—including the destabilizations of the governments of Donald Trump, Xi Jinping, and Vladimir Putin, among others.

“International cooperation for a crash program for thermonuclear fusion technology, international space cooperation for the building of a village on the moon and a city on Mars, as well as cooperation in life sciences.

“An agreement to initiate a real dialogue of cultures, in which each culture and civilization commits itself to learn about the best traditions and universal contributions of the others as the basis for peace and understanding and a new renaissance of the world.”

STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

People’s Liberation Army Orders Its Forces Not To Shoot First in Encounters with U.S. Military

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—Despite continued U.S. military provocations in the South China Sea, including near China’s coasts, the Chinese military is taking steps to reduce the risks of an escalation between PLA forces and the U.S. military. *South China Morning Post* reported on Aug. 11 that China has told its service personnel “not to fire the first shot” as Beijing looks to de-escalate tensions with the United States in the South China Sea, according to “sources familiar with the situation.” Both sides have stepped up their operations in the disputed waters, increasing the risk of incidents that spiral out of control, according to *SCMP*, but Beijing does not want to give American hawks the opportunity to escalate things further. The sources said Beijing had ordered pilots and naval officers to exercise

restraint in the increasingly frequent stand-offs with U.S. planes and warships.

One source close to the Chinese military told *SCMP* that Beijing had communicated through “various channels” to the U.S. that it had told its military “never to fire first” in a goodwill gesture to keep the situation under control. “It’s easy to give the order to shoot, but neither China nor the U.S. is able to control the consequences. The current situation is highly tense and very dangerous,” the source said.

Taiwan Leader Tsai Hosted Jointly by Hudson Institute and Center for American Progress

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen was the guest of a forum on Aug. 12 jointly sponsored by the Republican Hudson Institute and the Democratic Center for American Progress, no doubt to show the “bipartisan” support for the Taiwanese leader. This was one day following the visit to Taiwan of Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar, the first major breach of the agreement signed between the U.S. and China with regard to “no official relations” with Taiwan.

Tsai said that Taiwan and Hong Kong were the only Chinese entities that appreciated democracy and she praised the international community for condemning the new National Security Law in Hong Kong. She stated that Taiwan had set up an office to help those from Hong Kong who flee the island after the legislation. “Taiwan is on the front lines of democracy,” Tsai said, calling Taiwan “the antithesis to the P.R.C.” While she conceded that Taiwan would always “acknowledge the ties between the straits,” Taiwan would also “take stock” of the relationship. She also said that Taiwan would “back up words with action,” pointing to the increase in the defense budget. Taiwan would develop an “asymmetric capability” that would be more capable, Tsai commented.

She referred to U.S.-Taiwan relations as “never closer,” underlining that they would build an even closer relationship. She mentioned the major investment of Google and Microsoft in Taiwan and the establishment of a major Taiwan semiconductor firm in Arizona. Cyber-security would also

be a major part of defense collaboration with the U.S., calling Taiwan a member of “the community of like-minded democracies,” reflecting the new Cold War gambit of Mike Pompeo.

Also speaking at the forum was Tsai’s new representative in Washington, Xiao Bi-Khim, a former lawmaker with the pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party. Commenting on the new defense strategy, Xiao said that Taiwan was “working on hardware capability with the U.S. with regard to coastal defense and sea mines.” She also said that Taiwan was also beefing up their defense against P.R.C. “influence operations within Taiwan’s social organizations.”

Pompeo Says U.S. May Consider Sanctions Against Belarus, Amid Regime-Change Operations

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—Commenting on the post-election situation in Belarus, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said that the U.S. would consider acting multilaterally, and consider imposing sanctions against Belarus. Pompeo made his remarks in an Aug. 12 interview with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, posted to the U.S. State Department website. In subsequent remarks, Pompeo demanded that new elections be held in the country.

The opposition is demanding a recount in the Aug. 9 election, which re-elected President Aleksandr Lukashenko by 80%, with an 84% voter turnout. The only candidate with more than 2%, Svetlana Tikhanovskaya, challenged the figures, demanding a recount, and then fled to Lithuania on Aug. 11, leaving behind mass demonstrations, many of which turned violent. Police arrested some 3,000 people, according to TASS.

Lithuanian Foreign Minister Linas Linkevicius told Echo of Moscow radio yesterday that “sanctions must be discussed” and should “not harm the people,” but instead “target those who violate rights and who have used force for no good reason. Concrete sanctions against individuals whom we will agree on for they have deserved such attention from us.” He further said that the EU foreign ministers will speak on the Belarus situation, in an online discussion Aug. 14.

Yesterday, one of the candidates who was ineligible for ballot status Valery Tsepkalov formed a “National Salvation Front for of Belarus.” A former ambassador to the U.S., as a later government official, he had set up and directed Hi-Tech Park focussed on IT in Minsk, but had a falling out with President Lukashenko in the past year. He was barred from registering as a candidate and has currently left the country. According to TASS he told the Telegram channel on Aug. 12 that the Front is aimed at “mobilization of Belarusian people to fight against the violations of the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus and the forceful seizure of state power by Lukashenko A.G.” and the restoration of democratic choice in Belarus. Speaking from Ukraine, he also announced the formation of a fund called “Belarus of the Future,” which will fund oppositionists. Its supervisory council include well-known oppositionists such as author Svetlana Alexievich, opposition politicians Anatoly Lebedko, leader of the United Civil Party which has observer status in the European Parliament European People’s Party (Christian Democrats) group; and Stanislav Bogdankevich, also of United Civil Party, and former head of the National Bank central bank; and journalist Svetlana Kalinkina.

Belarusian law enforcement agencies claim they have found evidence proving that members of presidential candidate rival Viktor Babariko’s campaign team were involved in coordinating the riots taking place in the country, the Belarus-1 TV reported on Aug. 12.

Russia and Saudi Arabia Cooperating in G20, and Also in Lebanon Crisis

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud discussed a wide range of bilateral issues in a phone discussion on Aug. 12. “Sergey Viktorovich Lavrov confirmed support for the activity of Saudi Arabia as G20 chair and Russia’s readiness to contribute towards achieving significant results at the upcoming summit of its leaders and other events within the framework of G20,” TASS quoted the statement from the Russian Foreign Ministry.

The two foreign ministers emphasized their solidarity with Lebanon in the aftermath of the explosion at the port of Beirut on Aug. 4, and confirmed their intention to render any necessary aid to the Lebanese people, according to the press release on the Russian ministry website. They also stressed the importance of creating favorable external conditions to allow the Lebanese themselves to agree on forming a new government through an inclusive dialogue with the main ethnic and religious groups.

In an interview with Lebanon's MTV, Russian Ambassador Alexander Zasytkin was quoted as saying, "We prefer that a national unity government be formed in Lebanon, headed by Saad Hariri, according to the criteria... We agree to any form of government, given Lebanon's specificities." Former Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri is closely tied to Saudi Arabia.

THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMIC ORDER

China Increasing Investment in High-Speed Rail and Maglev, in Push for Domestic Consumption

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—China has announced its new rail construction program. The government plans to build 200,000 km of rail by 2035, about one-third of which will be high-speed rail: All cities with a population of 200,000 or more will be connected by rail, and all cities with 500,000 people or more will be connected by high-speed rail. China is also working on the next generation maglev train that could travel at speeds of 600 kph.

"The development of high-speed maglev can help China seize the leading rail transit technology and maintain the country's advantage in the field of high-speed rail," said Wu Donghua, deputy chief engineer from CRRC Qingdao Sifang, which built the prototypes. "The maglev train is currently the fastest available ground public transport vehicle.... The 600 kph maglev train would fill a gap between high-speed rail and airplanes."

China's major construction is also a part of the government's efforts to shift more production to the domestic consumption market in the light of possible boycotts in the international market.

SCIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Russian UN Ambassador Offers International Cooperation on COVID-19 Vaccines

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—Vassily Nebenzia, Russia’s ambassador to the United Nations, told the UN Security Council that “We are ready for international cooperation with all interested partners in the development and production of vaccines and treatments to ensure a coordinated global response to the spread of COVID-19 and a common victory over the pandemic.”

Nebenzia’s remarks came after the announcement by the sovereign wealth fund Russia Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) of its registration of the “Sputnik V” vaccine. RT reported that Nebenzia said that clinical trials have already shown it to be both safe and highly effective, and mentioned that other “promising” vaccines were being developed in Russia as well.

RT reported: “Some Western governments have disparaged the Russian achievement, demanding to see evidence of the vaccine’s safety, even as their own pharmaceutical companies have required absolute immunity from liability lawsuits over potential adverse effects.”

U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

Former U.S. Army Officers Demand a Military Coup Against Trump Should Election Be Disputed

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—Two former U.S. Army officers, Lt. Col. John Nagl (ret.) and Lt. Col. Paul Yingling (ret.), issued what amounts to a call for a military coup against President of the United States Donald Trump, should there be a dispute in the outcome of the Nov. 3 presidential election. “We do not live in ordinary times,” they write in an “open letter” to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley, published on Defense One news site on Aug. 11. “The President of the United States is actively subverting our electoral system, threatening to remain in office in defiance of our Constitution. In a few months’ time, you may have to choose between defying a lawless president or betraying your Constitutional oath.”

Nagl and Yingling speculate that Trump may refuse to leave office on Jan. 20 should the election go against him—they are certain that it will, based on odds of 91% provided by the City of London’s *The Economist* (no foreign meddling there!)—and so, therefore, there are only two options: “Under the first, U.S. military forces escort the former President from the White House grounds.... Under the second, the U.S. military remains inert while the Constitution dies. The succession of government is determined by extralegal violence between Trump’s private army and street protesters; Black Lives Matter Plaza becomes Tahrir Square. As the senior military officer of the United States, the choice between these two options lies with you.”

The “open letter” reads as if it were written based on talking points provided by the Biden campaign, with a list of “reasons” why Trump might refuse to leave the White House should he lose the election. It is part of the British “strategy of tension” designed to polarize the United States past the point of governability.

The Nagl and Yingling provocation was not lost on a wide range of observers. Condemnation of the Defense One story was widespread, reported Jeff Schogol for Task & Purpose. Retired Army Gen. Raymond A. Thomas III, former head of U.S. Special Operations Command, called the article “really irresponsible,” in a Twitter posting. Even suggesting that the military should depose a sitting President is profoundly dangerous to democracy, said Kori Schake of the American Enterprise Institute, who co-wrote a book with former Secretary of Defense James Mattis on the civil-military divide (likely meaning that she’s no friend of Trump). “The Constitution is clear on it,” Schake said. “The law is clear on it. The Congress is in the driver’s seat and the court is in the driver’s seat. It would be as dangerous to the United States of America for the military to determine they themselves should be the arbiters of this as would be dangerous a President refusing to leave office—so the cure is as bad as the disease.”

Schogol notes, too, that the Nagl-Yingling piece is a clear echo of recent remarks made by Democratic Presidential candidate Joe Biden. On June 10, he told “The Daily Show” host Trevor Noah that the military service chiefs would personally escort Trump from the White House “with great dispatch” if the President tried to “steal” the election.

Nagl and Yingling both rose to prominence during the Iraq occupation, Nagl as a partisan of the counterinsurgency theories of Gen. David Petraeus, and Yingling for retiring in a huff after calling the generals who presided over the war incompetent in an article that was published in the *Armed Forces Journal*. Nagl is also the former president of the Center for a New American Democracy, the retreat neo-con institution *par excellence*, the Project for a New American Democracy.

State Department Declares Confucius Institute of the U.S. a ‘Foreign Mission’

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—In a further upgrading of Mike “Armageddon” Pompeo’s psy-war against China, the State Department announced today that the Confucius Institute of the United States would henceforth be declared an arm of the Chinese government. In practice this means that they must submit a list of their personnel, their real estate holdings, their operations, etc., to the U.S. State Department. State Department briefers today told reporters that it didn’t mean shutting down Confucius Institutes at U.S. universities, or even that the individual Confucius Institutes are themselves designated as “foreign missions.” The measure does, however, affect the operations of the CIUS headquarters in Washington, which helps provide logistical support to the various Confucius Institutes throughout the country.

More importantly, it lets the universities that do sponsor Confucius Institutes know they should rethink their decision, as a statement by Pompeo implies: “The goal of these actions is simple: to ensure that American educators and school administrators can make informed choices about whether these [Chinese Communist Party] CCP-backed programs should be allowed to continue, and if so, in what fashion. Universities

around the country and around the world are examining the Confucius Institutes' curriculum and the scope of Beijing's influence in their education systems.”

Kamala Harris Blames President Trump for America's COVID-19 Deaths

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—Exactly as the top British military-linked consulting group IHS Markit had urged the Democratic candidates to do back on June 30, Kamala Harris today ripped into President Donald Trump on the country's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Smelling Trump's vulnerability on this front, Harris said Trump is “delusional” and failed to take the virus “seriously from the start,” according to an account in CNBC. “This virus has impacted almost every country, but there's a reason it has hit America worse than any other advanced nation. It's because of Trump's failure to take it seriously from the start,” Harris said. She spoke in Wilmington, Delaware, during her first joint appearance with former Vice President Joe Biden since she became his running mate Tuesday.

“His [Trump's] refusal to get testing up and running, his flip-flopping on social distancing and wearing masks, his delusional belief that he knows better than the experts—all of that is the reason and the reason an American dies of COVID-19 every 80 seconds,” she said.

COLLAPSING WESTERN FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Federal Reserve Officials Warn Americans To Not Expect Economic Recovery Anytime Soon

Aug. 13 (EIRNS)—In statements over the last 48 hours, the heads of the Boston, San Francisco and Dallas Federal Reserve banks all blamed the U.S. economy's stall-out on the country's premature reopening of businesses that were shut due to the pandemic. For example, Boston Fed President Eric Rosengren said during an online event organized by the South Shore Chamber of Commerce in Massachusetts, that “The forecast for the U.S. economy this fall is quite uncertain, but my view is that the recent slowdown in economic activity that we have seen in high-frequency

data is likely to continue.” San Francisco Fed president Mary Daly, in a webcast discussion with the Economic Club of Las Vegas, said the economic rebound will be slow and gradual. And Dallas Fed President Robert Kaplan told a Lubbock Chamber of Commerce in Texas webcast that Americans need to learn to “live with” the virus, so that the economy can be reopened.

Rosengren was most explicit in criticizing the U.S. COVID-19 policy. He said that parts of Europe handled things better, by shutting their economies down long enough to significantly lower infection rates and deaths. Many states in the U.S., on the other hand, lifted restrictions too quickly, resulting in new coronavirus outbreaks and the need to shut their economies down again. “Limited or inconsistent efforts by states to control the virus based on public health guidance are not only placing citizens at unnecessary risk of severe illness and possible death—but are also likely to prolong the economic downturn,” Rosengren said.

Although Rosengren’s description is accurate as far as it goes, he and his fellow Fed presidents totally sidestepped the central responsibility of the Fed itself, and Wall Street policies more generally, for creating the conditions of physical economic collapse which created the pandemic in the first place, and then making sure that the deadly policy of quantitative easing to bail out the bankrupt banks continued and even escalated since the beginning of this year. On the contrary, Rosengren patted himself on the back and then tried to shift the blame: “Despite the sizable interventions by monetary and fiscal policymakers ... the recovery may be losing steam, as activities in many states are once again restricted (officially or voluntarily) to slow the virus’s spread.”

- Watch the [Morning Briefing with Harley Schlanger](#) on Friday, August 14: Every weekday morning Harley will brief you on what you need to know to start your day. Subscribe to the LaRouchePAC YouTube channel and hit the notifications button to be notified when Harley’s briefings are posted. Or you can listen to the audio file on [SoundCloud](#).