

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

Memorial Day, the Mystic Chords of Memory, and JFK's Highest Political Art

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—Memorial Day is not about choosing between celebrating a day off to eat hog dogs or feeling sad for a moment about those who gave their lives for a cause. Abraham Lincoln, in his First Inaugural address, best captured how memorial days for those who fought for the country actually works, even as the country faced the outbreak of civil war: “The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield

and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.”

Some reverberating echoes of Lincoln’s statecraft include the following: It is important to remind ourselves that we are not as bad a people as our present circumstances might suggest we are; and that, in the conscious effort to recall for ourselves what has gone into the formation and existence of the country, we may be transformed into the persons that we should be. This can happen because the action of memory works as surely as does the power of music.

On that note, since today’s Memorial Day occurs on the birthday of [President John F. Kennedy](#), also a veteran, and one who truly died in the service of this country, it is worth studying his keynote address on the intimate role of culture for the highest level of politics. He spoke in 1962, as part of the effort to establish a national cultural project, what would become the JFK Center for the Performing Arts.

“To the extent that artists struggle to express beauty in form and color and sound, to the extent that they write about man’s struggle with nature or society, or himself, to that extent they strike a responsive chord in all humanity. Today, Sophocles speaks to us from more than 2,000 years.” Despite tensions between Russia and the U.S., Russians read Mark Twain and Edgar Poe, and Americans read Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky, and both gain “insight into the shared problems of the human heart. Thus today, as always, art knows no national boundaries.”

“Genius can speak at any time, and the entire world will hear it and listen. Behind the storm of daily conflict and crisis, the dramatic confrontations, the tumult of political struggle, the poet, the artist, the musician, continues the quiet work of centuries, building bridges of experience between peoples, reminding man of the universality of his feelings and desires and despairs, and reminding him that the forces that unite are deeper than those that divide.

“Thus, art and the encouragement of art is political in the most profound sense, not as a weapon in the struggle, but as an instrument of understanding of the futility of struggle between those who share man’s faith. Aeschylus and Plato are remembered today long after the triumphs of imperial Athens are gone. Dante outlived the ambitions of 13th century Florence. Goethe stands serenely above the politics of Germany, and I am certain that after the dust of centuries has passed over our cities, we, too, will be remembered not for victories or defeats in battle or in politics, but for our contribution to the human spirit... If we can make our country one of the great schools of civilization, then on that achievement will surely rest our claim to the ultimate gratitude of mankind.”

JFK added that “a great democratic society” has “a special responsibility to the arts, for art is the great democrat calling forth creative genius from every sector of society.... The mere accumulation of wealth and power is available to the dictator and the democrat alike. What freedom alone can bring is the liberation of the human mind and spirit which finds its greatest flowering in the free society.” In essence, we can’t have a democracy without the arts bringing out the best in mankind.

It’s worth remembering a good President. Make America good again.

Step One: Sign and circulate the Schiller Institute’s [“Urgent Appeal by Citizens and Institutions from All Over the World to the \(Next\) President of the United States!”](#)

- Watch [Harley’s Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday May 30, 2023: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

Argentine Finance Minister Begins High-Level China Tour May 30

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—Argentine Finance Minister Sergio Massa will arrive in China tomorrow, landing in Shanghai, where he will stay for three

days, then go on to Beijing for two days, with high-level meetings planned in both locations. He is traveling with a large delegation, including the Secretaries of Transportation, Agriculture, and Energy, plus high-level officials in charge of international relations and development, as well as the Central Bank Governor Miguel Pesce. Argentina's activist Ambassador in Beijing Sabino Vaca Narvaja, who helped organize the trip, will also join the delegation.

This trip is the result of intense diplomacy of recent weeks, in which Brazilian President Lula da Silva has intervened with both Chinese President Xi Jinping and Dilma Rousseff, the new chairman of the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB), to seek relief for Argentina, which is suffering from the crisis created by years of IMF predatory lending and brutal austerity, which is what Lula described as the IMF "holding a knife to Argentina's neck."

A high point of the Shanghai visit will be Massa's attendance at the 8th annual meeting of the NDB's Board of Governors May 30-31 to which he was invited by Rousseff and Chinese Finance Minister Liu Kun. There will be discussion there of specific mechanisms by which the NDB might aid Argentina, one of which would be modifying Article 7 of the Bank's statutes to allow it to pre-finance Brazilian exports to Argentina, that would be paid in pesos and later converted to Brazil's currency, the real. Other discussion involves whether non-member Argentina, which has announced it plans to apply to join the BRICS, might access the NDB's emergency funds available only to members that have currency crises.

Meetings in Shanghai will include Massa's bilateral meeting with Rousseff, with China's Commerce Minister Wang Wentao, possibly with Foreign Minister Qin Gang or another high-ranking Foreign Ministry official, and with the executives of major companies already investing in Argentina in the areas of energy, mining and lithium, to urge them to increase their investment.

In Beijing, on June 2, Massa will meet with the Governor of the People's Bank of China Yi Gang, to request an expansion of the existing

\$18 billion currency swap up to \$38 billion, and with Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission Zheng Shanjie, with whom he will sign a Cooperation Plan on the Belt and Road, in representation of the Argentine state. On June 3, he will meet with Finance Minister Liu Kun to discuss additional Chinese financing for Argentine infrastructure projects, which were already agreed to by President Alberto Fernández when he signed a Memorandum of Understanding on joining the Belt and Road Initiative in February 2022, during his meeting with President Xi Jinping.

Kiev's Desperation for a Nuclear Provocation

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—The International Atomic Energy Agency stated to AFP that IAEA head Rafael Grossi will finally present his five-point plan on the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP) to the UN Security Council tomorrow. A key component of the plan is that the gamesmanship over Ukraine's cutting off electrical power supply to the plant, forcing the circulating and cooling of the water in the closed-down units to be run off of backup diesel power, must be brought to an end, with IAEA oversight of the power lines. This is long overdue, as Kiev has cut the power seven different times as part of their brinkmanship games. Rosatom Director General Alexey Likhachev also confirmed on May 25 that the IAEA is in the final stage of developing a plan to ensure the safety of ZNPP.

A couple of months ago, Ukraine's President Zelenskyy had declared that they could not use the IAEA to force the Russians out of the ZNPP, and they would have to resort to extracurricular means. It was at this time that Grossi—without naming Ukraine as the party that was cutting off the electricity—adopted his present course, one clearly opposed by Zelenskyy. This is the background to the bizarre propagandistic efforts over the last week of such as Kyrylo Budanov's Military Intelligence Directorate (GUR) and of the Office of the President's Center for Countering Disinformation (CCD).

[Nuclear Engineering International](#) (NEI) reports today that “Russian military analysts suggest that retaking control of ZNPP is one of the

objectives of the coming Ukrainian offensive.” They summarize the ludicrous GUR narrative: “Russian forces would strike ZNPP and then report a radioactive leak in order to trigger an international probe that would pause the hostilities and give the Russian forces the respite they need to regroup ahead of the counter-offensive.” That is, the GUR yarn is that Russia, desperate for a ceasefire, will shell its own facility in order to make an actual or fake leak credible enough to get Kiev’s allies in the West to, in a panic, allow the ceasefire.

The proffered evidence? Russia had “disrupted the rotation of personnel of the permanent monitoring mission.” Aside from being pathetically weak evidence, the disruption occurred from Ukrainian shelling of Vasilyevka, the point where the inspectors cross over from Ukrainian to Russian territory to get to the facility. Vladimir Rogov, a member of the Main Council of the (Russian) Zaporozhye regional administration, told RIA Novosti: “The Kiev regime is now raising the temperature and stakes around the Zaporozhye NPP. Ukrainian militants are preparing an operation to bombard and cross the Dnieper River to land troops and seize the plant, simultaneously spreading a false narrative in advance through their information platforms and materials in the Western media that Russia will be responsible for a possible nuclear catastrophe.”

NEI underlines that there have already been three different assaults by Ukrainian forces, attempting to seize the nuclear plant facility. These are armed forces charging at the plant, separate from the more regular shelling of the plant.

Kiev’s CCD Loses It Over the Zaporozhye Nuclear Plant

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—The performance by Kiev’s “Center for Countering Disinformation” (CCD) last week, on the subject of President Zelenskyy’s perhaps favorite obsession, the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP), should make the hairs on one’s neck stand up. It makes totally credible the idea that the vaunted counteroffensive is pegged around an all-out physical assault upon the nuclear plant—for the primary reason of media ratings and a “hot button” issue capable of stampeding the West

into dropping the proxy war and stumbling into direct confrontation with a thermonuclear power.

The CCD begins by reporting that “the last source of external power for the nuclear fuel cooling pumps in the holding pools and nuclear reactors of the power units of the Zaporozhye nuclear power plant, was accidentally disconnected” by Ukrenergo. (This is the seventh such “accidental” disconnection over the last nine months.) But it was, of course, “a result of damage during the massive Russian shelling.” Now, hold on:

“However, the incident” was “not an accident, but a systemic manifestation of Russia’s use of the nuclear threat as a lever of influence on Ukraine and the world.” They do this by firing artillery shells at the facility that they are in, and “as a result of which the plant remained without power 7 times and went into the so-called blackout mode.” (Didn’t they just admit earlier that Ukrenergo had accidentally disconnected the power line?)

But Russia’s “man-made blackmail tactics” means they don’t admit they are firing artillery shells at themselves, but “seek to transfer responsibility for nuclear and radiation safety of the facility to Ukraine and to force the leadership of the country and the West to agree to the terms of ending the war. In order to gain maximum control over the situation.... Secondly, by intensifying the threats surrounding the illegally captured Zaporozhye NPP, Russia is trying to distract part of the Ukrainian forces and lower the morale of Ukrainians, and in this way deter a potential counteroffensive of the Ukrainian Armed Forces in the south of Ukraine.”

There are more perambulations too complicated for this writer to understand how to pass along. However, near the end, CCD actually provides the source of the “evidence” for the much-abused allegation that Russia “placed heavy military equipment with ammunition, weapons and explosives” in the ZNPP plant. It is “According to British intelligence.” Hence, the expression, “Those whom the gods would destroy, they first make listen to British intelligence.”

***The Economist* Salutes Its Colleagues in the World's Oldest Profession**

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—The semi-official mouthpiece of the modern British Empire, *The Economist*, writes approvingly of the booming business of “patriotic prostitution” near the front lines of the Ukraine war. The article is titled, “How a Front-Line City Became Ukraine’s Romantic Capital.” Brothels there are doing a land-office business, and “the sex workers ... see themselves as integral parts of the war effort.”

Natalie, “a blonde in her mid-20s” is quoted saying: “We are here to lift our wonderful boys’ spirits. They are defending us, and we want to help them in any way we can.” Clearly, London’s top-line journalists have also been doing their level best for the cause.

U.S. POLITICAL & ECONOMIC

U.S. ‘Debt Ceiling’ Deal Is for War and Austerity

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—All earlier Republican demands with regard to holding Department of Defense spending at FY2022 levels (a \$75 billion effective cut in the monstrous U.S. military budget), as part of a potential agreement with President Joe Biden to increase the U.S. Treasury’s debt limit, were ultimately turned into their opposite by House Speaker Kevin McCarthy’s leadership team. The agreement just announced by Biden and McCarthy, set for Congressional votes beginning June 1, provides for military spending to rise in FY2024 by up to \$88 billion (getting into the \$1 trillion/year vicinity). Non-defense discretionary spending, on the other hand, will be frozen at FY2023 levels for FY2024 and would be capped at increases of 1% (about \$7-8 billion annually, well below inflation) for Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026. Biden’s worst fraud, the purely “green finance” Inflation Reduction Act, was left alone.

Now, directly after the Congressional votes take place, an outpouring of new Treasury debt issues will push short-term Treasury rates further up, creating yet more problems for U.S. banks’ capital and more constriction of

their lending. A new estimate by Morgan Stanley bank is that \$730 billion in Treasury securities will be issued from June-August.

NEW STRATEGIC & ECONOMIC ARCHITECTURE

Putin Congratulates Erdogan, London Scowls, U.S. Ambassador Is Pragmatic

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—The City of London mouthpiece *The Economist*, in its May 30 newsletter from its Digital Editor Adam Roberts, admitted hoping for a defeat of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in the May 28 runoff election, to encourage the defeat of other “authoritarians.” The newsletter complained of coming side effects in Asia of Erdogan’s re-election. “A few weeks ago we commented that a defeat for Mr. Erdogan would send a message to strongmen rulers in other parts of the world,” wrote Roberts. “Sadly, a victory for Mr. Erdogan also sends a message. Narendra Modi in India, for example, faces a third general election within the next year. My guess is that he is cheered by the news from Türkiye. Similarly, the iron lady of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, who has been in office longer than any other woman in power today, is expected to face an election early in 2024.” (That’s only because the Queen is dead, but she wasn’t elected, either.)

On CNBC on May 28, former U.S. Ambassador to Türkiye David Satterfield admitted that, despite what he might hope for, there would be no change in Erdogan’s policy of cooperation with Russia. In fact, Satterfield admitted, this cooperation has had good results for other nations, such as in the Black Sea Grain Agreement; and for the two nations, the basis of the policy is the mutual economic benefits of Russia-Türkiye relations, including food and petrochemicals investments and trade, and Russia’s “virtually granting a \$20 billion nuclear power plant,” the Akkuyu complex of four large reactors which has begun operations. Satterfield said he still hoped that post-election, Erdogan might become more moderate regarding Sweden’s application to join NATO, but, regardless, Russian-Turkish relations of cooperation would continue.

Russian President Vladimir Putin thanked Erdogan according to RT: “Your victory in the elections was a natural result of your selfless work as head of the Republic of Türkiye, and is clear evidence of the Turkish people’s support for your efforts to strengthen state sovereignty and pursue an independent foreign policy. We highly appreciate your personal contribution to the strengthening of friendly Russian-Turkish relations and mutually beneficial cooperation.” Putin noted the construction of Türkiye’s first nuclear power plant and plans for a new gas hub as two significant joint projects. “From the bottom of my heart I wish you new successes ... as well as good health and well-being,” he concluded.

Erdogan Announces Russian Natural Gas Hub in Türkiye

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—In his first post-election statement, President of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan reiterated the intention to implement the natural gas hub project in Türkiye. “We will strengthen Türkiye’s positions as an international hub even further. Actually, Mr. Putin mentioned again [creation] of the hub in the region of Thrace in Türkiye in his congratulatory message. We will do that together with them. There will be a hub in Thrace,” Erdogan said, addressing the population in the Bestepe presidential complex.

In October 2022, Russian President Vladimir Putin had put forward the idea of creating a gas hub in Türkiye, where the volume of natural gas that was to be directed through the Nord Stream pipelines could be redirected. Türkiye showed a positive attitude towards this initiative and launched the procedure of making legislative changes to provide for legal basis for such a central distribution operation.

SCIENCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

Japan Adopts a National Fusion Energy Innovation Strategy

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—Japan on April 14 issued a statement of its adoption of policy of becoming a major international contributor to a fusion energy demonstration reactor or reactors, adding an important national-

effort capability to the breakthroughs in fusion research and development being reported from the United States, China and Europe. The statement, “[Fusion Energy Innovation Strategy](#),” proposes that Japan will use all its advanced technological and industrial capabilities to bring such demonstration reactors into operation at the earliest point, and to win a market share of production of fusion reactor elements and reactors.

The nation already operates a very important fusion research reactor, the stellarator at Toki, known as the Large Helical Device, the second-largest superconducting stellarator in the world. It is used in partnership with fusion research and development projects in other countries to simulate and test their new systems, for which Japan also produces critical elements and parts. Most recently the stellarator was partnered with Helion Energy of California to simulate the start of Helion’s use of hydrogen-boron fuel in its eighth-generation experimental device. The Large Helical Device is exemplary of Japan’s development of advanced critical technology for development of fusion demonstration reactors.

While the newly announced “Strategy” does not discuss an amount of national funding, and locates itself within the conservative international strategy of the International Tokamak Engineering Reactor (ITER) project of 35 nations in France, it promises government support and proposes to be aggressive in developing: “core areas of fusion energy systems”; “areas in which fusion technologies are expected to produce ripple effects in other areas”; and “areas that are expected to integrate existing or new technologies from other fields.”

The government’s Cabinet Office, according to the statement, is immediately this year establishing the Fusion Energy Office of Japan to “promote industry-academia-government cooperation.”

Launch of Shenzhou-16 Kicks China’s Tiangong Space Station into Full Gear

May 29, 2023 (EIRNS)—On May 30, at 9:31 a.m. Beijing time, China launched the Shenzhou-16 spacecraft to the Tiangong Space Station. At a press conference on May 29, the three taikonauts were presented to the

public. The construction phase of the Chinese Space Station is now officially completed and the three taikonauts who will fly there will begin the phase of development and space applications, said Lin Xichang, Deputy Director of the China Manned Space Agency. For the first time, they are also sending a civilian payload expert, Professor Gui Haichao, from Beihang University. Shenzhou-16 will be commanded by the 57-year old Jing Haipeng, a veteran of the first batch of taikonauts selected in 1998. This will be Jing's fourth trip to space, the most for any Chinese taikonaut. Gui, and space engineer Zhu Hangzhu, are members of the third batch of taikonauts, which has now completed its training. The fourth batch has also been chosen and will begin training soon.

This is the first mission with three types of astronauts, a commander, a space engineer, and a payload specialist. Questions were raised about their age differences. Jing said that the three had worked closely together now for a year in training for this mission. "We are like a family," he said. "In this case, one plus one plus one equals one."

The crew will install electric propulsion cylinders and lift extravehicular cameras. The installation of large extravehicular application facilities, such as radiation biological exposure experiment devices and general test equipment, will also be completed.

The crew will also carry out large-scale in-orbit tests in various fields as planned. The tests are expected to produce high-level scientific achievements in the research of novel quantum phenomena, high-precision space-time-frequency systems, the verification of general relativity and the study of the origin of life.

They will also continue to conduct the "Tiangong Classroom," giving lectures from space to students from around the world. The Shenzhou-16 mission taikonauts have also received paintings by African students from ten different countries which they will exhibit at some point during their mission.

China had established the programs of established space such as the European Space Agency. Now they are turning more towards the emerging

countries. Earlier this year, ESA said they were going to discontinue their cooperation with the Chinese Space Station program, offering their transparently ridiculous excuse of not having enough money. It's obvious that U.S. pressure through NATO torpedoed the arrangement. The cooperation had already extended to joint training between ESA astronauts and the Chinese taikonauts for a future mission.

There are also plans for adding a new "wing" to the T-shaped structure, making it into a cross-shaped structure. It will continue operating in lower Earth orbit, even after the creation of a lunar base, and will serve, as it has until now, as a training ground for astronauts in operating in a microgravity environment.