

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

Do Your Neighbors Realize How Close the World Came to Nuclear Annihilation This Past Tuesday?

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—Schiller Institute founder and leader [Helga Zepp-LaRouche](#) issued a clarion call in her webcast dialogue with Harley Schlanger today for everyone to study how the missile landing in Poland and killing two people was used by many mainstream media and Western politicians to call for NATO to immediately declare war against Russia—before any investigation at all had been carried out! This shows how rapidly, whether “because of stupidity, provocations, overreactions, a combination of all of these, we can go into a situation where you have a full-fledged NATO-Russia confrontation, because that’s what was on the verge of happening,” she said.

So-called journalists like British intelligence and Atlantic Council asset Anne Applebaum asserted in *The Atlantic* that “the precise chain of events doesn’t matter” in Poland; whether it was from a Ukrainian anti-missile defense barrage or a Russian targeting mistake, Russia is the real cause! German Bundestag members from the Free Democratic Party such as Defense Committee Chairwoman Marie Agnes Strack-Zimmermann and Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, like U.S. Democratic Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Bob Menendez and his fellow Democrat Sen. Chris Coons, stood out among those tough-talking politicians who shot their mouths off, blaming Russia and talking up the possibility for a NATO-Russia military confrontation, without even asking, “do we have the evidence, has it been verified? Do we know?” Or considering the monstrous calamity to which such a confrontation would most likely lead.

Some sane people, such as, for once, the President of the United States, did not rush forward, and even the preliminary investigation determined that the missile was fired by Ukrainian forces and landed in Poland, whether in a defective defense surface-to-air missile, as NATO leaders now say, or, possibly, as a direct provocation. So, for the moment, NATO

appears “only” to be using this incident to pour even more advanced heavy weapons systems into Ukraine, and to moot the possibility of setting up a no-fly zone over all or part of Ukraine. Nuclear war did not break out—this time.

Zepp-LaRouche warns: “This has to be analyzed, because it just shows you at times of accidental events, how things can go wrong, if we do not move in a different direction and develop a security architecture, where such potential annihilation of mankind can be prevented. This should really be the warning shot for anybody, who is not a complete moron, that we definitely need to go in the direction of what the Schiller Institute has been saying since April of this year, that we do need a new international security and development architecture, which takes into account the interests of every single country on the planet, based on the principles of the Peace of Westphalia.”

The great majority of humanity is already discussing how to shape such an architecture. Zepp-LaRouche bluntly posed our task today as getting the so-called industrial countries to listen, and “come down from their high horse and they should not think they are so superior to everybody else,” since that, in any case, is no longer accepted.

Life in EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell’s “garden” is proving unlivable. Britain’s Office of Budget Responsibility announced today it projects British living standards will fall by over 7% in the next two years. That forecast follows upon the European Central Bank’s report earlier this week that Europe faces a financial and economic collapse. The divide between the peoples and the governments of the West will only grow.

The “Honeckers of the neoliberal system” reigning in Brussels, the von der Leyens, Lagardes and Borrells, will have to be driven out of office, Zepp-LaRouche proposed. There is no solution within their system.

In her webcast Mrs. LaRouche again urged citizens from around the world to join the discussion with leaders committed to the Common Good, which the Schiller Institute will hold next [Tuesday, Nov. 22](#), in order to qualify themselves to build the required new architecture of security and

development. The conference's purpose is outlined simply in the [letter](#) issued this week by a sitting Congressman and former Congresswoman from Mexico:

“We call on you, current and former legislators of the world, to join this effort that we have launched, in order to urge all world citizens to also unite to create a new international security and development architecture, which respects the security interests of all nations and which guarantees the right to welfare and economic development of all people on the planet. As Congressman Robles Montoya stated in the seminar we held on October 27, I would like to submit for your consideration the formation of a group of legislators who represent everyone on all continents, if possible of all nationalities, to go dialogue directly with the governments of every country interested in world peace.’

“We will hold a third international seminar on November 22, whose purpose is to continue the process of deliberation and search for peaceful solutions, including a thorough examination of the alternative economic policies to replace speculation, which has generated so much poverty and suffering, with a system of production and progress to meet the needs of a growing world population.

“As we state in our Declaration, ‘The common good of the One Humanity is the obligatory premise for the good of each and every nation.’ ”

Join us!

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Friday November 18, 2022: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

Ritter: NATO Knew a Ukrainian Missile Hit Poland, Yet Pushed for Direct Confrontation against Russia

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—NATO was tracking, from launch in Ukraine to the explosion in Poland, the Ukrainian surface-to-air missile that killed two civilians in Poland, explained Scott Ritter in his RT article, [“NATO’s Hair Trigger: The Polish Missile Incident Was a Close Brush with Nuclear Annihilation.”](#)

“Let there be no doubt—NATO was aware that the missile ... was a Ukrainian surface-to-air missile the moment it was launched. The airspace over Ukraine is one of the most highly-monitored locations in the world.” So, knowing in real time the actual situation, what kind of game was being played at NATO headquarters from Nov. 15-16, with the moves to escalate against Russia—including NATO challenging Russia’s Air Force over Ukraine?

Ritter states that this episode “exposed an ugly reality about the eastern reaches of NATO today.... [T]he new upstarts in Eastern Europe seem hell-bent on finding a mechanism that will justify NATO intervention in Ukraine.... [T]he Russophobic officials that dominate the governments of Poland and the three Baltic republics act like lemmings, running toward the Ukrainian cliff, oblivious to their fate as they chase the fantasy of NATO defeating Russia on a European battlefield.”

The push in NATO to invoke Article 4 involved a drive, as Ritter wrote: “Poland was adamant: The missile ‘attack’ against Poland was clearly a crime, one that could not go unpunished. As such, under Article 4, Poland would be pushing ‘for NATO members and Poland to agree on the provision of additional anti-aircraft defense, including in part of the territory of Ukraine,’ ” quoting [Latvian Defense Minister Artis Pabriks](#).

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg “convened an emergency meeting of NATO ambassadors in Brussels to discuss the Polish incident.” With the Finnish Defense Minister (who was invited to attend) insisting that “ ‘Closing the airspace [above Ukraine] will definitely be discussed.

Various options of how we can protect Ukraine are on the table,’ ” Ritter quoted him as saying.

“While Germany reportedly rejected the establishment of a no-fly zone over Ukraine, noting that such an action would pose a threat of direct confrontation between Russia and NATO, one is left pondering how such a discussion came to be in the first place: Ukraine fired a surface-to-air missile, which was tracked by NATO as it impacted on Polish soil. And, as a result, NATO members end up discussing the possibility of invoking Article 4 of the NATO Charter, seeking to extend NATO air defense into Ukrainian airspace in concert with the establishment of a no-fly zone enforced by NATO aircraft.”

Ritter concludes: “If there was ever any doubt about the threat NATO posed to the entire world, there is no more.... [T]he hair-trigger aspect of NATO’s Pavlovian response mechanism when it comes to seeking causal justification for military intervention in Ukraine should have everyone on high alert.”

London’s *Economist* Seeks for NATO To Escalate Ukraine Fight, No Negotiations Allowed

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—NATO allies were right to stay cool on the Polish missile incident, and Ukrainian President Zelenskyy “made a rare misstep in painting the accident as a Russian missile attack,” *The Economist* wrote in an editorial Nov. 16. However, the missile incident cannot be taken as excuse to get cold feet and push for negotiations, just because a NATO-Russia war would be dangerous, London’s imperial weekly instructed; NATO must not back down.

The Economist singles out U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Mark Milley’s comparison of the correlation of forces on the Ukrainian battlefield today to the “stalemate” warfare of World War I, and his suggestion that Ukraine should consider negotiations with the Kremlin, as evidence that “some American officials are showing signs of nerves.”

Milley’s “diagnosis and prescription are both flawed. Russia’s army is in dire shape and on the retreat.... Russia needs a pause. It should not be given one. For Ukraine to press its advantage, it requires a steady supply of Western arms, ammunition and equipment,” the editors write. Among the “bold steps” they demand: send in air defense systems, German Leopard tanks, Sweden’s Gripen fighter jets. Biden has requested another \$37 billion in aid for Ukraine; it’s time Europe steps up, too.

The Economist calls their strategy “jaw, jaw and war, war.” That is, maintain channels of communication with Russia (because Putin might “escalate with nuclear weapons” when faced with setbacks), while ruling out a diplomatic settlement for now, because “a ceasefire now would be deeply disadvantageous to Ukraine.... This is not the moment to let up.”

Erdogan Reveals, Russian and U.S. Intel Chiefs Discussed Non-Use of Nuclear Weapons

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told Turkish TV that Russia’s foreign intelligence (SVR) director Sergey Naryshkin and U.S. Central Intelligence Agency director William Burns discussed the non-use of nuclear weapons during their Nov. 14 meeting in the Turkish capital, Ankara. “According to information received from the head of the [Turkish] intelligence, Russia and the United States discussed the non-use of nuclear weapons. The parties currently display no signs they may try to use them. We would like to see them meet more often, and we are ready to promote this. It [nuclear weapons use] might lead to a new world war, God forbid. We must rule out this risk,” Erdogan stressed.

U.S. JCS General Milley Skeptical That Ukraine Can Defeat Russia

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff [Gen. Mark Milley](#) again expressed realistic pessimism on Nov. 16 about the possibility that the Kiev regime’s Ukrainian Armed Forces could militarily expel Russian forces out of the territories the West regard as “occupied,” including Crimea, even during the latest wave of anti-Russian hysteria following the Nov. 15 missile incident in Poland. He remarked that while Moscow has suffered some setbacks, “they still have significant Russian

combat power inside Ukraine,” he said at a press briefing with Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on Nov. 16.

“[T]he military task of militarily kicking the Russians physically out of Ukraine is a very difficult task,” Milley said. “And it’s not going to happen in the next couple of weeks unless the Russian army completely collapses, which is unlikely.

“So, in terms of probability, the probability of a Ukrainian military victory defined as kicking the Russians out of all of Ukraine to include what they define or what they claim as Crimea, the probability of that happening anytime soon is not high, militarily. Politically, there may be a political solution where, politically, the Russians withdraw, that’s possible. You want to negotiate from a position of strength. Russia right now is on its back,” he stated.

Warsaw Backs Away from Article 4 NATO Consultations After Missile Struck Przewodów

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—The Polish government has, at least for now, backed away from invoking consultations among NATO members under Article 4 of the North Atlantic Treaty over the Ukrainian missile which landed in the village of Przewodów, Poland on the night of Nov. 15. Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki told public broadcaster TVP Info on Nov. 16 that “because of the course of events and the information coming in during the night, we can conclude that this was not an intentional attack.... Therefore, we did not activate Article 4 ... and this approach met with the full approval of all our allies.”

“In all likelihood, it was a Russian-made missile of the S-300 type. We have no proof at this stage that it was a missile launched by Russia. There are many indications that it was an air defense missile that unfortunately fell on Polish territory,” Morawiecki also said. “We are in constant contact with all allied services. They have also confirmed evidence collected by our intelligence agencies, which we will soon use to draw conclusions.”

Moscow is watching Warsaw government actions closely. The Russian Foreign Ministry reported on Nov. 16 that Poland's Ambassador in Moscow had been summoned to the Ministry, to caution Warsaw "against becoming involved in nasty provocations staged by the Kiev regime and against initiating schemes of its own." Moscow called it "unacceptable" that Warsaw had immediately summoned the Russian Ambassador in Poland "to stage a political show" after the missile hit, "although this happened at night and no reliable information was available about the event."

Pressures from even more wild-eyed Russophobes in Poland continue. Gen. Roman Polko, a retired former commander of Polish special forces and one-time Deputy Chief of the Polish National Security Bureau, called for Polish air defenses to be extended over parts of Ukraine, during an interview with Radio ZET yesterday. He called on Polish authorities to ramp up defense capabilities as well as to increase airspace monitoring, insisting that Poland "should inform Russia that Ukraine and ... the border belt will be constantly monitored by the NATO alliance and Russian combat assets will be shot down," according to a report in RT.

The proposal of a NATO no-fly zone over even part of Ukraine was shot down by two official spokesmen in Berlin for obvious reasons, however. Government spokesman Wolfgang Buchner noted that such a move could trigger a direct clash between Russia and NATO forces. "Together with all our allies we agreed that we want to avoid a further escalation of this war in Ukraine," he said, RT and others reported.

Christian Thiels, Germany's Defense Ministry spokesman, said Berlin had proposed to help Poland to patrol its airspace. According to the official, German Eurofighter jets could be deployed as early as "tomorrow."

Lublin's Pakula Remarks, Kiev's Missile Was Not an Accident, but a Deliberate Provocation

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—A local Polish politician in Lublin Province, which includes the village of Przewodów, near the Ukrainian border, that was struck by a missile in the afternoon of Nov. 15, asserts that Kiev made no

a mistake, but fired the missile as a deliberate provocation, reports RT. He bases his assertion on the Ukrainian missile having travelled from the east to the west—the same direction as Russian missiles, not to the east in order to counter them. The evaluation of the politician, [Jarosław Pakula](#), is plausible, but has not been otherwise confirmed.

Jarosław Pakula, recently the chairman of the city council of Lublin, the provincial capital, asserted: “Of course, this is a provocation on the part of the Ukrainian authorities.... The rocket could not be fired 100 km in the opposite direction by mistake.” If Pakula is right about what he describes as a provocation to drive the West to escalate the confrontation against Moscow, it would not be the first time Ukraine has played these tricks, but such recklessness in a nuclear war-charged environment should rightfully wake up Ukraine’s so-loyal “allies” to what they are risking.

Pakula posted on his Facebook page—a page that still has a Ukrainian flag posted above his photo—his call upon Poland’s President Andrzej Duda to stop telling “fairy tales” about the missile attack, and instead tell Kiev’s President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that Poland “will no longer put up with this behavior by Kiev.... I urge you to rethink Poland’s position [looking] at this war in case the red line is crossed again!”

U.S. POLITICS & ECONOMY

Rep. Gosar Says ‘We Need Peace,’ No Money to Ukraine To Fund Biden’s Needless War

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—Yesterday, after the Biden administration announced that it is seeking another \$38 billion in funding for Ukraine, [Rep. Paul Gosar](#) (R-AZ) issued a hard-hitting statement warning that he will not support Biden’s request “to continue the needless death and destruction on both sides of this war.” Pointing to the U.S.’s \$31 trillion national debt, record-high inflation, and a disaster at the southern border, Gosar warned, “[I]t would be a huge error for Congress to use this lame duck session to fast-track Biden’s shameful request for taxpayers’ dollars to perpetuate a needless war.”

He also raised pointed questions, noting the Ukrainian regime's notorious corruption, and that there has been no accounting of where the U.S. money has gone, an issue other Republican congressmen are raising. In addition, he said, there are real concerns about possible corruption between the Biden regime, "including Biden's son Hunter, and the government of Ukraine." For example, "payments of millions of dollars from Ukraine to the Biden family for no-show jobs"—a reference to Hunter's sleazy dealings in Ukraine—"reeks of corruption."

And don't forget, Gosar adds, the case of the bankrupt FTX crypto operation, "the second largest donor to the Democratic Party and causes" which "may have received millions from Ukraine ... taxpayer money sent to Ukraine may have been laundered and sent as an 'investment' in FTX, which then donated the money to the Democrats."

But, putting to one side the corruption, and all the other grave problems the U.S. faces, Gosar underscores, "[W]hat we need is peace, and I continue to invite Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to Arizona to engage in peace negotiations."

GOP Congressmen Act To Curb and Audit Funds for Ukraine

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—In the aftermath of the midterm elections, in which the Republicans have won control over the House in the next session (although by how many seats is still not certain), several Republican congressmen are demanding that the Biden administration stop the money flow to Ukraine and that an audit be carried out to determine exactly where the money went.

That was the point made by Kentucky Rep. Thomas Massie, who wrote on his Facebook page today that "Biden's latest Ukraine spending request will put the U.S. Congress on a trajectory to spend TWICE as much money on Ukraine as we spend on roads and bridges in a year. No one can tell you where it's all gone or going. Demand a halt. Demand an audit. Demand an Inspector General.... We should immediately stop all payments to Ukraine and begin a thorough audit of the \$60 billion that Joe Biden and Congress have already sent there."

Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene went further, introducing a privileged resolution in the House today calling for an audit but also demanding that administration documents and communications related to Ukraine funding distribution be preserved, suggesting that some future legal action may be contemplated against the administration. She tweeted, “I’m calling for an audit of every single penny that has been sent to Ukraine. This must be done as soon as possible for the American people. Taxpayers deserve to see where their money is going.”

Along with cosponsors of the bill, of which Thomas Massie is one, Greene announced the resolution in a press conference today. If Democrats vote the resolution down in committee to prevent it from getting to the House floor, Greene has vowed that she’ll reintroduce it in the next Congress when Republicans have the majority. “I’ll introduce this resolution again, but I’ll also be calling for a full audit. We voted ‘no’ to send money over there, but we’re also going to audit what’s happening in Ukraine.”

NEW WORLD PARADIGM

Joko Widodo and Xi Jinping Meeting an Optimistic Reflection of Bandung Spirit

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—Wednesday night’s meeting on Nov. 16 between Chinese President Xi Jinping and his host, Indonesian President Joko Widodo, exemplifies the world now coming into being around the revival of the Non-Aligned Movement and new cooperation mechanisms emerging from the Global South in cooperation with China and Russia. The discussion between the two leaders, and the extensive cooperation agreements they signed, at the center of which was the Belt and Road Initiative and what one Chinese engineer called the “revolutionary” Jakarta-Bandung High Speed Railroad (HSR), reflected that very spirit of Bandung which so terrifies the Anglo-American/NATO establishment.

A very upbeat *Global Times* of China today pointed out that the two countries’ vision to build a community with a shared future “is set to

embark on a speedy ride, heading toward a new era of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) cooperation between China and Indonesia.” At a time of great global uncertainty, division, and discord, it said, the Widodo-Xi meeting, along with the agreements they signed, “is an embodiment of this year’s G20 summit task: to foster pragmatic cooperation such as the Jakarta-Bandung HSR [high-speed railroad] rather than making the U.S.-led geopolitical gambit mindset further jolt the world apart.”

The Jakarta-Bandung HSR is a flagship project of the BRI, whose economic and political ramifications for Indonesia and the broader region are stunning. It is the first high-speed railroad built in Indonesia and in Southeast Asia. Now 90% complete, it is expected to be inaugurated in June 2023, to which ceremony Xi Jinping has been invited to return.

Reflecting the optimistic environment, before their meeting, the two watched the operational trial of the HSR by video, giving the command “Begin!” for the train to start to move, pull out of the Tegal Luar station, and gather speed. This was met with enthusiastic applause by the spectators. Zeng Weixian, a senior engineer of the China Railway No. 4 Engineering Group, told *Global Times* that the railway will immediately generate a “revolutionary effect” on the local economy and people’s livelihoods, with long-term benefits expected from the “HSR economic corridor” created along the train’s route. Chinese firms have already trained 10,000 local employees and expect to create at least 30,000 jobs.

Xi emphasized in their meeting that, as representatives of major developing countries and emerging markets, the two nations must uphold “true multilateralism,” Xinhua reported. In their [joint statement](#), they committed to working through such multilateral fora as APEC and the G20, the BRICS, the Non-Aligned Movement, and many others designed to “enhance South-South cooperation.” The need to focus on poverty alleviation, food security, and development-oriented financing, and “build signature projects of the Global Development Initiative” were also emphasized. They agreed that next year’s tenth anniversary of the

establishment of their comprehensive strategic partnership should be the opportunity to open up new prospects for high-level cooperation.

Xi emphasized that China will support Indonesia's role as rotating chair of ASEAN next year and its efforts to focus on development and cooperation to "foster a peaceful, safe and secure, prosperous, beautiful and amicable home in the region." Indonesia has indicated that it will work to strengthen the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), and Xi stressed that China will work to forge synergy between the BRI and Indonesia's Global Maritime Fulcrum, intended to enhance its maritime security and role as a maritime power.

At the conclusion of their meeting, the two witnessed the signing of a Plan of Action for Strengthening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries; a cooperation plan to strengthen cooperation on the BRI, and cooperation documents related to economy and trade, digital economy, vocational training, and medical plants. Their joint statement expressed their view that their bilateral meeting in Bali was "a milestone in China-Indonesia relations."

RIAC's Kortunov Argues, New World Paradigm Requires U.S. Give Up Hegemony Obsession

Nov. 17 (EIRNS)—Andrey Kortunov, Director General of the Russian International Affairs Council, who has addressed Schiller Institute events, concludes in his post-U.S. election assessment in RT on Nov. 16, "[American Attempts to Preserve Hegemony Will Only Make the Transition to a New World Order Harder for Washington](#)," that in order for a new paradigm of international relations to be secured, the United States must come to share the idea of common interest. He wrote:

"It has to be admitted that, despite all of its obvious weaknesses and limitations, the U.S. remains an indispensable power, without whose participation (all the more so if it is actively opposed) the solution of many regional and global problems is impossible. America's unique position in the modern world is determined not so much by the strength of the United States itself, as by the weakness or, more precisely, by the immaturity of

most other players in world politics, who are not yet quite ready to take on the difficult role of the main protectors of global public goods, let alone to be the main architects of the new world order.

“The Russian-Ukrainian conflict cannot be stopped without active American participation. For all the undoubted successes in the de-dollarization of global finance, the greenback remains—and will remain—the world’s main reserve currency for a long time to come. Most transnational technological chains in one way or another pass through America. The potential and use of American ‘soft power’ will long be the envy of allies and adversaries of the United States, whether it concerns productions from Hollywood or the science programs of American universities. The position of the U.S.A. in international institutions (especially when it comes to their bureaucracy, which represents a kind of global deep state) is at the moment by and large much stronger than that of any other country in the world.

“Nevertheless, a return to the former U.S. hegemony in international relations is not in sight. Not necessarily because America is inevitably becoming weaker and helpless in all areas, but because other players are gradually gaining strength, experience and confidence in their ability to influence the future of our common planet. And that means that the United States will more-so have to adapt to the emerging world than to adapt the world to itself.

“The task of adapting to the new realities faces all the countries of the world without exception. But this will be particularly difficult and painful for the American political class, which is accustomed to the lack of an alternative to U.S. global leadership. The longer it takes to adapt, the more painful it will be in the end. Today, the Biden administration is actually trying to maintain the global status quo, and this strategy makes it difficult to expect major gains.”