

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

Securing the Right to Food, Fuel, Medicine—and Progress

July 21 (EIRNS)—It is in times like these, when an imperial system, reigning even for centuries, has driven itself to its inevitable disintegration, that humanity has often found the strength to assert itself, and bring about a new system under which people and their nations can flourish. Yet today

most citizens in the Western world are still in far too much awe of the ostensible “strength” of the powers that be—or were. Consider some “news of the day”:

Today, Italian President Sergio Mattarella had to call snap elections, when the global financier interests failed in their last-ditch attempt to re-impose their hitman, Mario Draghi, as Prime Minister.

The same day, the European Central Bank announced a half-percent hike in interest rates—ending eight years of negative rates! But fearing that this slight tightening of the money spigot that has maintained the euro and European banks afloat, might blow out, say, Italy’s debt, the ECB also announced a new program, pompously named the “Transmission Protection Instrument,” under which the ECB will step in to buy government bonds which might be crashing. One problem (among many): countries to be “helped” under this so-called “TPI” must meet the ECB’s crushing austerity conditions—the same austerity which was a major factor in creating the social upheavals which led to Draghi’s fall in the first place.

No one believes this can last. The “powers that were” are not in control, and so the conditions for a euro crisis are ripe.

Similarly, ungovernability is spreading from country to country still trapped in the West’s monetarist system—the system Vladimir Putin dubs “the Golden Billion.”

Take the case of Panama. This small country of 4.5 million people in Central America has been shut down for the last three weeks by a national strike of teachers, construction workers, indigenous people... everybody. The strikers’ demand is that the government lower prices for three things—food, fuel and medicine—and raise wages.

Similar strikes by truckers and farm workers are starting in Peru. The farm rebellion in Europe, with the Dutch farmers in the lead, is not lessening.

Under conditions of the global hyperinflation created by the financiers in the City of London, Wall Street, etc., people cannot live. They are

demanding their right to live—to food, fuel, and medicine. But governments will not be able to provide them that right unless they join with other nations to establish a new international system under which credit is provided for the development of the physical economy, not for speculators: the New Bretton Woods system for which the Schiller Institute is mobilizing now.

Governments which refuse to do that may find themselves, like Mario “whatever it takes” Draghi, out on their behinds. “Food, fuel, and medicine!” is becoming the rallying cry everywhere.

A loud cry demanding a return to progress and development will quickly join the demand for “food, fuel, and medicine,” as people in the West look beyond their relatively small share of the planet and discover that giant nations like China and Russia have refused to be crushed by “the powers that were.” China and Russia are not only surviving, but are mobilizing their people to participate in the kind of great projects for which the United States was once the major example: developing frontier technologies, building great water projects when faced by drought, going out to explore space, harnessing the atom for fusion power. They are not only helping their people live better in the process, but are also helping poorer countries in Africa, Asia, and the Americas join in that development.

“No matter how much the West and the supranational elite strive to preserve the existing order,” Russian President [Vladimir Putin](#) said yesterday, “a new era and a new stage in world history are coming. Only genuinely sovereign states are in a position to ensure a high growth dynamic and become a role model for others in terms of standards of living and quality of life, the protection of traditional values and high humanistic ideals, and development models where an individual is not a means, but the ultimate goal.” Putin added: “Sovereignty is about freedom of national development, and thus, the development of every individual. It is about the technological, cultural, intellectual and educational solvency of a state—that is what it is.”

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Friday July 22, 2022: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

Putin: Sovereign Development Is Besting the West's 'Neo-Colonial, Racist Golden Billion' System

July 21 (EIRNS)—Who are the autocrats and who are the democrats now? In his day, American patriot Lyndon LaRouche frequently held up the “suggestion box” in U.S. factories, where skilled workers could (and did) pass on their ideas for improving the production process, as an example of the genius of U.S. democracy and highly productive economy, when the American System of economics reigned, not Wall Street. People were proud to contribute to the nation’s development.

On July 20, Russian President Vladimir Putin addressed a forum called “[Strong Ideas for a New Time](#),” organized by the Agency for Strategic Initiatives (ASI), which defines itself as a platform for Russians to submit ideas for civil projects and initiatives needed in the country, proposals for how to improve life in their regions or nationally. This year, some 90,000 proposals were submitted by 300,000 Russians from 85 entities. “This mechanism is fully consonant with the tasks of our internal development and the time when truly revolutionary transformations are gaining momentum and getting stronger,” Putin said of the ASI’s efforts.

He elaborated:

“National and global processes are underway to develop the fundamentals and principles of a harmonious, fairer and more community-focused and safe world order as an alternative to the existing world order, or the unipolar world order in which we lived...”

“Only genuinely sovereign states are in a position to ensure a high growth dynamic and become a role model for others in terms of standards of living and quality of life, the protection of traditional values and high

humanistic ideals, and development models where an individual is not a means, but the ultimate goal.

“Sovereignty is about freedom of national development, and thus, the development of every individual. It is about the technological, cultural, intellectual and educational solvency of a state—that is what it is. No doubt, responsible, active and nationally minded and nationally oriented civil society is the most important component of sovereignty.

“I am convinced that in order to be strong, independent and competitive, we need to improve the mechanisms for people to participate in the country’s life and to make them more open and fairer. That includes mechanisms for direct democracy and people’s involvement in addressing the critical problems facing society and the public.”

Putin nailed the opposing “model of total domination by the so-called golden billion.... Why should this golden billion, which is only part of the global population, dominate everyone else and enforce its rules of conduct that are based on the illusion of exceptionalism? It divides the world into first- and second-class people and is therefore essentially racist and neo-colonial. The underlying globalist and pseudo-liberal ideology is becoming increasingly more like totalitarianism and is restraining creative endeavor and free historical creation.”

He cited the British Empire’s looting of India as exemplary of how “the golden billion attained its gold ... mainly got to where it is by robbing other peoples in Asia and Africa. That is how it was. India was robbed for an extensive period of time. This is why the elite of the golden billion are terrified of other global development centers potentially coming up with their own development alternatives.”

COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

Mario Draghi Resigned as Italy’s Prime Minister for Good

July 21 (EIRNS)—Mario Draghi made his resignation as Italian Prime Minister irreversible today, after meeting with State President Sergio

Mattarella. Draghi will now form a caretaker government to deal with urgent matters until the date of early elections, set for Sept. 25.

Despite receiving a majority of votes in the Senate yesterday, Draghi resigned, because several components of his old majority did not accept his blackmail. Draghi had in fact set as a condition for him to stay, that all government coalition parties, including Five Star Movement (M5S), would renew their support of his government. Not only did the M5S reiterate its intention to break with the coalition, but the Lega and Berlusconi's Forza Italia also broke ranks. Thus, the crisis took the bizarre aspect that for the first time, a government is voted up by Parliament, but nevertheless resigns.

Some observers see a predetermination by Draghi to impose conditions so strict, that a failure would be inevitable, allowing him to leave the seat before it gets too hot in view of the coming economic and social storms. Columnist Massimo Gramellini hit a key point in a *Corriere della Sera* commentary: "Given that Conte and Salvini had the same position on the war [in Ukraine], the real mystery is not that the government fell, but how it managed to last until now."

Other aspects of Draghi's speech in the Senate came under attack from several angles. For instance, Draghi the "anti-populist" made the most populist speech ever by stating that he was there "because Italians want it," forgetting that in a representative democracy and especially in a parliamentary system, the executive responds only and uniquely to Parliament. Senate factions then found the byzantine way to produce a vote that did not fulfill the conditions set by Draghi to continue his mandate, at the same time not taking direct responsibility for his resignation.

The European Central Bank Raised Interest Rates

July 21 (EIRNS)—The ECB Governing Council met and decided to raise interest rates by 0.50 point today. At the same time, the ECB approved a new tool, the Transmission Protection Instrument (TPI), which is aimed at intervening on the market to prevent the spread between core and periphery yields from growing too wide.

While the half-point rate increase won't stop commodity-driven inflation, the TPI safety net will be activated if the candidate country fulfills several conditions: complying with EU balance criteria; absence of serious macroeconomic imbalances; debt sustainability and budget policies in harmony with recovery obligations and EU Commission recommendations. The TPI will buy only government bonds, for now, and before its activation, the ECB will make use of pan-European personal pension product (PEPP) reinvestment.

The TPI is seen as a hand stretched out to Italy; however, the spread increased after the ECB press conference. That is because doubts are cast on whether Italy will either fulfill the harsh conditions attached or decide to humiliate itself by submitting to a “Greek” treatment.

Lavrov Calls Out West's Strategy of Rule by 'Staged Incidents'

July 21 (EIRNS)—Case by painful case, in a long article published in *Izvestia* on July 18, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov reviewed how the U.S.-U.K. NATO apparat has sought to run the world by fakery since the end of the Cold War. The first historical case cited in his article, [“Staged Incidents as the Western Approach to Doing Politics,”](#) is the 1999 finding of “several dozen corpses dressed in civilian clothes” in a village in the then-Serbian Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija. An OSCE mission arrived, headed by an American, and declared the killings “an act of genocide.” NATO immediately bombed Yugoslavia, “intentionally destroying a television center, bridges, passenger trains and other civilian targets. Later, it was proved with conclusive evidence that the dead bodies were not civilians, but militants of the Kosovo Liberation Army, an illegal armed group, dressed in civilian clothes. But by that time the staged incident has already taken its toll.” NATO bombed Serbia and its civilian infrastructure, and “separating Kosovo from Serbia by force and setting up Camp Bondsteel, the largest U.S. military base in the Balkans, were the main outcomes of the aggression.”

Among other cases: Colin Powell's “white powder” stunt in February 2003 at the UN led to the bombing of Iraq, which is still struggling to

recover its statehood. The 2011 war on Libya was not started by such direct lies, but another form of fraud, the gross distortion of the UNSC resolution; today “nothing remains of Libya’s statehood.” Similarly, the February 2014 German, French, Polish gambit to force Ukraine President Viktor Yanukovich “into signing an agreement with the opposition to end the confrontation and promote a peaceful resolution of the intra-Ukrainian crisis by establishing a transitional national unity government and calling a snap election, to be held within a few months. This too turned out to be a fraud: the next morning, the opposition staged” the Maidan coup backed by the West. So, too, the Minsk Package was “yet another fake,” as Petro Poroshenko bragged on June 17, 2022: “The Minsk Agreements did not mean anything to us, and we had no intention to carry them out ... our goal was to remove the threat we faced ... and win time in order to restore economic growth and rebuild the armed forces. We achieved this goal. Mission accomplished for the Minsk Agreements,” Lavrov quoted him saying.

And so on, to the use of Ukraine as “expendable material in the Western proxy war against Russia.” Today’s events, viewed through a historical prism, show “the entire Ukrainian crisis ... as a ‘grand chess game’ that follows a scenario promoted by Zbigniew Brzezinski,” Lavrov wrote. “Staged incidents based on blood and agony are by no means fun but a display of a cynical policy in creating a new reality where all principles of the UN Charter and all norms of international law are attempted to be replaced with their ‘rules-based order’ in an aspiration to perpetuate their dwindling domination in global affairs.”

Lavrov confidently asserts, however, that “the collective West” had best come back down to Earth. “The staged incidents, no matter how long they go on, will not work. It is time for fair play based on international law rather than cheating.” A multipolar world is taking shape.

STRATEGIC WAR DANGER**Biden Administration Piles More Weapons Capabilities into Ukraine**

July 21 (EIRNS)—U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin revealed on yesterday, during opening remarks to the fourth meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group, that the Biden administration's next weapons package to Ukraine will include four more HIMARS rocket launchers along with ammunition and other support. This will bring the total number of HIMARS supplied by the U.S. to 16.

“The Ukrainians have made excellent use of HIMARS, and you can see the impact on the battlefield,” Austin claimed later during a joint press conference with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley. “One key theme of today's discussion was ensuring that Ukraine can sustain the fight to defend itself and its citizens. So we're even more focused on Ukraine's near-term needs—as we're ... also looking ahead to provide Ukraine with the capabilities that it will need for deterrence and self-defense over the longer term.”

General Milley reported that supplying the Kiev regime with combat aircraft and training for Ukrainian pilots is now under discussion. “[A]s you know we look at all kinds of options to present to the Secretary and the President,” he said in response to a reporter's question. “And there's been no decisions on any of that, but we do examine a wide variety of options, to include pilot training.” Separately, U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr. confirmed that such discussions are underway within the U.S. military and its allies. Brown, oblivious to the results of the 20 years of U.S./NATO efforts to build up an Afghan air force, told Reuters on July 20: “You want to build a long-term plan on how you build their air force and the air force that they're going to need for the future.”

The potential military donors at the Defense Contact Group meeting were regaled with stories of the great successes of the Ukrainian military. Kiev's Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov reported afterwards that participants “were presented with an overview of the results on the battlefield, namely the losses of Russian invaders in manpower, equipment,

and military capabilities as a whole. These are impressive numbers, which prove that Ukraine is indeed the shield of Europe.” The 12 HIMARS launchers that Ukrainian forces already have in their possession “are already affecting the course of the war,” he proclaimed.

General Milley went so far as to describe the Ukrainian forces’ loss of Severodonetsk as a victory, because they carried out a “controlled, deliberate, planned withdrawal ... conducted a rearward passage of lines and conducted a rear river crossing, and they set up a new line generally to the west.” Milley did not mention that reports from the front indicate that that new line, 30 km west of Severodonetsk, is already disintegrating.

Russian Diplomat Warns Against Any U.S.-Directed Strikes on Kursk Region

July 21 (EIRNS)—Is the U.S. helping the Kiev regime target locations inside Russia itself? That was the upshot of a statement made by Yulia Zhdanova, member of the Russian delegation to the Vienna talks on military security and arms control, at a meeting of the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation, on July 20.

Zhdanova noted that the Kursk region is within range of the U.S.-supplied HIMARS rocket launchers “and we see an increased activity of Western commercial means of intelligence in that area,” she said, reported TASS. “In this regard, we once again warn Kiev’s Western supervisors against ill-conceived provocations that can lead to an even further escalation of the situation.” Zhdanova recalled a recent statement of Russian President Vladimir Putin, “who said that ‘we have not started anything seriously yet.’ We repeat: All threats to our country’s security originating from Ukraine will be eliminated in one way or another within the procedure of self-defense in accordance with the UN Charter.”

Senior German Officer Recommends, Don’t Underestimate Russian Military Capacity

July 21 (EIRNS)—German Army Chief Lt. Gen. Alfons Mais warned the West and Ukraine against underestimating Russian forces. “With its artillery superiority, the Russian army is obviously working its way forward

mile by mile. This is a war of attrition that will raise the question of how long Ukraine can sustain it,” he told *Handelsblatt* in an interview published July 21. “It is questionable how long Kiev can sustain a war of attrition.” His interview is widely covered by various European and other media.

Recruiting Troubles May Push U.S. Army To Reduce Force Structure

July 21 (EIRNS)—It isn’t just the British Army that is shrinking. U.S. Army officials said on July 19 that the Army is actually looking at reducing the force in response to the likelihood that recruiters will be unable to come close to their goal of 60,000 recruits for 2022. With two months left in the fiscal year, only 30,000 new recruits have signed up so far.

As a result, Army officials say they expect the service will fall 10,000 soldiers short of its planned strength for this fiscal year, and prospects for next year are grimmer, reported the Associated Press. Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Joseph Martin said the Army is projecting that it will have a total force of 466,400 this year, down from the expected 476,000. And depending on recruiting and retention, the service could end 2023 with between 452,000-445,000 soldiers, a full 25-30,000 below plans. Martin warned that if the decline is not arrested, a reduction in force structure could be a possibility in the future.

The other services are also having recruiting problems, if not as severe as the Army’s. But, they expect next year’s recruiting to be more difficult.

General Martin attributed the recruitment problems to “challenges” stemming from the post-COVID environment and to the labor market. It were better he recognized that sending young people into endless, immoral wars to die or suffer a lifetime of nightmarish PTSD upon return is destroying not only recruitment, but the U.S. military itself.

Sanity May Be Striking U.S. against Pelosi’s Provocative Taiwan Trip

July 21 (EIRNS)—Following reports that Speaker of the U.S. House Nancy Pelosi is planning an official trip to Taiwan in coming weeks, President Joe Biden said in remarks at Andrews Air Force Base on July 20, “Well, I think that the military thinks it’s not a good idea right now,” in response to a

media question. “But I don’t know what the status of it is.” He stopped short of saying that she should not go.

Biden told reporters a bit later in the exchange, “I think I’ll be talking to President Xi within the next 10 days.”

Biden made his comments the day after Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian had warned that if Speaker Pelosi visits Taiwan, “it will have a severe negative impact on the political foundation of the China-U.S. relations.... China firmly opposes such a visit.”

While then Speaker of the U.S. House Newt Gingrich visited Taiwan in 1997, it made a difference that he was a Republican Speaker at a time when a Democrat, Bill Clinton, was President. Pelosi’s journey to Taiwan would be far more provocative as a member of the same political party as President Joe Biden, and the third in succession of the U.S. Presidency. Pelosi’s trip would also come on the heels of former Trump Defense Secretary Mark Esper’s trip to Taiwan this week, where he proclaimed to the pro-“independence” President Tsai Ing-wen that the “one-China policy has outlived its usefulness.”

U.S. Navy Sends Destroyer through Taiwan Strait

July 21 (EIRNS)—The U.S. Navy poked China in the face again, with the July 19 passage of the guided missile destroyer *USS Benfold* through the Taiwan Strait. Ignoring that Taiwan is part of China, the Navy cited an international law that defines territorial waters as extending 12 nautical miles from a country’s coastline, and regularly sends its warships through the strait in what it calls freedom of navigation operations. The *Benfold* transited “through a corridor in the strait that is beyond the territorial sea of any coastal state,” said U.S. 7th Fleet spokesperson Lt. Nicholas Lingo.

The Chinese denounced the U.S. operation as a threat to the stability of the region, published in [*China Military Online*](#). “The frequent provocations and power shows made by the U.S. side have fully proven that the U.S. is the disrupter of peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, and the maker of security risk in the region,” Col. Shi Yi, spokesman for the People’s

Liberation Army's Eastern Theater Command, said in a statement yesterday. "Troops of the PLA Eastern Theater Command are on high alert at all times to resolutely safeguard China's national sovereignty and territorial integrity."

The *Benfold* is the same ship that carried out two provocations against China in the South China Sea last week.

U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

Biden Pressured To Build Back Better by Executive Action

July 21 (EIRNS)—With his Build Back Better behemoth effectively dead in Congressional water, Biden is now being pressured to enforce the British Malthusian green agenda through executive action. Preceding Biden's speech on the climate in Somerset, Massachusetts yesterday, activists and members of Congress made calls to invoke a national climate emergency—which would unlock federal resources for the green agenda. However, while Biden did use the term "emergency" in his speech, he did not issue a formal declaration.

Using the spate of hot weather across the country as proof of some sort of doom for humanity, Biden's speech was full of alarmist language like "clear and present danger ... code red for humanity" (a reference to language from the IPCC's recent report), "emergency," and "climate change is literally an existential threat to our nation and to the world." In the end, it was all just empty rhetoric, not a national climate emergency.

Biden did proclaim that he was "making the largest investment ever—\$2.3 billion—to help communities across the country build infrastructure that is designed to withstand the full range of disasters we've been seeing up to today—extreme heat, drought, flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes." The \$2.3 billion—which still pales compared to the trillions of the Build Back Better bill—is supposed to be allocated to "Protect Communities from Extreme Heat and Dangerous Climate Impacts," "Lower Cooling Costs for Communities Suffering from Extreme Heat," and "Expand Offshore Wind

Opportunities and Jobs,” according to the White House fact sheet. However, Biden acknowledged that his wish to do more on the Build Back Better agenda by executive action may be stymied by the Constitution’s separation of powers. In response to whether he would declare a national climate emergency, he stated, “I’m running the traps on the authority that I do have,” pledging that he “will make a decision on that soon.”

That authority, referenced by Biden, was recently challenged by the Supreme Court ruling in the *EPA v. West Virginia* case, which stated that the EPA, as an executive branch entity, could not impose regulations—in effect, create law—but could only execute law created by Congress. Now, given U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin’s (D-WV) wrecking of the Build Back Better monstrosity, Biden’s options are becoming very limited. Nonetheless, Biden appears unfazed, and pledged more executive action soon.

CIA Director Burns Admits Iran Not Pursuing Nuclear Weapons

July 21 (EIRNS)—At the Aspen Security Forum, William Burns said on July 20 that “our best intelligence judgment is that the Iranians have not resumed the weaponization effort that they had underway up until 2004 and then suspended, so that’s something, obviously we at CIA and across the U.S. intelligence community keep a very, very sharp focus on.” Burns’s statement is consistent with similar statements he has made since beginning his tenure as the director of the CIA, notably saying last December that Iran was not pursuing a nuclear weapons program, in response to allegations at the time made by head of the Israeli Mossad, David Barnea.

Burns’s statement will help to pour cold water on those forces allied to Global Britain that would like to use the fear of Tehran’s gaining nuclear weapons as the pretext for crushing Iran—most likely through war, given that sanctions don’t appear to work all that well lately. However, with Iran’s increasing integration into the emerging new system centered in Eurasia— Iran joining the SCO and potentially the BRICS, and in light of the strategic partnership with Russia following Putin’s trip to Iran—British-directed provocations towards Iran will look increasingly impotent.