

London's Gorbachov Is the Key Figure In the Destabilization of Russia

by Rachel Douglas

Dec. 13—Anyone who thought that British Imperial stratagems couldn't get any crazier than trying to detonate global thermonuclear war through a conflict in the Middle East, needs to look at who is doing what to whom in Russia. The activity of ex-Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachov, a cat's paw of London when he was in power in the 1980s, and the same today, is a dead giveaway of Britain's escalating drive to destroy Russia.

City of London mouthpiece *The Economist* magazine spelled out the intention in two articles and an editorial in its Dec. 10 issue, writing that unrest after the Dec. 4 State Duma elections "may not be the beginning of a revolution, but it is the end of Vladimir Putin's era of alleged stability." It claimed that Prime Minister and Presidential candidate Putin has only two choices: "He could allow some political competition, which risks unravelling the system, or he could try to suppress discontent and risk being ostracised in the West and hated at home." The editorial said that Putin must "clean up the Kremlin and modernize the economy" by "opening up" to foreign finance, because "Mr Putin has failed to build the rules-based system that provides the economic security foreign investors need." *The Economist* then raised the specter of renewed destabilization of Russia's North Caucasus, a historical specialty of British Intelligence.

The Dec. 4 returns gave the United Russia (UR) slate, headed by President Dmitri Medvedev, just under 50% of the popular vote—a loss of 22% of its Duma seats, although UR retains a simple majority—while the Communist Party of the Russian Federation got 19%, doubling its representation. Within hours of the vote, organizations backed by the Project Democracy networks of George Soros, Gorbachov, and other London-linked enthusiasts of "regime change," began street demonstrations against alleged UR vote fraud, also taking aim at Putin's prospective return to the Pres-

idency in the March 2012 elections.

The week of Dec. 5-10 saw hundreds arrested at unauthorized street actions in Moscow, until tensions were dispelled—for the moment—when a large rally on Saturday, Dec. 10 received a permit and passed without incident. Besides veterans of Russia's disastrous radical-liberal governments of the 1990s, those in the streets included a new, Internet generation typified by online celebrity Alexei Navalny, an anti-corruption campaigner. Navalny has been cultivated in the West, including as a 2010 participant in the Yale World Fellows Program, where the training is done by UN deputy secretary-general Mark Malloch Brown (of the British Foreign Office) and other friends of Soros. The liberal and Gorbachov-linked media were ecstatic over Navalny's arrest, broadcasting stories on "Putin's fatal mistake" and "Putin's last election."

Gorbachov on the Air

All the while, the 80-year-old Gorbachov was on the airwaves. Interviewed Dec. 6 on radio Echo of Moscow, he called for "changes in the Russian political system." He told Interfax on Dec. 7, "Each day more and more Russians don't believe that the announced election results are honest. In my view, ignoring public opinion discredits the authorities and destabilizes the situation." He called on Medvedev and Putin to admit vote fraud, annul the Dec. 4 results, and schedule new elections. After the peaceful demonstrations in Moscow and other cities, Gorbachov used further interviews, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the formal break-up of the Soviet Union, to escalate, denouncing Putin and Medvedev for "not allowing the Russian population to make a free choice."

According to Washington sources, Gorbachov also had phone contact with President Barack Obama, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice, and National Democracy Institute (NDI) chair Madeleine Al-

Mikhail Gorbachev throws 80th birthday gala in London

Topic: Mikhail Gorbachev turns 80



"After all these years...I consider myself a happy man"

Former Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev is celebrating his 80th birthday on Wednesday night with a gala charity concert in the British capital.

Speaking at the opening of the concert at the London Royal Albert Hall, Gorbachev expressed hope that despite of the controversy surrounding his term in office as the last Soviet president he

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Gorbachev's 80th birthday bash in London.

bright during the run-up to the Duma elections, setting the stage for Obama to order Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to condemn them. In reality, as an experienced observer of Russian affairs, Prof. Stephen Cohen of New York University, noted Dec. 8 on National Public Radio, the Duma vote was likely the "least rigged elections in nearly a decade."

Yet money had poured into Russia in advance, to mobilize an extraparliamentary opposition. The funds came via National Endowment for Democracy channels such as Albright's NDI, as well as the U.S. Agency for International Development, whose program director Sean Carroll previously worked at the Club of Madrid, an organization of ex-heads of state in which Gorbachev is a leading figure.

This was the outside funding of which Putin complained during his Dec. 8 Presidential campaign meeting with activists of the National People's Front, when he also criticized Clinton's statements. "Hundreds of millions of dollars are put into this," charged Putin, "We need to develop ways of defending our sovereignty against outside interference."

Gorbachev's Agenda: Made in London

Gorbachev was what Lyndon LaRouche famously called "the first general secretary of the Communist Party to be publicly vetted by the Queen of England" (with a visit to London in 1984, just months before assuming the top job). Following Yuri Andropov, the 1982-83 Soviet leader who had come out of the most British Intelligence-infected section of the Soviet establishment, and who reacted in rage against U.S. President Reagan's adoption of LaRouche's SDI policy in 1983, Gorbachev acted in British interests throughout his own battle against the SDI, and LaRouche personally. He also opened the floodgates to the British takeover of Russian economic policy, first through Gorbachev's perestroika policy and the widespread adoption of Cambridge University systems analysis, and then—after the end of the U.S.S.R.—in the seizure of the new Russian government by London-trained "young reformers."

Upon the collapse of the Soviet Union, Gorbachev seamlessly melded into the upper echelons of the Trans-Atlantic establishment, quickly becoming a champion of its globalization agenda. This process had begun earlier, notably with an infamous speech by Gorbachev at the United Nations in 1988, in which he called for a "new world order." His agenda for a post-Cold War world, dealing with "economic, food, energy, environmental, information and population problems" as global rather than national ones, was a parody of the New, Just World Economic Order idea, promoted by LaRouche's friends in the Non-Aligned Movement beginning in the mid-1970s. Gorbachev's approach to the "environment" and "population" points coincided instead with the modern British Empire's strategies for population reduction and Green Fascism.

In 1990, an *EIR* investigator learned that Prince Philip's World Wildlife Fund viewed Gorbachev as potentially "a major New Age leader." Already then, still as Soviet President, Gorbachev was hobnobbing especially with George Shultz, one of the most important British faction figures of the late-20th Century in the United States: the engineer of the 1971 final demolition of the Bretton Woods system and institution of floating exchange rates, and an inside man against the SDI in the Reagan Administration. Shultz became a board member of the Gorbachev Foundation, which opened

near San Francisco in December 1991, the month of the Soviet Union's demise, and was a founding co-chairman of Gorbachov's State of the World Forum in 1995.

In 1993, Gorbachov founded his environmentalist Green Cross International. In a 1992 speech in Fulton, Mo. (in which he praised Sir Winston Churchill, who had launched the Cold War there in 1946, as a man of global vision), he described "ecological threats" to planetary stability in precisely British imperial terms. No wonder Gorbachov has subsequently collaborated in the Nobel Laureate Symposium on Global Sustainability, initiated by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research head John Schellnhuber, the radical population-reduction crusader whom Queen Elizabeth named a Commander of the British Empire!

Gorbachov in Russian Politics

Gorbachov reentered Russian politics in 2007, when Putin's leadership had stabilized Russia, after its having been looted under the neoliberals and their British masters in the 1990s. His 2000 attempt to found a Russian United Social Democratic Party had flopped. Now he unveiled a Union of Social Democrats, as an NGO. In late 2008, when the global financial crisis hit Russia full-force, Gorbachov formed the Rygoletto group, one of whose leaders was his co-owner of the *Novaya Gazeta* newspaper venture, London-tied businessman Alexander Lebedev, a pal of Nat Rothschild.

Rygoletto issued a plan for a non-partisan Public Anti-Crisis Initiative. As elaborated by Gorbachov personally in March 2009, the proposal included handing over major, privatized Russian companies, which were indebted to City of London lenders with their own shares as collateral, to those creditors! This, according to Gorbachov, would secure the financing needed by the Russian economy: exactly what *The Economist* demands today.

In September 2010, Gorbachov founded yet another "nonpartisan democratic entity," Civil Dialogue, with Lebedev and neoliberal "young reformer" ex-Deputy Prime Minister Boris Nemtsov. Several of its leaders have been prominent in the December 2011 protests.

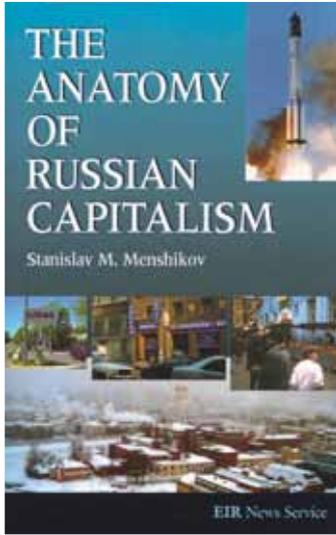
In December 2010, Gorbachov attacked Putin in a two-page article in *Novaya Gazeta* as the creator of an "undemocratic political landscape," threatening Russia's stability. Then, in February of this year, he raised the prospect of an Egypt-style uprising in Russia. Attacking UR as a "bad copy" of the former Soviet Communist Party, Gorbachov warned: "If things continue

the way they are, I think the probability of the Egyptian scenario will grow. But it could end far worse."

Prof. Igor Panarin of the Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Foreign Ministry has put the Gorbachov issue on the table in the right kind of terms. In June 2010, he publicly charged that Gorbachov, as well as Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchov in the 1950s, were steered to power by British Intelligence. Panarin said that Gorbachov should be condemned, "but it should be done by a public tribunal, in order to understand how this person could conduct such an anti-state policy, harming his native country, in which he had been born and grew up."

In that same period, the section of LaRouche's March 2010 "Ides of March" webcast dealing with the British agency of Andropov and Gorbachov, became a hot item online in Russia, and was viewed by tens of thousands of people.

This article draws on EIR's 30-year dossier on Mikhail Gorbachov, particularly investigative reporting by Stanley Ezrol and the late Mark Burdman.



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