

**“SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER,”\***  
**LIVING IN A DANGEROUS WORLD**

By Tecola W. Hagos

**“If you shut up truth and bury it under the ground, it will but grow up, and gather to itself such explosive power that the day it bursts through it will blow up everything in its way.” Emile Zola**

**PART ONE:**

**THE BREAKUP OF THE USSR, A PAINFUL LESSON FOR ETHIOPIA**

**I. Introduction**

This last week I read a great book by Professor Emanuel Chukwudi Eze, *On Reason: Rationality in a World of Cultural Conflict and Racism*, which was published posthumously in 2008 by Duke University Press. Tragically, Eze died at the age of forty four on 17 December 2007, far too soon before finishing his great philosophical journey of great promise—a great loss to his family, friends, and philosophy. I feel special kinship to Eze because of his emphasis on “reason” that happens to be also a central element in my search for knowledge and outlook in life. Since I am not a “professional philosopher,” to use a meaningless phrase, I remain the permanent outsider annoyingly peering through a bared window where I can see and smell the great Philosophical spread that I cannot feast on among peers. My inclination is toward Parmenides and away from Hume minimizing the magnitude of “experience” as pedantic. Nevertheless, reading Eze’s latest book gave me the extra boost to suppress my fears and ‘speak truth to power.’ I expect to be completely eviscerated, squashed et cetera, et cetera.



When Boris Yeltsin resigned suddenly on 31 December 1999, he chose Vladimir Putin to be acting president until the elections.

I find hyphenated rustic leaders far more dangerous than ideologues. Mikhail Gorbachev and Boris Yelstin represent to me what I think to be the most dangerous characteristics in leaders—a jaded view of the West’s glitter.[1] Gorbachev was the quintessential rustic leader, and in his misunderstanding of the true identity of those who control the United States, and in his misreading of the nature of the United States and Western nations and their insatiable appetite for World domination, ended up undermining the long term vital interest of the Russian people. Because of such misreading of the West and simplistic solutions to the complex economic and political problems of the Soviet Union, both Gorbachev and Yelstin ended up destroying their own country rather than reforming it.

By contrast Vladimir Putin has an acute understanding of the reality of human nature and real politics, and in that he has correctly understood that Western nations have not changed their goals only their modus operandi.

In the 1980s, the Soviet Union was in difficult economic situation due to the culmination of decades of totalitarian oppressive bureaucratic mismanagement and bureaucratic corruption. However, it was nowhere near to collapsing. Instead of restructuring the corrupt Soviet bureaucracy through administrative reform, the Soviet leaders of the time led by Gorbachev, in an unbelievable shortsightedness, decided to grovel under the feet of the West for monetary assistance willing to cede territories that had been part of Imperial or Czarist Russia and later the Soviet Union for over two hundred years. I am not in any form trying to revise the history of the Soviet Union, for the history of the Soviet Union from Lenin through Stalin and all the way to Nikita Khrushchev represented one long nightmare to the People of the Soviets. The number of summary executions, torture, and imprisonment during those years were truly mindboggling.

No less than half a billion people throughout the World were affected by the Soviet Union Government's dismal dictatorship and incompetence. It is not only Russians that suffered, but also millions of people from other parts of the World suffered too under the brutal hands of their own versions of local dictators who were blindly implementing Marxism-Leninism as their ideology of change towards prosperity that never materialized. My own Country, Ethiopia, suffered for seventeen years (1974-1991) under the rule of the brutal regime of Mengistu Hailemariam, a self styled Marxist-Leninist military man that committed atrocities never witnessed in Ethiopia's long history. Over half a million Ethiopians were butchered by the military regime promoting leftist ideology, and a million and a half perished of starvation and famine due to badly managed economy using collectivization and state owned economic system.

However, all that is history albeit a horror history, but the reality now facing Russia must not be polarized by such dismal record of human rights abuse and violations. What is in place in Russia Federation is a new political and economic system. Our evaluation of the recent crises in Georgia must not be limited by individual country crises from our past. If we go by such historical data no nation on Earth is innocent from crimes against humanity, for the history of the World is the history of exceptionally violent and cruel creatures called human beings. The purpose of this article is not to exonerate anyone from our common bloody past histories, but to help us see truth and minimize the harm that human beings suffer in the hands of overly ambitious and unscrupulous leaders, such as Mikhail Saakashvili, around the world and those of powerful nations. One must consider the overall important national security and national vital interest of Russia and its neighbors if one is willing to reach a fair conclusion after evaluating the facts surrounding the present crises in Georgia. The current saber rattling by the United States Government makes its leaders look utterly incompetent and silly for being manipulated by tiny countries into a war that will not benefit anyone.

In order to understand the reason why Russia is justified in moving its forces into South Ossetia and also into Abkhazia, one must examine the immediate past history of the

region going back decade and a half years ago, and the process of change taking place in the old Soviet Union. Boris Yelstin was in power from 1991 to 1999 after replacing Gorbachev who was in power from 1985 to 1991. The transition from Gorbachev era type of change to that of Yelstin's is best visualized in the dramatic confrontation in 1991 with anachronistic Communist Party loyalists of the new Russian Parliament. Yelstin, there after promptly completed the dismantling of the Soviets into fifteen independent states. The situation was perceived as a great triumph of Western system of government over Marxism-Leninism rather than being considered as the shortcomings of a particular government that of the Soviet Union. Gorbachev was the last President of the USSR who started rolling the ball of the demise of the USSR during his term in office from 1985 to 1991.

In the 1980s, the Soviet Union was not in a collapsing phase at all. It has all of its weapon systems fully functional and capable of inflicting a World-ending harm to human kind. It could have used such power to blackmail the rich West to loan it money. The West would have relented to its demands. Of course, the process would not have been as crud as I put it. Diplomatic language and face saving devices would have been used to avoid actual war with nuclear weapons. It is the West that would have lost the most if there was a "third world war" because the West has much at stake in terms of individually owned great wealth. Faced with such grim prospect of wealthy Europeans and Americans losing their great wealth, the Western alliance would have fallen apart, and individual Western states including the United States, as well as wealthy individuals, would have started negotiation to finance the Soviet Union.

In a recent article, Samantha Power seems to suggest that hubris of leaders as the cause of the recent flare up in Georgia.[2] Although there is much to be said about the arrogance of American leaders, it will be too simplistic to assume that Russian leaders would formulate their international policy based on bruised egos. The current Russia-United States confrontation is a result of the feud due to the activities of those parochial economic and political interest groups using Governments to carry out what essentially is a private feud between the "Jewish Mafia" or the "Oligarchs" against the Russian Government trying to preserve the wealth of its People. The representative name of that group was once identified by Edward Topol, an honest Jewish writer of considerable fame who lives in New York City after migrating from the Soviet Union years ago, as "Berezovsko – Goussinsko – Smolensko - Khodrokovsko," a string of Jewish names who are mostly living now in Western countries and Israel after looting and absconding with billions of dollars worth of wealth of the People of Russia.[3]

## **II. The "Jewish Mafia"**

The number of Jews in Russia Federation is less than half of one percent of the one hundred fifty million population count for the whole of Russia. There are barely five hundred thousand Jews in Russia. However, the distortion in political power and economic power brought about by a tiny number of Jews from such minority ethnic group cannot be overly stated. In fact, at one point in the late 1990s it was obscene. The control of Russia's economy and political power during the transition period 1991 to 2000 by a handful of men from this particular minority group was heading into a disaster

when Vladimir Putin came into power replacing the sickly Yelstin who had inflicted so much harm on Russia. Putin stopped that out of control freight train of corruption and disaster in its track.

The problem of the alienation of the wealth of the Russian People started with an ill conceived privatization policy of Yelstin's Government. Yelstin appointed Antaloy Chubais as Chief of privatization. That appointment was like putting in charge a fox to guard a chicken coop. At the same time other powerful high level officials of the Government were almost to a man Jewish. Toward the end of the 1990s Sergio Kiriyenko became the Prime Minister of Russia followed by Yevgeni Primakov Finkelstein (who was earlier the Foreign Minister of Russia). Antaloy Chubais the Chief of privatization was Jewish. Alexander Livshitz, who was the Finance Minister of Russia for a short period, was Jewish also.[4]

During that transition period from 1991 to 2001 the "Oligarchs" controlled the economy of Russia by buying at very low prices the assets of the Russian People through the privatization scheme run by Chubais. This was a period of corruption and violence. And gangsters associated with the Oligarchs committed some of the worst murders in Russian history. "Jewish Mafia" and "Russian Mafia" were exchangeable phrases that were used to describe the terror experienced by Muscovites during that transition period. For the first time in its history Moscow was identified as the murder capital of the World. "Of the seven oligarchs who controlled more than 50% of Russia's economy during the 1990s, six were Jews: Boris Berezovsky, Vladimir Gusin-sky, Alexander Smolensky, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Mi-khail Friedman, and Vitaly Malkin." [5]

I am sure that very many decent Jews are not happy with the violence, greed, and total disregard of civil behavior of the Oligarchs. For example, we can easily feel the anguish felt by Edward Topol about the behavior of his own coethnicists. "[A] Jewish Russian immigrant in New York of considerable renown, novelist Edward Topol (whose work was once banned in Russia), stirred controversy and deep concern in the world Jewish community because of a published letter he wrote to a Russian weekly newspaper. In it Topol called prominent Jewish Russian bankers 'puppeteers' who manipulated Russian politics and its economy. The puppeteers, he concluded, has 'a very long Jewish last name -- Berezovsko-Goussinsko-Smolensko-Khodrokovsko, etc. ... How come all or almost all the money in this country ended up in Jewish hands?'" [6]

It is this kind of greed for power and wealth that has started revolutions and civil disorder throughout human history. It is not the identity of the manipulative tiny group that is the source of discontent in such type of revolution, but rather the unrepresentative and disconnected existence of such a group from the rest of society. Although it may sound a self-contradiction, it is not the "Jewish" identity of the "Oligarchs" per se that is the real cause of anti-Semitism in Russia. The reaction would have been the same if the group that is disproportionately controlling the wealth and political power in Russia or if such group set itself apart from the rest of the community in a drastic and graphic manner supported by ideology or religious tenets was another tiny group. It is impossible to have a foreign policy on Russia by any country without taking seriously the economic and

political distortion created by the exclusive interest of a tiny minority group of the “Jews” of Russia.

I have read reports that allege Putin is replacing the “Oligarchs” by himself and with a few close friends who are mostly none Jews. I do have similar misgivings with minority groups controlling or dominating the majorities in societies in general. However, the alleged economic power led by Putin if it is true is not as alarming as the case of the Oligarchs because the creation of wealthy individuals in the majority group of Slavs cannot be seen to be comparable as the alienation of the wealth of Russia by a tiny minority group that removed such wealth away from Russia at the first sign of adversity. The fact that the Oligarchs have fled Russia and are living now in England, Spain, Austria, and Israel seems to aggravate the situation and harden the resolve of the Russian Government against the Oligarchs and their associates. At the heart of the conflict is individual greed.

One reaction from the Oligarchs and the governments of countries that have provided safe-heavens to such criminals is to mount personal attacks against Putin. It is tragic to witness governments of Western nations involving themselves in the masking of truth. Instead of investigating the criminal record of the Oligarchs in cooperation with the Russian Government, we find such Western nations being used as tools of subversion by Oligarchs attacking Putin and his Government. The demonizing of Vladimir Putin is not something new, but the modus operandi of a number of wealthy Jews using political power protecting their great wealth. Whether it is in the United States or Russia, or elsewhere in the World wealthy individuals (in any group) will use whatever means is available to them to fight any threat that might challenge their misbegotten wealth. Controlling the dissemination of information by owning main media outlets is a sure way to portray oneself in good light, and the enemy as a monster. Similar situation of control and abuse by a tiny minority group is also the day to day reality in the United States as was the case in Russia Federation until Putin came to power.

Do we have a “Jewish Mafia” in the United States of similar recklessness and criminal nature as was the case with the short-lived Russian “Jewish Mafia”? Not at all. The scenery here in the United States is far subtler and “civilized” than that existing in Russia in the 1990s. In the United States, conflicting interests are painted in pastel colors quietly blending with the general kaleidoscope of self interests. Generally speaking, in the United States there are no jarring contrasts in primary colors from whatever persuasion assaulting ones sensibilities except the remnants of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK). For example, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is a pussy cat compared to the criminal Oligarchs of Russia, but all the same “a cat.”

The over all picture Jewish experience is a truly human tragedy because all these abuses of the Jewish people by different societies throughout history in Europe and the Middle East is tied to the fact that Jews having no homeland through most of human history. It is also a fact that members of a tiny group of wealthy Jews from the Jewish community have used their Jewish identity to promote their individual selfish goals putting at risk millions of decent human beings who happen to be Jews or non-Jews. The true picture of

the torture and death of millions of Jews who could not buy their way out of the rage of society throughout history is a sad reality how the few extremely rich Jews brought about a generalized hate against Jews where most are absolutely innocent and have nothing to do with the fabulous wealth of a handful of Jews. Of course, there is no justification to murder, torture, brutalize, or imprison anyone irrespective of ethnic identity. Nevertheless, it is the fact of history that Jews were the victims of the Holocaust, the Pogroms, and the Inquisition.

My own life experience is remarkably affected by such misguided effort of a number of people who were mostly Jews from outside of Ethiopia who were protecting the interest of an Ethiopian born Jew who collaborated as an official at the highest level with the brutal Government of Mengistu Hailemariam during the period when hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians were murdered, violently tortured, and brutalized during the "Red Terror" and after. This particular individual should have been on trial like his compatriots, such as Legesse Asfaw, Fikreselassie Wogderes, Fisseha Desta et cetera for genocide and crime against humanity. Instead, he has been embraced by Meles Zenawi and his associates and is still messing up Ethiopia as confidant and advisor of Meles Zenawi. His drafting of the 1995 Constitution implementing a poorly conceived idea of ethnic federalism as a state structure and his authoring of numerous memos advising Meles Zenawi on several life and death issues concerning Ethiopia and Ethiopians are sufficient reasons to try him for new crimes. What bothers me the most is not the fact that a criminal is out loose on Ethiopia, nor the fact that I have to go on exile for the second time, but the fact that individual did not even acknowledge the harm he had committed against Ethiopia and Ethiopians. And all his supporters in the United States owe us an apology for the harm they caused us.

### **III. The Flawed Policy of the United States**

The United States seems to have forgotten that it is a Superpower with great responsibility to all the people of the World. In the last fifteen years what seems to have evolved as a foreign policy of the United States is that of bullying and aggression. Bush the father attacked Iraq using as his excuse the resolutions of the United Nations in regard to Saddam Hussein's attack of Kuwait. Bush the son continued United States' aggression by attacking both Afghanistan and Iraq for harboring terrorists and/or for developing weapon of mass destruction. Later it was exposed that there were no terrorist connections or weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Nations like Kuwait, nations that are creations of the colonial period legacy, that end up plugging the outlets of far larger and historically dominant nations should not have existed as independent states to begin with, which fact makes it impossible for me to fault Saddam Hussein for his effort to incorporate Kuwait with Iraq.

For the benefit of any dimwit who may have wrongly concluded from the above statement that I supported Saddam Hussein, let me make it absolutely clear that Saddam Hussein was a monster who should never have held any public office. What I support is the incorporation of Kuwait within Iraq, Djibouti and Eritrea with Ethiopia, and all other artificial created mini-states through colonization with the states that are landlocked because of such colonial legacy. Colonialism and slavery left such deep grooves in all of

our human collective unconsciousness, it has become the fabric of all of our social, political, and economic structures. No matter how far we think we have traveled from such primitive impulses, we still remain colonialists and victims.

The hypocrisy of the Government of the United States borders the ridicules when one hears President Bush and his Secretary of State speak of Russian aggression since the beginning of August when Georgian forces moved in and started attacking ethnic Russian in South Ossetia. The United States after traversing over five thousand miles is expanding NATO and erecting weapon systems in the backyard of Russia thereby destabilizing the region and directly challenging the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Russia. And then the United States turns around and accuses Russia of “aggression” for moving into Georgia, which used to be part of Russia, to protect the rights of former Soviet citizens from the military attack of United States puppet Georgian Government implementing a plan of ethnic cleansing to drive out millions of people out of South Ossetia and also from Abkhazia.

The recent agreement between Poland and the United States to deploy missile systems on Polish soil aimed at Russia is such a stupid and unnecessary provocation of Russia that would justify strong response from Russia including destroying any missile or weapon system deployed in Poland aimed at Russia. How is such aggressive and provocative behavior of the United States Government going to promote peace and security in the region? This is not the way of peaceful friendly existence between neighbors or nations. One must put in mind the Monroe Doctrine that the United States still follows bans any military influence and presence of any European power in the backyard of the United States—which happens to be both North and South America and all the Islands. If that is the case, why is Russia considered to be aggressive if it tries to do the same implementing its version of the Monroe Doctrine?

Political consultants, experts, even Evangelists seem to promote confrontation with Russia because of their idiosyncratic views. It is true that most such experts on Russia those who publish and appear to a nauseating frequency on Television programs are Jewish often interested in settling a score with Slavs. The other no less influential group is made up of Evangelists bent on speeding up the apocryphal end of time destruction of the World so that the Kingdom of God will be upon us. Must the World be held hostage by such parochial goals?

Consider the cartoon posted here from the Anti Defamation League (ADL) that I find quite vulgar to appear in such a Website. [7] Nevertheless, vulgarity aside, such imagery seems to be the case with United States politicians and others. Should we blame Israel or Jews for our own lack of courage and cartilaged backbone that failed to standup upright for truth, justice, and mutual benefits for all members of the community?

As long as the United States remains the dog that is being wagged by its tail(s), there is no hope for peace and security in the World. Consider the pronouncements of the two Presidential Candidates, Senators John McCain and Barack Obama, on questions of disarmament and nuclear proliferation in connection with Iran. To begin with, the question is a non-starter in a World where the United States is daily threatening nations with bodily-harm using nuclear weapons. The United States is the only nation in the World that actually detonated nuclear bombs on civilian population targets (Nagasaki and Hiroshima) committing genocide and crime against humanity, and yet it has the temerity to keep threatening Iran with the use of violent force if Iran keeps enriching Uranium. The right to self-defense is one of the pillars of international law enshrined in Article 2(4) cum Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations. Iran or any other nation thus threatened has every right to defend itself by all means including developing nuclear weapons for defensive purposes. I am not supportive of Iran's crazy leadership either, denying the Holocaust and making hollow threats against Israel et cetera.



White supremacists' belief that both McCain and Obama are pawns of the Jews is clear in this gross anti-Semitic image circulating on extremist forums.

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (signature 1968, coming into force 1970) was violated by the United States, the Soviet Union, and their allies when they expanded their production of nuclear weapons contrary to the admonishment of the Treaty in Article VI to reduce and ultimately eliminate all nuclear weapons. Thus the Treaty has been rendered void by the activities of the Super Powers and is not binding on anybody else. "Article VI: Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control." [8] Moreover, it seems that the great statesmanship of balancing of conflicting power and caution had lost its meaning after the breakup of the Soviet Union and the United States claiming sole Super-Power status. The United States Government and its leadership have become lawless to the extent of openly discounting international law (the Geneva Conventions, the Charter of the United Nations) against the use of force and have spurned the efforts of the United Nations to prosecute international criminals (International Criminal Court Convention).

Even more dismal was the response of the two Presidential Candidates when asked how they will deal with Iran if it persists to develop its nuclear capabilities. The answers of both Candidates seem to be some kind of competition of who would bomb Iran the most rather than approaching the issues of nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament by taking a look at the source of the problem why Iran wants to arm itself with nuclear weapons. There is a firewall erected by interest groups, such as the Jewish lobby, weapon



manufacturers, White supremacists, even religious groups et cetera who will not allow any politician to ask such reflective questions. I remember how some politicians were incensed against the few people who sought to question what would drive people to such suicidal mission as that of 9/11. It is tragic that a number of people are unable to see the distinction between seeking an explanation and arguing to justify some action. An explanation is not an endorsement or a justification of the event under consideration. It is simply the ground work necessary for wise decision.

### **III. President Mikhail Saakashvili and other Leaders of Mini-States in the area**

The belligerency of the Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili is a textbook example on the risk of a Super Power associating itself with a tiny country bent on settling its own old grievance with a neighbor by relaying on the might of that Super Power. Because of his ill conceived recent misadventure, Mikhail Saakashvili seems to be far less a leader and more of a school boy who is throwing a tantrum. It is such a leader of a small nation that will start a major conflict between Super Powers. The United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War era danced around each other choosing carefully their steps avoiding hot spots that would have led into direct military confrontations. With Power comes responsibility too. This is where one sees serious flaw in the foreign policy of the United States, a country with a Super-Power might allowing itself to be manipulated by small unpopular nations who are pursuing their own parochial national goals. The United States Government and its Leadership have become puppets and not the puppeteers.

The decline of the Soviet Union and its breakup has introduced into the world very dangerous elements as represented by the fifteen ceded territories of the old Soviet Union now turned into “independent” states surrounding Russia Federation. These states often act as surrogates of the West. These newly minted states surrounding Russia are using their uniquely strategically attractive situation to blind-side the United States into supporting them settle old scores with Russia Federation, the inheritor of the old Soviet Union, in an utterly confrontational move against Russia Federation. Another disturbing feature of Georgia’s boldness may have been used by the Government of Israel that has been involved in the military training and weapon upgrading problem for sometime now. It is also a fact that the Defense minister of Georgia, Temur Yakobashvili, is Jewish. One must take all these external factors as background in order to understand the swift and decisive action of Russia and also to judge the recklessness and incompetence of the leadership of the Government of Georgia.

The State of Israel must not involve itself in such types of military cooperation with any of the fifteen new States surrounding Russia, nor involve itself protecting criminal Oligarchs simply for being Jewish. Such activity will simply increase unacceptable degree of risks of war with Russia. Despite the fact that Israel might have some degree of influence even control of the Government of the United States as a counter force to check Russia from attacking it, yet Israel’s best weapon is its moral force—a nation that prevailed though tiny, and remained democratic and protective of its people under harrowing circumstances. After all Israel is the one country that took in over a hundred thousand Ethiopian Jews, a persecuted people in rages, to its bosom and tried to mend their broken bodies and lift their spirits. Of course, it has to solve the issue of its

occupation of Palestinian territories in an equitable manner and work toward permanent peace with its neighbors for its own moral health and survival. Relying on the United States for protection is not a guarantee of peaceful coexistence with neighbors.

It has been reported that the government of the United States had warned Saakashvili not to start any military operation in South Ossetia. Nevertheless, Saakashvili recklessly ordered his troops into South Ossetia. In fact, it seems that the Georgian Government was readying itself to push out millions of people from South Ossetia and also from Abkhazia. The non-Georgian people of South Ossetia and Abkhazia have lived in the area for generations. I am aware of the demographic movement of the settlement program carried out by Stalin in the 1920s and later where exclusive ethnic territories were broken up and millions removed from their homes and other ethnic groups were settled in an effort to create a single Soviet identity. The ethnically mixed communities in all of the fifteen breakaway States is the reality for almost a century that it will be impractical and also serious violation of fundamental human rights of such people to remove them from their homes.

The United States must stop courting these break-away new States and restrain itself from giving to these small States bordering Russia signals of anti-Russia policy. There is nothing worse than to get in a fight because of some undisciplined junior partner picking up a fight with far more powerful adversary believing “big brother” will come to the rescue. Local interest groups would use any friction or fault line between the United States and Russia to insert themselves as partners prying open even more wounds of discontent between the two World Powers. The United States and Russia must form a kind of joint leadership forum at the highest level that is immune to influences by any such parochial interest groups. This Supreme Joint leadership will then pursue the greater good for world peace and security on behalf of the two nations—a kind of “Red Telephone Line”.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

It is in the best interest of the United States and Russia to be on friendly terms. It is utterly silly for the United States and its allies to try to befriend small and insignificant break away countries while shunning the one country that truly matters. It is incomprehensible to me why would any one avoid sitting at the table with the master of the house and opt to eat *frefari* with the appendages of the master? Russia has the richest mineral deposits in the world. It has well educated population willing to embrace “capitalism.” All of these factors in connection with Russia indicate great potential for cooperation and close economic ties with the West. It should have been the General Motors, the GEs, the Exxons of the World that should have been at the forefront racing to form equitable partnership to invest in Russia rather than local con-artists, smugglers, money launderers with no past record of legitimate investment management experience taking over the economy of a huge county like Russia.

At one point the Oligarchs were controlling 80% of the economy of Russia. Had the Western governments listened to reason rather than their truncated egos and helped Russia with massive investment funding, there would have been a lot more wealth to go

around for everybody even to far of places like Ethiopia. For sure, it would have created tens of thousands wealthy Russians insuring the development of a middle class. Such enlightened and farsighted thinking would have brought about political and economic stability and sustained economic cooperation mutually beneficial to the West and Russia. If that was the case, we will not be talking about the beginning of a new “Cold-War” that is being pushed by myopic leaders of the Western World. I do not fault, for all the sliding into possible war in that part of the World, the Russian Government and its current leaders. The fault squarely lies with West.

The insistence of the West on the implementation of that ill-conceived privatization scheme, which resulted in the creation of the “Jewish Mafia” who went amok looting billions of dollars worth of Russia’s wealth and leaving Russia devastated and sour in the 1990s, should have been avoided. Now Russia has healed from the damage caused by the “Jewish Mafia” thanks to Putin. The West is still harboring such criminals within its borders giving them protection from the justice of the Russian People, for example, Gusinsky is in Spain, Madrid; Abramovich and Berezovsky in England, London; and very many in Israel, such as Leonid Nevzlin, convicted in abstentia for murder. It is morally and politically wrong to hold hostage a nation for the sake of protecting the misbegotten wealth of a handful of criminals. It is not too late for the West to mend its totally wrong approach of warmongering and threatening encirclement and deal with Russia directly and honorably as a valued partner. The G-8 idea is a good arrangement to start the mending process; however, it needs thorough reformulating. Western Governments should set up guaranteed funding for investors to form joint ventures with their Russian counterparts always allowing the controlling interest to be in Russian hands.

As a matter of socio-political cautious step, the West ought to develop another counter weight to balance the increasing economic power of China. Soon, China will be speaking a different language of dictation and assertion to the West as its economic strength reinforces its military power. The development of Russia is a natural counterweight in order to have a balanced three-way relationship with three political and economic forces affecting the future of the World. It is absolutely in the best interest of everyone to have at least three vibrant economies in the world rather than one or two. Globalization has many shortcomings; however, it has also played numerous positive roles in improving the lives of hundreds of millions of people. We are increasingly becoming “Planetary Man,” to borrow a phrase from Professor Wilfred Desan, my esteemed philosophy teacher in my younger age.

Finally, it must be clearly understood that this article is not anti-United States or anti-Semitic. For someone like me whose great moral leaders have always been some of the great writers and philosophers of the World who happen to be Jewish, such as Franz Kafka, Baruch Spinoza, Howard Zinn et cetera, it will be moronic to think of me as anti-Semitic. My attempt in this article is to bring to light the seedy works of evil people who work in darkness abusing our innocence and ignorance to promote their selfish goals. In order to achieve such selfish goals they use race, ethnicity, religion, nationalism et cetera.

I want the United States to be a positive and moral country where compassion, honesty, righteousness, and hard work are its hallmarks.

Russia is coming out of a difficult past and must not be undermined or taken advantage of, especially by a handful of criminals whether they are Jewish or belonging to some other minority group. The militaristic strategy to encircle Russia so far implemented by the United States must be stopped at once and a new strategy of cooperation and friendly involvement in Russia's economy must be initiated. I caution also against using individuals from single ethnic group with natural affinity to promote the interest of that group and those who have some private score to settle past grievances with the old Soviet Union or the present Russia. The United States must not allow its tail(s) to wag it around. If need be, the tail(s) should be tied up for the sake of the greater good of peace and security for all mankind. Ω

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To be continued

**PART TWO: The World in a New Crucible**

**Footnotes**

\*I borrowed the phrase 'speaking truth to power' as the main part of the title for my article because it is profoundly empowering. We all owe it to the peace-loving courageous Quakers for such wonderfully rich expression that has become the standard defensive phrase that both charlatans and the wise use. "The phrase 'speaking truth to power' goes back to 1955, when the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) published *Speak Truth to Power*, a pamphlet that proposed a new approach to the Cold War. Its title, which came to Friend Milton Mayer toward the end of the week in summer 1954 when the composing committee finished work on the document, has become almost a cliché; it has become common far beyond Quaker circles, often used by people who have no idea of its origins." [Larry Ingle, "Living the Truth, Speaking to Power." [http://www2.gol.com/users/quakers/living\\_the\\_truth.htm](http://www2.gol.com/users/quakers/living_the_truth.htm). It is a snapshot of the page as it appeared on Aug 23, 2008 23:19:53 GMT]

[1] Mikhail Gorbachev, *Perestroika : new thinking for our country and the world*, Cambridge; New York : Harper & Row (1987).

Boris Yeltsin, *Against the Grain: An Autobiography*. New York: Summit (1990).

[2] Samantha Power, "Matter of Honor," *Time Magazine*, August 14, 2008.

[3] David Hoffman, *The Oligarchs: Wealth and Power in the New Russia*, New York, NY: Public Affairs, (2003).

[4] Alessandra Stanley, "Success May Be Bad for Jews As Old Russian Bias Surfaces," *The New York Times*, April 15, 1997.

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[5] Amy Chua, *World On Fire: How Exporting Free Market Democracy Breeds Ethnic Hatred and Global Instability*, New York, NY: Doubleday (2002).

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*Washington Times* (from Agence France-Presse), November 3, 2003 "Control of **Mikhail Khodorkovsky's** [one of the Oligarchs] shares in the Russian oil giant Yukos have passed to renowned banker **Jacob Rothschild**, under a deal they concluded prior to Mr. **Khodorkovsky's** arrest, the *Sunday Times* reported. Voting rights to the shares passed to Mr. **Rothschild**, 67, under a "previously unknown arrangement" designed to take effect in the event that Mr. **Khodorkovsky** could no longer "act as a beneficiary" of the shares, it said. Mr. **Khodorkovsky**, 40, whom Russian authorities arrested at gunpoint and jailed pending further investigation last week, was said by the *Sunday Times* to have made the arrangement with Mr. **Rothschild** when he realized he was facing arrest. Mr. **Rothschild** now controls the voting rights on a stake in Yukos worth almost \$13.5 billion, the newspaper said in a dispatch from Moscow. Mr. **Khodorkovsky** owns 4 percent of Yukos directly and 22 percent through a trust of which he is the sole beneficiary, according to Russian analysts. From the figures reported in the *Sunday Times*, it appeared Mr. **Rothschild** had received control of all Mr. **Khodorkovsky's** shares.

<http://www.washtimes.com/news/2003/nov/02/20031102-111400-3720r/>

[6] <http://www.jewishtribalreview.org/capitalists.htm>. It is a snapshot of the page as it appeared on Aug 20, 2008 05:19:11 GMT.

[7] Press Release (August 13, 2008): Extremists Attack John McCain as 'Pawn of Jews'.  
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[8] “Decision: Extension of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,” May 1, 1995, NPT/CONF.1995/32/DEC.3; "2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document," 2000 NPT/CONF.2000/28 (May 22, 2000).

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty signed, 1968

In November 1959, the Irish Minister for External Affairs, Frank Aiken, first proposed an international agreement to halt the increase in nations with nuclear weapons with a view to eventual disarmament. This United Nations General Assembly adopted the proposal in resolution 1380 (XIV), which suggested ... that the ten-nation disarmament committee [...] should consider appropriate means whereby this danger may be averted, including the feasibility of an international agreement, subject to inspection and control, whereby the Powers producing nuclear weapons would refrain from handing over control of such weapons to any nation not possessing them and whereby the Powers not possessing such weapons would refrain from manufacturing them.

The next year, again by the initiative of Aiken, the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 1576 (XV) that called upon the countries with nuclear weapons to voluntarily halt the proliferation of such devices.

In 1961, the Assembly adopted a further two resolutions: the first, 1664 (XVI), initiated by Sweden about the conditions of the agreement; the second, 1665 (XVI), was another Irish initiative to put the onus on those states with nuclear weapons to conclude an agreement. In 1965, three years after the world was brought to the brink of nuclear war during the Cuban Missile Crisis, the USA and then USSR both submitted draft treaties to the United Nations Disarmament Committee. That same year, eight non-aligned states initiate the adoption of resolution 2028 (XX), which listed the five principles that would form the basis of the treaty. The next year the United Nations General Assembly adopted two more resolutions to maintain the momentum towards the goal of an agreement: 2149 (XXI) and 2153 (XXI).

In August 1967, the USA and USSR separately submit draft treaties with identical texts, and in December of that year the UN General Assembly adopts another resolution, 2346 (XXII), requesting that the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament report on its progress by March 1968. Two months before the report is due the USA and USSR submit a joint draft treaty, which, after a few amendments, is adopted by the Assembly in resolution 2373 (XXII)