a bulletin from

Fiveshadow News Network

July 13, 2063

"The UNA": Destined To Replace Even The Pound And The Dollar?

By Tom Brown

The EURO became a continental currency back in the 1990s. As the ASIA became the standard currency for most Far Eastern countries, from India to Japan, in 2031 -- and the LATO started serving the same function for both Central and South America in 2045, it should come as little surprise that many economic ministers from the world's biggest currency cartels are now pushing for a single world currency, tentatively called "The UNA." Although no representative of any government would speak on the record, it appears that the biggest resistance to such a move is coming now from only two countries: the United Kingdom and the United States.

"They're being stubborn, but it's just a matter of time," said a key member of the Finance Ministry in Argentina who asked not to be identified. "With the concept of continental currencies so wellestablished, it's such a short hop to a single world currency. In fact, the UNA should probably be more like a universal card rather than a old-fashioned bank note."

At present, some 87 countries participate in only a handful of common currencies, which provide a boon by opening up trade barriers and speeding banking operations. These common currencies are, by and large, very popular. "A currency is merely an index reading of economic wealth and stability," said the Argentinian finance expert. "There are so few countries which still cling to trade barriers now that the free flow of commerce and credit in the continental currency countries has generated all kinds of positive fallout.

"Who would have thought that Argentina would now be the world's fifth largest economy with most high-technology generated here?"

However, the path to a world UNA is fraught with problems, mainly because of the overt and covert resistance of England and America. "There seems to be some kind of irrational fear in both of those countries," the Argentina finance spokesperson said. "It's not as if the terms 'pound' and 'dollar' mean what they did a century ago."

Nonetheless, there are numerous unconfirmed reports of the threat of additional trade sanctions being imposed by either England, the United States, or both, on any any country working against the preservation of the pound or the dollar. Such threats, if true, could explain the reticence of most finance experts or ministers to speak about the UNA.

In fact, everyone contacted this week about the prospect of a UNA becoming the single world currency also asked not to be interviewed or not to be quoted. The off-the-record member of the Argentine finance office was most voluble: "With global commerce causing trillions to be ported over The Internet every day — and only a fraction of that needing to be converted to or from pounds or dollars — how long can the United

States and England hold onto such an outdated economic position? How long?" $\mid <$

digital art by dave pierson

