

Moscow press features interviews with Lyndon and Helga LaRouche

by Rachel Douglas

In a development which must be making the late Soviet President and KGB chief Yuri Andropov turn over in his grave, several Moscow periodicals at the end of February and beginning of January highlighted the views of Lyndon LaRouche and his wife, Helga Zepp-LaRouche. Last Oct. 14, Mr. LaRouche was elected a corresponding member of the International Ecological Academy of Russia. His economics textbook, *So, You Wish to Learn All About Economics?* is currently circulating in Russian translation. In the crisis in which Russia finds itself, LaRouche's economic program and analysis of history are meeting with a great deal of interest among the intelligentsia of the former Soviet Union.

On March 2, the widely read Moscow weekly *Oppozitsiya* published a full page of excerpts from an interview with Mr. LaRouche by former Moscow city councilman Viktor Kuzin. The interview was conducted last November, while LaRouche was still a political prisoner, incarcerated in federal prison in Rochester, Minnesota. The editors titled the interview "Their Goal Is to Destroy Russia," one of the ways LaRouche characterized the policy of western elites.

The editorial introduction said, "Lyndon LaRouche is the 70-year-old founder of an international movement of intellectuals advocating a radical change in approaches to politics and economics. Beginning in 1983, the 'free' press of the U.S.A. and the communist press of the U.S.S.R., the KGB and the FBI, overcame their 'principled' differences and pooled their efforts in slandering and persecuting LaRouche and his associates. Behind this was a significant coincidence of interests between the highest oligarchical groupings in the East and the West. LaRouche is convinced that only if politicians come to power who are not tied with the traditional oligarchy and not poisoned by its 'class' psychology of dividing mankind into an elite and 'everybody else,' will the world be spared from ruin and will there be hope for a better future." The article then reported LaRouche's release from prison "under the pressure of public opinion from people of many countries."

In the interview, LaRouche discussed the deliberate malthusian policies to slash the world's population, including through the "New Barbarians" schema of reducing 80% of the world to barbarism. He explained that International Mon-

etary Fund (IMF) "shock therapy" never had any positive results, while the success stories of the postwar period—the reconstruction of Germany and Japan—had nothing to do with such methods.

Answering Kuzin's question about whether financial aid would help Russia, LaRouche said, "Money doesn't mean anything. If I were in the position that Yeltsin is in in Russia and were faced with the problem, I would say, 'My dear friends, we're going to have to drop all this free trade nonsense,' and I might even say, 'If you don't let me do this, my military's going to kill me and bomb you. Now you better let me do this.' This is the best way to handle the problem." He went on to explain how to create a national bank, tax the criminals and speculators out of existence, and launch great development projects. The role of private firms subcontracting to national priority projects are detailed.

The publication concluded with a passage on the patriotic mission of the Russian intelligentsia, given that without new leaders coming to the fore, "Russia faces extinction." LaRouche added: "The worst thing is what we have now: shilly-shallying, vacillating from one thing to the other, under the influence of some foreign adviser who comes in from the IMF, or World Bank, or some other place tomorrow. An idiot like Jeffrey Sachs comes and whispers, and all Russia shakes! A strong enough will to kick those swine out of the place would be very highly recommended, but I hope we don't get to a Stalin to do it."

Helga Zepp-LaRouche hits shock therapy

The Russian daily *Pravda*, which for decades was the organ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, on Feb. 23 carried a long interview with Helga Zepp-LaRouche, under the headline "Shock Therapy—Detonator of War." She spoke with freelance journalist Sergei Mitrofanov in December 1993, in Germany. *Pravda* was reconstituted as an independent paper in late 1991. It is widely read and editorially opposes Boris Yeltsin.

In an introductory note, *Pravda* identified Mrs. LaRouche as a leader of the Schiller Institute and "wife of the American scientist who is currently [sic] serving a sentence in an American jail for violating tax laws," without ever

mentioning Lyndon LaRouche by name. Citing the most lurid Soviet press headlines about the LaRouche movement in the 1980s ("Star Wars," "A Colloquium of Murderers," "Sabbath at the Hotel Majestic," and others), *Pravda* says that times have changed and Schiller Institute leaders "turned out to be opponents of the liberal doctrine and even suffered repression in the U.S.A." The reason for publishing this interview, it said, is the Schiller Institute's growing influence in the Third World and in Russia.

In the interview, Mrs. LaRouche rejected "right" or "left" labels and traces the Schiller Institute's thinking to "the philosophical traditions of the European medieval period and the Italian Renaissance. We may call this Christian humanism." She contrasted Nicolaus of Cusa's conception of a representative democratic republic to the pseudo-democracy of ancient Greece or the present day, which "Plato . . . proved is but the flip side of autocracy." Today, "in one of his most recent interviews, Pope John Paul II said that the liberal capitalism being implemented in eastern Europe is actually a threat to western civilization."

"As long as power is in the hands of oligarchical groupings," said Mrs. LaRouche, "we will continue to slide toward a Third World War. . . . The basic mechanism [of war] is economic collapse and depression. If the policy of the circles conducting the so-called liberal reforms, based on 'shock therapy,' is not stopped, the situation will keep deteriorating, including in the prosperous countries of Europe. And worsening economic conditions, famine and cold that kill people, fuel all inter-ethnic wars. Judge for yourself: If everybody in a family is hungry and there is one little crust of bread, it is hard to arrange for dinner to go smoothly. Thus the main detonator for war is depression. So it was in the 1930s: The Second World War grew out of the world depression. But this time the danger is significantly greater."

Mitrofanov asked, "Was there another possible scenario for Russia" besides destruction at the hands of IMF demands? In reply, Mrs. LaRouche outlined the Schiller Institute's project for Eurasian infrastructure development, which "my husband, who was already in jail at that time as a political prisoner of the Bush administration," proposed when the Berlin Wall came down. "In his opinion, the problem was to keep afloat at least those areas of the economy, which suffered the most as a result of the change of regimes. This conception contradicted the conception of 'shock therapy,' according to which the majority of enterprises in the Russian economy had to be shut down. . . . LaRouche proposed not to destroy, but to utilize this obsolete economy to create new infrastructure. . . . LaRouche proposed to use the experience of the military industry, but not the way this is done in Russian conversion programs, where factories that produced nuclear warheads start turning out baby carriages or pots. Rather in the sense of using the most advanced technologies, now for civilian sector purposes."

Discussing representative government, Mrs. LaRouche

explained, "We support the nation-state and are against any international, supranational structures. The only possibility for each individual to participate in running the state is a representative system. But the bureaucrats of the U.N. and the World Bank are accountable virtually to no one. The IMF is also an organization answerable to no one. In that sense it makes absolutely no difference whom people vote for in Russia, because everything is being decided somewhere else. . . . The goal of a modern state . . . should be the development of the creative abilities of each of its citizens. I believe that the world has reached a point when it is time to do away with the oligarchy. For this we need a coalition of all republican forces on the planet and of states organized in accordance with natural law, which recognize not only their own state interest, but the good of every other state, and the common good. This principle brings national interests into accord with the interests of all humanity."

Asked if this meant there should be a new International, she answered, "The only thing that is necessary is the phenomenon of the national sovereign republic, which on a voluntary basis can construct its relations with other national sovereign republics. This is what de Gaulle was talking about."

LaRouche and Kuznetsov

The Feb. 22 *Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta*, a supplement to the newspaper *Razvitiye (Development)*, reported on economist Pobisk Kuznetsov's new proposal for development of "life-support systems for the planet." Titled "Pobisk Kuznetsov Finds a Co-Thinker in an American Prison," the article featured Kuznetsov's enthusiasm for the ideas of Lyndon LaRouche. It revealed Kuznetsov's collaboration with the Russian military in the Soviet period and pointed up his hopes for the military sector to play a key role in the recovery of the productive economy in many parts of the world today.

Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta reported on Kuznetsov's late January address in an Academy of Sciences lecture hall, to veterans of the Sputnik-Skalar life-support systems for space and to other scientists, where he presented his proposed international "President" program and his appeal to world political leaders, the scientific community, and the hierarchs of all religious confessions (see *EIR*, Feb. 11, p. 8). The article excerpted Kuznetsov's appeal, including his appreciation for "the principles of natural-science description, which the American Lyndon H. LaRouche calls 'physical economy,'" and his tribute to LaRouche as a prisoner "for convictions."

Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta related Kuznetsov's status in the 1970s as the mentor of a group of young engineers who were testing new production management approaches in the extreme conditions of northwest Siberia, where a natural gas industry was being developed in a permafrost zone. The periodical concluded that even if Kuznetsov's plan could not be fully implemented, it would give engineers, managers, and scientific workers some meaning for their scientific work again.