

# LaRouche press conference: 'It's time for a revolution in politics'

Vowing that his Presidential campaign would “smash through” any attempt to contain or control debate on substantive issues, Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche said, “It is time to think of a revolution in politics in the United States.” LaRouche’s remarks were made during a press conference that was broadcast live over the Internet on Oct. 13, and will remain posted on LaRouche’s campaign website ([www.larouchecampaign.org](http://www.larouchecampaign.org)), according to a campaign press release.

Twenty journalists participated in the press conference, from all over the world: Mary Otto, Knight-Ridder news service; Douglas Keicker, Associated Press; Aurelia Mitchell, *Mid-South Tribune*, of Memphis, Tennessee; Sarah McClendon, McClendon News Service, former long-time dean of the White House press corps; Josh Kaufman, *New Voice of New York*; Huang Xiangyang, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*; *Birmingham World*, Alabama; Glen Matlock, *Gwinette Daily Post*, Lawrenceville, Georgia; Grace Simmons, *Jackson Clarion Ledger*, Mississippi; Nelson Thall, Toronto Media News/CFRB Radio; Eugene Piskounov, UN correspondent, Russian State Radio and TV; Yesil Murat, UN correspondent, *Turkiye Daily*; Prof. Stanislav Menshikov, *Slovo* daily, Moscow; Sergey Usoltsev, *Russian Analytical Review*, Moscow; Nate Sher, New York correspondent, *Asahi Shimbun* daily, Japan; George Ionyou, freelance reporter for *Proini*, Greece; Larry Li, *Sing Tao Daily*, Los Angeles; Patricio Ricketts, *Sí*, Peru; Askia Muhammed, *Final Call*; Xinhua news service, China.

Following the press conference, LaRouche’s national spokeswoman, Debra Hanania-Freeman, said that LaRouche would continue to engage in such live exchanges. “We began this process on Labor Day, when LaRouche conducted an extensive dialogue with a panel of U.S. state legislators and labor leaders. The panel had hoped to interview Bradley and Gore. There was some initial agreement from the Bradley campaign. But, after they viewed videotape of the proceedings, they pulled out. The other candidates are extremely reluctant to engage in any discussion where they don’t have an opportunity to screen and control the questions in advance, and they are clearly afraid to stand against someone with Lyndon LaRouche’s unique competence in any policy debate. I can’t say I blame them. If I were running Al Gore’s campaign, I’d lock him in a closet before I’d let him debate Lyndon LaRouche,” Freeman said.

The following is the text of the press conference.

## ‘An election campaign like none other’

**Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.:** This is an election campaign like none other in this century. We’re on the verge of the collapse of the world financial system. There’s nothing like it in this century. We don’t know the exact day, week, or month in which this collapse will hit bottom, but it is systemic, and therefore, inevitable. The only remedy to avoid a general catastrophe—economic and political catastrophe, globally—is that if a number of nations gather together in an emergency session to declare the existing financial and monetary system to be bankrupt, and to use the model of Bretton Woods, as organized by Franklin Roosevelt, to create a new monetary system, with matching financial, trade, and related agreements, which, in effect, revives, on a more equitable basis, the kind of effort that was made at Bretton Woods and thereafter. By more equitable, I mean that nations of Asia, such as India, China, and so forth, will have to play a much greater role than was played under the old Bretton Woods system.

But otherwise, since we’re doing something in emergency, we’re going to have to take a useful precedent, which is most easily agreed upon, and use that to set up a new system.

The problem is, that at present, none of the political candidates who are my putative or potential rivals, as yet have the qualifications—economic qualifications—to address the specific kind of problem we face today. However, the crisis will occur while President Clinton is still President. The issue therefore, is, the President must be induced, and must have the support to do that—mobilized within the United States, in particular—to declare a kind of conference, which, together with other nations, will establish a new system, as an emergency action.

Following those emergency actions, whose function is to prevent chaos, the next President of the United States, who will be inaugurated in the third week of January 2001, will have to continue the rebuilding process. And, I think all other issues are either reflections of the crisis, and the kind of solution required, or are completely subordinated, so that those other questions are irrelevant unless the crisis is addressed for what it is, unless the kind of solutions which get us up are advanced.

That’s my opening statement.

**Q:** Hi. My name is Huang. I’m now working at the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. I used to work in *China Daily*. And recently there are two events which happened. One is that Bill



*U.S. Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. addresses a panel of U.S. state legislators and trade union officials on Sept. 3, by telephone from Germany. Starting with his Oct. 13 press conference, which was broadcast live over the Internet, he will be addressing citizens in this manner on a regular basis.*

Clinton signed the Fiscal Year 2000 defense bill into law, in which the U.S. military defense spending increased for the first time since the Cold War. And China thinks there are some anti-Chinese articles in the bill, and opposed it.

And the second event, is that the U.S. State Department recently designated China and four other countries as of particular concern for violations of religious freedom, and the United States threatened sanctions over such allegations.

And, I want to ask you, Mr. LaRouche, how do you assess the impact of these two incidents on China-U.S. relations, and according to China, a Chinese spokeswoman, these two incidents have put the relations on a crucial point. How do you comment on that statement?

**LaRouche:** First of all, I am opposed to any conception under which one, or a group of nations, meddle in the internal affairs of other nations. Recently, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, Tony Blair, has been on a lunatic kick, trying to get military and other similar interventions in various countries, on the basis of meddling in their internal affairs. We should have learned, if we know anything about modern history—and I doubt that Mr. Blair knows anything about modern history—that all you get out of this kind of meddling is hate and wars. It shouldn't occur. The idea that the United States should apply sanctions to China, because the United States wishes to interfere in defense of some cult group in China, this is not the basis for foreign policy.

On the second question. There is, as everyone knows, a right-wing bunch of nuts in the Congress, and elsewhere,

gathered around the Bush candidacy and some other candidacies, and they are pushing the President of the United States into supporting kinds of measures which are extremely aggressive. In point of fact, we can be headed for a global warfare, somewhere down the line, if the present trends continue.

On the other side, the kinds of measures which are proposed on behalf of the legislation recently proposed, these measures are *militarily* and strategically incompetent. And the problem we have, the danger is, is not so much the malice which some people in some countries are expressing toward China and other countries. The danger is that the presently leading circles in the United Kingdom, its government, and some circles in the U.S. Congress, and even in parts of the Executive Branch, are incompetent. So therefore, this incompetence is as much a danger as the malice.

**Q:** Douglas Keicker, Associated Press. Could you outline more, when you think this economic crisis is coming? Could you give us more detail on what it is you're talking about?

**LaRouche:** Yes. We've built up the biggest financial bubble in all history. The general paradigm is, we have about \$300 trillion equivalent, or more, of short-term liabilities on the international financial markets—that is, we denominate these in dollars. Against that, the security for this bubble is about \$41 trillion in total GDP, calculated in dollars, of the total world system. The total product of the world is collapsing, whereas the total bubble, size of the financial bubble, is increasing. This is an impossible situation; the system is

already bankrupt.

On top of that, we have a number of hotspots which are ready to blow. Mexico is on the edge of blowing. Ecuador has blown. Colombia is blowing. Venezuela's ready to blow. Brazil is threatening to blow. Argentina has blown. Africa is a mess. The Japan yen carry [trade] bubble is about to blow. The dollar, gold carry [trade] bubble is threatening to blow.

In the meantime, the annual trade deficit of the United States is now running about \$25 billion a month, or more, up, while the annual U.S. current account deficit is running over \$300 billion a year. In the meantime, the U.S. foreign debt, relative to U.S. production, is the most dangerous chaos point in the entire world system.

So obviously, we're in a system which is ready to blow. Week by week, day by day, more factors of instability accumulate. The firemen in the Federal Reserve System and elsewhere are trying to put out fires. Other people are more interested in stealing assets, than trying to put out fires. So you have a chaotic situation which is waiting for the accident to happen. It will happen soon. The question of what's going to cause it to happen, we don't know. But there are any number of combination of things out there, building up weekly, which can cause this thing to blow. That's the situation we face.

We must expect a blow could occur during the last quarter of this year. It could be postponed, but a major blow of some kind is likely now.

**Q:** This is Stanislav Menshikov, *Slovo* newspaper.

Mr. LaRouche, the Russian public today is totally disillusioned as to American policy towards Russia. Judging from the Clinton-Gore record, a continuation of the same policy under Gore would be a complete disaster. Judging from statements by Governor Bush's advisor on Russia, his policy would be equally disastrous, since it assumes that Russia will disintegrate in the near future. What would be your alternative course for U.S.-Russian relations, as next President of the United States? Are you prepared for a drastic change, in the tradition of Franklin Delano Roosevelt?

**LaRouche:** Yes, precisely. That's exactly what I'm for. That what Roosevelt *intended* to do, but for his untimely death, as the postwar reconstruction, is the model of reference. I wouldn't necessarily copy it in detail, but the model of reference for relations with these other countries.

What I'm specifically for, is to use the crisis, with the United States President taking the lead, bringing together people from Western Europe, especially the continent, with Russia, with China, with India, with other relevant countries which support the enterprise, and set into motion an emergency equivalent of a Bretton Woods conference, set up a new monetary system with new kinds of financial agreements, and agreements on how to put the bankrupt financial system through bankruptcy reorganization.

Under those conditions, then, Russia would have to revive and play a more significant role as a machine-tool, science-

driver contributor, together with Western Europe, Japan, and the United States, in particular, toward the development of the countries of Asia, which have a machine-tool technology shortage.

**Menshikov:** Just a followup: As far as nuclear arms are concerned, what is your position? What would be your policy toward the nuclear area?

**LaRouche:** The whole nuclear weapons business has been, in large part, as far as the public knows of it, and as far as this Congress seems to know it, a gigantic hoax. The kinds of weapons which are likely to be used in an actual conflict, are not likely to be what people think of as nuclear terror weapons. What is more likely is the use of more sophisticated special effects weapons, which have a tactical targeting, but which they have cumulative, of course, strategic effects. So I think that all this concern about nuclear arsenals is a legacy of a bad dream, and we ought to get off the kick and get down to sensible strategy. I think that, largely, our strategists, particularly in NATO right now, bother me, not because they're aggressive—that's bad. What bothers me is, I think they're incompetent and insane.

**Q:** This is Aurelia Mitchell with the *Mid-South Tribune*, from Memphis, Tennessee.

You've talked about NAFTA, how you are—in the past—how you are in disagreement with it. You've talked about NAFTA, how you don't agree with it. And of course you have the euro, which everyone is talking about right now. How would this fit into your New Bretton Woods plan? Are you just going to throw NAFTA out? Are you going to throw the euro out, or any type of independent means to perhaps solidify certain continents?

**LaRouche:** Well, on the euro, take the euro first. The euro is a European affair. It was shoved on Western Europe by Thatcher and Mitterrand, with the consent of Bush. It was a bad idea. However, I would say that if Europeans, the continental Europeans, are now in a great deal of turmoil about this, and might reorganize the euro on a basis which puts it back in the direction of more emphasis on the sovereign nation-state—

As far as NAFTA, and other forms of globalization that have occurred, are concerned, I'm for their complete, utter, and immediate elimination.

**Mitchell:** Okay, you say that you're for their elimination. Now, you talk about the New Bretton Woods conference, a New Bretton Woods conference in which Roosevelt brought together over 40-something-odd nations, to get a new monetary system. Is there a conflict on what you're saying here?

**LaRouche:** Of course there is. We're in a bankrupt system—

**Mitchell:** I mean, you want us to come together, and then

it seems like on the other end, you're saying you don't want any type of solidified, maybe in a continental way —

**LaRouche:** I would say that most of the people of Central and South America are against what NAFTA represents. So this was not something that came together on the basis of a friendly agreement. This was something that was shoved down their throats.

Remember Clinton was opposed to this when he was being elected. Gore got it rammed through, with support from London and from Canada. It originated in Canada. If you look at the effects of NAFTA on the people of Mexico, if you look at the effects of NAFTA on employment in the United States, among skilled and other workers, you say, this is a very bad idea, and should be reversed.

So, I don't think we should look at NAFTA as a step toward unification and conciliation. NAFTA is actually *anti-human* in its effects. And therefore, what it means is slave labor in poor countries, with a loss of jobs of American citizens, and I don't think that's a good arrangement.

**Knight-Ridder:** Yes, thanks. Mary Otto, here.

I was interested in knowing if Mr. LaRouche is serious about getting elected? Is he going to go out on the campaign trail, and shake people's hands, and look them in the eye, and talk about what his issues are going to mean to them as *individual citizens*? I'm just curious about what will come in the next few months, in terms of your campaign here.

**LaRouche:** Well, what we're doing first of all: Unlike most candidates, I'm a generator of ideas, and conceptions. Most candidates are politicians. Not generators of ideas. Maybe sometimes they pick one up and use it and push it, if they understand.

My concern is to present concepts to an American people which have been led down the wrong road for a long time, on ideas which don't work. That we keep hearing people talk about a robust economy, when in point of fact, if I look at the actual figures, and fakery behind most of the figures that are public figures, I would say that 80% of the U.S. population is sharing less than half the total national income of all households. And the status of most people is going downhill. We're losing industries, we're losing infrastructure, we're losing power. We don't have water protection systems. Catastrophes strike us—we don't have the means to fight them. So what we've been doing over the recent years, are the wrong policies.

Now, we've come to a kind of Pearl Harbor-type situation, where the bomb of all our past mistakes is going to hit us all at once. My job is to present to people the ideas which are the alternative to bad ideas which have dominated policy-making so far.

Now, what I shall do is two things. Since I have to present ideas, I shall present ideas by the medium which is most available—that is, usually the electronic and print media. That's my number-one approach.

Number two, I will use this method of the Internet to try



*Patricio Ricketts of Peru.*

to get more direct contact with more people in more parts of the world. There's been a change in technology; let's adapt to it, and use it for its purpose.

My concern, is to get the people of the United States back in politics, and not have a few professional politicians and mass media orchestrating politics, with the people never being asked, never being told, anything in terms of ideas. I will meet with people, I will be getting to meet with people in detail, but my method is not to prove that I'm the most kissable candidate—I don't pretend to be. My concern is to present those conceptions which the people need, and to try to make clear to the population, what went wrong, why it went wrong, what the alternatives are, and what proof do I have that these are the right alternatives. That's my approach.

And I shall be actively building an active organization, which is already in process, across the country, to spread that message, and to get that connection. But otherwise, in the course of events, I shall do what people consider normal campaigning.

**Q:** This is Patricio Ricketts from *Sí* in Lima, Peru. Good morning.

Mr. LaRouche. You are familiar with the Peruvian record in controlling coca and cocaine production and export, as well as narco-terrorism. In the light of this reality, would you accept that the Colombian situation is hopeless, and the control of drugs there impossible. What's to be done about it?

**LaRouche:** Well, the Colombian situation is not a hopeless one; it's a terrible situation, unless the policies are changed, especially the policies of the United States. Now, of course, the policies of General McCaffrey are policies with which I'm sympathetic; as I think many people in Peru—who know more about terrorism, I think, than our State Department does, and how to combat it—have good policies. I think our State Department's on the wrong track. And I think that with the right policies, it's going to be a tough fight, but with U.S.



*“The experience of Peru,” says LaRouche, “and the difficulties and menace that Peru faced, from narco-terrorism in Peru, shows that we do know how to do these things, even in tough situations like that.” Here, Peruvian President Fujimori inspects the interior of the Japanese diplomatic residence in Lima on April 23, 1997, after the government raid on MRTA terrorists holding hostages there.*

backing, and cooperation of the nations in the region, if there is the will to eliminate narco-terrorism, I think it can be brought under control. And I refer back to you, Patricio. I say that what you know of the experience of Peru, and the difficulties and menace that Peru faced, from narco-terrorism in Peru, shows that we do know how to do these things, even in tough situations like that. And I think Colombia’s may be worse than Peru, at the time being, but I think, as General Bedoya thinks, I think we can win it back.

[Some interchange, which was inaudible.]

**Q:** Hello, this is Yesil Murat from the *Turkiye Daily* newspaper. Mr. LaRouche, if you are elected President, what kind of major changes are you going to make in the U.S. foreign policy? And the second one is, how do you see the present situation in the U.S.-Turkey relations? If you became the President of the United States, do you plan to improve them?

**LaRouche:** Yes, on the second part, yes.

On the first part, there’s the following: I’m just in process of producing a video report, which will be about an hour and a half duration, on the subject of a strategic assessment of U.S. foreign policy. It will be in the form of a Presidential State of the Union message on foreign policy—that’s the form it will have—which would express *exactly* what the history of U.S. foreign policy is—good and bad—what the American position is, and ought to be. This will mean some very profound changes, from what has happened during most of this century.

During most of this century, since the assassination of

William McKinley, with the exception of Franklin Roosevelt and some measures under Jack Kennedy, before he was murdered, the general policy of the United States on foreign policy has been a cumulative disaster, overall. There have been some good spots, but overall, a disaster. I would propose to reverse that, to go back to a more traditional policy, like that of the Careys, or John Quincy Adams, as Secretary of State and President, to the Abraham Lincoln approach to foreign policy. So I would make a fundamental change in U.S. foreign policy, but to bring it back to what I consider the traditional American position.

**Murat:** But, sir, you didn’t mention about improving U.S.-Turkish relations?

**LaRouche:** Well, the problem is that Turkey is in a mess, and the mess is obvious from the effects of the recent earthquake disaster. The point is, it’s obvious that Turkey needs cooperation, as the whole region does, in order to build up the infrastructure, and build up the technological capabilities, so that Turkey, for example, as a test case, would be able to deal with the kind of disaster that this earthquake represented, and to prevent the worst effects which we’ve just gone through.

Now, obviously, I know from my earlier experience with Turkey—I was there some years ago, over a decade ago—that there are projects, such as great water projects, reforestation, other projects of development, which are needed. I think that the policy of the United States, toward Turkey in general, apart from the general question of stability in the entire region, is to promote, through cooperation, promote these kinds of developments, which Turkish leaders in the past, since the

great founder of modern Turkey [Kemal Attaturk] set this into motion, which developed Turkey as a fully modern nation, fully capable of addressing these technological and related problems of development.

**Nate Sher, *Asahi Shimbun*:** No question.

**Q:** Mr. LaRouche, Nelson Thall, the Media News, Toronto. As President, how will you use your powers to educate Americans to the real history, especially as it has been articulated by scholars such as Anton Chaitkin?

**LaRouche:** Well, the first thing to do, is you've got to inspire people. The function of a President is essentially, as the chief magistrate. And the President should be, at least a President of the United States, should be in the model of what Plato referred to as the philosopher-king. An old man, who's concerned with wisdom and knowledge, with what's needed by the nation. And in the course of that, doing that, part of that kind of leadership, is to attend to the basic policy questions which have to be addressed, on the order of the day, and crises.

What I would emphasize, as I emphasize in this hour-and-a-half package we're putting together now — what I emphasize is that, you know, 12,000 years ago, there was great flooding in many parts of the world. The ocean levels rose to about 300 to 400 feet above what they had been earlier, during the glacial period, to about their present levels. Not all in that period, but the greatest part. Whole civilizations were *wiped out* by this mass flooding, associated with the melting of the glaciers. Meteorites have destroyed whole sections of the world's culture, at one time or another. Here we sit on this planet, obviously among the things we have to deal with on the planet, are the things that come at the planet from off it. And therefore, if we're wise, we will have a major revival of the space program, using it as a science driver, to produce the new technologies and scientific discoveries needed on Earth, but at the same time, to put us in a position, where somewhere down the line, we'll be capable of dealing with problems of natural disasters from outer space.

I think that that kind of a program, and that kind of an educational program, will inspire people to begin to wish to learn.

**Q:** This is Sergey Usoltsev, *Russian Analytical Review*, Moscow.

One of the most [inaudible] economic problems of the present-day Russian policy is the adoption of the state budget, which goes under the great pressure of the IMF [International Monetary Fund], and is influenced by the Russian corruption scandal. What is your attitude to the draft Russian budget, and to the methodology of its formation, and also what consequences of such budgetary realization do you see, including the consequences in U.S.-Russian relations?

Thank you.

**LaRouche:** During the period 1988-1989, I had the opportunity to propose a policy for dealing with what I foresaw — and that is in my Oct. 12, 1988 address — foresaw as the coming disintegration of the Warsaw Pact, and Soviet Union's. . . . [interruption]

What happened was, I proposed that the breakup, the crisis in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, be taken as an opportunity for a new form of cooperation, under which the technological capabilities, which lodge in the Warsaw Pact system, scientific and related capabilities, will be mobilized in order to build cooperation in great infrastructure projects, throughout Eurasia, which would then make use of antiquated, and other plants in Eastern Europe, Warsaw Pact nations.

Other people such as Alfred Herrhausen, who was the head of Deutsche Bank, during 1989, had proposed the same policy, or same kind of policy, shortly before he was assassinated. He didn't deliver the speech in New York, but that was his policy.

We had a similar case in the assassination of Rohwedder, in the east German development, after the unification. So, what happened instead, is that Margaret Thatcher, as initiator, together with François Mitterrand, and with the cooperation of George Bush, said, Germany must not rise again, and took measures to prevent Germany from entering into significant cooperation with eastern Europe and Russia — of this type. At the same time, beginning 1991, George Bush, in cahoots with Thatcher, imposed upon a Russia, a bunch of conditionalities which were intended to destroy the former Soviet economy. Those policies, together with the gangster business, which came largely from Britain, and from the United States — which was imposed with IMF help on Russia — has almost destroyed the economy of Russia, and has had genocidal effects on some parts of its population.

Obviously, this present budget is a reflection of the effects of this policy decision from the 1989-1991 period. The only way we're going to stop the problem that now exists, is by recognizing, this policy has been a terrible mistake. And getting into cooperation, cooperative relations, to reverse it, and go on to the kind of policy I proposed in 1988, and that I proposed again in 1989, as, for example, Alfred Herrhausen, head of Deutsche Bank, also proposed in that period.

**Q:** This is Aurelia Mitchell again.

Of course, you know that racism still remains a problem in the United States, one of the biggest problems in the United States. And I want to know, are you going to be like most — not all, perhaps — Democratic candidates, where you take the African-American vote for granted?

**LaRouche:** No, not at all. I think anyone who knows my fighting record, knows quite the contrary.

Yes, the problem is, we have a New South policy, which expresses itself in the Stone Age side of the Republican Party (and some parts of the Democratic, also) have some Stone Age proclivities, eh? I've looked at specifically — until the



*Margaret Thatcher receives the Medal of Freedom from George Bush, March 7, 1991, after Operation Desert Storm. Thatcher and Bush imposed austerity conditionalities upon Russia, which were intended to destroy the former Soviet economy—with the genocidal effects we see today.*

middle of the 1970s, under civil rights influence, we had an improvement in the degree of representation of African-Americans. Beginning about the middle of 1975, particularly with the accession of Rehnquist at the Supreme Court, as an Associate Justice then, we've had a reversal in that trend, and we've had massive persecution, attempts to eliminate the African-American from *effective* political influence. And that's one of the things I want to reverse.

**Mitchell:** Okay, well, I think that what I'm saying also, is that so many times, we hear what you're talking about—this same type of rhetoric—where we're looking at just the political, and African-Americans are also looking at the economic, more so than anything else, than the idea of just everybody loving everybody. We're more interested in economics. So, what can you say as far as that end of the stick, which I'm saying that everybody's been missing, the economic end of the stick, as far as African-Americans in this country.

**LaRouche:** Take two areas, or three areas, actually: health care, education, and employment, the three areas that are—

**Mitchell:** What about ownership? Business ownership—we still have a hard time owning—

**LaRouche:** The problem is, we have a population which has been destroyed. Actually, the poor in this country, especially the so-called minority classes, Hispanic, African-American, and others, the largest part were having great increase in suffering, especially among youth. We have no com-

petent education being delivered, generally, in the school systems, and public education, to these strata. We have no jobs open to assimilate these poorly educated, and marginally educated strata, skill strata, into employment to move on the upward track. We have, therefore, no base in those communities, which are predominantly African-American, in which you can get a natural growth of African-American business. So, with the health-care policies we have today, with the education policies, with our present employment policies, our infrastructure policies, and with our tax policies, there is no chance for improvement of this economic situation under those conditions. Unless those conditions are changed, nothing is going to work. It will be, as you say, all rhetoric—a lot of fine rhetoric, but no result. I'm concerned about performance.

**Q:** Mr. LaRouche? It's Nelson Thall in Toronto again. Another question: Earlier on, you said that the mass media orchestrates politics, which I think is quite right. Being that the media cartels control the mass media, how do you think you'll be able to break into politics?

**LaRouche:** Oh, I break in—that's not the problem. The problem is, that some people who control most of the mass media, among their other evils that they have, are not too happy with me. And the more effective I become, the more nasty they become.

Now, what we're doing is, the basic problem lies with the people themselves. Because the people in general, in this republic, have allowed this to happen. They sit back and let themselves be pushed around, and they do virtually nothing



*There is no chance for improvement in the economic situation of the African-American community, says LaRouche, unless we fix our education policies—along with our health-care policies, our infrastructure policies, our tax policies. Without that, “nothing is going to work.”*

about it. They say, you’ve got to go along with public opinion—you’ve got to go along with the mass media. They see candidates getting up there, making jackasses of themselves, at these so-called League of Women Voters talks, where the reporters define the questions! Define the issues! And they say, *we* define the issues—you, the politicians, have to respond to the news media on the issues, and the people sit back and watch it.

Now, we’ve come to a time where all this nonsense is coming to a screeching end. We are in a disaster, and people smell it. Some people feel it, others smell it. And they’re going to start demanding answers. You’re going to have a revolt from within mass constituencies, against the kind of leaders who want to endorse the Al Gores and the George Bushes, or people like that.

**Debra Hanania-Freeman:** Okay, Lyn, I have a question that’s been handed to me from the *Birmingham World*. Appar-

ently, they can hear you, but they’re having problems being heard.

The question is: More than half of America’s black elected officials are, at any one time, either under investigation, indictment, or have found that they have been under investigation of indictment during the course of the last year. This is a problem that emanates out of the U.S. Department of Justice—we know that you’re familiar with it; would you please address how you would deal with it?

**LaRouche:** Look at a comparable case, just to get the picture. This, of course, I know. But look at a comparable case. We have a case of the AFL-CIO leadership. It has come under tremendous pressure from the Justice Department, from the same crowd in the Justice Department which, over the years, over the past period, over the past almost 25 years, has been increasingly victimizing African-American elected officials, at all levels, especially the state level. Trying to get them out, in this ultimately racist operation. This includes Jack Keeny, Mark Richard, just to *name names* of people in the permanent bureaucracy who are key to this. Some parts of the FBI have been part of that. Al Gore was part of this whole process.

The point is, that here the AFL-CIO is being implicitly blackmailed, not by the President, as far as I know, but by *Al Gore*, on behalf of Al Gore, to endorse Al Gore, and bring that to the convention, as the price, implicitly, of not being prosecuted for failing to endorse Al Gore—that is, prosecuted on the pretext of some deal with Carey, in terms of the former Teamster election.

Now, this is what goes on all the time. The problem is, is to—I’m convinced, that to deal with this victimization of the African-American, we have to look at the fact that it’s *not just* the African-American. Others, who should be aware, including the AFL-CIO leadership, are now nakedly, under naked pressure, from the Justice Department, to endorse Al Gore, or else! And this is the same kind of thing that the African-American politician’s been facing all this time.

I think that what we have to have in this country is a general popular revolt, by the citizens, who will start behaving like citizens, rather than seeking approval from the mass media, for going along with what they consider public opinion. The biggest problem I have in politics, is so many people who agree with me, and who I like, will say, “Yeah, you’re right. But we can’t go along with you, because we’ll get in a lot of trouble.” And thus *nobody*, or very few of us, stand up and actually fight. I would hope that this time, with this election coming around, that more of us will stand up and fight.

The African-American cannot win this fight alone. We have to point out to other people, who watched what’s happened to the African-American elected official, and say, “It’s happening to me too.” As a matter of fact, we’re getting the same kind of treatment to the entire AFL-CIO leadership—in the middle of their conference, today!—which the African-Americans had all the way along, from the same source, from



the Justice Department. And the American people have got to get up on their hind legs, and say, "No more!" And we've got to insist they do it.

**Q:** Mr. LaRouche, I have a question. This is Stanislav Menshikov again, from Moscow—*Slovo*. Are you going to take on Bradley and Gore in a public discussion, with them of the issues that Bradley has suggested right now for discussion. I mean, the health issue, and other social issues.

**LaRouche:** We will do that. We're already doing it.

**Menshikov:** Excuse me, because, you see, you're talking about the citizens, but the citizens will not be let into that discussion, quite easily, through the media, or maybe Internet. But you could make substantial fight there, right there, and get a lot of support, by proposing things that are more realistic than what these people are proposing.

**LaRouche:** Let me tell you exactly what is said. I just did, over the past month, I did a press conference, transatlantic, with video on both ends, with a number of state legislators and labor people. This tape, the tape was going to be presented, and was agreed to be presented, to Bradley for his people to answer the same questions. They said—they looked at the tape, and they said: We're not going to answer those questions. So, they called off the deal. And then another political sophisticate said, well, look, your candidate (speaking of me) is so effective that any political manager of a candidate, seeing this interview with LaRouche, would say: I'm not going to let my poor slob of a candidate have to face this candidate, LaRouche, in a debate. That's the situation.

And that's the way things go in the United States today.

This started in 1971. In the fall of '71 I had a debate with a fellow, since dead, Abba Lerner, in New York City—

**Menshikov:** Abba Lerner is a famous man—

**LaRouche:** Well, we destroyed him in a debate, and after that, his friends agreed, LaRouche is never going to be in a public debate with any prominent figure, ever after that.

We will smash through, we will smash through on this. The time has come. It's time to think of a revolution in politics in the United States.

**Menshikov:** Does that mean that you are doomed to—

**LaRouche:** If I'm doomed, the world is doomed—I'm not going to worry about that. I'm not doomed.

**Freeman:** I would interject at this point, that the panel discussion with the state legislators and the labor leaders that Mr. LaRouche referred to, was turned into a 90-minute tape, and at this point, there are tens of thousands of copies of that tape in circulation in the United States, and I suspect that before the end of the month, that number; we do have plans to put tens of thousands of that tape in circulation.

Just to underline what Mr. LaRouche said. The initial



*Stanislav Menshikov of Russia.*

agreement that the panel, which was an independent panel, would have the opportunity to interview the other two candidates. What occurred again, after they viewed the tape, after the other campaigns viewed the tape, they became extremely upset, and said that they would only answer questions if the questions were submitted to them in advance, so that the candidate could prepare to answer the questions.

**Menshikov:** In advance, a year ago?

**Freeman:** No, I don't think that far in advance. They just wanted the opportunity to prepare answers. It is our intention to continue the process of such panel discussions. It is our intention to broadcast such discussions on the Internet on a weekly basis, during the course of the campaign; and ultimately, we think that the best alternative is to let the American citizens decide, who is more qualified.

**Menshikov:** More Americans should know about LaRouche, and hear his program.

**Q:** Mary Otto at Knight-Ridder. A couple of domestic questions. I've really got three. I'll just run them real quick, because they're very short questions. Women's reproductive issues. Ecology—I've read that you call it a dangerous cult. And Jewish voters—how do you intend to win their confidence, or, do you think that's important?

**LaRouche:** Well, let's take it in reverse order.

The question of Jewish voters. I've always been a supporter in Judaism, of the policies which we associate with Moses Mendelssohn. These were the policies on which—a lot of people were *killed* in Germany, and among the Yiddish Renaissance circles in Poland, in Ukraine, Russia, by the Nazis over this issue. The Nazis were determined not only to wipe out Jews, they were determined to wipe out the Moses

Mendelssohn tradition, the Sholom Aleichem tradition, among Jews. And, I've always stood on the side of the victims.

Unfortunately, most of the victims in those countries were wiped out. And, most people today do not know what the issues were. They're ignorant of them. There are some people, rabbis and others, sophisticates, or the present Prime Minister of Israel understands—he's a follower of Moses Mendelssohn—understands that. But most people in the United States don't know what Jewish issues are.

So, I have no problem on Jewish issues. Some people allow themselves to be taken in by propaganda, false propa-

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*What people like me have to do, who are real politicians—not professional politicians, but thinkers—We have to get our case out to thinking citizens, who influence other citizens, so that when the bomb drops, we're out there, the issues are there, the people can then choose. If they don't choose right, then they're going to pay the price.*

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ganda—that's a different problem. They should find out the truth, before they follow opinion.

But, on the question of ecology. What is taught as ecology, has been taught since the *Silent Spring*, the Rachel Carson thing and so forth, is one continual, anti-scientific fraud. All of us are concerned about the environment—improving it, cleaning it—all who are sane. But what is presented as ecologism, which is anti-people-ism essentially, if you look at the stuff closely, is an unscientific hoax; I'm against it.

In terms of the so-called reproductive issues, I don't think it divides that way. I think that there are such things as human rights, and human rights are the basis for approaching anybody's rights. And everyone who has a concern on the basis of human rights, has a right to express that concern and be heard on it. But I don't believe in these single-issue kinds of issues, because, generally, you find out that single issuism becoming a treatise in hypocrisy. I think you state the whole case, you state on—

**Otto:** But I don't understand, though, about reproductive issues. Should the state be involved in abortion, and things like that, or not?

**LaRouche:** No, it should not be. I'm for right to life,

but I'm not for what the present right-to-life organizations campaign on—on single issuism. I think it's *wrong*. I think the problem we have with these issues, is that we have a Supreme Court, and members of the Federal court, and some of the people in the Congress, who don't know what human rights is. And they don't know what the Constitution means, when it talks about the General Welfare. And therefore you get decisions from the courts, which are idiotic decisions, up and down. And therefore, what has happened, the news media and single-issue people have made a mess out of what is a question of simple humanity. I think these issues are best left to the courts, if we could trust the courts. I don't think that we can trust the courts at this point.

**Prioni:** George Ionyou, from the Greek newspaper. Mr. LaRouche, your proposals about the reconstructin of the Balkans, with a new Marshall Plan, is in full accordance with the official policy of the Greek government. Many of your proposals are fascinating, especially about the world economy, and its global development. Unfortunately, very little of them are known to the American voters, because the mainstream American mass media either totally ignore them, or even worse, distort them. So, great ideas, unfortunately, are not appealing but to a very limited number of people. So, I wonder, if you have considered the possibility of forming an alliance with Mr. Bradley, by coming to a compromise with him, so that he may include your ideas in his agenda, so that Mr. Gore may have less chance to win the race.

**LaRouche:** I see it otherwise.

First of all, don't believe this stuff about the American people. The American people are great liars, and what they tell you they think, and what they actually think, are often two things. When you're dealing with Americans, you have to confront them and say, look, Joe, don't give me that stuff—you know that you don't believe any of that. And that's the first thing you have to do. Then you have to find out what Americans really think, because they lie to you most of the time. Like that, good Joe. . . . [interruption]

The point is, the question of Bradley is: Is Bradley a qualified candidate? Now, under normal circumstances, I would say, on the basis of acceptable, personally acceptable as a candidate, yes, Bradley is personally acceptable for ordinary circumstances. Gore is totally unacceptable for any circumstances. We've seen too much of him already.

Now, as far as Bradley is concerned, I pick no fight. I've stated the issues. He's done a useful job in bringing Gore down to size. It's very good. But, Bradley has no clear policy, and has not yet defined a clear policy. He, like [Sen.] Paul Wellstone, who I think is sort of a co-thinker of his, has raised a number of issues, which I think are legitimate issues, and with which I am in sympathy. But I do not think that Bradley is *qualified* to be President of the United States under these circumstances.

Finally, we have to take into account that we're going to

have a Pearl Harbor effect. The world financial system, in the very near future, whether weeks, months, I don't know—but it's going to collapse. When that collapses, you're going to have a Pearl Harbor effect. The day the bomb dropped: At that time, the American people are going to have to wake up. And they will wake, as they woke up when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. They'll wake up.

And what people like me have to do, who are real politicians—not professional politicians, but thinkers—we have to understand that. We have to get our case out to *thinking* citizens, who influence other citizens, so that when the bomb drops, we're out there, the issues are there, the people can then choose. If they don't choose right, then they're going to pay the price. And there's nothing I can do about it. If they're not willing to change, and change their policies—there's nothing you can do to save this population from going through hell, and most of the world besides.

It's the same thing that's happening in the Balkans. People are going through *hell* there. They're facing worse hell as the winter comes on. Nothing is going to be done about it there. The United States government is not going to do anything about it. Bradley will not take it—not the way it has to be taken on. European governments won't take it on now, the way it has to be taken on. The people are going to die *en masse* in the Balkans.

And it's the underbelly of Europe, which is going to contribute to sinking the whole European economy—and they still won't do anything about it. It shows that, in the final analysis, the responsibility for the survival of populations and nations lies with the people themselves.

I have confidence that people will wake up under certain conditions. You have to be patient with them, because sometimes they can be stubbornly—refuse to wake. But I'm confident. This is not a hopeless situation.

**Mitchell:** It's interesting that you use Pearl Harbor as an analogy. Of course, we got into that, because we were following an isolationist policy, so to speak. Are you an isolationist?

**LaRouche:** No, not at all.

**Nate Sher, *Asahi Shimbun*:** I've been listening to you for about the last hour and a half, and pretty much all I've heard is a bunch of big words, seemingly strung together, in a way that makes absolutely no sense. I've yet to hear a specific policy recommendation. I've yet to hear you answer any of the questions about health care, education, welfare reform, defense spending, with a specific—"This is what I plan to do as President. I will ban soft money, I will do this." Would you care to respond?

**LaRouche:** Well, I would say, I have responded. You start from the top, you start from the policy, and you go to the concrete. I have very specific policies on health policy, which is revival of the Hill-Burton policy for hospital care—


**Sher:** That failed miserably.

**LaRouche:** No, no. The Hill-Burton policy was the most successful health policy ever run in the United States in the 20th century. Until it was sunk, in 1975, beginning in New York with the Big MAC operation there, where they began to shut the hospitals down. The most successful health policy we ever had, in terms of general public health policy.

Education policy? We've got to scrap all of the reforms which were made in the last 25, 30 years. Get rid of them all. They've destroyed our educational system. They've made dumb children. And we've made dumb adults, who don't know how to think about history, or anything else. Just scrap it! Get back to a Classical art, science, education policy, in our secondary schools, and the preparation for the secondary schools in the primary schools. Those are very clear policies.

On economic policy—precisely. Bretton Woods system, a very precise policy—it *worked!* It worked. And what has happened since 1971, has not worked. It's been an unmitigated disaster, as you know, in Japan, for example.

**Menshikov:** I think Mr. LaRouche has given the best answers to most questions, that any candidate in the United States has done up to now, and I completely disagree with the previous gentleman.



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