

## LaRouche: The Agenda From Now to the Convention

*Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche spoke to the press in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on March 29. He was introduced by his Pennsylvania representative Steve Douglas.*

The issue here is that there are a number of breaking developments—which will be breaking between now, and the July Democratic Convention, and then in the period following that—which are poorly understood presently around the United States.

First of all, we are in the worst financial crisis in modern history; worse, in principle, than that of 1928-33, and there is yet no perception of the severity, or the immediacy, of the crisis, in the Congress generally—with a few exceptions—or in the state capitals. The problem is, we have a situation in which at least 48 of the 50 states are bankrupt: That is, they can not, within reason, raise sufficient tax revenues presently to meet their obligations as states, and the communities which depend upon state governments.

Therefore, without an expansion of employment, in large degree it will be impossible to solve the problem of the states. The states, because of the nature of the international crisis, can not generate by themselves, under our Constitution, the amount of credit needed to sponsor the

large-scale infrastructure projects which must be done to revive the states themselves. Therefore, this means that we have to go back to a Franklin Roosevelt approach to dealing with a *depression*, in order to deal with even the most immediate problems which are facing government at the Federal and state levels—and the local levels as well.

This is not understood. There is a delusion in the United States, contrary to a greater sense of reality in Europe, that this system can be held together, even until the November election. In the United States, in the leadership of both the Democratic and Republican parties, there is the delusion that by agreement between the two parties, they can prevent a collapse from occurring, until *after* the November elections. That probably is not possible.

So, these are the kinds of conditions that we face. We also face a security problem internationally, and in the United States—not what Cheney is describing, but a perfectly legitimate security problem which is going to become more acute, as the recent Spanish Madrid terror indicates, in a way which is typical: As back during the 1920s and '30s, when you go into a depression, you begin to get some of the devils out of the woodwork, and they do this sort of thing. And therefore, presently, our understanding of the nature and the origin of these terrorist threats, both at the Federal level, especially, and somewhat at the state level, is not yet clear.

So, that's what I think are the issues that must be addressed during this period, as I say, up through the Boston convention of the Democratic Party, and beyond, going into November. So, that's what I'm about, and that's what we're going to be having a meeting here about today. I'll take any questions, of course.

from supporters, union representatives, and legislators and their staffers—including both Black Caucus members and lawmakers representing the formerly industrialized areas of western Pennsylvania. Rep. Leanna Washington, chairman of the Pennsylvania Black Legislative Caucus, made a strong statement thanking LaRouche for coming to Harrisburg, and asking about the role African-Americans would play in his Administration; she noted that she was familiar with the candidate's landmark Talladega, Alabama Martin Luther King Day speech, circulating nationally on DVD. LaRouche said that he wants the image of Martin Luther King to be restored in his Administration, to acknowledge Dr. King as the conscience of the nation.

At the end of the reception, Rep. James stressed the importance of the primary vote on April 27.

The LaRouche Youth's mid-day rally on the steps of the Capitol Rotunda was addressed by four young leaders—on the work of Ben Franklin; President Franklin Roosevelt; the

principle of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution; and the economic and scientific leadership of LaRouche. Their speeches were punctuated with Classical canons and Bach's "Jesu, meine Freude" motet, heard throughout the Capitol building. During the morning, the young organizers had met with both Democrats and Republicans in the legislature—the latter having a growing interest in LaRouche's 18-month mobilization against the Cheney/neo-conservative grip on the White House.

A national Associated Press wire story, "LaRouche Makes Pitch in Pa. Capitol Building," went out on the candidate's press conference. It reported that LaRouche "said the country is in its 'worst financial crisis in modern history.' He advocated investing heavily in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors to create jobs and criticized the process by which presidential candidates are picked by the parties, saying that voters are not heavily enough invested in the issues."