

The following is reproduced from an [EIR Special Report of February 2013](#), “Obama’s War on America: 9/11 Two,” Appendix 1.

January 2001

LaRouche Forecasts A ‘Reichstag Fire’

Lyndon LaRouche gave a webcast address on Jan. 3, 2001, as George W. Bush Administration was being assembled, and John Ashcroft had been nominated as Attorney General. This exchange took place during the question and answer session.

The Ashcroft Appointment

Question from a Member of the Congressional Black Caucus: Mr. LaRouche, during your last seminar, you talked to us about the Southern Strategy of Richard Nixon. Now, since that seminar occurred, we have a nominee for Attorney General of the United States, who’s an inveterate Confederate, and a professed supporter of Jefferson Davis. We do not see how he can possibly uphold the Constitution, that he clearly rejects. However, we are not represented on the Senate Judiciary Committee. How do you think we should proceed?

LaRouche: Two things: First of all, when Bush put Ashcroft in, as a nomination for the Justice Department, he made it clear: The Ku Klux Klan was riding again. That’s clear.

Now, Bush—maybe Bush didn’t know what he was doing, but somebody in the Bush team did, and a lot of them had the voice to say something about it.

Ashcroft was an insult to the Congress. If the Democrats in the Congress capitulate to the Ashcroft nomination, the Congress is finished.

This is pretty much like the same thing that Germany did, on Feb. 28, 1933, when the famous *Notverordnung* [emergency rule] was established. Just remember, that after the Reichstag fire, Goering, who commanded at that time—he was the Minister-President of Prussia at the time—set into motion an opera-

tion. As part of this, operating under rules of Carl Schmitt, a famous pro-Nazi jurist of Germany, they passed this act, called the *Notverordnung*, the emergency act, which gave the state the power, according to Schmitt’s doctrine, to designate which part of its own population were enemies, and to imprison them, freely. And to eliminate them. This was the dictatorship.

Now, remember, that Hitler had come into power on Jan. 30 of that same year, less than two months earlier. He’d come in as a minority party, which had been discredited in the previous election. He was put in by bankers, including the father of President George Bush, the former President, Prescott Bush. Prescott Bush, as agent for Harriman of New York, worked with the British banks, to put Adolf Hitler into power in January of 1933. At that time Hitler was discredited, and about to be bombed out. He was stuck into power, because that was the last chance to get him in power.

Everyone said, no, Hitler’s not going to make it, because the majority of the population is against him. Then, on Feb. 28, 1933, the *Notverordnung* act was passed, on the pretext of the Reichstag fire. And this established a dictatorship, which Germany did not get rid of until 1945.

Now, I’m not suggesting that the case of Ashcroft is comparable to the Reichstag fire. But, it’s a provocation, a deliberate provocation. And if the Democratic Party and decent Republicans do not combine to throw that nomination back in the face of the nominator, this Congress isn’t worth anything. That is, because it will have surrendered its dignity.

If you give those kinds of powers, of a Justice Department, to Ashcroft, and what he represents, under that flag, you don’t have any justice left in the United States. And any Democratic senator who disagrees with me, shouldn’t be a senator. He doesn’t represent the Democratic Party. So, it’s going to be up to the people to make sure.

Now, what I would say is this: Members of the House of Representatives do have some powers. They may not be the formal powers of the Judiciary Committee, but they have some powers. And if the Congress makes it clear, and gets some of the senators, the Democratic senators, also to make it clear, that we’re not going to put up with this Ashcroft provocation, we can stop it. But little protest movements are not going to do.

You're going to have to jam the works up on this one. You're going to have to make it impossible for Bush to get his nominations through, as long as that Ashcroft nomination is not eliminated.

He'll pull him back. You get the determination to make him pull it back, he'll pull it back. You've got the strength. Unless the Democrats want to sell out totally. So, I think we need a *revolution* of the Congress, the House of Representatives.

And, the Congress has some powers in this matter. Remember, the Congress has not yet certified the President-elect. I think that the question of certifying the President-elect is also a question, this Ashcroft question, to be thrown on the table, on the question of certifying President-elect Bush, so-called, as President-elect. It's an act that has to be done by the Congress.

I would pull every string in the book that's serious, as a legislative string, to make sure that Ashcroft is not made the Attorney General. And I think that members of the Congress, members of the Democratic Party, should act on that point, as if their life might depend upon it. Because the lives of many of them might just depend upon that.

The Reichstag Fire

You don't know... We're going into a period in which either we do the kinds of things I indicated in summary to you today, or else, what you're going to have, is not a government. You're going to have something like a Nazi regime. Maybe not initially, at the surface. What you're going to have is a government which cannot pass legislation, meaningful legislation. How does a government which can not pass meaningful legislation, under conditions of crisis, govern? They govern, in every case in known history, by what's known as crisis-management.

In other words, just like the Reichstag fire in Germany, How did that happen?

Well, a Dutchman, who was a known lunatic, used to set fires, as a provocateur. And he went around Germany setting fires. And one night, with no security available for the Reichstag [Parliament], he went into the Reichstag building, and set the joint on fire. And Hitler came out and said, "Well, let's hope the Communists did it." And Goering moved, and the Schmitt apparatus, that is, of Carl Schmitt, the jurist. And they passed the *Notverordnung*. And on the basis of a provo-

cation—that is, crisis-management—they rammed through the *Notverordnung*, which established Hitler as dictator of Germany.

What you're going to get, with a frustrated Bush administration, if it's determined to prevent itself from being opposed, its will, you're going to get crisis-management. Where members of the special warfare types, of the secret government, the secret police teams, will set off provocations, which will be used to bring about dictatorial powers and emotion, in the name of crisis-management.

You will have small wars set off in various parts of the world, which the Bush Administration will respond to, with crisis-management methods of provocation. That's what you'll get. And that's what the problem is. And you have to face that. You've got to control this process now, while you still have the power to do so. Don't be like the dumb Germans, who, after Hitler was appointed to the Chancellorship, in January 1933, sat back and said, "No, we're going to defeat him at the next election." There never was a next election—there was just this "*Jawohl*," for Hitler as dictator. Because the *Notverordnung* of February 1933, *eliminated* the political factor.

And that's the danger you'll get here: If the Bush Administration is determined to hammer its way through on this thing, it's not resisted, and you allow it to do so, you will find that it is strongly tempted. And you look at—remember what George Bush's specialty was, as I remember very well. Remember Iran-Contra, one of the biggest mass-murder swindles in modern history, run by Vice President Bush, under special powers, given to him under special orders, with the Executive Branch. *He* ran Iran-Contra, the biggest drug-running game in the world. And behind Bush—and I know these guys very well, because I've been up against them; most of my problems came from these characters—these guys, pushed to the wall, will come out with knives in the dark. They will not fight you politically; they will get you in the back. They will use their thugs to get you. That's their method—know it.

So, don't sit back and be nice guys. When Bush makes some proposal, which is sensible, it should be treated as a sensible proposal. But when he tried to shove a provocation down your throat, like Ashcroft: No. No way, buddy. No way.

This thing stops right now.