

## LaRouche: 'Develop beam weapons, or surrender'

by Steven Bardwell and Donald Baier

U.S. Democratic Party leader Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. took his campaign for an overhaul of U.S. defense policy to the capital of West Germany late last month. He appeared as the featured speaker at a Nov. 22 seminar in the city of Bonn on how the development of relativistic beam technologies, capable of destroying nuclear warheads in the stratosphere, will change the global strategic equation and provide the impetus for economic revitalization of the depression-strapped industrial nations of the West.

LaRouche's policy presentation in Bonn came only hours after a Nov. 21 national defense-policy statement by President Reagan, and days after Yuri Andropov's first speech as Soviet party chairman. Both statements gave serious indications of a growing momentum toward the development of major new defensive weapons using beam technologies, a superpower strategy which LaRouche first proposed to a Washington, D.C. audience in February 1982 as the only means to remove the decades-long threat of thermonuclear war, and to resolve the economic crisis now propelling the world toward war.

These first tentative signs of interest in the next major development in strategic weapons reflects the cumulative impact of the campaign for beam-weapons development coordinated by LaRouche's political action committee, the National Democratic Policy Committee. LaRouche's Nov. 22 Bonn seminar speech, the latest in a series of strategic policy seminars taking place in capitals of the major industrial nations, elaborated the only implementable strategy for the

construction and deployment of this vital revolutionary technology.

### Shock effect in Bonn

LaRouche insisted to the audience, which included diplomats from 17 nations, as well as military, industrial and scientific professionals, that only U.S. and Soviet development of defensive weapons capable of shooting down nuclear-armed missiles in mid-flight, could neutralize the threat of nuclear war. Nor was this exclusively a military question, LaRouche insisted: beam weaponry is exactly the sort of necessary "science driver" undertaking in the tradition of the Manhattan and Apollo Projects that has the capability to generate "economic shock waves" through high technology spinoffs, without which the economies of the United States and Western Europe cannot recover.

Challenged by a military attaché of a major NATO nation, who argued that beam weapons would open the door for the employment of offensive weapons in space, and increase the danger of war, LaRouche delivered his bluntest warning yet on the defense question to the governments of the U.S.A. and Western Europe.

"The Soviet Union is close to perfection of such a system in any case," he said. "What will you do then? Why not write a letter of surrender to Andropov now and get the agony over with?"

"Beam weapons have two implications," LaRouche continued. "If one side gets the advantage first, the other has lost

World War III. If both in parallel proceed to develop effective beam defense systems, then they will negotiate an entirely new set of rules to replace Mutually Assured Destruction.”

It was perhaps symptomatic of the problem in Western strategic thinking that although a representative from the U.S.S.R. was present for his address, no one from the U.S. government was in attendance. The United States and Britain were the countries conspicuous by their absence from an audience that included embassy representatives from Japan, the People's Republic of China, Korea, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Austria, France, Belgium, Spain, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Canada, and Madagascar, as well as military representatives from the West German Bundeswehr and the Julich Nuclear Research Center, and the leading German newspaper *Die Welt*.

### **Economic essentials**

“We cannot separate the political and the economic aspect of the strategic problem today,” LaRouche began. He reminded the audience of the fundamental shift in the strategic balance in the Soviets' favor during the past 20 years, a development directly related to the Johnson administration's post-1966 decision to dismantle the scientific and technological momentum of the NASA space effort in favor of a post-industrial “Great Society.” Through deindustrialization, LaRouche said, the United States has lost its in-depth strategic war-fighting capability, leaving it with little to fall back on except a dangerous nuclear blackmail capability its own weakness is putting it under increasing pressure to use.

This decay has sharply accelerated since the 1979-80 advent of U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker's high-interest-rate shock. LaRouche told his Bonn audience that after examining the catastrophic affect of the Volcker measures on the United States, it was quite likely that West Germany could have 5 million unemployed by this summer, as militarily vital industry is shut down.

LaRouche demonstrated that under such policies as Volcker's an economy or group of economies reaches a point of such structural collapse that they cannot be automatically restarted, “and we have reached this point already in the United States and perhaps also in the Federal Republic. Only the selective introduction of qualitative new technologies into the overall economy can revive the economic process,” he contended. The U.S. economy has been driven through a series of devastating downward phase changes. Now it can only be brought back up by concentrating the margin of new capital investment in areas of the highest available technology, instead of spreading out investment and dissipating its impact on productivity.

From this standpoint, LaRouche blasted the “conventional buildup” policy of Maxwell Taylor and others as “pure parasitical waste” which will destroy remaining economic productivity if put into effect. By contrast, concentration of massive Manhattan Project-style investment in defensive

beam technologies on the frontiers of science, if allowed to spill over into the civilian economy as during the NASA effort, will actually increase overall productivity at no net social cost, despite a seemingly high initial dollar outlay to install the beam systems. “This is the way historically that technological advances create economic shock waves,” LaRouche emphasized [see Special Report].

“Finally and happily, Edward Teller and I are agreed that the only way to seek a durable and lasting peace . . . for the coming decades is to commit ourselves as outpourers of high technology, to transmit this to developing nations,” said LaRouche. “If we see this task as the great central task of the next 50 years and enlist the Soviets to join with us in this, this will be the basis of a durable peace.” Beam weapons in themselves will not end the danger of war, LaRouche stressed, but will restore balance and a crucial element of rationality to strategic thinking. “Beam weapons are not perfect; they are only good.”

Speaking with LaRouche was Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum, who reviewed the scientific grounding for beam technology laid by the 1859 paper by German mathematical physicist Bernhard Riemann, “On the Propagation of Plane Waves of Finite Amplitude.” LaRouche has many times credited his study of Riemann 30 years ago as the genesis of his successful economic method.

### **Changes in Washington**

A similar meeting was held for a U.S. audience two days before the Bonn meeting in the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C., chaired by Dr. Steven Bardwell and Paul Gallagher, two of LaRouche's American collaborators from the Fusion Energy Foundation.

Gallagher and Bardwell presented a two-hour outline of the LaRouche assessment of the impact of beam weapons to a standing-room audience of 65 congressional staff members, diplomats, Executive branch representatives, and members of the press.

Most remarkable was the contrast with a similar seminar held in Washington six months before. According to Bardwell, “the atmosphere in Washington has changed dramatically over the past six months—all layers in Washington are now looking at the beam issue from the standpoint of having to make policy, not merely out of academic interest.”

The seriousness of the questions posed by the congressional staff representatives, as well as the intense interest shown by the 17 members of the diplomatic corps, are indicative of an ongoing shift in Washington. Gallagher summarized the effect of the seminar on the audience: “Most Congressmen have yet to make up their minds on the question of defense weapons and their development, but they all know that the time has come at which they must make up their minds. In the seminar we posed the problem of the danger of nuclear war, as well as a means of dealing with that threat—no one else has done that.”