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## A 21-Year Fight

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# LaRouche's campaigns for the Presidency

by Susan Welsh

*Idiots in the U.S. media sometimes refer to Lyndon LaRouche—when they mention him at all—as a “perennial Presidential candidate.” In fact, he has run for the nation’s highest office in every election since 1976, and in each campaign, he has brought the highest level of policy deliberation to bear, in a political arena that has generally been characterized by venality and intellectual bankruptcy. His campaigns—most dramatically in the case of the Strategic Defense Initiative—have changed the course of history, bringing into existence a worldwide political movement committed to implementing the solutions he has demanded. Yet, the alternatives LaRouche proposes, particularly in the domain of economic policy, have not been taken up by the governments of the Western world, including the United States. For that reason, the crisis he has forecast, is now fast coming down upon us. In the following brief chronology, we give a sense of some of the fights that LaRouche has waged, without attempting to present a comprehensive picture.*

### 1976

LaRouche campaigned, as the Presidential candidate of the U.S. Labor Party, against Jimmy Carter, who, he charged, was being promoted by the Trilateral Commission of David Rockefeller and Henry Kissinger. LaRouche counterposed the Rockefeller policy of deindustrialization and Malthusianism, to his own program of international economic development, as well as to Soviet research on advanced physical principles that could lead to beam-weapon antiballistic-missile defense.

In LaRouche's first nationally televised Presidential campaign broadcast, on **Nov. 1, 1976**, he showed how the policies of Jimmy Carter's advisers could lead the world to thermonuclear war. He laid out his own proposals for reorganizing the bankrupt international monetary system, creating an International Development Bank to promote the industrialization of the Third World, and thereby, the recovery of the former “advanced sector.”

“There are two dominant tendencies in present U.S. foreign policy,” LaRouche said. “Carter's advisers represent one of those tendencies. Because the world monetary system cre-

ated at the end of World War II is now collapsing—the case of Italy, the case of Britain, the collapse of the Eurobond market, the collapse of the Eurodollar market, the fact that 17 and perhaps 20 developing sector nations are now in default on their international debts, the fact that there is no confidence in the international monetary system—certain forces within the United States are committed to attempting to save this bankrupt monetary system. The methods to which they are resorting are consciously modelled on those used earlier by Hjalmar Schacht, Hitler's finance minister, particularly during the 1933-1936 period.”

LaRouche cited the examples of establishment figures George Ball and William Paddock, who call for reducing the population of Mexico, from 58 million to 28 million people, by a policy of “triage”—allowing the “useless eaters” to die.

### 1980

Campaigning for the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination, LaRouche warned that if the United States continued on the course dictated to it by Henry Kissinger and Zbigniew “Rasputin” Brzezinski, a thermonuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union was likely. Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker's decision to send interest rates into the stratosphere, he said, was putting the industrial and agricultural sectors of the non-communist world out of business, with devastating consequences. In a nationally televised address on **May 31**, LaRouche underlined, “The root of our problem is not merely military weakness. The root of our problem is that our military weakness is a reflection of our combined economic and moral decay, particularly over the period since 1967, the time that some boys in the government decided to cut down NASA.”

LaRouche put forward a solution to the bankrupt economic policies of both incumbent Jimmy Carter, and Republican contender Ronald Reagan: Join with the governments of France and West Germany to put together a new international monetary system, reorganizing the debt of the Third World countries to promote development, and gearing up Western production of capital goods for export to those countries.

Campaigning hard during the New Hampshire primary, LaRouche is widely credited with having knocked George “Skull and Bones” Bush out of the Republican race. LaRouche supporters exposed Bush's political and ideological affinity with the British oligarchy, and his role in the infamous Trilateral Commission.

### 1984

After Ronald Reagan's first term as President, campaigning against Walter Mondale for the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination (and later, as an Independent), LaRouche emphasized the need for a “science-driver” approach to an economic recovery, including the indispensable role of a properly conceived Strategic Defense Initiative.



*LaRouche (left) with Ronald Reagan, campaigning in New Hampshire in 1980. LaRouche's policy design of the Strategic Defense Initiative, which Reagan announced on March 23, 1983, changed the course of world history*

He gave 15 half-hour nationally televised campaign broadcasts, including the following:

**Jan. 21:** "LaRouche Calls for a National Defense Emergency Mobilization." LaRouche reported that nearly two years ago, during a two-day seminar in Washington, D.C., he had proposed a new strategic doctrine for the United States, to an audience which included Soviet officials as well as representatives of U.S. government agencies. His proposals caught fire immediately, and, with the knowledge of the U.S. government, he conducted exploratory discussions privately with Soviet representatives for a period of over 12 months. On March 23, 1983, President Reagan not only announced such a new strategic doctrine, but offered to negotiate with Moscow—as LaRouche had proposed—to bring the age of thermonuclear revenge-weapons to an end. "If the Soviet leaders had accepted the President's offer at that time, tonight you and your family could sleep in knowledge that the age of thermonuclear terror was being brought to an end."

"But, the Soviet Union did not wish peace. They rejected our President's offer with a violence we have not seen from there since Nikita Khrushchev was kicked out." As a result, the situation today, "in general, is far worse than it was at the outbreak of the Berlin crisis or the Cuba crisis under President John Kennedy."

Therefore, LaRouche proposed, the U.S. President must use his Constitutional powers to declare a National Defense Emergency Mobilization, on the precedent of what President Roosevelt did between 1939 and 1945. This must include "federalizing" the Federal Reserve System, and launching

a crash program to give this nation a first-generation anti-missile shield by 1988, and to fill the gaping holes in our defenses. We must also change our policies toward our friends in Latin America and elsewhere, negotiating a sensible reorganization of their debt payments, at between 2% and 4% interest.

**Feb. 4:** "Stopping the Worldwide Economic Collapse." Those people who speak of an economic recovery, LaRouche said, "who talk of prosperity just around the corner, are falling into the same trap that brought down poor Herbert Hoover after the effects of the 1929 world financial collapse. This depression, remember, like all modern economic depressions, is completely unnecessary. During the period 1939 through 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt proved that with the right measures, the Federal government can get us out of a depression any time it chooses, or can stop a depression at any time our government has the sense and the willpower to take the necessary measures."

**March 17:** "Great Projects Versus Kissinger Genocide." Under the policies of Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker and Henry Kissinger, domestic investment in Ibero-America, and elsewhere, is undergoing a catastrophic collapse. The Soviets are about to exploit the grievances caused by those catastrophic policies. "There are people in Washington, friends of Henry Kissinger, who say that the black population of Africa must be wiped out by famine and epidemic. This is not an inference. I am referring to explicit plans. Those plans are already in operation. Presently between 120 and 150 million people in black Africa are being murdered, through processes of famine and epidemic coming



*LaRouche at the Workingman's Club in Manchester, New Hampshire, 1980. LaRouche's campaign was widely credited with destroying the 1980 Presidential ambitions of George Bush.*

out of the friends of Henry Kissinger and the Swiss bankers.”

**March 17-18:** “Reopen America’s Steel Plants Now!” (broadcast to Pennsylvania voters).

**March 26:** “Henry A. Kissinger, Soviet Agent of Influence.”

**April 27:** “The United States Under President Reagan’s ‘Hoover’ Recovery.” “What the U.S. government has done, by supporting the International Monetary Fund and Kissinger’s New York bankers, is to loot the U.S. dollar and to loot the indebted nations, both at the same time.”

**May 31:** “The Ominous Crisis in U.S. Defense Policy.”

**June 1:** “Stopping the Present Spiral of Worldwide Financial Collapse.” LaRouche laid out the major elements of a package of Executive Orders and Emergency Legislation that he would issue, within the first hour after being sworn in as President. These measures include: pegging the dollar to gold; suspending the powers of the Federal Reserve System, and placing the regulation of national economic policy under the agencies specified in the U.S. Constitution; issuing \$500 billion of U.S. Treasury notes for approved categories of lending, including defense, infrastructure development, agriculture, industry, and hard-commodity exports; emergency legislation, mandating the authorization of \$22 billion over four years, to develop and deploy a first generation of strategic ballistic missile defense, using “new physical principles.”

**June 2:** “Solving the Catastrophe in U.S. Foreign Policy.”

**June 11:** “A Sane and Effective U.S. Defense Policy.”

**Sept. 3:** “The Emerging Food Crisis in the United States.”

**Nov. 5:** “Operation Juárez.” LaRouche summed up his proposal to the nations of Ibero-America, known as “Operation Juárez.” “Let us return the foreign policy of the United States to the principles on which our republic was founded. Let us return our thinking about foreign policy toward Ibero-America to the kind of thinking represented by John Quincy Adams and his ambassador to Mexico, Joel Poinsett.”

**Nov. 5:** “Why the Soviet Government Supports Walter Mondale and Fears LaRouche.” Detailing the events leading up to the U.S. endorsement of a Strategic Defense Initiative—and the Soviet rejection of cooperation on such an initiative—LaRouche stated that there are three courses of action that could save the United States from Soviet domination. “First, we must abandon the insane doctrine of nuclear deterrence, as the President proposed on March 23 last year. Second, we must develop rapidly a first generation of strategic ballistic missile defense capable of destroying not less than forty percent of all Soviet missiles which might be launched against the United States or our allies, and must continue to develop and deploy improved systems which will destroy over ninety-five percent of all such missiles. Third, we must change our monetary and economic policies toward both our allies and toward developing nations generally. We must promote rapid technological progress in agriculture and basic industry among all those nations which are either our military allies or merely friendly republics.

We must build a wall of steel, a great wall of powerful economic progress, around the Soviet Union.”

## 1988

LaRouche announced his campaign in a statement on **Oct. 4, 1985**—three years before the Presidential election. His statement emphasized the threat of the AIDS epidemic, in the context of a collapsing economy. “AIDS is the leading issue which every serious candidate must face, but it is also a symbol of the economic and foreign-policy issues in the mind of the majority of citizens.”

In the Spring of 1986, two LaRouche Democrats in Illinois won the primary election for lieutenant governor and secretary of state, resulting in an explosion of worldwide attention to LaRouche’s policies, media coverage, and intensified efforts on the part of LaRouche’s enemies to block his influence. On Oct. 6, 1986, the “Get LaRouche” task force of Federal, state, and local agencies launched a 400-man raid on companies in Leesburg, Virginia associated with LaRouche, and a plan to assassinate the candidate himself was thwarted at the last minute.

Among LaRouche’s principal interventions during the 1988 campaign, was a nationally televised broadcast on **April 12**, in which he graphically compared the world financial crisis to a “bouncing ball” that goes up and down over the short term, while over the longer term, it is steadily falling.

On **Oct. 12**, in a press conference at the Kempinski-Bristol Hotel in Berlin, LaRouche forecast the reunification of Germany, and laid out a U.S. foreign policy appropriate to that perspective. His speech was broadcast on American national television two days later, as a Presidential campaign statement. “The time has come,” he said, “for steps toward the reunification of Germany, with the obvious prospect that Berlin might resume its role as the nation’s capital. . . . The Soviet bloc economy has reached the critical point. In its present form, it will continue to slide downhill from here on.

“We must rebuild our economies to the level at which we can provide, to the nations of the Soviet bloc, an escape from the terrible and worsening effects of their economic suffering. . . . I shall propose that we act to establish ‘Food for Peace’ agreements, with the goal that neither the people of the Soviet Union, nor the developing nations, shall go hungry.”

On the campaign trail in 1988, George Bush said, “Lyndon LaRouche deserves to be in a lot of trouble.” LaRouche was indicted and convicted; he was put in prison, as the result of a political railroad, the week that Bush was inaugurated President, in 1989.

## 1992

LaRouche campaigned, from prison, as a candidate for the Democratic Party’s Presidential nomination. In a statement in **December 1991**, he laid out a program to create 6 million

jobs in the United States, through infrastructure development, such as railway projects, water system projects, and power systems.

With his running-mate, Rev. James Bevel, LaRouche issued *The LaRouche-Bevel Program to Save the Nation: Reversing 30 Years of Post-Industrial Suicide*. The book-length program elaborated policies for economic reconstruction, health care, education, the space program, and foreign policy. It promoted LaRouche’s idea of a “Productive Triangle” of European high-technology development (Paris-Berlin-Vienna), which would generate “spiral arms” of economic progress reaching across Eurasia, toward Africa, and beyond. The basic conception of this “Productive Triangle” would emerge, in the years to come, as the core of the Eurasian Land-Bridge program, which is now being implemented by China, Iran, and other nations.

## 1996

LaRouche’s 1996 campaign for the Democratic Presidential nomination focussed on intervening into the Democratic Party’s fight over economic policy, while defeating the murderous policies of the Conservative Revolution, as typified by those of Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge. A minority Democratic faction around Senators Ted Kennedy (Mass.), Jeff Bingaman (N.M.), and Tom Daschle (S.D.), and House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt (Mo.) was attempting to reverse the vicious austerity programs of the GOP-dominated Congress, and to defend the living standards of the working population and the unemployed, as well as creating new jobs. On the other side of the battle lines, were Democratic Party Chairman Don Fowler and President Clinton’s “Rasputin,” Dick Morris.

Despite attempts of Fowler and Morris to silence LaRouche’s voice and keep his campaign out of the public eye, LaRouche made a strong showing. He ran in the primaries in 26 states, and won nearly 600,000 votes, including 7.0% in California (162,656 votes), 11.2% in Colorado, 11.7% in Louisiana, 11.2% in Nebraska, 34.5% in North Dakota (where Clinton was not on the ballot), 8.3% in Ohio, 12.7% in Oklahoma, 8.2% in Pennsylvania, and 13.8% in West Virginia.

LaRouche’s nationally televised campaign broadcasts included that of **Jan. 27**, “Unbalanced Minds Cannot Balance the U.S. Budget,” and that of **June 2**, a report-back from a late-April visit to Moscow, “How ‘Consensual Pragmatism’ Ruined U.S. Policymaking.”

As LaRouche pointed out in his statement of July 18, 1997, launching his campaign for the year 2000, his new campaign was necessitated, in large part, by the fact that the potential seen in the Democratic Party in Spring 1996, was not realized. Therefore, he argued, it is essential that he intervene to break “the present Hamlet-like pattern of worsening indecision in our nation’s capital, and in the Democratic Party.”