

EIR Feature

Building world leadership in a time of crisis

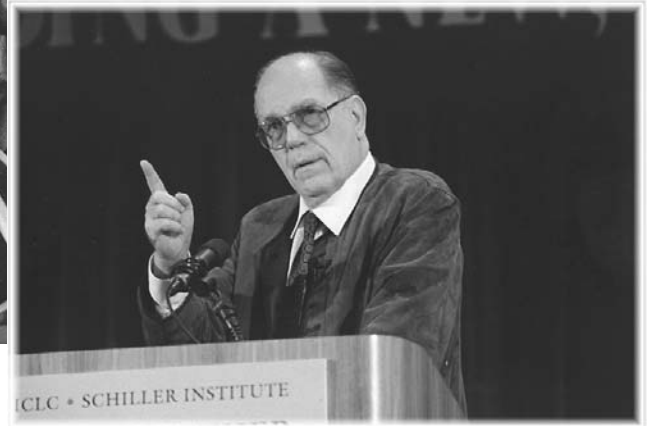
by Nancy Spannaus

Meeting on Martin Luther King Day weekend near Washington, D.C., approximately 1,000 members and supporters of the LaRouche movement heard renowned economist Lyndon LaRouche lay down the challenge of leadership in the current moment of international crisis. That challenge requires that individuals stand up for the principles of an economics based on man's nature as being made in the image of God, and that they wage effective political battle against the financier oligarchy that is now bringing the world rapidly toward a New Dark Age.

The conference, held under the auspices of the Schiller Institute and LaRouche's philosophical organization, the International Caucus of Labor Committees (ICLC), featured the question of economics in its broadest sense. As LaRouche emphasized, economics is a question of the relationship of man to nature, and thus subsumes the question of education and culture. Classical culture itself was part of the two-day public conference program, including a choral performance of a section of Mozart's *Requiem*, and Classically performed Negro spirituals, sung by noted professionals William Warfield and George Shirley.

The LaRouche movement has the unique potential for providing the leadership required at this time, and this fact is being recognized internationally. LaRouche's 1994 forecast of inevitable financial disintegration, unless certain specific reorganizations were carried out, has been borne out with a vengeance for those who know anything about what the so-called "Asian crisis" represents. More specifically, LaRouche's forecast last year of the impending collapse of the Asian "Tigers," at a time when financial analysts were still hyping their future, and his forecast of the financial storms scheduled to hit in October 1997, led to a dramatic increase in his credibility. While this is most public in Ibero-America and Russia, the financial and political elite internationally—including in the United States—know that LaRouche has been right about the systemic nature of the crisis.

But, can LaRouche overcome the tremendous campaign of vilification waged against him, in order to wield the influence over U.S. government policy which



An enthusiastic response from “Americans who think,” at the Martin Luther King Day conference of the Schiller Institute and ICLC. Inset: Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. addresses the conference, Jan. 17.

is required?

LaRouche addressed that question in two ways. First, he noted, one must recognize what the problem actually is. President Clinton, himself under mortal threat by the British financial oligarchy, is a true representative of the Baby-Boomer generation, which has an ideological commitment to consensus, pragmatism, and hedonism. People of the Baby-Boomer generation were trained by their parents *not* to tell the truth, when they deem it disadvantageous to do so, and Clinton has followed this outlook precisely. Thus, he *knows* that the world financial system is on the brink of collapse, but he *says* that we have the best economy in a generation.

This is clearly wrong for Clinton to do—but it doesn’t make him any worse than his peers. His problem is that he too faithfully represents the popular culture of the United States, and his generation, around the world.

Therefore, what is required by the “top one percent” of the American population, which are in the process of being organized into the LaRouche movement, is to assail and destroy the axioms of Baby Boomerism, and stand up for truthfulness as a principle in all fields. This will position them to be the leadership in the midst of the coming economic and political convulsions.

The second message LaRouche had about the potential for success, was that people could expect that, within the first quarter of 1998, the crisis would reach such dramatic proportions that the American population would be begging for leadership. Right now, Americans are taking solace in the

continued, if increasingly volatile, high levels of the financial markets. Americans are clinging to “money,” even as vast amounts of money are being wiped out globally by the financial collapse centered in Asia. In effect, they are entranced by virtual reality—and that reality is on the edge of disappearing in the financial storms on the immediate horizon.

The LaRouche movement must expand rapidly, in numbers and capability of representing the ideas required to solve the crisis, LaRouche emphasized. The extensive question-and-answer periods he held with the audience, as well as the panel presentations with Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp LaRouche, African Civil Rights Movement founder Godfrey Binaisa, and members of the *EIR* staff, were geared to providing the pedagogical tools that would allow this growth to occur.

The conclusion to LaRouche’s opening presentation also makes a good introduction:

“We are about to be hit. If you think things are scary now, come back in about four weeks, about four weeks from now, and then tell me how scary it’s become. The American people are going to get down on their knees, in sheer terror, at what’s about to hit them, what’s about to threaten them. Everything they think is secure is going to suddenly become, obviously, very insecure. All the ideas that they thought they knew and were true, will be thrown into discredit. All mainstream thinking will become frightening, because it’s disgusting and impotent. In such a time, the firm, quiet voice of someone among them who thinks, can be heard. And that’s what we have to do.”