

Editorial

To Stop War, Break With IMF

Dr. Enéas Carneiro's landslide election to Brazil's Congress last year, along with six other Congressmen from his new PRONA party, shook up Brazilian politics. A friend of U.S. Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche, Dr. Enéas' first major speech in Brazil's new Congress hit the most crucial nail of worldwide opposition to the imperial Iraq war, on the head: To stop this "perpetual war" requires a new global economy. He addressed Brazil's Presidency:

"In truth, the reasons which brought the United States to carry out an armed invasion of a free and sovereign country, at least in theory, have little to do with any concern for the destiny of humanity, by eliminating possible foci of international terrorism. And, even less, does it signify consideration for the conditions of liberty and democracy of the Iraqi people.

"To properly understand the process, it is necessary to go back to the agreement signed in 1944, in Bretton Woods, where . . . the dollar-gold standard was set up. In 1971, President Nixon broke the rules established at Bretton Woods. . . .

"Fabulous fortunes on the order of 1 to 2 trillion dollars circulate daily from one point of the planet to another, by means of computer pulses. Of these, barely some 2-3% correspond to commercial transactions. The rest are *pure speculation*, with no correspondence with the physical world, as has been pointed out by the renowned American economist and thinker Mr. LaRouche, in the weekly *Executive Intelligence Review*, a publication in which he studies, dissects, and explains the crisis of the international financial system as heading towards an abyss which, if not stopped, will take humanity into a New Dark Age. . . .

"At this time, when the majority of the civilized world states that it is opposed to the invasion of Iraq by the United States, it is not enough for us in Brazil, a continental power, to say we are not in agreement with the invasion. It doesn't help in the least to wave white handkerchiefs and hold marches for peace. Since we don't possess a minimum of military potential, due to the programmed deterioration that our Armed

Forces were subjected to, . . . there is only one way to oppose that true genocide. And that is by a definitive rupture with the putrid model that is imposed on us by the international financial system, of which the IMF, the World Bank, the IADB, the World Trade Organization and company are tentacles.

"And now I speak directly to His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Brazil. Your Excellency has in your hands an opportunity without equal in the history of Brazil. Take advantage of the historical opportunity that is being offered to us by the owners of the world themselves.

"*Order* that, by unilateral rupture, no more interest payments will be made on the Public Debt, the which reached 114 billion reals in 2002. This must be done, and it is almost already too late, because the total Public Debt, including both domestic and foreign, grows like a malignant tumor, and has already passed the astonishing level of 1 trillion reals.

"A suspension of service payments on the Public Debt will, as is foreseeable, bring us some difficulties in various areas of foreign trade. . . . [But] we would instantly attract France and Germany, which have expressly stated their repudiation of the anti-American action in Iraq. . . . And China, as well as Russia and India—along with various other countries—could be excellent trade partners, should retaliations from the American Empire occur. . . .

"In addition, our brothers of Latin America and Asia will be ready, without doubt, to establish partnerships with us, aiming as well to liberate themselves from the Octopus that sucks their blood.

"Issue the cry of economic independence. Take a step forward. Do not fear. Your Excellency will be followed by all the Brazilians who lifted you into your current position."

This is key to the ongoing shift in Brazilian foreign policy, reported elsewhere in this issue. But the break with the IMF, and convening a New Bretton Woods, is also the only step for China, Russia, India, France, Germany, and other nations: the only effective way of stopping the spreading Mideast war.