

LaRouche TV broadcast tackles voters' illusions

by Jeffrey Steinberg

At least 3 million American households watched Democratic Party Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche's first campaign '96 nationwide prime-time television broadcast on Saturday night, Jan. 27. It was the largest audience to watch a LaRouche broadcast since the candidate's 1984 Presidential campaign, when he aired 16 nationwide TV shows, and built a political movement that won a series of upset Democratic Party primary victories and party elections two years later, beginning in Illinois.

In some local viewing areas, like Detroit, Michigan, where more detailed survey data were available, as much as 25% of the total TV audience was tuned in to the Jan. 27 LaRouche show. The broadcast aired in Detroit at 1:30 a.m.

Within days of the broadcast, the LaRouche campaign announced that another nationwide 30-minute television broadcast will be aired on Saturday, March 2, 1996 at 8:00 p.m. EST on NBC-TV (local broadcast times may vary, so check with your NBC station). LaRouche told a radio interviewer on Feb. 1 that the topic of the second campaign broadcast will be "national economic security."

Despite the fact that LaRouche delivered his strategic assessment of the most profound global problems confronting American policymakers and citizens alike, the major national media uniformly blacked out any coverage of his TV address, choosing instead to fill the Sunday newspapers and airwaves with endless commentaries on Malcolm "Steve" Forbes's acne problems and his "flat earth" tax.

But among the serious thinkers in the American population, the reaction was substantial, as suggested by a Baltimore radio commentator who told his listeners the next day: "The best line of the Presidential campaign so far comes from, of all people, Lyndon LaRouche, when he said: 'An unbalanced mind can't have a balanced budget.'"

Addressing reality

The LaRouche TV address was excerpted from a speech delivered to 250 Northern Virginia supporters on Jan. 15—Martin Luther King Day. It was loaded with what he referred to as "heavy ideas" that challenge some of the most deeply held illusions of the majority of American voters. (See last week's *EIR* for the full text of the Martin Luther King Day speech.)

In the broadcast, LaRouche began with the no-nonsense declaration: "The monetary and financial system of this planet, is presently dying. It is very near its death, its final moment. Nothing can prevent this monetary system, this financial system of this planet, in its present form, from dying soon." He then launched into a blunt polemic against the "insanity which has gripped the nation in the recent weeks; the insanity of the so-called balanced budget . . . the attempt to balance the budget, by unbalanced minds."

From all across the country, reactions to the broadcast are coming into LaRouche campaign offices. This has been, in part, fueled by the fact that for the past year and a half, over 10,000 American citizens have actively participated in the LaRouche movement, distributing over 10 million pieces of literature, including millions of copies of a pamphlet detailing the government's illegal frame-up of LaRouche and his associates, on behalf of Henry Kissinger, George Bush, and the British. In the past year, over 600 state legislators have signed an open letter to President Bill Clinton, urging him to reopen the LaRouche case, to probe the massive abuse of power by the "permanent bureaucracy" in the U.S. Justice Department, and to exonerate LaRouche. During Labor Day weekend 1995, the Schiller Institute sponsored two days of hearings on the LaRouche case and other egregious instances of Justice Department criminality. Videotapes of those proceedings are

circulating around Washington, and in policy-shaping circles all across America.

The railroad conviction

The theme of the government's railroading of LaRouche and dozens of his associates was a key element in the Jan. 27 broadcast, and, in typical LaRouche style, he did not mince words.

"I want to say one thing about myself," he told the audience. "I'm saying tonight, as I do on other occasions, some things that are 'very heavy,' I believe the expression is. And, when I say things that are heavy, you have certain funny people around the United States and elsewhere, who say, 'Pay no attention to him. He's been convicted of this or that,' and so forth.

"In short, it's necessary to emphasize, that neither I nor any of my associates have anything of which to be ashamed. We committed no crime. The government records, the testimony of government witnesses, the testimony of government agents, clarifies that there was no crime committed by us, but was committed by a section of the government, on the initiative of Henry Kissinger, and with the complicity, largely, of George Bush, plus a bunch of crooks in the Justice Department, especially its Criminal Division, who have to be cleaned out. And no one yet has the guts to do so. I would propose that I do. . . .

"We were convicted for only one reason: Because in 1982, some people behind Henry Kissinger decided I was becoming too powerful in the world. And they said, 'Get rid of him.' And, as a result, in January 1983, a national security operation was set up to try to put us out of business.

"After the President of the United States adopted a proposal which I had developed, called the Strategic Defense Initiative, this went into high gear, and a group under national security cover, including the *Wall Street Journal*, NBC-TV News, the *Reader's Digest*, all kinds of groups, the Anti-Defamation League, other groups, were called together to run a defamation campaign, to set up to bring about my extermination.

"And when they couldn't accomplish that by other means, they made an artificial—an illegal—bankruptcy, and they used the illegal bankruptcy, as they said themselves, as the pretext to try to put us out of business. We're not out of business. We're here. The evidence is that the government lied all the way through."

The blunt manner in which LaRouche addressed the issue of his frame-up jailing, and the broader issue of the need to clean out the deep pockets of corruption inside the Justice Department, won universal praise from TV viewers who later spoke with the LaRouche campaign. If there is one issue on which a majority of Americans agree, it is the rampant corruption and abuse of power on the part of the federal judicial and law enforcement agencies.

On many other issues that LaRouche addressed, reactions

varied widely. Many listeners were dismayed by LaRouche's blast at the folly of the balanced budget, having themselves been snookered by the media and the Gingrich-Gramm crowd in the Congress into believing that government over-spending is the *cause* of the economic crisis. Others were frantic to dismiss the weighty evidence that LaRouche presented, in the form of nine statistical charts, proving the bankruptcy of the world financial and monetary system.

But even among those who were dismayed and even hyper-critical of features of the LaRouche message ("the charts were too difficult to read," or "the message went way over the head of Joe Six-Pack"), LaRouche campaign workers have found themselves presented with a golden opportunity to tackle some of the most dangerous political "blocks" that stand in the way of the nation's and the planet's survival. One of those blocks is the loss of any sense of history, which is one of the most dangerous consequences of 30 years of "dumbing down" of the American public. In the concluding ten minutes of the Jan. 27 broadcast, LaRouche had given a brief overview of the past 500 years of history, from the advent of the modern nation-state in France of Louis XI, to situate the unique role of the United States, as the world's leading Constitutional republic, in the present global crisis.

Sneak preview

In the weekly radio program "EIR Talks" on Feb. 1, LaRouche gave a brief preview of the topic he will tackle in his March 2 broadcast.

"This concept of national economic security is one which we, of the World War II generation and immediately thereafter, are well aware of from experience," LaRouche told interviewer Mel Klenetsky. "We placed a premium on employment levels . . . also the question of what we call today entitlements—pensions and that sort of thing—as national security.

"We also realized that we had to maintain the agricultural supply domestically to feed our own people. . . . Secondly, we could not have a net dependency in any crucial area of infrastructure, or in terms of manufacturing. . . . We had to have a tariff policy which protected essential industries, so that our farmers did not have to go out of business, in order to compete with cheap labor abroad. That was the conception of national security. In the recent period, over the past 30 years, we have lost, from our government, all vital conception of national security. . . .

"Applied to the international scene, we have the same problem, in dealing not only with our national economic security, but realizing that the national economic security of other countries, may be essential to having stable relations between those countries and the United States, and peaceful relations among those states and their neighbors."

LaRouche is presently on the Democratic Party primary ballot in 21 states.