

## The SDE and Mankind In the Cosmos

April 13—The Russian website Terra America ([www.terra-america.ru](http://www.terra-america.ru)) today published an interview with American economist Lyndon LaRouche on the subject of mankind's mastery of the Solar System and the Cosmos. The interview was conducted yesterday—Cosmonautics Day (International Human SpaceFlight Day)—the anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's space flight in 1961. The interview, conducted by Kirill Benediktov, appeared under the headline, "The Clear Intention of the British Empire Is To Break Off Space Exploration."

Announced as the first item in a Terra America series of publications about LaRouche, the interview coincided with yesterday's activities by Russian Prime Minister and President-elect Vladimir Putin and Deputy Prime Minister Dmitri Rogozin, the most prominent promoter of a Strategic Defense of Earth (SDE) initiative. Visiting the Moscow Planetarium with Rogozin and other officials, Putin viewed historic 3D models of Earth and the Solar System, dating back to the 1920s. He gave a speech on Russia's allocation of 150 billion rubles to space exploration this year, of which 30 billion rubles (\$1 billion) will go to development of the new Cosmodrome Vostochny in Russia's Amur Region on the Chinese border.

Putin said, "We must build not only launch pads, but comprehensive, modern social and engineering infrastructure. In effect, we must build a completely new, comfortable modern city." Building the new space center, he emphasized, "will serve as a catalyst for the development of the entire Far Eastern Federal District. It will help us fully utilize the industrial potential of the Far East and Eastern Siberia and attract

highly skilled personnel to these regions."

Terra America promised that further publications about LaRouche will follow, starting in a few days. A translation of the website's introduction to the interview follows below. Russian publication of the interview is available on the Terra America [site](http://www.terra-america.ru). Terra America is a project of a group of Russian analysts and journalists, specializing in U.S. cultural issues as well as strategy and politics. Some of its authors are well-

known from their writings for the *Russia Journal* and the Rosbalt news agency.

### Terra America's Introduction

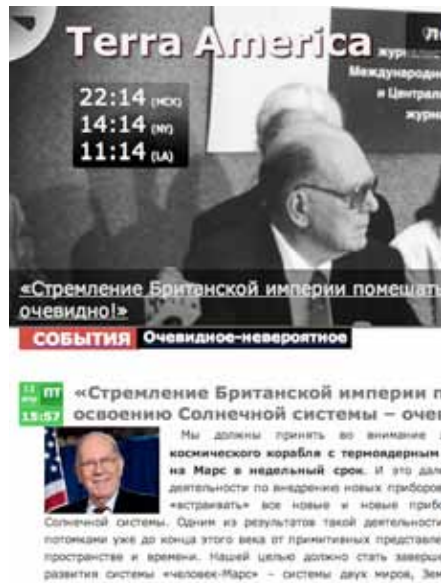
"Was the Soviet-American space race halted because of a secret plot by the ruling circles of the two superpowers? And do we need an ambitious program like Mars colonization? How realistic is that, anyway? Another not unimportant question: Who is hindering the development of mankind's expansion into space? One of the most controversial and original intellectuals in the United States, Lyndon LaRouche, answers these questions in an exclusive interview with Terra America.

With this interview, our site begins

a series of publications about the activity of LaRouche and his movement, who have their followers in Russia, as well.

"We suppose that LaRouche's approach and his formulations may appear unorthodox, strange, or even repulsive to many of our readers. Some topics are considered a priori to be outside the bounds of academic analysis, and modern society blithely farms them out to Hollywood or other demiurges of the mass media. It is considered beneath a respectable mainstream western intellectual to discuss seriously such things as dangers originating from deep space, or the conspiracy of the medieval Venetians that determined the nature of our current political and economic system.

"But LaRouche gets into all those things, drawing ire and contempt from the intellectual establishment. And before joining those critics who consider LaRouche to be a marginal political figure or slapping the 'fascist' label on him, it is worth recalling that it



*The Terra America website featuring its interview with Lyndon LaRouche April 13.*

was LaRouche who two decades ago anticipated and forecast the current world economic crisis. Taking into account the scope of LaRouche's own activity and that of his movement, it would be more accurate to call that forecast the result of sustained and scrupulous research, than an accidental shot that hit the bulls-eye.

“We propose that our readers also ask themselves, along with us, what we have before us: a brilliant mind, pointing mankind toward the only correct path of development, or merely an inspired fantasist and visionary, gripped by grandiose and terrible images of our past and future. Is it even possible to differentiate folly from prophetic foresight?”