

FDR Embodied American Intellectual Tradition

Among the questions during Lyndon LaRouche's May 28 webcast, was a question put together by several former members of the Clinton Administration, which was read by moderator Debra Hanania Freeman.

Q: Mr. LaRouche, there's no doubt that the challenge of the moment poses a question of courage. But, it also poses a question of what will work, and what is effective. And, since none of us is inclined to sacrifice ourselves for the mere sake of it, it's useful, when there is an historic precedent to lean on. You spoke often of the example of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and his actions that brought us out of the Great Depression. What, in your mind, is key, from FDR's '33-'45 recovery strategy, for us to look to today?"

LaRouche: I don't think there's anything *in particular* you should look to. I think *everything* should be looked at. Because, we've done this report ["Economics: The End of a Delusion," issued by the campaign committee "LaRouche in 2004"], which Richard Freeman has pulled together, in large part, on what the lessons are of the recovery programs of Franklin Roosevelt, particularly during the 1930s. And, we've also done earlier studies, which we've published on the same matter, of what the effect was, the relationship between the economic potential, which was developed in the United States under the recovery program, which made possible the mobilization for strategic victory in World War II, in the way it was done.

We emerged from World War II as the *only world power*. And, we could have done a lot of good, if Roosevelt had lived. So, you have to look at the whole man, and his knowledge, to see what the precedent is.

Now we have, you know—like Harold Ickes, each of them did their part. Each of them did a mission for Roosevelt. They were good people. They did an excellent job. But, there's something behind it: Look for the driving force, not just for the detail. Don't try to get the package. You get the image, of Roosevelt's *way of thinking*, applied to the problems as they presented themselves to him, concretely, at the time. That's what we have to do, now.

Now, Roosevelt's thinking—what is it? And, people know it, especially of my generation, and earlier—they know it. I represent, though a different individual, as Franklin Roosevelt represented, and Abraham Lincoln represented before me, and John Quincy Adams represented before him—I represent an embodiment of the American Intellectual Tradition, which I referred to at the beginning of my remarks today:



The Richmond Times-Dispatch, a Republican newspaper in Virginia's capital, rubs in the state Democratic Party's failure to run a candidate for U.S. Senate, and Democratic Gov. Mark Warner's virtual endorsement of Republican Sen. John Warner's re-election. This is where "pragmatic politics" has gotten the Democratic leaders, and not only in Virginia. The decision was protested, and State Democratic Committee members wanted to know why, as the Times-Dispatch reported, "Nancy Spannaus . . . gathering signatures to run as an independent against John Warner . . . was rebuffed as a potential candidate by the Democratic leadership."

that, I had a contemporary, the Rev. Daniel Wood, a Quaker minister, who started his career in the Carolinas fighting slavery, and he had to get out of there. He went up to Ohio, and just north of Columbus, Ohio, he set up shop, married into one of the families up there; and, he set up his own operation there. And he ran the Underground Railroad in Delaware County, north of Columbus, during that relevant period, of the escaped slaves running to Canada. And, he had his church, and barn, and school—which he set up—they were all used to house the slaves, as they were being moved north, toward Canada. Now, he was a contemporary of Lincoln. He was also a contemporary of Henry Clay, with whom he had an encounter on one occasion.

And, you had this American Whig tradition, which emerged around President Monroe, John Quincy Adams, the Careys—Mathew and his son, Henry C. Carey; to some degree Friedrich List, though he was somewhat of a different case, even though he was important to the Congress. And, they had a protégé. And, their key protégé was Abraham Lincoln, who was the spokesman used by John Quincy Adams, in delivering the Spot Resolution, in the Congress, against Polk's fraud in starting the Mexican-American War. And it was that Lincoln, who was a highly educated man—he was no dummy—one of the most brilliant men in all American history, part of the process.

So, those of us who remember, who studied, who lived, who know what the American Revolution was, who know the tradition, act in a certain way; as opposed to those who have what was called the American Tory tradition, which is hegemonic in the United States today. And, what one has to understand, is that Roosevelt—read Roosevelt's graduation paper, or his final paper at Harvard, on this tradition: Look at his studies, while he was fighting poliomyelitis, studies of his legacy. Look at his ancestor, Isaac Roosevelt, the collaborator of Alexander Hamilton.

And, the point was, that Franklin Roosevelt had two things: He represented a family tradition, an embodiment of the American Intellectual Tradition, the tradition on which this nation was founded, the tradition of Benjamin Franklin. He also represented a man of extreme courage. And, those are the two qualities that are needed. You need a person like a great general. MacArthur had that same quality in a completely different dimension. The quality of a true leader, who knows something needs to be done. And, if he knows it needs to be done, he will *seize the opportunity to do it*, with resolution. He will seek out collaborators, who want to take a chunk of the job. And he will give them backing to do the job, as

he did Harry Hopkins, for example.

And, that's the way you do it. You get the essence of the American tradition. The American economic tradition: You have to have, above all—for example, to understand the *distinction* between the roots of the American Constitution and Declaration of Independence, which are found in Leibniz, in such writings as "New Essays on Human Understanding"—this was the doctrine, which was posed by Leibniz, in opposition to that fascist scum, John Locke, who is the patron saint of slavery in the United States. The Confederate Constitution contains in the preamble, the affirmation of "life, liberty, and property," the doctrine of John Locke: the constitution of slavery. The constitution of degradation; the constitution of treason against the United States.

Whereas the Declaration of Independence and the Preamble of the Federal Constitution, uphold two principles: The sovereignty of the United States must be defended, and that sovereign power used, under all circumstances; secondly, the general welfare of present and future generations' posterity must be promoted. That is the fundamental constitutional law of the United States (which is not exactly being observed these days!). And those two principles, which express this legacy, the whole legacy of the struggle against conditions under which some people are treated as human cattle, to create a society in which we have a society fit for men, women; a society in which people are all equally *human*; in which they participate, equally, in society; in which we do not make a differentiation between the rulers, who behave like beasts, toward the ruled, who are treated like human cattle.

And, the American Intellectual Tradition reflects the use of European philosophy, European accomplishments, to bring forth that kind of idea in this nation. And, those of us who understand that, and who understand how important it is, *and who are prepared to fight and die for it*, and to make ourselves *competent* in doing that, we can do the job. And,

Spannaus: 'Put a Real Democrat on Ballot'

Nancy Spannaus, the only Virginia Democrat with courage enough to run for the U.S. Senate seat held by Republican John Warner, issued the following statement on June 4, entitled "Spannaus: The Democratic Party Has Abandoned; Now Put a Real Democrat on the Ballot."

On June 1, the official Democratic Party of Virginia declared itself irrelevant to the election process, and to the real interests of the citizens of Virginia, by declining to run a candidate against U.S. incumbent Sen. John Warner. In light of this decision, I have determined to put my name on the ballot as an Independent. In fact, putting me on the ballot is the only way of putting a "real Democrat" before the Virginia electorate this fall.

As a close LaRouche associate, I have the unique qualifications to be your Senator. I will engage Virginia voters in the kind of discussion required, to solve the policy crises before us. LaRouche, who is running for President in 2004, is the only leader who has earned the respect of U.S. citizens, and the world, on the question of the economic crisis, and its solution. His solutions represent the core of my platform: the application of the principle of the general welfare to a world depression collapse which will, otherwise, take us into a global religious war, and a New Dark Age.

There will be much more to say once I get on the ballot.

we have to see that side of Franklin Roosevelt, and look at his courage, look at his tradition, and really understand him *from the inside*, not from his externalities. And, then all his externalities and some of the questionable aspects of them, all fall neatly into place.

This man was a great man. He was a man who tried to walk in the footsteps of Abraham Lincoln, in restoring this nation to itself, after the Presidency of the pro-Confederacy Teddy Roosevelt, the Ku Klux Klan fanatic Woodrow Wilson, and that all-around scoundrel Calvin Coolidge—together with Andrew Mellon—had ruined the United States, in the course of the earlier part of the 20th Century.

Evoke the Best in Our Citizens

That's the picture we have to grasp. You can not design, you can not make a Lara Croft President. You can't fit together a "morph" of parts, and make it human. You have to touch the inner-most humanity of the individual, evoke it *in* the

individual, and you will get out of that, a leader. But, that's why I said, at the beginning: In times like this, you have to ask, "Who am I? And, what am I? Where do I belong in the scheme of eternity? What is the meaning of my having had parents and grandparents, and so forth? What is the meaning of this nation? What are its accomplishments? What do I represent, for this nation? Not for what I get for my satisfaction, now; but what I am supposed to do? What did God put me here to do?" And do it! Then you find in yourself, the courage to do what's necessary.

Obviously, Franklin Roosevelt found that. But, while I can recommend and detail many things that Roosevelt did, which I would defend as models, that is not the force, the mainspring that makes the clock tick. The mainspring lies in the character of the individual, and the development of that character. Franklin Roosevelt admired his great ancestor Isaac Roosevelt, and he worked to defend the United States *for* the American Intellectual Tradition—the actual tradition behind our Declaration of Independence, our struggle for freedom, and the Preamble of our Constitution. Once you've got that, and then you know the technicalities, you know what to do. It's just a matter of training.

We've got plenty of people, among former Clinton people, who have the skills, or can get them from others—people they know—we can do the job. If you work for me, you get the job done.

DO YOU KNOW

- that the American Revolution was fought against British "free trade" economics?
- that Washington and Franklin championed Big Government?
- that the Founding Fathers promoted partnership between private industry and central government?

READ

The Political Economy of the American Revolution

edited by
Nancy Spannaus and
Christopher White

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