

# The Summer of 2014: An Anniversary, And an Opportunity To Mobilize

*Michael Steger is running in the Democratic Party primary for Congress in California's 12th C.D. (San Francisco), against incumbent Nancy Pelosi. The primary election is on June 3.*

This is an event that culminates and advances what Kesha Rogers and I have established as a unified campaign. What I want to touch on is, first, the strategic situation we confront today, because, although it's not the play itself, it is the stage on which this play will occur. And the play can either take two directions: It can either be a tragedy of human civilization, or it can be a triumph, and a fundamental transformation of human society. That's why Kesha and I are running these campaigns; that's why we're involved in this political fight; that's why we joined Mr. LaRouche, and this kind of idea of politics. Politics, not of issues, but of the fact that the human is something profound when it's human, when it's creative.

We are approaching a very important Summer, the Summer of 2014. It is the Summer that is now 100 years after the Summer of 1914: That means that over the course of the last hundred years, we have faced a policy of genocide and global warfare. For 100 years, there has been an ongoing level of destruction and of conflict, involving major nations, whether it's World War I, the economic destruction following, that led into World War II, which was essentially the same war; and then the ongoing threats of thermonuclear war, supposedly called the "Cold War" but of an ongoing contention: Will the human species survive? Or will it annihilate itself? For a hundred years this has been the threat and the destruction of nations, innumerable, across this planet.

Either we, today, change this paradigm, change the political course of the country, or we are not going to survive.

Now, the big reason for this, is Barack Obama.

He's a key driver in this threat of warfare today. We see it with the confrontations with Russia and Syria, and then in Ukraine. And the situation in Ukraine has *not* stepped back, the situation has escalated: More NATO troops, more destroyers headed into the Black Sea. A further breaking of diplomatic relations with the nations of Europe and Russia. Even a discontinuation of collaboration on scientific areas of advancement!

We are on a track, right now, similar to that of 1914: of war, but not a war of major artillery, or tanks, or airplanes—this is now a war of thermonuclear weapons. It is a war of extinction, and that is what we face.

Now, the problem is that there is a political disaster in this country, and the political disaster comes because of Barack Obama, the Wall Street groupings in both the Republican and Democratic Party. And the problem is that the Republicans, even the ones who might know



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*Michael Steger campaigns in San Francisco's Chinatown district.*

better, have no economic solution. Their policies of free market/free trade are bankrupt, they've got no capability of addressing the drought crisis, the 25% plus levels of unemployment, an absolute breakdown in areas of manufacturing, engineering, or science, there's no commitment. No commitment to NASA, no commitment to fusion. And the rest of the Republican Party, namely its leadership, and most of its representation, is incredibly corrupted by Wall Street, and is pushing Obama further into an escalation of warfare. It's the Bush-Cheney faction, it's Torture, Inc.

This is the grouping Barack Obama protects; this is the grouping that put Barack Obama in office. It's a policy of Wall Street, it's a policy of bankruptcy of the United States, it's a policy of an escalation of warfare, the invasion of Libya, the threatened invasion of Syria, the protection of Cheney's torture policies.

And because of that commitment by Obama towards this fascist direction, we now see a split in the Democratic Party. And this is critical: to see a revival of the Franklin Roosevelt/John Kennedy legacy—which is not the “Democratic Party,” because it by no means includes scum like Andrew Jackson, it's not the Democratic Party as a party institution. It represents a political tradition in the nation. It's the same as the tradition of Washington and Hamilton, it's the same one of Lincoln, it's the same one of Reagan.

You know, people in California, to this day, still love Ronald Reagan; many people in the United States do—why? Because he identified himself with the tradition of Franklin Roosevelt, and he broke from the Democratic Party because of traitors like Truman, or Carter, in his policies. And people became “Reagan Democrats,” because they were patriots of a country. And the problem today is, where is that Democratic Party? Where is that American political tradition?

This is the crisis that we face.

## The Green Fascist Agenda

Now, I can give people a clearer sense of what's happening in California, but what Ben Deniston laid out [in the preceding speech] is the critical policy orientation: We have to have a full-scale orientation against this green program. Take, for example, the green program here in California, and in Texas, and across the country: It's targetting the Dakotas right now, this policy of fracking. You need natural gas for chemicals! You need natural gas to heat your stove, it's better than electric ovens or electric stoves. But you

don't need to burn natural gas for electricity! But why are we doing it? In California, that's *all* we do! We don't use wind power or solar power for much of anything. It's a small percentage of what we consume. The reason we depend on natural gas, is because of this green agenda: We're “saving” the environment, by burning natural gas: we're “protecting” our atmosphere from carbon dioxide pollution. We're basically starving the trees!

But that's the policy, to save the environment: Burn natural gas, lower your carbon emissions. But how do you get natural gas? To get that natural gas, you now have to take, in an area of extensive drought west of the Mississippi, in places like Texas and California, especially, you have a program of taking precious water, combining that with a cocktail of chemicals, and pumping that into your land. People say, well, it doesn't affect the land . . . that much. Yeah, the first six months of the year won't destroy the land-area, completely. The Earth is actually fairly resilient. But do it for five years, and ten years, and 20 years, and what you end up doing is destroying your land and your water area! You end up destroying the actual, very precious resources, that the future of mankind depends upon. Which is not just the land and water supply as they are, but the ability to commit to transforming that land and water supply to be far more productive than it naturally is. That's mankind's potential.

So the fracking program is to harvest that natural gas, supposedly to save the environment, when in reality, we're destroying the land and water supply we're using every day. And we're consuming the precious water we don't have, to get the natural gas.

So the environmental agenda is *not* anything to save the environment! It is an outright destruction of the environment, in every possible way! To eliminate and shut down the ability of the human population to survive.

But what is the real green agenda? Because the real green agenda isn't simply the “atmosphere” question. It isn't simply the endangered species, to save a small fish in the Sacramento Delta. The real green agenda was the shutdown of nuclear power and development. Because if you had nuclear power, you wouldn't have fracking; if you had nuclear power, to the extent that Presidents like Eisenhower and Kennedy had put forward, you would have commercial fusion today. And that's the future of the country, that's the future of the human species.

## Revive the FDR-JFK Tradition

So the question today, is a return to the Franklin Roosevelt and John Kennedy tradition. And we're beginning to get a break of this nature, as you see with Sen. [Dianne] Feinstein, you've seen outright the contention with this administration; you see people like Rep. Adam Schiff, who's also from California, southern California. And this is a critical juncture, because if we don't make a break today, politically, instead of Kesha and I—just look at the other candidates the Democratic Party is running! There's one now in the Hudson Valley, who is run and sponsored entirely by Wall Street, Facebook, this nasty CIA/NSA operation. That's what the Democratic Party is pushing in other candidates!

So you people have to begin to decide: Are you going to go with a Wall Street-sponsored fascist program, which both parties look to for funding, because nobody else will give them any money? Who would give money to the Democratic and Republican Party? Nobody does! They call them, and they get yelled at, because no one would want to give money to these political parties.

These political parties are bankrupt in a large degree, but there is a break. If you look at the people who joined Adam Schiff from Glendale, from southern California, on this letter to Obama on the question of the CIA—. Schiff wrote a letter, demanding that Obama release this CIA torture report. And what does the torture report document? It documents that treason has occurred since President Clinton and his Presidency was sabotaged by the Al Gore faction in the Democratic Party, this green, Wall Street faction, by a nasty grouping of Republicans, and by British networks, people like Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, who covered this for the London papers. And they destroyed Clinton's Presidency, and they shut down the Glass-Steagall legislation, and they brought in 15 years of treason, treason that you now see documented in this 6,000-page report—that we were *torturing* people, that we were committing war crimes, wars of aggression based on false intelligence and lies. We were sponsoring a Wall Street coup in the bailout program. This is an existential threat to the country, and Barack Obama and his administration have been covering it up the entire time!



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*The Stevens Creek Reservoir in Cupertino, Calif., Feb. 6, 2014. The state's drought is the worst in recorded state history, and some towns will be completely without water this Summer.*

So now, you've got people fighting on it, and a lot of them come from California, because the state is dying. And this is the break we have to now use, as a wedge, and this is the leadership that Kesha and I represent, and the other candidates that we're [the LaRouche movement] running, because there's a chance to now break open, not the Democratic Party, but a revival of a true American political tradition. And that's the essence of the fight.

## California Is Being Destroyed

Now, take a look at the drought in California, because it's critical; it's critical now, for actual communities in the state and small towns. There are literally towns that will be out of water by this Summer. They will have *no water at all*.

This is a state dominated by the Democratic party—the Democratic Party has absolute control, in any real significant sense, of the statehouse, the governorship, all of the institutions. What is the Democratic Party's approach to the drought? Who does the drought affect? It affects the rural areas, it affects farm areas: California's Central Valley is the most productive food area in the world! You can grow things here that you can't grow anywhere else. You can grow *everything* here that you can grow anywhere else, and you can grow it three or four times bigger. This is a food productive area that's a model of human intervention to develop our resources, and to improve the society in which we live, for generations.

And the Democratic Party in California is letting



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California Gov. Gerry Brown signs a State of Emergency proclamation on Jan. 17, 2014, directing state officials to “prepare” for drought conditions. But meaningful emergency action has not been taken.

that Valley *die*! They’re letting cities go without water, entire areas go without water, entire orchards go without water; orchards are getting ripped up. Nearly a million acres of land are going fallow this year alone. And if the drought continues, it’ll get worse, because your farmworkers, or the skilled labor that can pick the vegetables, and fruits, and nuts, that 30-40% of our population depend upon, are going to have to go somewhere else. They’re going to have to go back to Mexico, under the reign of terror of drug cartels, *backed by this administration*, which is destroying an agricultural capability.

The same thing is being done to research facilities in this state, areas that were leaders of development of fusion energy and technology, like Lawrence Livermore Labs, or Lawrence Berkeley, are getting gutted. JPL [the Jet Propulsion Laboratory], Obama shut down flagship programs for NASA: There are no more projects to Mars, such as Curiosity. Those projects have been cut. There is no more fusion funding! Lawrence Livermore Labs has the National Ignition Facility. It’s a major area of breakthrough in fusion research—but they’re not funding fusion research there, now; it’s just an investigation of what happens when a thermonuclear bomb explodes. It’s weapons research now, that’s it—*under Obama!*

So this state is getting dismantled.

Gov. Jerry Brown and the Democratic Party in California have heralded a great economic recovery. A re-

covery of what? The state has 25%-plus unemployment. In youth unemployment, among those 25 and younger, it’s 40%-plus! It’s like southern Europe!

The state is 49th in education, where it used to be number one. We used to have the best public school system in the country: university research facilities, college education programs, public schools. It had research, it had technology, it had aerospace, it had agriculture, advanced infrastructure. That’s the climate by which you educate a younger generation to become productive, to be optimistic, but you’ve torn it all down!

And now the state’s dying. Literally, you have towns which will become ghost towns, in a matter of months.

Now, the Democratic Party’s approach is a water bond, which may build a dam or a new reservoir in the next ten years. Similar proposals are coming out of Congress. It might have worked ten years ago, but it won’t do much to save the towns and cities today.

The other approach they’re taking, is discussion of how you can take a little bit of water from Peter to give a little bit of water to Paul, who will have none in a few months. But if there’s no long-term commitment to either of their survival, then you have a Hobbesian world of each against all, and there’s no real compassion or development of society: That’s a breakdown of civilization.

The bigger problem, and this is where people don’t fight, because these are good intentions on some level, but where’s the fight? It’s because the Wall Street-pimped media in California is willing to say, “We don’t need to grow food in California! You don’t need to grow food in the Western states! Just let it go under.” You know, “New Orleans shouldn’t have been built: That was the big problem, with the hurricane [Katrina]. Why did we build a city so close to the ocean?” “Why do we build farmland in an arid area?” Well, it happens to be that plants like arid climate! They like the rich soils of the Central Valley: We just brought water to them. And what NAWAPA does, is bring water from where it can’t be used, to where it can be used the most, in the arid and rich soils of the Southwest.

But you’ve got journalists and media today in Cali-



fornia and across the country, saying, we don't need to grow food. We'll just live off the backs of cheap labor in other countries, or we'll just let people die. We'll let your food prices go up (as they already are); we'll cut your incomes, we'll steal your savings accounts; we'll take away your Social Security.

And people say, "What d'ya mean, 'genocide'! What d'ya mean, 'British Empire'?"

Well, what's happening? This *is* a genocide policy! It is not a policy of the United States, not of its real political tradition, not of its patriots. It's a policy of its *traitors*, who work for this kind of an empire policy, and empire program.

### We're Going for Victory

And this is the fight, because this is what we have to break open. We have to break open this commitment. What John Kennedy wanted to do, what Robert Kennedy wanted to do, what Lyndon LaRouche has been fighting for, for a very long time, is the revival of this political tradition. This is what makes us human, in a real sense, because we sacrifice with an idea that we're not going to fight for small gains in a losing battle, or a losing war. We're going to go for a victory in the war, because that's worth living for.

Mr. LaRouche has written a recent paper, which takes up this real American political tradition, a true American political tradition; and he gets at a problem which precedes, and is actually the cause of why we were so susceptible to accepting a century of warfare. And after a hundred years of warfare, and under this administration, and under the cowardice of our political leadership, we're now facing a thermonuclear war, a war of extinction. But in the earlier part of our century, we lost a sense of what it meant to be human, we lost a sense of creativity.

It was replaced with a cult of mathematics. Why is that so important?

Because, how do you actually measure something? If you want to measure an economy, how do you measure it? With a ruler? With a dollar? They measure agriculture today by the financial value it has. That's insanity! That's an expression of how extreme this has become—not by bushels or by weight, but by dollars.

The question of how we measure something gets at the essence of what makes us human, because it's not your brain that measures, it's not what you see, it's the



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*Give these guys a job! Build NAWAPA! California's youth unemployment is at the levels of southern Europe, and will get worse as the impact of the nation's failed economic policies worsens.*

process. What people today see in this economy, what they see with Obama, and why there's 80% rejection of this Presidency, is because the process they see is downward—faster and faster! Each day, you find out it's gotten worse, and it's getting worse faster than you thought before. And that's scares people. They see a Presidency running into collision course with a thermonuclear power. They see the bankruptcy of a financial system, and no one doing anything about it. Not one prosecution! Not one banker in jail!

Because we don't measure things by objects or by numbers. What we measure them with is the human mind. And where is the human mind? How big is it? Quantify it. You use your mind in that political process, you use your mind to measure the growth of your child's creative potential. But the mind doesn't have a sensual characteristic; it measures a process, it measures a development characteristic. And the problem is, that we don't have that in the culture today; it's been ripped out!

Why don't people see this world war coming? Why don't people see this economic bankruptcy? Why don't they have the courage to address it? Because they've been reduced to a quantified characteristic, to sense-perception, to just simply what they see. Or they're willing to accept arguments that are very simplistic:

“No, no, it could never happen, because no one would ever let that happen; they wouldn’t let a world war happen.” Well, it’s been a hundred years of world war! They just haven’t let thermonuclear extinction happen. But because it’s never happened before, means it’s not going to happen again? Or it’s not going to happen tomorrow?

I think we have to go back to this question: You have to fight for that sense of creativity, and we have to uproot this cult of mathematics. If you take a look at San Francisco’s economy, which is a great herald of “recovery” in California: It’s a Potemkin Village! You’ve got these fronts of so-called “technology companies,” but they don’t do anything! You walk down the street, you look at them: They play ping-pong! They play pinball machines! They’re not producing anything! They make video games for your phone! This is not an economy, these are little cults! They live and eat and play in these same buildings. It’s not an economy, it’s not a technological center, it’s not a driver for the economy of the United States. What an absurdity! Silicon Valley is a driver for the U.S. economy?

The “recovery” in California came from Wall

Street’s propped-up bubbles, or Twitter! And the so-called tax revenues in California gave it a recovery. And now, because of this drought, because of the shutdown of agriculture—which is really the number-one production in California—because of the shutdown in scientific research at places like the national labs, the state’s going to go into a massive deficit. Because that Wall Street bubble can’t sustain itself, and Wall Street knows it, London knows it, and they’re going for war.

People have to get a sense of this! They have to clear away all of the distractions and say, “This is the reality, this is what defines the political fight this Summer.” We’ve got to break open this real, American political tradition. And if we do that, if we fight now, if Kesha makes a break in Texas on May 27, that can change the entire political discussion in this country. But we’ve got to *fight* for it! Because everything’s at stake, and our enemy on Wall Street and in London, they know it, they know we’re coming out for them! Because they don’t produce anything. If we expose that, people will rally behind these policies. They don’t believe this green agenda.

And so this is the fight of the unified campaign.

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