

## LaRouche in Italy: Keep Up Pressure To Stop Iraq War

by Claudio Celani

In his most recent visit to Italy, Nov. 21-25, American Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. addressed a conference on security in Europe and a press conference organized for him by the Association of Catholic Press; gave television and newspaper interviews; and extended the impact of his already profound influence in Italy. His New Bretton Woods approach to remaking the world financial system was the subject of a resolution voted up by the Italian Chamber of Deputies in September. LaRouche was invited to Italy by the Lombardy Regional Council, and met a Council delegation on Nov. 21.

The candidate spoke to a press conference organized by the Association of Catholic Press, in the Caritas office in Milan, on Nov. 22. The next day, he addressed about 200 people at a conference on “The Demand for Security in Europe,” organized by the Casa d’Europa (European House), a national organization of entrepreneurs, professionals, and politicians, which deals with issues concerning Italy and the European Union. LaRouche was one of three guests of honor invited to speak, with European Commission President Romano Prodi and well-known sociologist Giorgio Galli. Prodi, unable to attend, sent a telegram. Galli opened the morning panel, at which LaRouche spoke.

On Nov. 24, LaRouche visited the Republic of San Marino at the invitation of the government of that small enclave; he met the Captains Regents, as well as officials from the government, the central bank, and some private banks, and spoke to the congress of the Democratic Party of San Marino.

### **Danger of War Has Not Passed**

In each of these interventions, LaRouche explored the relationship between the danger of war and the acute world monetary/financial crisis. He explained that his movement and other opponents of a war on Iraq have succeeded, for now, in stopping the drive for war, but warned that the danger has not passed; the pro-war “Chicken-hawk” faction in the United States is still determined to have its war. Much hilarity met LaRouche’s description of a circumstance in which the anti-war forces include the military, while the pro-war faction is composed of draft-dodgers



*Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. addresses the congress of the Democratic Party of San Marino on Nov. 24. Many Europeans thought war against Iraq was inevitable, but they were wrong. Enough people in key institutions in the United States accepted LaRouche's argument, that the Utopian faction driving for war was at least stalled. Now, it must be stopped altogether.*

such as Vice President Dick Cheney. And these utopian Chicken-hawks are determined to put war back on the agenda, he warned.

LaRouche insisted that Europeans not repeat the mistake of thinking war is inevitable, but instead increase the anti-war pressure.

LaRouche explained to his Italian audiences how the American Presidency works, and said that his special role has been, among other things, to represent Europe's views against war to U.S. institutions, including that of the Presidency. In that context, he argued, keep up the pressure; if we can prevent war through February, it may be that war will not take place.

## **The Financial System Is Doomed**

Turning to the financial crisis, LaRouche demonstrated that the world economy is bankrupt: U.S. banks, the Japanese banking system, major European banks—all are bankrupt. The ratio of short-term financial obligations, especially derivatives, to total world production, makes the debt unpayable. For example: If Brazil accepts International Monetary Fund conditions, both Brazil and the IMF are doomed. If Brazil does *not*, the IMF and major U.S. banks (such as JP Morgan Chase and Citigroup) are doomed. That eventuality would unleash a chain reaction of bankruptcies in the financial system, which could hit as soon as Christmas.

So, a new world monetary and financial system is urgently necessary; among other things, to allow for expanded trade between Europe and Asia, on the basis of 25-year treaties, which must enjoy government backing. The Italian Parliament has taken leadership in the movement toward a New

Bretton Woods, as exemplified by the Sept. 25 resolution from the Chamber of Deputies. For this role, LaRouche noted, Italy has come under destabilizing attack; for example, in the use of U.S. Justice Department-controlled witnesses against Sen. Giulio Andreotti, long a towering figure of Italian politics, now victim of a political frame-up. This destabilization must not stop Italy from pursuing an approach by which she can play a political role worthy of her great traditions.

LaRouche, whose analyses and “strong ideas” are much appreciated in Italy, was extremely well received. In Milan, he was interviewed by the national newspaper *Milano Finanza* and the local TV station Telenova. In San Marino, he was interviewed by the national TV network, and the Captains Regents there welcomed LaRouche as “representing one of the most prominent schools of thought in the economic field, who demonstrated on several occasions, such qualities of interpretation and insight on economic questions, that he is considered an unavoidable point of reference in the international debate.”

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and co-thinkers from the Radical Party (who elected the prostitute Cicciolina to Italy's Parliament in the 1980s) tried to sabotage the meeting set for Nov. 22 between Milan's Regional Council and LaRouche, but with signal lack of success (see box, below).

At a dinner with the Regional Council, LaRouche explained that the ADL mobilization had to be seen as part of the effort to destabilize internal Italian politics, and understood in terms of the importance of the Italian Parliament's initiative on the New Bretton Woods, and in the context of the attack against Senator Andreotti.