

LaRouche Open Letter To Washington Post

To: Fred Hiatt, Editorial Page Editor

Washington Post

Re: "Limiting the Competition . . ."

May 9, 2007

Dear Sir:

I protest against the view that the U.S. Federal Constitution should be revised to permit one such as Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, or other naturalized U.S. citizens, to run as U.S. Presidential candidates for election, or nomination.

At the time of the crafting and adoption of the U.S. Federal Constitution, the U.S.A. had fought a long struggle, and also a most perilous general war, against Britain and others, for the defense of the rights which had been abruptly denied us in the aftermath of the February 1763 Peace of Paris. One segment of what were then residents of the original Thirteen English colonies of North America, had fought, first, a sturdy resistance against the predatory inclinations of the forces, such as the notorious Adam Smith, represented by the British East India Company's faction in Britain, and, later, a general war against the British monarchy which had allied itself with the cause of that Company in the effort to suppress our liberties.

At the time, and continuing past the victory of the U.S.A. over Lord Palmerston's Confederates, the U.S. struggle for freedom from European oligarchical tyrannies, reflected a dividing line of principle between our Federal constitutional system and the oligarchical systems characteristic of Britain and the dominant oligarchical social classes of continental Europe. Thus, at the beginning of our Federal republic, there was a clear division in philosophy, marked with the blood of a long struggle, between the prevalent sense of history and personal identity, steeled in blood and battle, between the patriots of the United States and the conception of the modern sovereign nation-state prevalent, from the top, down, among the social classes of Europe.

That philosophical current which had grown up among our patriots over numerous successive generations, since early during the Seventeenth Century, was a current typified by leading figures of the Massachusetts colony such as the Winthrop and Mathers of that time. It was, and remains a tradition of those who sought to establish, here, across the Atlantic, a republic which reflected the most virtuous cultural legacies of European civilization, as distilled from the legacy

of the beginnings of our European identity in the struggles of those bearing the legacy of Solon of Athens in struggles against the tyrannies of empires and both the brutish, Delphic, Lycurgan code of oligarchical Sparta, and also of enemies in nearby Asia. Benjamin Franklin emerged as a leader among us, who typified what we represented as a people, here, and in our relationships to sundry forces within Europe and beyond.

Thus, embedded within us whose ancestors have dwelt here since either the first half of the Seventeenth Century, or a century or more later, there has been a transmission of a deeply rooted, if also developing philosophical-cultural tradition, a tradition with deep roots in European culture back to ancient Classical Greece, but, at the same time, what we should regard as our own superior political-cultural tradition, a distinction marked by the deeply rooted political-cultural differences between our Presidential system and the still deeply rooted legacy of parliamentary systems of western and central Europe. Our Constitution, including our Declaration of Independence itself, was, and remains thus rooted in the legacy of Gottfried Leibniz's "pursuit of happiness," in opposition to the pro-slavery implications of the Cartesian-like dogmas of John Locke.

Thus, to grasp the implications of our Declaration of Independence, as anyone morally qualified to become a U.S. President must represent that specific competence, especially in the face of the present world crisis, that specific quality must be bred as if into our bones. This patriotic feature of our best citizens, includes the same commitment by descendants of the immigrants who arrived here, even late during the just past century, immigrants who deeply appreciated the advantage of being "Americans" freed from what they had fled in the Europe left behind, or immigrants with kindred passions, come from nations below our borders. The descendants of those who had arrived here during the past century, were often more passionately dedicated to our culture, than those who, with certain among their ancestors, had languished here in political-philosophical decadence over the course of earlier times.

You wish to be a U.S. Presidential candidate? Fine, stay for a generation or two, as those who have been born here, and have assimilated our heritage during their childhood and adolescence. You will not be cheated by our maintaining that Constitutional tradition; but, to represent that tradition, it is not sufficient that you learn the mere words of our law: your judgments as a prospective President, must reflect a philosophical world-outlook which must have been imbued as our distinctly American Revolution's republican legacy, imbued as if in your bones, as if from the time of your sojourn in the womb.

Sincerely,
Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.