LaRouche prime time TV broadcast could transform 1988 election

by Marla Minnicino

Democratic presidential hopeful Lyndon LaRouche took the liberal Eastern Establishment, the media, and Moscow as well, by surprise on Feb. 4 when he appeared on a half-hour, prime time political broadcast, produced and paid for by the LaRouche Democratic Campaign—his 1988 presidential campaign committee. The program, broadcast on CBS network from 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Eastern and Pacific time zones, and from 7:00-7:30 p.m. Central and Mountain, on 97% of CBS's affiliates nationwide, broke wide open the "circle of containment" which LaRouche's enemies have sought to erect around him—through legal and other means.

In the broadcast, LaRouche stands out as a world statesman, an original thinker and figure of great intellectual power who "puts his money where his mouth is," in the words of the program's announcer. As such, LaRouche stands in stark contrast to the other seven Democratic candidates who offer only cosmetic solutions, if any, for the current domestic economic crisis and none for the international financial breakdown or the worsening strategic crisis in which Moscow is rapidly gaining the upper hand.

The broadcast effectively, and humorously, cuts through the media slanders—which are depicted in a lively visual segment showing well-known U.S. newscasters repeatedly referring to LaRouche as a "political extremist"—by showing exactly who LaRouche is, why his ideas are considered such a threat to the liberal Establishment and why Moscow has put so much effort into silencing him. It looks into the issues which have made LaRouche "perhaps the most controversial, as well as one of the best-known international public figures of the 1980s" and shows not only why he is hated and feared, but "why so many around the world are hoping that Lyndon LaRouche will be elected President in November."

Most importantly, it gives American citizens a chance to see for themselves exactly what measures LaRouche would take to deal with the worst economic crisis the country has ever faced, and how he would act, in concert with America's allies, to prevent a global financial collapse through reform of the international monetary system.

The program opens by focusing on the event which catapulted LaRouche into national prominence—the victories of two LaRouche Democrats in the March 1986 Illinois primary. In rapid succession, it shows film clips of the vast newspaper and television coverage of LaRouche, which called him everything from a "communist" to "neo-Nazi" to "the green slime." The camera then scrolls a list of the many LaRouche candidates who polled double-digit figures in the 1986 elections—showing that "a growing plurality of the Democratic voters was turning to support the LaRouche faction within the Democratic Party."

This, the broadcast makes clear, was what caused acute panic in liberal Democratic circles and led to a campaign—brazenly publicized by Democratic National Committee chairman Paul Kirk and New York Gov. Mario Cuomo—to use every "legal or other means" to prevent LaRouche from being a Democratic presidential candidate in the 1988 elections.

In a highly amusing sequence, the broadcast shows a series of 1987 headlines from Iowa newspapers which first report that "no LaRouche candidates" have been detected in the race for that state's early nominating caucuses (Feb. 8, 1988). To the background of crescendoing music from a Rossini opera overture, the viewer watches as these headlines change to acknowledge that "two" LaRouche-linked Democratic candidates have been detected, and then, trumpet that the official state Democratic machine is fully mobilized to "stop LaRouche" at all costs.

Not the usual egghead

Although most European and American experts feel that a man like LaRouche could only be elected if the nation was gripped by a crisis so serious that Americans demand a new type of leadership, the rapidly unraveling financial "bubble," they fear, could be just that crisis. And LaRouche, as the program shows (panning to shots of his numerous policy papers, books, published articles and campaign pamphlets), has the solutions. How to keep the lid on LaRouche thus

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became an obsession for those forces who knew LaRouche was a potential threat to their policies and their power.

Why? The answer is given in the second half of the broadcast in which LaRouche himself details the policies he would carry out. As the announcer says: "There are two things which land LaRouche in trouble with his enemies. First, he tells what he knows, whether or not he thinks the truth is popular. . . . Second, unlike the usual egghead, he proposes clear-cut action for dealing with important problems. If he says something should be done, he is likely to do it; if he says something should not be allowed, he will fight to prevent it from happening. As the saying goes, he puts his money where his mouth is."

The problem, according to LaRouche, is that Washington today is repeating almost word-for-word what the Hoover administration, the Congress, and the Federal Reserve did back during 1929-32 and the majority of the governments in Western Europe are reacting almost exactly as they did during 1929-32. Meanwhile, most politicians are pushing either hyperinflationary schemes (like Bush) or like Bob Dole, the 'same old root canal economics' which caused the deep depression of 1932 and 1933."

LaRouche, as the program indicates, began addressing the problem of the international financial crisis as early as 1975, when he delivered a major press conference in Bonn, followed by a written proposal for an International Development Bank, discussed in diplomatic circles internationally. In it, he warned of the dangers of a build-up of unpayable Third World debt, and proposed the establishment of a new monetary system as the way of avoiding a looming international debt crisis. His proposal was included in the resolution of the 1976 Non-Aligned Movement conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

At that point, according to the program, many leading bankers around the world began to fear Lyndon LaRouche and began to launch a series of "dirty tricks" in an attempt to stop his influence.

LaRouche's war on drugs

This effort mushroomed in 1978, when LaRouche launched a "War on Drugs" and commissioned the well-known book *Dope, Inc.* to expose the origins of the international drug trade. It is in this book that the ties of the British royal family to the drug trade are exposed. LaRouche's notoriety increased as he became the target of major drug-trafficking interests and financial circles whose involvement in drug money-laundering stood exposed by LaRouche and his associates.

The program also documents other areas in which La-Rouche's policies became influential in government and scientific circles, particularly on the Strategic Defense Initiative—which led Moscow to declare LaRouche "public enemy number one"—and on AIDS, which drew the wrath of the homosexual community and liberals who lobbied for the

"civil rights" of AIDS victims, opposing LaRouche's public health approach to the disease.

These are just some of the reasons the media refers to LaRouche as a "political extremist"—because he speaks out at times the establishment has something to hide, and also because "he knows more about the inside of more foreign nations, perhaps than all the other 1988 presidential candidates combined." Furthermore, as the broadcast shows, LaRouche insists on making very specific changes in the monetary and economic policy of the United States—changes which would significantly reduce the political power of the major financial interests, but would strengthen the U.S. economy in ways which "Moscow insists must never occur."

On the economy in particular, LaRouche has laid out in precise programmatic detail—in books, press releases, pamphlets, and policy papers circulated in Washington and abroad—an entire package of economic recovery measures to be put into effect on his first day as President.

As LaRouche said in the broadcast, Congress already has laws, which "give the President a menu of possible action from which to choose in any emergency exactly like this one. All the President need do, to set those mechanisms of recovery into motion, is to declare a national economic emergency, and identify exactly which of the constitutional and legislated powers he intends to use."

What the transition period would look like

LaRouche has drafted a series of presidential orders, as well as emergency legislation, to be sent to the Congress, which cover every emergency action needed to bring the financial crisis under control, and launch a genuine economic recovery. "Immediately after my election," said LaRouche, "I shall devote much of the transition-period to putting those executive orders and draft legislation into proper legal language. During the same time, I shall be meeting with agencies of the Executive Branch, the Congress, and state and local government around the nation, so that the day I am sworn in, our nation will swing into action to bring the crisis under control."

As detailed, the measures include regulatory actions needed to bring the financial crisis under control, and economic measures for rapid and large-scale industrial expansion. LaRouche would immediately move to: 1) defend and strengthen the value of the U.S. dollar on the world's exchange markets; 2) defend the prices of U.S. Treasury bills and U.S. government bonds; 3) use the regulatory powers of the federal government to help the local banks in trouble keep their doors open; and 4) stabilize the world financial market to "prevent chaos, and to establish a solid floor for re-growth of markets under conditions of economic recovery."

Through this economic recovery program—based not on reducing the budget deficit, but on generating new industrial potential, LaRouche said he intends "to do what Franklin Roosevelt did between 1939 and 1943—without the infla-

tionary effects of large-scale war expenditures." "It worked then," says LaRouche, "and it will work now."

LaRouche also says he plans to begin negotiations with U.S. friends and allies on his first day in office—meeting with diplomats and heads of governments on the evening of his inauguration to "reach agreement on a memorandum of understanding on three subjects: debt reorganization, general monetary reform, and a new package of trade and tariff agreements to restart a rapid expansion of world trade" and to "give the former colonial world access to what Roosevelt called 'American methods' of technological progress."

The conflict between the Soviet empire and the West, contends LaRouche, is "more than 80% a conflict in culture, economy, and politics, and less than 20% a conflict in military potentials." What the Reagan administration's strategists have never understood, he says, is that "if we continue to impose economic and monetary policies which ruin our own economy, and ruin our allies and friends, we are giving the world over to Moscow's domination free of charge. It is the bonds of fruitful cultural, economic, and political cooperation among the United States, its allies, and its other friends, which is the source of strength of Western civilization."

"We must return to being the nation we were created to become. Here, at home, we must be committed to the freedom and well-being of every family. We must be a nation which is able economically to provide true justice for all, through scientific and technological progress. In the world at large, we must build a system of cooperation among nations, a community of principle based upon the goal of justice for every nation, and every individual on this planet—including the many millions of today's terribly poor Americans here at home."

After viewing the Feb. 4 LaRouche broadcast on CBS, the honest citizen could only wonder: "Are these the words of a political extremist?"

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