

'We're Out To Change America's Destiny'

In a webcast speech in Washington, D.C. on Dec. 12, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., candidate for the 2004 Democratic Presidential nomination, said that the world is now in a crisis “fully as serious as that which Franklin Roosevelt faced in March of 1933.” Not only is the U.S. financial system bankrupt, but our infrastructure has collapsed, our health-care is disintegrating, and our educational system is practically worthless. But with bold leadership, an inspired sense of mission, and using the precedent of Roosevelt’s successful policies, the crisis can still be overcome, and the nation and world put back onto the track of recovery and peace. “I’m uniquely qualified to carry out a mission,” he said, “the mission of a President of the United States within the kind of emergency circumstance which we face now. My mission is rather unique to me, because of my experience, and I’ve been tested by fire a few times. I’m prepared to face the issues that others are not willing to face. I’m prepared to take the risk, which others will not take.”

The candidate situated the current crisis facing residents of the city of Washington, within the last few millennia of history, emphasizing the decline in American culture after World War II, by which we shifted from being a “producer nation,” the most powerful and innovative on Earth, to a “consumer nation,” parasitizing off the rest of the world in order to buy the goods we can no longer make ourselves. (The audio and full text of his speech, with the questions and answers, are available at www.larouchein2004.com.)

The D.C. Primary

LaRouche was addressing a D.C. audience of about 180 people, one-third of whom were youth; many more listened over the Internet. Seven foreign embassies were represented, as well as activists and supporters from all walks of life. The situation in the nation’s capital is particularly hot right now, since the D.C. primary on Jan. 13 is the first in the nation—even though the leadership of the Democratic National Committee is boycotting it, and four of the nine Democratic Presidential candi-

dates are toeing the DNC line by refusing to place their names on the ballot. LaRouche, naturally, is not one of them. The ordinary residents of the District of Columbia, the majority of whom are African-American, typify what FDR called the “forgotten man”—those who have been ground down by the economic crisis, and swept aside by a government no longer dedicated to the general welfare.

Barbara Lett Simmons, a DNC member and long-time D.C. political activist, who attended the webcast conference, commended LaRouche for his stand, pointing out that the city’s decision to go ahead with the primary, to uphold the civil rights of its citizens, was itself in defiance of DNC Chairman Terry McAuliffe’s dictate. The no-show candidates, she said, “opted to ingratiate themselves with the status quo and the leadership of the DNC, rather than to take a principled stand and participate in an opportunity which is given to them, to show that we aren’t proud, as the greatest democracy on planet Earth, to have, in fact, a colony as its capital! There’s a great paradox there!”

The LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM) is organizing intensively for the D.C. primary, with motorcades and literature distribution throughout town, notably in its poorest neighborhoods, and an ongoing series of town meetings to build support for the campaign. Their polemical attacks on Vice President Dick Cheney and his neo-conservative “Chicken-hawk” confederates have become famous throughout the city. Indeed, LaRouche’s campaign spokeswoman Debra Hanania-Freeman, who moderated the webcast, pointed out that some have commented that a recent LYM rally outside Cheney’s office was quickly followed by a fire that completely destroyed the LYM/EIR Washington office; and that some people were unable to attend the current webcast because the city’s Metro system was temporarily shut down by a bomb scare. Coincidence?



Candidate LaRouche addresses his live audience at the Washington webcast on Dec. 12, which launched the final month of mobilization of his campaign in the Capital. The District Presidential primary election is Jan. 13.