

LaRouche Proposes Amendment To Panama Treaty

The following statement was issued on Sept. 22 by Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr., U.S. Labor Party Chairman.

In anticipation of the forthcoming testimony of Governor Ronald Reagan to the U.S. Senate on the subject of the Panama Canal treaty, I propose that the principal substantial and otherwise apparent defects in the signed draft of the treaty be remedied by means of issuance of a new policy doctrine statement, updating the Monroe Doctrine.

The following draft includes, it should be noted, a policy element recently publicly voiced by Governor Reagan, a point on which I and many other leading U.S. citizens are in essential agreement.

USA Panama Doctrine

In 1823, at a time of grave peril to our nation, President James Monroe promulgated what has been known as the "Monroe Doctrine." This was done in the context of consultation with two former U.S. Presidents, Jefferson and Madison, and with key participation by then-Secretary of State John Quincy Adams. If the circumstances and intent of that doctrine are properly understood, it has an appropriate continuation in the United States Western Hemisphere policy at the present time, a continuation which ought to be clearly identified in connection with discussions of the signed draft treaty between the governments of the United States and Panama.

The circumstances were principally these.

Through various agents affiliated with the banking interests of London, Amsterdam and Geneva, banking interests allied with the British monarchy and with circles around Lord Shelburne and William Pitt the Younger, the United States' friends in France had been variously guillotined, otherwise dead, exiled or otherwise reduced from former positions of influence. Those British agents included Danton, Marat, Mirabeau, Necker, Tallyrand and others. With the defeat of France, the imposition of the British agent Duke of Orleans on the restored French throne, and the British establishment of its Holy Alliance order upon continental Europe, the elements of the "League of Armed Neutrality" so essential to U.S. victory in the American Revolution had been eliminated. The British had thus dared to launch war against us, provoking the War of 1812, and after the Treaty of Vienna used their global hegemony in efforts to provoke us and to subvert and crush us.

It is notable, in this connection, that London-based financial interests and their allies in the British government were responsible for development of the plantation slave system in the United States during the 1815-1860 period, and were directly responsible for promoting and indeed almost creating the U.S. Civil War. Although Great Britain formally acknowledged U.S. independence at the Treaty of Paris in 1783, the United Kingdom did not in fact recognize U.S. sovereignty in practice until

negotiations between Her Majesty's government and the administration of Abraham Lincoln in 1863.

It was under the dangerous circumstances of the 1815-1863 period, the period in which British power was predominantly committed to subverting and crushing our nation, that the administration of President Monroe steered through perilous political and military waters to the adoption of the so-called Monroe Doctrine.

Although the popular account of the Monroe Doctrine is that it was a de facto compact with Great Britain's naval power against Latin American intrusions by the Holy Alliance powers, those responsible for the Doctrine understood that the Holy Alliance powers were principally subjects of a British-controlled "concert of powers" on the European continent.

British Foreign Minister Canning had proposed to make de facto U.S.-British hegemony over the Western Hemisphere a treaty-agreement between His Majesty's government and the government of the United States. This would have been, in effect, U.S. granting to Great Britain official looting rights throughout Latin America. Thus, on the advice of Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, the United States declined the treaty offered by Canning.

However, the United States was in no position to make a direct confrontation with Great Britain. Hence, the Monroe Administration adopted the Monroe Doctrine, which had the double purpose of placating London while maintaining the principles of United States foreign policy doctrine for the time that the United States grew strong enough to enforce such a doctrine.

The principal distinction between the proposed treaty with Great Britain and the Monroe Doctrine was identified at that time by John Quincy Adams. The United States maintained the principle of unconditional sovereignty of new republics in the Western Hemisphere, whereas the British had a doctrine of "limited sovereignty," meaning British creation and destabilization of Latin American governments at its pleasure, through British influence over such clients as Simon Bolivar.

This principled difference between Britain and the United States was most clearly expressed in the Maximilian affair, in which the combined naval forces of Great Britain, France, and Spain overthrew the legitimate Benito Juarez republican government of Mexico as part of a looting effort of debt collection against the subjugated people of Mexico.

There were two elements in the influential thinking of John Quincy Adams behind the Monroe Doctrine. First, there were extensive precedents in United States foreign policy, as notably expressed in preceding treaties for the policy of absolute sovereignty of new American republics. More fundamentally, from the political movement associated with Benjamin Franklin and his collaborators leading into the American Revolution and in the establishment of the United States as a federal republic, the principal issue between the United States and His Majesty's government was American commitment to the realization of technological progress in in-

dustrial and agricultural development, in opposition to the British policy, as set forth in Adam Smith's colonialist policy in *The Wealth of Nations*, of keeping England's colonies and competitors in a condition of ruralized labor-intensive relative technological backwardness.

The foreign and domestic policy of the founders of the United States, from the roots of the American Revolution through the election of 1828, was the constitutional principle that the proper basis for government and law of a republic was the development of the wealth and culture of the people through promoting an environment of technological progress in discovery, in the expansion of industry and agriculture, and in the educational and free-press policies of the nation. The establishment of sovereign republics committed to those principles and enjoying the benefits of such principles is the purpose and essence of the establishment of the United States and its order of constitutional law.

Over the intervening decades, and most notably during the present century, a growing bulk of fraudulent reinterpretation of United States history has been popularized both inside the United States and abroad. The false report has been circulated that the English Plantations and republic of eighteenth century North Americans was principally an aggregation of rough, semi-literate frontiersmen. In fact, despite the efforts of the British government and allied financial interests to prevent the people of this nation from acquiring the capital needed for industrial development, our people were the most literate in the world, with a much higher level of popular culture than existed either in England or in France. It was that literacy and other factors of the superior popular culture of the English-speaking people of North America which made the American Revolution and establishment of the constitutional Federal republic possible, where efforts to the same effect failed in both England and France. Although the early United States lacked the capital resources of Great Britain, wherever our people's passion for science and technological progress were given outlets, our technical accomplishments, such as those of Robert Fulton, were conspicuously in advance of what was generally possible in the poorer level of popular culture then available in England.

Although our forefathers were largely of British origins, they represented in kernel the most advanced impulses from among the British people, who had founded societies on these shores to the purpose of establishing political and cultural forms not generally possible in the oppressive and politically backward England. This nation drew skilled persons from England, from France and other European nations, seeking here the possibility for the freer and more fruitful expression of their productive powers.

It was on the basis of those impulses and principles that the United States was founded and the foundations established for this nation's growth to great economic power.

In the early successes of the American republic and in the comparable failures of the French Revolution, a fundamental principle was demonstrated.

In the struggle between Federalist Thomas Paine and other friends of Benjamin Franklin, on the one side of the French Revolution, and in the associates of Robespierre on the other side, the allies of Paine sought to establish France as a republic committed to scientific and technological progress under constitutional principles

modeled on the lessons of the United States experience. The followers of Robespierre's faction, including British agents Danton and Marat, offered an opposite conception, mob democracy. It was the success of the latter faction which produced the hideous Red Terror in France, and led to the Napoleonic period through which British hegemony over Europe was established for most of the 19th century.

This demonstrated that the "American System" works, while the British system, and political forms derived from Rousseau and Bentham's "philosophical radicalism," led to chaos and dictatorship.

The principle underlying the success of the American System is that in a climate of freedom and cultural development of the individual focused upon objectives of technological progress, the individual member of society is encouraged to value himself or herself for his or her creative mental powers, his or her ability to discover, transmit, enrich, and practice new scientific and related conceptions through which man's dominion over nature is advanced. By so placing the valuation of the individual upon that creative mental power which fundamentally distinguishes man from such lower beasts as baboons, the individual member of a republic committed to technological progress develops respect for his or her own mind, and for the mental potentials of his fellow citizens.

This policy and cultural circumstance has two consequences essential for a republic. First, a climate of technologically progressive popular culture and education is the indispensable means for raising the productive powers of labor, which is in turn the fundamental human basis for enhancing the prosperity of the nation and its individual members. Second, the practical emphasis such a republic places on the individual human mind's creative potentials provides the basis for the prevalence of moral values consistent with the needs of humanity, and consistent with the quality of general electorate a republic requires.

The antitechnological progress prejudices associated with both the doctrines of Rousseau and those of Jeremy Bentham are intrinsically what we call today Malthusian or neomalthusian. In these latter anti-American conceptions the human individual is degraded politically and morally to likeness with a lower beast. He is degraded to the status of a mere biological individual, with more or less fixed potentialities and impulses attributed to him, just as the needs and behavior of lower beasts is apparently determined from generation to generation by a fixed genetic heritage. Just as the judge who sent the great Lavoisier to the Red Terror's guillotine said, "The revolution has no need of men of science," so the Malthusians and their cothinkers degrade man generally to a lower beast-likeness fit only to find his miserable peace with existing natural conditions, and to propose political utopias in which man returns to baboon-likeness in harmony with some more primitive condition of the ecology.

It was America as the symbol and reality of the principle of technological progress which made America the cynosure of oppressed Europeans fleeing from relative zero growth to the land of opportunity here. Although we have often deviated from that principle in our foreign and domestic policies, it is the perpetuation of the American System despite those deviations which has given our nation its greatness and power, a power which depends for its perpetuation upon a repudiation of both what our forefathers regarded as the British system

and of the antitechnological doctrines of philosophical radicalism traced in part to Rousseau and Jeremy Bentham.

It is therefore the historical and still imperative fundamental policy of the United States to base its domestic and foreign policy upon the principles of the American System. That is the viable continuing principle embedded in the Monroe Doctrine, and the proper basis for our policy toward Panama and other Latin American nations today.

The guiding principle at the basis of United States foreign policy is to foster sovereign republics committed to the fulfillment of the humanist principles of technological progress and the cultural development of their populations. We do not arrogate to ourselves as a nation the right to determine the internal political processes of those nations, but we do assume responsibility for the effects of our foreign policy in determining the climate in which nations pursue their internal development.

Thus, in the United States' treaty relations with Panama, it would be an abomination if such treaties promoted the circumstances under which the internal life of Panama favored atrocities of the sort symbolized by the Red Terror of Danton and Marat in 1792-1794 France. It is the vital self interest of the United States that its neighboring countries be viable republics, which those nations cannot accomplish without the circumstances favorable to technological progress in the expansion of their industry and agriculture. It is our vital interest, insofar as our means and other relevant circumstances allow, to afford to the struggling weaker republics of this hemisphere the kinds of friend in ourselves our own new republic desired during the late 18th and early 19th century.

In this connection, some critics of the treaty signed between the governments of the United States and Panama have raised the most relevant criticism that this treaty does not adequately consider Panama's need for a climate of technological progress, of fruitful capital formation in the progress of its industry and agriculture and in the corresponding advancement of the employment and cultural opportunities of its people. This criticism is a valuable one.

If we do indeed condone in Panama and other Latin American nations the conditions of raging sansculottism and the political philosophy of the culturally backward, desperate sansculottist mob, we are thus permitting the kinds of internal developments out of which the ongoing succession of social-political chaos and dictatorship must tend to prevail. In the course of later events, we might lament and denounce such political transformations of these nations, although our errors in foreign policy might have been a major contributing cause behind such unfortunate developments.

A proper United States foreign policy does not mean an unending flow of charitable donations. The entirety of modern history, in particular, demonstrates that the proper combinations of productive capital and increasing of the productive powers of labor generally means a growth in both gross and net produced wealth in industry and agriculture in excess of the growth of debt service incurred by capital formation. We can not arrogate to ourselves the prerogative of imposing such technological development policies upon sovereign nations, but we can shape our foreign policies toward nations to the effect of fostering the choice of a humanist,

technological progress policy by those nations. In point of fact, most of the nations of the world would readily cooperate with such a United States policy.

We cannot, of course, take total responsibility for affording nations the external capital they require, but we are a powerful force in world affairs to the purpose of creating a general climate favorable to a humanist policy.

Other critics of the signed draft treaty between the governments of Panama and the United States, including governments friendly to the United States in this hemisphere, have expressed emphatic concern respecting elements of the treaty which appear, in their estimation, to undermine the principle of sovereignty.

There are two things to be done in response to that criticism.

We must, firstly, emphasize the included principle of the Monroe Doctrine, that the sovereignty of the republics of this hemisphere may be breached only by act of war. We must especially emphasize that point because the British Empire and its political cothinkers down to the present day have never accepted the principle of sovereignty for nations, especially not toward the nations of the southern portion of the globe. We must also emphasize that principle of the Monroe Doctrine because some influential voices within the United States itself have lately proposed that the United States participate in adoption of a doctrine of limited sovereignty.

We must, secondly, emphasize the nature of the problem giving rise to those features of the draft treaty which are the focal point of the complaints made.

The Panama Canal Zone was established as an integral part of the procedures by which the nation of Panama was established, through United States' interests directly responsible for encouraging and generally making possible the separation of Panama from the nation of Colombia. At the outset, the nation of Panama was essentially a client state of the United States, and the Panama Canal Zone an integral arrangement for the very existence of that nation. To quote one influential United States figure, "We stole the Panama Canal fair and square."

However, history moves on. The nation of Panama, originally virtually a mere puppet state of the United States, has evolved into a nation, and with the special circumstance that the ostensible prosperity of the Canal Zone abuts directly the Central American poverty of the majority of Panamanians. With the aid of certain busy bodies from outside Panama, that contrast between the modern standards of the Canal Zone and the poverty of most Panamanians has been for over a decade the specific obsession of a political ferment centered around "New Left"-type university and other students of Panama.

In this circumstance, two interests collide.

The Panama Canal remains a vital strategic economic and military interest of the United States. It is an important element of United States internal commerce, and without it the United States would be obliged to augment its naval and related forces most considerably.

At the same time, despite the efforts of the Panamanian government of Gen. Torrijos to maintain rational and friendly relations with the United States, he came into power in the sequel to student riots which destabilized and ended the lawful former government of that nation, and presides over a much enlarged student-

led ferment of the same impulses. This unstable feature of the present internal situation in Panama, combined with a general destabilization among the countries of Central America, prompts the United States government and leading forces of the United States population to be concerned with the possibility and consequences of an overthrow of Gen. Torrijos's government by forces associated with the student "New Left."

Although we do not propose to intervene in the internal affairs of Panama, we have the right and obligation to take into account what effect internal forces such as those of the student-led ferment might have on the policies and practices of a future Panamanian government. It is our right and indeed our obligation to speak plainly on the subject of that student-centered ferment. It is essentially a sansculottist demagogues' movement in the tradition of the movements of Danton and Marat, a violent "New Left" formation of the philosophical-radical variety, of that variety which at one moment represents itself as "ultraleft" and at another proves to be a new variety of the fascist movements associated formerly with Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini, a movement essentially characterized by irrationalism.

If those forces were to succeed in coming into power, the identified vital strategic interests of the United States would be indeed threatened. Moreover, whereas with the case of governments with whom we have differences, but which are committed to a rational perception of vital national interests, satisfactory negotiations will usually solve problems, with a government of forces which are essentially irrational, no such avenues of negotiations exist as efficient remedies.

Consequently, the majority of United States citizens, to the extent their spokesman inform them of such facts, will not accept a simple relinquishment of the United States' rights in the Panama Canal Zone.

As long as that problem persists, the United States has no practical alternative but to establish treaty rights which establish protection of vital United States' interests in the operation of the Canal.

For related reasons, some political currents in the United States may miss the valid kernel in the objections put forth by the government of Mexico.

It could rightly be observed that the proposed treaty increases the effective sovereignty of the government of Panama in respect to the Canal Zone, as against no treaty at all. The point is nonetheless made that the treaty implicitly sets forth a doctrine of limited sovereignty, reaffirms that as an acceptable principle at this present time. Worse, that feature of the treaty is asserted at the same time that a significant number of influential voices are proposing the promulgation of a doctrine of limited sovereignty, and that the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, among others, have gone to new extremes in arrogating a principle of

external limitations on the sovereignty of debtor nations. It is not that the draft treaty lessens the sovereignty of Panama; it accomplishes the exact opposite. It is that the inclusion of specifications with the effect of limited sovereignty in a current treaty is deemed an offensive act of policy at this present time.

This is also an important point among Latin Americans because of current efforts in some influential quarters to foment what is sometimes termed a "Second War of the Pacific" among Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and other nations, and related matters in Central America, including the threatened outbreak of a Guatemalan-based adventure against Belize. The proposal of a Bolivian outlet to the Pacific and Ecuadorian access to the headwaters of the Amazon River are connected to the cited features of the Panama treaty in not only the minds of some leading Latin Americans.

How do we, then, resolve this matter?

First, at the moment, relinquishing the vital interests of the United States in the Canal is, at best, a difficult proposition. Furthermore, as long as the threat of student-led overturns of the present government of Panama persist, going further in concessions than the treaty proposes is probably unacceptable to the relevant institutions of the United States.

However, we can significantly mitigate the difficulties involved in two ways. First, we can avow, as a ruling doctrine of United States policy, that the practical features of the current draft treaty with Panama are in no sense a precedent for a doctrine of limited sovereignty, and specifically disavow any United States support for forcible adjustment of the borders of Ecuador and Bolivia.

Second, we can respond to the viable criticisms of the treaty concerning the internal economic development of Panama. Those critics rightly point toward the fact that the present draft treaty will not work. U.S. Senate ratification of the treaty will not avoid a threatened destabilization of the present government of Panama; a general destabilization of Panama and adjoining nations of Central America is already underfoot and will continue whether or not the treaty is ratified. We must therefore supplement the treaty with measures within our proper means to aid the government of Panama in isolating and otherwise neutralizing the anti-humanist, student-led irrationalist forces in Panama. We must aid Panama in neutralizing and isolating the irrationalist forces of destabilization by arranging economic development programs of the sort which inspire and sustain that quality of humanist outlook for which the American Revolution was fought and the establishment of our federal republic and constitution was effected.

The approach to the reassertion of the essential content of the Monroe Doctrine identified here is the appropriate road toward proper relations within the Americas, including further steps toward full solution of the problems interlinked with the Panama Canal.

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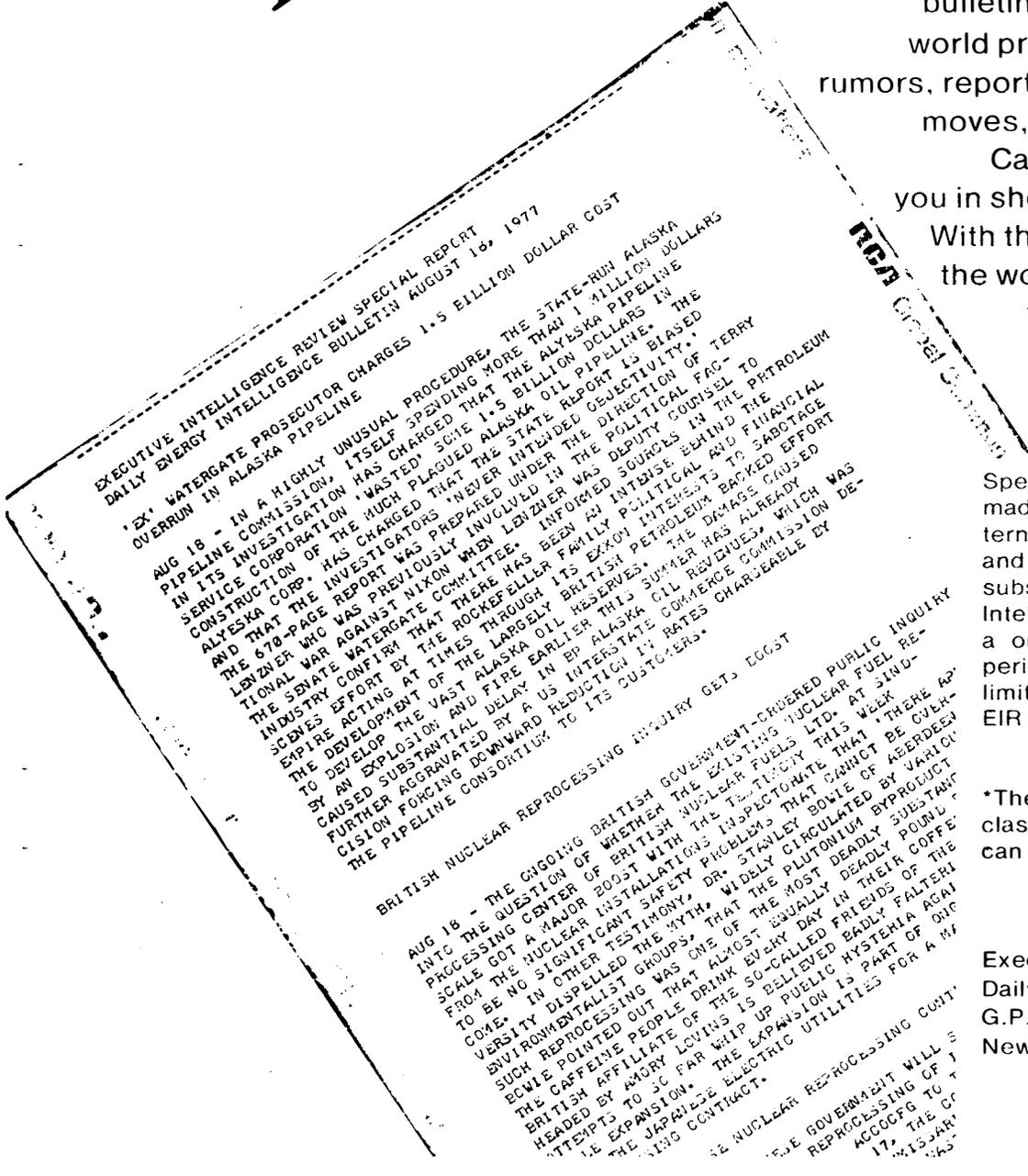
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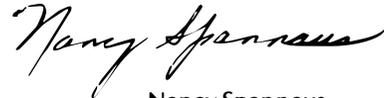


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