
Documentation

LaRouche in Mexico: 'I am the chief U.S. public figure defending Latin America'

by Timothy Rush

On May 27 Lyndon LaRouche, the U.S. economist and leader of the anti-Malthusian wing of the Democratic Party, emerged from a 40-minute meeting with Mexican President José López Portillo to answer questions from 60 journalists at the Mexican presidential residence, Los Pinos. The first question: "What do you think of the British colonialist aggression against Argentina?"

LaRouche had identified himself as the principal U.S. public figure defending Latin America in the Malvinas crisis throughout his weeklong visit to Mexico. His answers to this and following questions appeared the next day in nine Mexico City papers and regional papers.

The gist of his proposals presented in a speech to the Fourth Congress of the Mexican Labor Party May 21-23 and in press conferences May 26 and 27: that Latin America take the current crisis as an opportunity to turn a "debt weapon" back on Britain and force a restructuring of the world economic system. Count on the aid of my faction of republicans in the United States—of both the Democratic and Republican parties—he said, in trying to shake the United States loose of such British agents as Haig and Kissinger, and joining with you in the task of world economic recovery. It was vital to help defend the Mexican economy and its currency in this regard, he stated; "Were Mexico to collapse, the next country to be destroyed would be mine."

In his May 26 press conference, LaRouche reviewed the historical basis of collaboration between republican currents in the two countries, highlighting the importance of Mexico's "Lincoln," Benito Juárez. No U.S. political figure since the period of the Monroe Doctrine in the 1820s had so directly invoked the spirit of a "community of principle" of the entirety of the continent, of a joint fight for sovereign national development versus the oligarchical colonialist regimes epitomized by Great Britain, then and now.

At the precise moment LaRouche was speaking in Mexico, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig was addressing the Organization of American States. Haig told the Latin American foreign ministers and officials that it should be no concern of theirs if the United States

rips up its treaty obligations with Latin America and backs an extension of NATO into colonialist policing operations in the Third World.

LaRouche and his wife, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the secretary-general of the European Labor Party in West Germany, were first invited to Mexico in March 1979, by the ruling PRI party as guests of the PRI's 50th anniversary celebrations. LaRouche returned in March 1981, as special invited speaker at the annual economic symposium of the Monterrey Institute of Technology.

The following are excerpts of coverage of LaRouche's May 28 press conference at the presidential palace in the Mexico City press translated by EIR:

El Universal: "*LaRouche: U.S. Betrayed Monroe Doctrine in the Malvinas Case,*" May 28, 1982.

The Monroe Doctrine is the law of the United States and in the case of the Malvinas the position taken by that nation has contradicted the guidelines of its own law, said Lyndon H. LaRouche, a presidential candidate in 1980. He stated that in this case the most positive figure has been President Reagan and the most evil ones Haig and Kissinger.

After a meeting with President López Portillo in Los Pinos, LaRouche, who is part of one of the Democratic Party factions . . . castigated the main media and publications of the United States because they have been "a shameful channel of British propaganda" and state that there is a growing resentment and fear among the American people toward this war.

LaRouche recalled that on May 10 in [a meeting of] the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Henry Kissinger stated that the United States' foreign policy during the postwar period has been manipulated by the British on the basis of non-written agreement between the State Department and London.

El Sol de Mexico: "*Haig and Kissinger Evil Figures, Says Democratic Leader,*" May 28, 1982. *El Sol is Mexico's*

largest chain of newspapers, with 50 regional editions.

U.S. support for Britain in the Malvinas conflict runs contrary to the Monroe Doctrine which is U.S. law; however, the posture which has been assumed is not Reagan's own, he being a person "basically decent and good." And in the Mexican environment, even when explaining "I should not interfere with Mexican affairs," LaRouche indicated that there was no need for comment on López Portillo's monetary and inflation policies because it was obvious that they were good. It is in Washington's interest that Mexico be a sovereign nation, inclusive of their monetary and credit policies. "Were Mexico to collapse, the next country to be destroyed would be mine."

Defense of Mexico's currency or any other country's that finds itself in this situation is a very detailed job, as detailed as planning a war, said the Democratic leader, indicating that he has spoken with various leaders of Latin American countries; and he has stated that "this is a problem which cannot be resolved by each nation alone but requires that there be a unity among all, providing external support from those countries who are friends." LaRouche, who formed the National Democratic Policy Committee, stated his friendship for López Portillo, "I am an ally of the Mexican President in his positions and his ideology. We find ourselves on the same side, that is to say, the side of defending peace and stability. In these times, it becomes increasingly important that we bring together the peace sentiment in Mexico and the U.S." LaRouche said that if the Latin American countries sometimes feel disturbed and disillusioned because they continue to be approached as colonies by the large corporations, "You may extend this sentiment of sympathy and sadness to the United States which has . . . been a British colony."

Were the voice of Mexico and her Latin American neighbors able to be heard with more strength and clarity in the U.S., this would accelerate the process of ending all harmful action, said LaRouche, and stated that he surely would be a nominee in 1984—within the Democratic Party—for the U.S. presidency.

Excelsior, May 28, 1982. *Excelsior is viewed as Mexico's newspaper of record, and is widely read in other Latin American capitals.*

"The U.S. government violates its own laws by supporting Great Britain in its confrontation with Argentina, but this decision is creating growing resentment and fear in the American people and among the political leaders of the United States over the consequences that support could have for world peace, [said] Lyndon LaRouche, leader of the National Democratic Policy Committee of the United States. . . .

He affirmed that he and President López Portillo were on the same side—the side which defends peace and stability. He stressed that this is important in a moment of crisis. This alliance should also embrace India, the countries of Europe, and the non-aligned, since only a bloc of forces of that size could succeed, he commented.

LaRouche stated the need for creating a Latin American Common Market which would give the countries belonging to it the possibility of defending themselves in the conflicts stemming from the international economic crisis. . . .

Avance: "Haig and Henry Kissinger Have Violated the Monroe Doctrine," May 28, 1982.

As an economist and as a friend of the Mexican President who shares his positions and his ideologies since both are for peace and stability, LaRouche offered his skills to defend the Mexican peso which has been undervalued far below its real value. . . .

"The economic problem is really a highly technical one and a political conflict. Defending the value of the currency of Mexico or any other country is a task as precise as the planning of a war. This problem is suffered not only by Mexico, but by all the members of the Organization of American States." He concluded by saying that "undervaluing your currency is of no use." He added that the interest of the United States is for Mexico "to have absolute sovereignty even in its monetary and credit affairs. That is the Monroe Doctrine and that is the faith of my country and therefore I will fight like a tiger to defend the peso."

Ultimas Noticias de Excelsior: The following editorial, "The U.S. and Its Interests," was published on May 27, 1982.

The direct intervention of the United States in the Malvinas in favor of Great Britain cannot be hidden. Today, officials of the Reagan government announced that Washington is sending missiles and other arms to the troops which are trying to reconquer the strategic archipelago.

It is probable that the the United States is preparing to reverse itself if things keep on going the way they are going, Lyndon H. LaRouche, leader of one of the factions of the Democratic Party and probable presidential candidate in the next elections declared today in Mexico that not Reagan, but the evil Alexander Haig and Henry Kissinger, are to blame for what is happening.

Although his defense of Reagan made Reagan seem like a puppet manipulated by Haig and Kissinger, it could be the first step permitting the President to reverse course "honorably," should he consider it necessary.