

## LaRouche discusses the bipartisan challenge and the question of his presidential candidacy

*The following statement is part of a press release issued March 26 which reported on EIR founder Lyndon H. LaRouche's response to President Reagan's March 23 defense policy statement. Mr. LaRouche was a candidate for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 1980. The first section of the release appeared in the April 5 issue of EIR.*

"This is the moment to report to my fellow-citizens on my thinking concerning the 1984 Democratic Party's presidential nomination. Given the great act of statesmanship which President Reagan accomplished with last evening's televised announcement, should I seek the Democratic presidential nomination, and so seek to be President Reagan's competitor in November 1984?

"As it should be well known, it has been my repeatedly-stated policy and practice since President Reagan was elected in 1980, that responsible Democrats should develop a bipartisan posture toward the Reagan Administration. This continues to be my view, a view richly justified by the step which President Reagan took last evening.

"It has been, and continues to be my policy, that the great political parties of our nation have no proper self-interest as parties except the most vital interests of our nation. The proper definition of their competitive activities under our Constitution is to produce candidates qualified for office, to seek to elect qualified candidates, to develop and advance policies consistent with national interest, and to provide effective mechanisms of checks and balances in both the policy-deliberating processes of government, and in checking possible abuses by an incumbent Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary. In the end, we must seek to unify around bipartisan policies representing the vital interest of the Federal constitutional republic as a whole. In brief, I am an American Whig, in the tradition of Mathew Carey's great book, *The Olive Branch*, and the *Harmony of Interest* of his son, the great American economist, Henry C. Carey.

"Over the recent decade, especially since my campaign for international monetary reform during the 1974-75 period, I have acquired a role and functions which go far beyond my activities as a member and leading figure of our Democratic Party. During that period, I first received the hostile, personal attention of then-U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger

and his associates, and for the same reason Kissinger and those associates continue to make themselves my adversaries worldwide today, I have acquired increasing influence and significant moral responsibilities worldwide.

"As a private citizen and patriot of the United States, my increasing influence internationally means special kinds of responsibilities, including the discovery and definition of policy-options which are consistent with the most vital interests of both the United States and those of those foreign nations which are either our allies or negotiating partners. This activity has assumed an importance of the highest quality the work of a private citizen of our republic may achieve. It is an activity which is of importance to any President of our republic whose principles are consistent with those of the founders of our constitutional republic. It will therefore probably be the case, that I shall be of service to any such President of our republic in this capacity.

"Concretely, as the point is frequently stated to me by influentials inside and outside of our nation's capital, why should I introduce a possible factor of complication into this important work I do, by bringing upon myself the special problems I must incur by contending for the Democratic presidential nomination? It is sometimes said, 'Since there is no factor of personal ambition in your past or present efforts to become President, you don't really need the job, and would be personally most content with increasing your present role as a private citizen of exceptional international influence.'

"It is true, that insofar as President Reagan or any other President adopts and implements those policies which are in urgent interest of our republic, I would prefer not to undertake a campaign for that office myself. I would prefer to be an elder statesman, collaborating with new and old friends of various strata of influence on behalf of various good causes, in various parts of the world.

"There are two reasons I would campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination of 1984. I would be an excellent President of our republic, especially under the present conditions of grave crisis. My leading accomplishments as an economist, my knowledge and personal connections in most continents of the world, and other advantages of knowledge and experience, are resources of knowledge and commitment to command decisions on vital issues almost non-existent among other visible candidates. Perhaps it is indis-

pensable that a figure of my qualifications must be President under the conditions of crisis of the 1980s; perhaps it is sufficient that I be an advisor to Presidents. The answer to the second question is more sharply defined: one of the great parties of our nation, the Democratic Party, is being destroyed from within. That Party urgently needs a leader, a man for a time of great crisis, who can rebuild the Party, who can uplift it through his functions and responsibilities as its chief spokesman.

"This rebuilding of the shattered Democratic Party, to make it once again the party of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, is indispensable for the preservation of democracy during the period of crisis now unfolding. If the Democratic Party's role in our nation continues to degenerate as it has since the beginning of the 1970s, the irresponsible behavior of that party on the grave policy-issues of our nation threatens the institutions of democracy itself.

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"The Democratic Party must become once again the party of harmony of interest among industrialists, farmers, laboring men and women, and our unemployed and minorities. It must become again a great party which finds common solutions to the separate problems of each part of our people.

"Our people must have an immediate end to the new great economic depression crushing us. The great industrial cities of the Midwest must blossom in prosperity again. Our cities must be rebuilt throughout the nation. Our farmers, who are being destroyed at an accelerating rate, must be respected for the great work they do on behalf of a hungering humanity.

Our minorities must at last live under conditions in which the only difference in quality among persons is the development of their mind and morality, and in which all persons are afforded equal opportunities to develop those potentialities. We need to become once again a nation which knows the difference between right and wrong, and which acts accordingly.

"We must recapture the vision which Dr. Benjamin Franklin imparted to the republics of both Europe and the Americas through that great international conspiracy against Britain which he began to organize in 1766, ten years before our Declaration of Independence. We must, like Franklin, see the existence of our republic as dedicated to a higher purpose, that a world-order among sovereign-state republics, based upon the same principles underlying the founding of our constitutional republic, shall be established as a community of principle among nations. This was Dr. Franklin's principle, as it was restated by U.S. Secretary of State John Quincy Adams in formulating the 1823 Monroe Doctrine.

"This requires a world committed to scientific and technological progress, a world able to afford each person the development and opportunities which our conception of individual rights demands.

"When our nation commits itself as a powerful force for a great and higher purpose, each citizen of our nation partakes of his or her part in making that greatness possible. We must become once again such a great people.

"For these reasons, I shall most probably become a candidate for the 1984 presidential nomination of the Democratic Party.

"It is not an exaggeration to say that unless I run, Democratic Chairman Manatt and AFL-CIO President Kirkland would probably flip a coin at the 1984 convention, to decide whether Walter Mondale or Senator John Glenn is given the nomination by a pre-rigged assembly of delegates. That would be a disaster for our Party and a moral disaster for the United States. I do not know whether even I could win over President Reagan in 1984; I do know that Charles Manatt and Lane Kirkland have leading moral responsibility for the present worldwide depression, because of their continuing efforts to defend Paul Volcker and his policies, from Spring 1981 to the present date. A candidate, such as a Mondale or a Glenn, handpicked by those two carrion-crows of disaster, does not deserve to be President of the United States, lacks the moral qualifications to be President, and will probably be repudiated by angered voters who have had their fill of Volcker's depression.

"I am therefore not unavailable for the nomination. I will make my final decision, whether to enter the campaign, on the basis of advice and indications of possible support I receive during the coming eight to ten weeks.

"In the meantime, President Reagan will have my energetic support for his statesmanlike fundamental change in the strategic doctrine of our republic."