

LaRouche, Davis take campaign on the road

by Susan Welsh

Independent Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. and his running mate Billy Davis took their campaign on the road during the first week in September, with press conferences around the country and a national television broadcast on Sept. 3, entitled *Food Shock of 1984—the Mondale-Kissinger-Soviet Connections to the World Food Crisis*.

LaRouche made his first public appearance since announcing his independent candidacy, at a Honolulu press conference on Sept. 7. He told the press that he and Davis were running as independents because Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro were unfit to lead the Democratic Party—much less the nation. Mondale, he explained, is closely linked to the Cargill grain company and the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Political Affairs in Minneapolis, institutions which are right now planning a 1984 “food shock,” on the model of the 1974 oil crisis.

LaRouche briefed the press on his own proposals for preventing the impending economic collapse, particularly his plan to launch an international effort to develop the Pacific and Indian Oceans’ basin region. The press conference was attended by UPI, the *Honolulu Advertiser*, the *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, Hawaii Public Radio, KGU radio, and two television stations.

As of the date of LaRouche’s press conference, he and Davis had qualified for ballot status and/or been officially certified in 13 states: Colorado, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

A challenge to Mondale

Davis, a farmer from Laurel, Mississippi, made a whistle-stop tour of Colorado and Minnesota, giving press conferences in Denver, Colorado Springs, Minneapolis, and Duluth.

In Colorado Springs, Davis outlined the current strategic crisis, including the largest Soviet military maneuvers in Europe since World War II. Mondale’s reply is appeasement and the nuclear freeze, he said, and President Reagan does not want to face the crisis at all. Closely related to the military developments is the threat of a food crisis, manipulated by the Soviet Union and the international grain cartels. Ninety percent of the beef market, Davis reported, is controlled by

Soviet agent-of-influence Armand Hammer and associates. “There are no reserves, just inventories for the cartels. We could be producing 70% of what the world needs. But instead, we are providing the Soviets with grain 20% beyond even what they need for their stockpiles.”

As for Mondale, said Davis, “He is a warmed-over peanut farmer. Only, his brain wasn’t washed at Yerkes Primate Lab; his brain was rewired at Hubert Humphrey Institute. Every rock where you see evil, if you lift the rock, Kissinger is either under it, has just been there, or has a ticket to go there. Mondale has just called for a six-month moratorium on nuclear-missile love it.”

Davis was interviewed by the editorial board of the *Denver Post*, and his press conferences were attended by the *Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph*, KTCS/KCHT radio, KVOR radio, NBC-TV, the *Colorado Springs Sun*, and the *Rocky Mountain News*.

Then at an airport press conference in Minneapolis, Davis was asked by a reporter what he would do, if elected, to straighten out the economic situation in the country. He replied that the necessary preliminary moves could be made within 24 hours: a reform of the international monetary system, federalization of the Federal Reserve, and a return to the gold reserve system. This reform could be extended to include the developing sector and the rest of the free world. Then, he said, we could get to work on rebuilding our infrastructure, agriculture, and industry, which cannot be done overnight. The only real shortage we’ll have then, he said, is enough people to do everything that must be done, most importantly feeding the population of Africa, implementing the Strategic Defense Initiative, and developing fusion energy.

Spokesmen for the LaRouche-Davis campaign gave press conferences in other cities, especially in southern states where ballot status has been secured or is expected. On Sept. 4, campaign representative Bruce Director held a press conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, on the front steps of the State Capitol Building, attended by half a dozen media representatives. He denounced Arkansas Sen. Dale Bumpers as a “KGB Democrat,” and charged that Bumpers’s wife Betty runs the KGB-controlled organization known as “Peace Links.”

Independent Democrats for LaRouche national chairman Debra Freeman briefed the press in Memphis on Sept. 7. Reporters attended from the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, ABC television, and WHBQ radio. Following her opening statement on the purpose of the campaign and on the need to avert a food crisis, the press asked broad-ranging questions on national and international affairs, including how the debt-strapped U.S. farm sector could feed the Third World; how the crisis in Central America could be defused through economic development; and what the implications were of the just-announced replacement of Soviet Chief of Staff Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov.