

EIR1986 in Review

Tragedy, hope, and the emergence of Lyndon LaRouche

by Criton Zoakos

When the year 1986 began, the editors of the *EIR* informed you that they were not in a position to promise a “Happy New Year”—instead, in keeping with our policy of informing rather than edifying our public, we promised a “Tumultuous New Year.” We thought it appropriate, then, to dedicate it to St. Augustine, not only because 1986 was the 1,600th anniversary of his conversion to Christianity, but mostly because St. Augustine was a person who wrought, first, hope, and then both beauty and victory out of the debilitating collapse of civilization during the turbulent years of his lifetime.

In retrospect, 1986, the “Year of Saint Augustine,” was the most turbulent, and yet, the most hopeful year of the postwar era.

True, the whole world was plunged deeper into economic depression and misery; true, the world strategic and security situation is closer to catastrophe now than ever before; true, the continent of Africa is ravaged by the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse; true, the economies of Ibero-America, with the exception of Peru, are being obliterated by the Trilateral Commission and the International Monetary Fund; true, the “Chamberlains” and appeasers within the Western Alliance, have come closer than ever before to their objective of breaking up the U.S.-European defense alliance, which for almost two generations has protected Western liberties; true, the economies of Western Europe are suffering from massive unemployment and underemployment of their skilled industrial labor force and bankruptcy and collapse of their farm sectors; true, the once proud economy of the U.S.A. presents a picture of collapse, bankruptcy, foreign indebtedness, and abject misery in which a full one-third of the population subsists below the official poverty level; true, AIDS has emerged worldwide as the worst species-threatening epidemic to ever menace the human race.

These, in broad outline, are the elements composing the tragedy of 1986.

Where the hope has emerged is in the minds of people. The year 1986 has seen a dramatic, massive shift in the moral outlook and cultural orientation of crucial layers of the population in virtually all nations belonging to Western culture—what sociologists have termed a “cultural paradigm shift.” Essentially, this shift

is a return to the traditional personal moral orientation toward family, work in the sense of "making something of my life," and patriotism. From the depths of the economic, social, and psychological holocaust of "counterculture," "sexual revolution," and "service economies," millions upon millions of people are emerging, trying to piece together the ruptured threads that give abiding meaning to their lives.

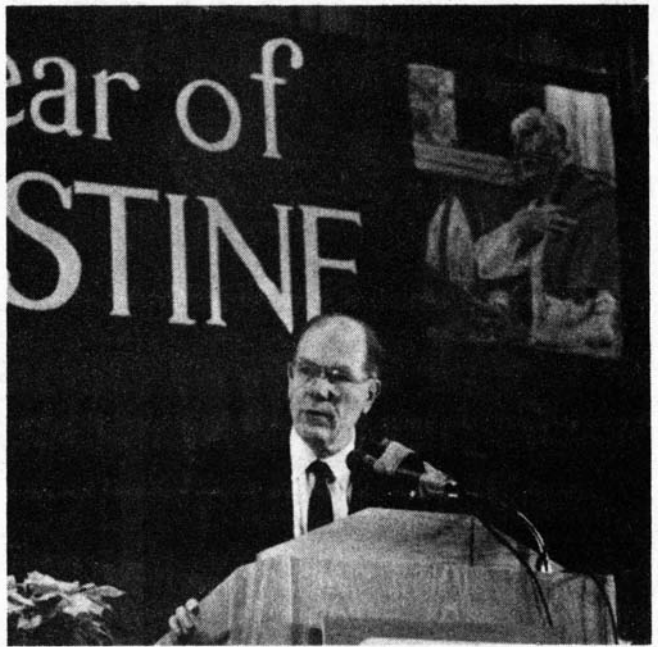
This large-scale transformation in the moral and cultural outlook of the population determines the political processes in the nations of Western culture, in the following way: The ideologies which have guided the ruling economic and political institutions of these nations in recent decades are in direct clash with the emerging cultural paradigm shift of the people. Since the 1969-73 period, Western governments, political parties, and financial organizations, have pursued, under the influence of the Trilateral Commission, Club of Rome, and other similar "elite" think-tanks, policies of counterculture: population control, deindustrialization, "service economy," subversion of the legal status of the nation-state, sexual permissiveness, drugs, rock music, appeasement of the Soviet Union,

All these policies stand in stark contrast with the emerging cultural and moral orientation of the populations which have suffered the consequences of these policies. Either the governing institutions will change their ideological orientation to conform with the cultural paradigm shift, or they will collapse. Should the latter occur, the life-and-death question for Western civilization is whether it will have the genius to build, under conditions of crisis and strategic challenge, new institutions to ensure its survival.

The emergence of LaRouche in the U.S.A.

For the United States in particular, the emergence of the cultural paradigm shift is intimately associated with the emergence of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. as perhaps the most controversial public figure of this century. People will ask whether the underlying moral and cultural shifts in the population caused LaRouche's emergence, or whether LaRouche's emergence caused the cultural shift. The causality at work was somewhat different than implied by posing the question in this way.

The turning point was the March 18 primary election in the state of Illinois, where two LaRouche associates, Janice Hart and Mark Fairchild, won elections within the Democratic Party, against well-heeled candidates supported by the regular party machine. The election platform on which they won, was: 1) Revive heavy "smokestack" industries; 2) Support strong defense and the Strategic Defense Initiative; and 3) Enforce and finance a broad-based public health and economic policy to combat AIDS. With negligible campaign spending, they won large pluralities of the blue-collar, farm, and minorities vote. During the general election in November, though they did not win, their total vote was greater than that received during the primary. Lesson: the LaRouche pro-



and striving

gram solidly commands the loyalty of between 18 and 25% of the regular Democratic Party vote. Other local elections around the country demonstrated that this pattern is nationwide—in some instances, voter loyalty to LaRouche shot up to 40% of the Democratic vote and above.

A similar level of agreement of voters with LaRouche policies was demonstrated during the famous California Proposition 64 vote—a referendum for a no-nonsense public health policy to defeat AIDS. The further lesson of the California November vote is that the pro-LaRouche vote (29% of the total number of voters and a much higher percentage of voting registered Democrats), held its own in the face of the most impressive opposition. For months, a most hysterical anti-LaRouche campaign had enveloped the state, conducted by a coalition of notables which included the leadership of both Democratic and Republican parties, the government of the state of California, the entrenched leadership of the state's medical profession, and, above all, the entire gallery of Hollywood's celebrities, public idols, and stars, saturating the media with "Stop LaRouche" exhortations. The pro-LaRouche 29% held up to all this.

Further evaluations of both LaRouche and the public mood were made around the country, in the offices of political machines, party headquarters, and professional polling organizations. The results of each local election in which LaRouche candidates ran, were studied exhaustively. Secret polls upon secret polls were ordered and executed in every part of the country, beginning with the famous "McKeon poll" of the Illinois Democratic Party. The result held up almost everywhere: In the face of the most extensive ever campaign of disinformation, slander, calumny, and intimidation, the pro-LaRouche sentiment keeps holding to between 18 and 25% of the traditional Democratic Party vote.

The LaRouche appeal to traditional Republican voters, especially farmers, small businessmen, and strong-defense advocates, is another strong, and perhaps as extensive base of support for this startling political personality.

Moreover, he is, so far, the only officially registered presidential candidate for 1988.

Emergence of LaRouche policies worldwide

During 1986, the dramatic emergence of LaRouche as an "electable" politician inside the U.S.A., was associated with the emergence, around the world, of certain important policy proposals of his which he had launched over a period of years.

Most notable, and most disconcerting to the Soviet leadership, is the fact that LaRouche's conception of a directed-energy-weapons based anti-missile defense, the Strategic Defense Initiative, is, at the present time, the centerpiece of the strategic posture of the United States and, consequently, of the Western Alliance. A letter sent by President Reagan to Soviet General Secretary Gorbachov on July 25, 1986, and publicized, subsequently in a speech by President Reagan at the United Nations, made it clear that the version of SDI which the Reagan administration is following, is neither Dr. Edward Teller's version, nor Gen. Daniel Graham's "High Frontier," but the specific approach first formulated by LaRouche at an April 1982 seminar in Washington, D.C., and further elaborated in a "Draft Memorandum" on U.S.-Soviet relations in 1984. The LaRouche approach on the SDI has the following unique characteristics: a) a global, four or five layered defense shield, b) based on the appropriate mix of directed energy and particle beams, c) to ensure a 99% kill of all incoming projectiles including "tactical" or "airbreathing" rockets, and, d) an offer to share the same technologies with the Soviet Union so that both superpowers may be afforded the same protection.

This was the original LaRouche conception, and this is what both Defense Secretary Weinberger and President Reagan offered to the Soviet Union repeatedly, both at the various negotiating tables, including Reykjavik, and at other public forums. And precisely this, especially the offer to share these technologies, is what has the Soviet leaders most horrified. It is difficult for the non-specialist to appreciate the extent of discomfort, bordering on murderous rage, that the Soviet leadership has cultivated, within its ranks, against LaRouche, especially in respect to this matter. The essence of the matter lies in the fact that LaRouche's offer to mass introduce into Russian culture the kinds of 21st century technologies—and the concomitant habits of thinking—associated with the SDI, is seen by the Russian leaders as a dire threat to the continuation of their kind of Dostoevskian, *Matushka Rus*, "blood-and-soil" culture. They reject America's generous offer because they do not believe that their kind of culture can assimilate it and survive. They perceive, in LaRouche's offer, the ultimate outflanking envelopment in cultural warfare. Hence the obsessive hostility of the Soviet

media and intelligence services against LaRouche.

When on Feb. 28, 1986, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme was assassinated, the Soviet KGB, guided by KGB Gen. Boris Pankin, orchestrated an international disinformation campaign to blame LaRouche for the murder. The *dezinformatsia* campaign began in March and continued till the end of the year, with a major, sensational article in the Soviet Armed Forces daily newspaper, *Krasnaya Zvezda*, which not only demands that Swedish police authorities vigorously investigate LaRouche, but virtually thanks and congratulates the U.S. Department of Justice and FBI for their notorious Oct. 6, 1986 "Great Leesburg Panty Raid" against LaRouche-affiliated organizations' headquarters. During that raid, 400 hundred federal, state, and local officers, armed with Uzi submachine guns, armored personnel carriers, one helicopter, and two fixed-wing aircraft, descended on LaRouche-affiliated offices, in the small, peaceful township of Leesburg, Virginia, the county seat of rural Loudoun County. Locally, the extravaganza had the impact of the Grenada invasion.

The raid had been requested by elements of the Soviet government, as a precondition for the Reykjavik summit. The request had been channeled via Armand Hammer, with the probable complicity of Charles Z. Wick, to the Justice Department's three most notorious "ex-left wingers," Mark Richards, Deputy-Attorney General Stephen Trott, and Assistant-Attorney General William Weld.

The influence of LaRouche policies during 1986, grew not only in the area of superpower security concerns. LaRouche's 1975 proposals for worldwide financial reorganization, specifically debt reorganization and expansion of world industrial production and trade, have gained dramatically during 1986. The Alan García government of Peru has been the first to implement a policy of total defiance of the IMF and the Trilateral Commission and to mobilize its internal resources for survival. As a result, it was the only indebted Third World nation to register an actual increase of national output by over 7% for the year. The policies of Peru are now actively studied, and emulated in varying degrees, by numerous other governments, such as Egypt, India, and Zaïre—relative "heavyweights" in the camp of Third World nations.

During 1986, the United States first, and numerous other governments, officially launched a War on Drugs. Though the programs associated with various "Wars on Drugs" are of varying effectiveness, the idea for such a War on Drugs, as well as the name, has been associated with LaRouche since 1977-78.

A more vigorous approach to the War against Terrorism was also seen during 1986, though the existing official programs have a long way to go before they become effective. Important though the British government's break of relations with terrorist Syria was, the most important, though least known, development of the year in the War against Terrorism, was a seminar for military officers and other specialists,

sponsored by Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, which was held in January of 1986. The principal idea adopted at that working seminar, was presented by Lt.-Gen. James Galvin, who argued cogently that the only effective policy to counter insurgencies is to introduce industrial and agricultural development throughout the Third World as a matter of long-term policy. Cogently, the general stressed the present day relevance of exporting the model of economic development associated with the American Revolution of 1776. This consensus among senior American military thinkers, though, unfortunately, not yet United States policy, has nevertheless had influence in shaping the prospect of the Middle East Marshall Plan orientation, a LaRouche-originated approach for establishing Middle East peace by sponsoring joint Arab-Israeli development projects—a plan seriously under consideration by influential political circles both in the Israeli and in numerous moderate Arab governments.

The issues behind 'Irangate'

There are serious policy issues of national survival behind "Irangate," which have been masked from the public's attention behind the sensational scandal-mongering of the mass circulation press. These are issues of national security and national economic policy. President Reagan may or may not be guilty of arms sales to Iran and of diversions of funds to the Nicaraguan Contras. He is, however, guilty of a horrible economic policy, hoisted on the administration by White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan and embraced, so far, by the President, which is now seen as jeopardizing the national security of the United States. If Reagan falls, he will not fall for any infractions associated with Iran or the Contras, but for his failure to rapidly reverse course on economic policy.

The story is this: During the second half of 1986, a quiet consensus developed among senior military and military-associated influentials, that the collapse of U.S. heavy industry and technology now poses an immediate threat to national security. The first inklings of such concerns among the military had been registered during a sensational Congressional testimony of Gen. Alton Slay on the subject of the devastating military implications of the collapse of the U.S. machine-tool sector. It appears that before the November elections, this consensus had spread from the military to the traditionally strongly pro-defense conservative Southern Democratic layers. In the November elections, President Reagan, despite his personal popularity, was trounced by the electorate. All professional analysts agreed that the anti-Republican vote was a vote against the economic policies of the Reagan administration. The election produced a Democrat-controlled Congress. All the economic policy-relevant committees of the new Senate are in the hands of conservative Southern Democrats. In the middle of Irangate, little noticed public announcements by the new Speaker of the House, Texas Democrat Jim Wright, by the new Senate Majority Leader, West Virginian Robert Byrd, the new chairman of the Senate

Finance Committee, Texan Lloyd Bentsen, and of the Senate Banking Committee's William Proxmire, revealed that a new, ambitious economic legislative agenda is being organized by these conservative Democrats, for the purpose of revitalizing heavy "smokestack" industries, reviving agriculture, launching a program of education in science and technology, re-training the industrial labor force, and revamping the stock markets and securities industries to penalize speculative activities and encourage productive investment.

Two things are not accidental: The new program of the conservative Southern Democrats, sounds very much like what LaRouche associates Janice Hart and Mark Fairchild were telling the Illinois voters when they carried off their sensational victories. In all its essentials, the 1987 legislative agenda of the conservative Southern Democrats, which enjoys, behind the scenes, the support of leading military figures, is the LaRouche program for an economic revitalization of the U.S.A. To become realized, as Rep. Jim Wright said, virtually echoing LaRouche, it will require the mobilization of national enthusiasm one usually associates with the reaction to Pearl Harbor in 1941 or President Kennedy's crash program to put a man on the Moon.

The second non-accidental thing: both the House and the Senate Select Committees to investigate Irangate are, on balance, controlled by such "conservative Southern Democrats" or allies. The appropriate signals have already been issued, that if Reagan accepts the new, incoming economic agenda, he will be spared further embarrassments emanating from "Irangate." If not, not.

The forces inside the Reagan administration opposing the LaRouche-formulated economic agenda, are the same Trilateral Commission allies who want to kill the SDI, hand western Europe over to the Russians, and also those who are conducting illegal raids and witchhunts against LaRouche and his friends. The Justice Department's center of corruption, around Stephen Trott and William Weld, and White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan, are engaged in an expeditious legal witchhunt, centered around a fabricated "credit-card fraud" case in the U.S. district court in Boston, for the purpose of trying to destroy the 1988 presidential candidacy of Lyndon LaRouche. They fear, as their Soviet friends very much fear, that LaRouche, with his ideas dominating America's legislative agenda and commanding the loyalty of an irreducible 18-25% of the electorate, will be the most formidable presidential candidate in 1988.

This matter will be cleared up during 1987. Either LaRouche, being subjected by his detractors to a trial of slanders and rumors, not unlike the trial suffered by Socrates in 399 B.C., will win and the truth will out, or his corrupt, oligarchical calumniators will win. The moral, strategic, and economic consequences of either of these two outcomes will be weighing heavily on future history. If 1986 was the "Year of Tumult," may we venture the suggestion that 1987 will be the "Year of Truth."