

## Editorial

# *Independence from economic ruin*

America goes into its July 4 celebrations with many complex problems, and its survival as a nation very much an open question. Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche went into New Hampshire on June 26, and told the press that these could effectively be reduced to a single problem: Will the United States of America continue to drift into a "post-industrial society"?

The "post-industrial society" policies of five successive Presidents since Johnson's 1966 turn have placed America, internationally, on the verge of strategic capitulation to the Soviet Union and the worst financial crash in history, and domestically, in a deepening morass of Sodom and Gomorrhah.

The United States is "on its way to becoming another Hong Kong, a coolie-labor service economy in which everybody's serving hamburgers to each other," stated the candidate. You can't have a strong defense when you are letting your industry rot away. "The United States today could not defend itself from a small country like Cuba if it took more than three months. We'd run out of ammunition."

LaRouche spoke of the way Roosevelt's 1939-44 recovery worked, a crash program to produce so that a war could be fought and won. "We can do it again," LaRouche stated, without going to war. "It's not magic. Americans have inventiveness."

"But if you go to the President and say, there is no recovery, he says, 'Doomsayers! Get away from me!'"

Not so in Russia, where, one day before LaRouche spoke, Gorbachov unveiled a "revolutionary" economic reform to put the Soviet war economy on a "crash program" basis. In their own, less inventive way, the Soviets are now doing what the Americans did in 1939-44.

Gorbachov addressed the Central Committee plenum June 26, and outlined plans for a "radical *perestroika*" (restructuring). He outlined a "strategy for accelerating economic development based on scientific and technological progress." He repeatedly stressed "speeding up the tempo" of scientific and technological progress, and the "mechanisms of acceleration." "The

chief task of *perestroika* is acceleration."

Gorbachov finished by calling for "an in-depth, truly revolutionary transformation. . . . Now we are entering the most difficult phase. . . the phase of practical action. . . . Nobody can stand aside in this process. Everyone must be involved."

Gorbachov blasted "conservative bureaucratic methods of economic management. . . . We are actually in the first wave of restructuring. This wave has sent ripples through stagnant water."

Among the 307 Central Committee members listening, nodding his approval, was Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, architect of the Soviet buildup for war against the West.

The officials of the U.S. State Department are trying to deny that this means war build-up. "Instead of admitting that the Russians are man-eating tigers, they are trying to portray them as peace-loving vegetarians," as LaRouche aptly put it in New Hampshire.

The Soviets have a goal. They have a war plan, which is their economic reform plan. Ogarkov is giving lectures about this. The Soviets figure they have about four to five years to run their war economy before it collapses, because they are running everything at full speed and running it into the ground. Ogarkov knows that 1991-92 is the limit, when they either get the United States to surrender or go to war. Ogarkov won't start a war until they are ready, and they are not ready yet.

That gives the United States a short three to four years to turn around the decay of our economy, before we send up the white flag and renounce the independence, not just of the United States but of every free country, and end the aspirations to independence of nations such as Poland.

LaRouche has thrown out the challenge in New Hampshire. With Herbert Hoover's horsecollar hanging around the neck of every Republican presidential nominee, it is up to the Democrats to come up with a candidate who can reverse the post-industrial decline. LaRouche has a program to do so. Does anyone else have anything to say?