

Editorial

A vision for America

The recently concluded Democratic Party convention had the quality of a Nazi Party Nuremberg rally replayed as farce. With that, and the abdication of Ross Perot, there appears to be no alternative to the disaster represented by the failure of the Bush administration.

This is not merely a problem for Americans. Like it or not, the 20th century has been and still is an American Century. This is reflected in the perilous state of every major economy in the world today; in the ability of the Anglo-Americans to use war and the threat of war to enforce tribute from the rest of the world; in the threat of diseases like AIDS to decimate whole continents.

We live in a time when much of mankind faces truly terrible conditions of life, with the fear of still worse to come. In the large, there is the specter of yet another world war in this war-torn century. Already millions of refugees from Serbian genocide have become displaced persons, whose best hope is to find shelter in hastily built tent cities, under conditions which will lead to epidemics and plagues. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that a third world war has already begun.

We have only to look at the accumulation of *small* wars which have erupted since the United Nations invaded Iraq—and we see threats of renewed bombings against that hapless nation. Particularly since Jimmy Carter was elected President, U.S. economic policy has been an escalating series of disasters. George Bush's evil "one world order" has turned into the spawning ground of disorder and war.

It was under these circumstances that Lyndon LaRouche issued a statement on July 20, in which he called for a genuine industrial recovery policy and made the stirring pledge to the American people: "So never fear; I'm there. I'm fighting. Unlike Perot, I shall never give up; I'm fighting for this nation. There seems to be nobody else with a glimmer of understanding of what's needed. I shall stand. I shall present what is needed—and I shall fight to the end. I shall never give up. On that you may depend."

LaRouche, however, has no panaceas for solving

the present crisis. The problem is not an easy one. If America is to recover, then every American will be called upon to readjust his or her priorities; to reevaluate precisely what it is that is most important in life, and what can be sacrificed to a higher purpose. Crucial in this is reassertion of the sanctity of human life. This means that the rights of the young, the elderly, the sick, and disabled, cannot be violated. It means that U.S. banks will be taken off welfare, not families and the unemployed. It certainly means high progressive taxes to wipe out the speculative gains of the super-rich.

For a genuine economic recovery to occur in the United States, it will be necessary to prioritize investment in basic infrastructure—energy, transportation, and water development—but also in the capital infrastructure of industry. Investment policy must also be vectored toward science in such a way as to foster energy-intensive, capital-intensive technologies. This will entail an investment on the order of \$500-600 billion, and the creation of 6 to 8 million new jobs, and it means that tax incentives must be given to promote such investment.

This is a perspective which will not bring a sudden leap into prosperity; rather, it is a perspective for recovery over one or more decades. It demands that people think ahead and be willing to plan and work for the future, rather than living for momentary gratification.

The cluster of values which are presently associated with New Age ideology, hedonism, the rock-drug culture, will have to be repudiated, in favor of more traditional values associated with the family. Many will have to forgo certain perceived pleasures in order to provide a future for the next generation. No doubt life will be less easy, but men, women, and children today shoulder an enormous burden of despair as they try to accommodate to an increasingly uncertain and threatening future. Perhaps Americans will all work harder, but they will be working to a purpose.

The period ahead will be a difficult one, but it can also be joyous, if there are enough people who are willing to share LaRouche's commitment not to give up the fight, whatever the cost.