

are so sensible, we have schooled ourselves to so close a semblance of prudent financiers, taking careful thought before we add to the 'financial burden' of posterity by building them houses to live in, that we have no such easy escape from the sufferings of unemployment. We have to accept them as an inevitable result of applying to the conduct of the state the maxims which are best calculated to 'enrich' an individual by enabling him to pile up claims to enjoyment which he does not intend to exercise at any definite time" (p. 131).

We here in Bosnia and Hercegovina have a lot to do with the financiers. Therefore, four years since the Dayton peace accord has been signed, the rate of unemployment is dangerously high, people are poorer than ever. On Monday, Dec. 27, there was a talk show on the independent TV station "99." The question put before the audience was, "What and who would you say was the most impressive personality or events in the 20th century?"

More than 90% of the spectators voted for former Yugoslav President Tito. Why I am saying this now? I am saying this, because you are the only one who strongly supports a Marshall Plan for Bosnia and the whole Balkan region. You are the only one who takes care of unemployed persons and the only one of the contemporary politicians who greets both rich and poor. With all of that, you remind me very much of the former Yugoslav President Tito, the most admired personality in Bosnia, even 20 years since he passed away.

## Ibero-America

**Mexico—Julio Zamora Batiz**, *former federal deputy, former Mexican ambassador to Peru and Uruguay.*

Dear Mr. LaRouche:

For several decades I have followed with interest your writings explaining your interesting proposals for the world economy and the international political realm.

It is obvious that the process of globalization, in its current form, is harmful to the majority of human beings who populate the poorest countries, and who are subjected to an exploitation corresponding to the imperial interests of large corporations. The latter even impose their views on the governments of those nations which are economically and militarily the strongest on the planet. Such abuses are particularly notorious in the financial aspects of international relations.

The proposal to thoroughly reform the international financial system, and seek, with the agreement of all countries, a new and more just approach, therefore cannot be postponed.

The recurring crises, which each day affect more countries, although particular situations in one or two of them may be the detonators, are irrefutable proof of the urgency of this reform.

I think that your participation as a Presidential candidate in the U.S. elections is an excellent opportunity to examine these problems, and discuss the options for a solution such as those you have proposed.

I wish you luck in your endeavor and the best of health in the year which has just begun.

# Racism is the issue in S. Carolina campaign

by Michele Steinberg

On Jan. 9, South Carolina Republican State Sen. Arthur Ravenel, a funder of George W. Bush's Presidential campaign, spoke before 6,000 people in Columbia, the state capital, and issued one of the most racist blasts at African-Americans and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) heard publicly in recent times. Ravenel rallied the crowd to defend flying the Confederate flag over the state capitol, and told them that the legislature will "not give in" to the "National Association for Retarded People"—meaning the NAACP, which is trying to take down the Confederate flag. The crowd, with some dressed in Confederate Civil War uniforms as part of a three-day rally for the flag and "reenactment," whooped and cheered for Ravenel's brazen Ku Klux Klan rally-type statements.

Ravenel was referring to an NAACP campaign to impose an economic boycott on the state as part of an effort to repeal the law that allows the Confederate flag to be flown over the capitol. When State Sen. Darrell Jackson took the floor at the opening of the General Assembly the next day to demand an apology, Ravenel refused. Instead, he "apologized" to "the retarded folks of the world for equating them with the national NAACP."

## George W. 'Jefferson Davis' Bush

Ravenel is not some redneck extremist; he comes from an old-line establishment family, and he was merely reiterating "the party line." On Jan. 7, at the Republican debate in South Carolina, George W. "Jefferson Davis" Bush had insisted that the right to fly the Confederate flag is a states' rights issue. In fact, every GOP candidate except John McCain endorsed Bush's position. And for the next week, Bush reiterated that position, over and over again. However, Bush's reaction on ABC-TV's "Nightline" on Jan. 12, indicates that the "flag question" is getting on "Dubya's" nerves. When journalists asked him a follow-up to his mindless recitation that "the people of South Carolina can make up their own mind," Bush had a characteristic mini-explosion, saying, "I've answered that question all I'm going to answer it today. . . . No, no, no."

When a reporter said, "You're trying to be the President, the leader of the party of Lincoln. . . . Don't you see that your position on the Confederate flag" is a problem, Bush had no answer.

McCain's opposition to Bush is important, because, as Democratic Party Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche said in his Jan. 13 press conference in New Hamp-

shire (see p. 62), Bush's position reveals a "real, underlying, axiomatic issue" of the campaign.

In the Jan. 7 debate, McCain was the only candidate to stand up against Bush on the Confederate flag issue. On Jan. 9, on the "Face the Nation" TV show, McCain said, "The Confederate flag is offensive in many, many ways, as we all know. . . . It's a symbol of racism and slavery. But I also understand how others do not view it in that fashion. My forbears from Mississippi fought under the Confederate flag. They were not slaveowners, and I'm sure they considered their service—one I believe died in Shiloh—was honorable. So, I obviously understand why many Americans find it offensive."

By Jan. 10, reportedly under massive pressure, McCain released a statement that said: "Some people may have misinterpreted a previous statement by me regarding the Confederate flag. I was merely restating a position I have taken dozens of times in the past. The questions of where the Confederate flag should fly in South Carolina should be left up to the people of South Carolina to decide without outside interference.

"In Arizona, we resented it when outsiders parachuted in to tell us what to do about a Martin Luther King holiday. I am sure the people of South Carolina feel the same way about outsiders trying to impose their views.

"As to how I view the flag, I understand both sides. Some view it as a symbol of slavery; others view it as a symbol of heritage. Personally, I see the battle flag as a symbol of heritage."

Indicative of the pressures buffeting McCain is the fact that his top strategist in South Carolina, Richard M. Quinn, is the editor-in-chief of the *Southern Partisan*, the magazine of the neo-Confederate Nashville Agrarians. Quinn is one of the most prominent members of the "Heritage movement," which is campaigning to keep the Confederate flag flying over the capitol. Quinn is the father of state House of Representatives Majority Leader Rick Quinn, who has vowed to keep the flag flying as long as the NAACP boycott is in effect.

The boycott called by the NAACP began on Jan. 1, the anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's signing the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863. The law allowing the Confederate flag to be flown over the state capitol was passed in South Carolina in the early 1960s, in the midst of civil rights battles that preceded the historic Federal laws against desegregation and the passing of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

As the battle over the flag intensifies, the Voting Rights Act itself is being put through a "test of fire," with the state Democratic Party acting in league with the Gore cabal around former Democratic National Committee head Donald Fowler, to keep LaRouche off the Democratic Party ballot. But at the same time that the Fowler/Al Gore forces in the state violate the Voting Rights Act, State Rep. Todd Rutherford, a black Democrat, has filed a complaint with the Justice Department, accusing the state GOP of violating the Voting Rights Act because it will not open polling places in predominantly black precincts.

## AIDS: Don't be fooled by Al 'Adolf' Gore

by Scott Thompson

On Jan. 10, U.S. Vice President Al Gore presided over a special session of the United Nations Security Council, devoted to the catastrophic threat to Africa posed by the unchecked AIDS pandemic. That the Clinton administration chose to devote the month of January, with U.S. Ambassador to the UN Richard Holbrooke chairing the Security Council, to the crisis in Africa, is commendable, as is the administration's commitment to push Congress to put up \$150-350 million for emergency aid to countries in Africa and South Asia that are overwhelmed by the spread of HIV.

But the fact that Vice President and Presidential pre-candidate Al Gore was given the chance to chair the special session on AIDS, is a case of hypocrisy run wild.

Not only was Gore caught red-handed last year *blocking* the delivery of cheaper drugs to fight AIDS to South Africa. But he is also on record, particularly in his 1992 book *Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit*, advocating radical population reduction—even if it means the spreading of pandemic killer diseases such as AIDS to achieve that reduction.

### Al's drug-lobby antics

Gore, as head of the Gore-Mbeki Binational Commission, had issued threats and levied economic sanctions against South Africa under then-Vice President Thabo Mbeki, because the latter insisted that in a "national emergency," South Africa had the right to produce affordable, generic HIV-AIDS drugs.

Gore only let up on his threats in September 1999, after South Africa had agreed to pay its pound of flesh for patent rights to the pharmaceutical cartels, which were funding Gore's campaign. So, no one should be fooled into thinking that he has suddenly become a friend of Mbeki—now South Africa's President—or that Gore is really concerned that the number of HIV/AIDS-infected people in Sub-Saharan Africa has reached 20 million—of whom 14 million have died, at a rate of more than 5,000 per day.

In fact, Gore is on record not only as proclaiming that Africa as a whole is "overpopulated," but also as endorsing the view that the AIDS holocaust there—which is occurring on a scale greater than that dreamt of by Adolf Hitler—is a direct result of such "overpopulation."

Sources report that Gore's appearance as Acting President of the UN Security Council to deliver his self-serving speech, was organized in part by Ambassador Holbrooke, who viewed