

LaRouche Is in Debate On Peru's Economic Plans

by Manuel Hidalgo

The economic ideas of U.S. economist and Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche saturated the first conference of the Interregional Coordination Council of Peru, held March 14 in Piura. This gathering of the governors of Peru's northern provinces focussed its discussions around the perspectives for constructing a Northeastern Bi-Oceanic Corridor, including navigability of the Amazon River and an outlet through Pacific Coast ports. A leading Peruvian associate of LaRouche, Sara Madueño, gave a 30-minute presentation to the governors, which defined the situation as follows: "The world will have to choose between a war against Iraq and its consequences, or Eurasian development corridors and their extension to the Americas." Madueño explained the world strategic conjuncture, counterposing against British geopolitics the strategy of development according to the American System of political economy.

The Council pulled together recently elected governors of the region for the first time and, despite the fact that separatist and other tendencies plague the area, the Council is serving as an important forum for airing the development needs of the regions as a whole: among these, the strategically key North Macro-Region (the provinces of Tumbes, Piura, Amazonas, Loreto, Lambayeque, La Libertad, San Martín, and Cajamarca). This is the basin of the Amazon River and its tributaries, Marañón and Huallaga, as well as the coastal provinces, and this region can complete the ocean-to-ocean river transport (the "bi-oceanic corridor"), in cooperation with Brazil. Piura Congressman Iván Calderón Castillo organized EIR's participation in this first Council gathering. One week earlier, on March 7, Congressman Calderón had presented an order-of-the-day motion before the Peruvian Congress, in which he emphasized LaRouche's evaluation of the world financial crisis and the war against Iraq (see box).

The governors of the North Macro-Region added their voices to the demand to carry out this great project of a Bi-Oceanic Corridor which, in truth, will be next to impossible to bring about short of a region-wide political mobilization in its favor. The government of President Alejandro Toledo, a former World Bank economist, has built some highways along the route; these have had minimal impact on the real needs of the area, as was demonstrated clearly in the presentations of the official spokesmen at the conference. In fact, Toledo's government has just slashed the already-depleted budget for economic infrastructure, by another 13%.

Madueño began her presentation by reading from a Reu-

Peru: Integrated Transportation Infrastructure



LaRouche associate Sara Madueño's presentation to Peru's northern governors' conference included the urgent outlines of completing the "Bi-Oceanic" infrastructure corridor, by extending the Amazon River system through Peru to the Pacific and constructing new ports and railroads in the country.

ters news service story dated June 20, 1994, entitled "World Bank Censures Third World Public Works Projects," which states that developing nations were "wasting a large portion" of the \$200 billion annually allocated to "generous public works projects." Madueño pointed out what hid beneath this language: Serious continental infrastructure development initiatives are a *casus belli* to the world's financial oligarchy. She referred to the 19th-Century efforts of Peruvian President Manuel Pardo (1871-76) to undertake a central Andean bi-oceanic link, which effort was aborted by his assassination and the launching of Britain's 1879 War of the Pacific, which suspended these great projects. "We must revive the war for development," Madueño said, explaining LaRouche's concept of "development corridors," as initially elaborated by those great exponents of the American System of political economy, Alexander Hamilton, Friedrich List, and Abraham Lincoln.

Madueño also explained LaRouche's famous Triple Curve "typical collapse function," and why the financial crisis leads to war. She explained his initiative for a New Bretton Woods, strongly backed by Congressman Calderón. Madueño's participation in the Council conference ended with interviews on Piura's Channel 7 television and with the newspaper *Correo*, as well as a distribution carried out by the event's organizers themselves, of LaRouche's latest press release on the war against Iraq, and an open letter demanding a New Bretton Woods fixed-rate monetary system.

The presentations of the government envoys from the National Decentralization Council, the Transport and Communications Ministry, and the privatization agency Proinversion, showed that not only are the state's development efforts minimal, but they are now being cut still further. This is despite the regional development actions of the Brazilian government and its "Advance Brazil" program, and the South American Regional Integration Initiative (IRRSA), which has the financial backing of Brazil along with the Andean Development Corporation (CAF). Unfortunately, glaringly absent from the Piura meeting were representatives from Brazil,

without whom the Bi-Oceanic Corridor will not be built.

The sabotage came from the Peruvian Foreign Ministry, among others, which has made it clear that the Northeastern Bi-Oceanic Corridor—which would involve a waterway from the Amazon to the planned ports of Saramirisa or Yurimaguas, and a highway corridor that would cross the Andes and end in the Pacific ports of Paita, Bayovar, or Etén—is simply not a priority!

Further, the Peruvian government cannot allocate even the little funding from IIRSA to this project, because its letter of intent signed with the International Monetary Fund commits it to limiting its foreign indebtedness for projects. No such limit exists on debt payments, of course.

These realities did not escape the attention of Peru's northern governors who, at the conclusion of the conference, issued a resolution committing themselves to "fight for a Northeastern Bi-Oceanic Corridor." As the closing act of the conference, Piura Gov. César Trelles Lara, host of the event, declared that such a fight is "a very important development for the history of the republic." Trelles Lara will serve as the new president of the Council for the next six months.

Congressman Cites LaRouche

Peruvian Congressman Dr. Iván Oswaldo Calderón Castillo on March 6 proposed a resolution to Peru's Congress, incorporating Lyndon LaRouche's warning of the consequences of an unstoppable war in the Mideast. Major points of the resolution are excerpted here.

WHEREAS:

- John Paul II has proposed that "in a globalized world, where threats to justice and peace have repercussions on a broad scale which harm the weakest, a global mobilization of conscience is called for. . . . It is necessary to respond to the negative forces who seek to make of the whole world a theater of war, with the logic of justice and love. It is not possible to fully re-establish the broken order if justice and forgiveness are not joined together. . . . We must together firmly oppose the temptation of hatred and violence, which only give the illusion of resolving conflicts and bring about real and permanent losses."

- In 1950, the UN General Assembly adopted the principles of international law. This legal doctrine is the keystone of the entire international order upon which relations among all the sovereign Nation-states are based.

- The long historical tradition of the United States as an open and democratic society, which obeys the law, is threatened by the frontal violation of the current President

of that country. . . . All of a sudden, President Bush declares himself ready to use, arbitrarily and unilaterally, his military superpower, including, if he finds it expedient, nuclear weapons.

- A nuclear first strike is no longer taboo. The United States will not refrain from the use of these weapons against non-nuclear nations, unless we stop this insanity. Several prominent Democrats, among them the Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche, and Senators Edward Kennedy and Dianne Feinstein, have already warned the public of this insane change of policy by the utopian war-mongers inside the U.S. government.

- As Lyndon LaRouche has warned repeatedly, this would mean the beginning of a Third World War, that would very likely be a nuclear one;

- This may be the last opportunity to avert an insane and devastating U.S. aggression against Iraq, which would pave the way for unleashing a process of perpetual war, and possibly plunge the world into a new dark age;

THE CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC AGREES:

- To demand that the United States and Iraq adhere to UN resolutions, based on the reports of inspectors, whose goal at all times is to avoid war, and to condemn any unilateral action on the part of the United States and its current allies, contrary to the UN resolutions.

- To request that the U.S. and Iraq disarm and destroy their prohibited nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction, under the instructions and supervision of the United Nations (UNO).