

Editorial

Fighting To Save Our Way of Life

Speaking to a group of trade unionists on a conference call convened May 26, Lyndon LaRouche laid out the crisis facing the U.S. population, and what must be done. Beginning with the financial collapse, which has shown itself in dramatic form over the recent weeks, LaRouche moved on to the question of saving the machine-tool sector of the U.S. economy, the heart of the productive economy, which remains ensconced primarily in the auto sector.

If we had acted in the Spring of 2005, when he first raised the alarm about the dismantling and bankruptcy of the auto sector, we could have shifted the situation decisively, LaRouche said in his opening remarks. But Congress backed away from the issue, he noted. LaRouche's solution had just "too much Roosevelt in it" for them. At that point, LaRouche continued as follows:

"Now, here we are: We already have the auctioning off of whole sections of the auto industry. If that process continues—as it will accelerate, unless we stop it—it will mean not only that we will not have an auto industry, or not much of one; *we will no longer have the capacity to organize a recovery.*

"So, as long as we have the auto industry, as long as we have capabilities represented by it, the machine-tool capabilities of the industry—or the two-thirds that may not need for autos right now, but the two-thirds that can be used to develop railway systems, to develop power systems, to fix the locks on the rivers and so forth, the dams; and to do the other necessary things in terms of infrastructure, which build up the economy the way that Roosevelt did through the Harry Hopkins operations back in the 1930s; we would *lose* that. Which would mean, we'd be back to scratch in trying to start an economy. We wouldn't have what's called a "surge capacity" to rebuild the economy. Which would mean, that our way of life would just disappear.

"So therefore, we're fighting for our way of life as we used to understand it, on two levels: First of all, we face the *immediate* threat of a general financial

collapse—not a depression!—but a collapse of the entire world system: We're on the edge of it now. What you're seeing in terms of hyperinflation in primary materials, what you're seeing in the wild swings in financial markets, are signs of a disintegration of the *entire world financial system*. And if the United States and Europe go, China as a market will suffer; India will collapse, other parts of the world will collapse. That is, the collapse of the United States and Western Europe, would mean a chain-reaction collapse of the entire world system.

You're talking about a holocaust beyond anything that people could imagine in recent centuries: It can happen.

"So therefore, we in the United States, because of our Constitution, have the capability of organizing a recovery, shall we say, Franklin Roosevelt-style. We can do that. Our Constitution has built into it, the authority of government to take the kinds of measures which can organize a recovery. If we organize a recovery for the United States, other countries will then join us, and we can avoid the worst possible catastrophe, and get into a process of recovery.

"Now, if we don't act now, if we don't act in the immediate period ahead, we may lose the opportunity to save this nation, and all that that means. So therefore, the crucial thing now, is to kick some butt, and get Congressmen and others, who are willing in a sense, to do something, but are unwilling to take the first step, and give them the guts, the courage, to move. I know what to do. I've been talking about it enough, I'm familiar enough with it, but we have this reluctance in terms of the political system.

"So therefore, we have to mobilize the forces of the population, the politically active forces, at the county level and up, to move on the Congress, to give them the guts to take the steps which they're probably not averse to, but to take the steps which are needed to save this economy—and actually, to save civilization."