

Cheminade Election Spots Begin To Air

On April 9, France Television showed the first series of official spots produced by the respective campaigns. From April 9 to 20, except for Sunday the 15th, nine out of the ten candidates are shown, in an order drawn by lot. Overall, each candidate is entitled to 43 minutes altogether, comprised of 10 spots of 1 minute 30 seconds, and 8 spots of 3 minutes 30 seconds. They are considered more important than the various interviews given, because voters have an unbiased view of the candidate.

Cheminade's April 9 spot began with a clip from his now-famous video of 1995, in which he warns that a dangerous financial crisis is about to hit, and that he would be remembered as the one who had forecast it. Then the camera switches to Cheminade today, stating forcefully:

“The financial and monetary crisis, which I alone announced in the 1995 Presidential election, has happened.

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“My forecast does not give me cause for conceit, but I do measure the consequences of the blindness of the others.

“That is why I am running again as a candidate. To relaunch employment, purchasing power, and social justice. But in the current system, that is impossible. The money is put elsewhere. We are bailing out, to the tune of billions, those who have destroyed the economy and imposed social breakdown. Labor has become mere merchandise.

“Therefore, we have to change systems. To do so, we first have to prevent the financial predators from doing more harm. By dividing the banks in two in order to protect deposits, credit, and savings, and putting into bankruptcy the banks that speculate, if they are unable to pay their gambling debts. Then, we will be able to create a system of public credit, with a national bank, to finance great projects which create skilled jobs in France, in Europe, and in the world.

“We must give back to our youth this hope. Let us fight for it! Anything else amounts to chatting on the deck of the *Titanic* which is headed straight toward the iceberg.”

Mayors Fight Back!

On March 31, the French Constitutional Council published the names of 500 elected officials chosen by lot who sponsored the different Presidential candidates. Many of those who sponsored Cheminade were later contacted by the media to ask them to explain their choice—in an obvious ploy to get them to say they had been deceived. But it didn’t work!

One mayor of a village in the southwest said: “I share his view on denouncing the financial system. He speaks of virtue, and I find his approach courageous. That’s why I decided to sponsor him.”

As the weekly *L’Express* noted, some mayors said they wanted to support a “minor candidate,” but that was rarely the only reason. The mayor of a town of 1,677 in Brittany said he had met Cheminade twice, and was mainly attracted by his refusal to let the State be controlled by financial interests, and by his foreign policy against Atlanticism. This mayor says he was also convinced by the “space program of the candidate,” which used to be everyone’s dream.

The mayor of a village of 368 says he was convinced by the economic proposals of Cheminade. Another praises the campaign activists, who were “sincere and explicit,” in addition to being the first to come

and ask him to be a sponsor.

From Bourgogne, a mayor said he had also sponsored in Cheminade in 2007, in particular, because of one issue which no one else seems interested in: “the drying out of Lake Chad.” And also because Cheminade is fighting for the survival of the rural areas in France. *L’Express* notes that defense of the farming/rural areas is an important part of Cheminade’s program—which convinced other mayors to support him.

From the erstwhile industrialized North, a mayor who happens to be a driver of high-speed trains (TGV), says that he was influenced by Cheminade’s project to integrate Europe through high-speed rail projects.

Although the Parisian media would have loved to find some elected officials who would say they had been deliberately misled by Cheminade and his activists, they could not. All they found was one one mayor who said that if Cheminade really has links to American right-wing extremists, as some media claim, then he regretted his decision. But of course, those links are non-existent.

Cheminade Webcast

The following invitation is being sent out to the entire network of Solidarité et Progrès (the La-Rouche co-thinker organization in France):

It is crucial today to understand the tragic moment of history at which we have arrived. It is in this context that Presidential candidate Jacques Cheminade puts forward his solutions, while the other candidates propose austerity and a balanced budget, which means the bailout of investment banks’ gambling debts, and even worse social ravages, or they recite worn-out formulas and try to keep up illusions.

That is why Jacques Cheminade will present to his fellow Frenchmen his program, and the importance of his fight, during a webcast on April 15 at 17:00 CET (Paris time).

We invite you to follow the program live on www.cheminade2012.fr and to email your questions to question@cheminade2012.fr.

Don’t miss the opportunity!