

# Russian Website on LaRouche's SDI

April 16—The Russian website Terra America today came out with the first installment of a series of articles and interviews about the American economist Lyndon LaRouche, to which the prelude had been the site's interview of LaRouche on the Strategic Defense of Earth and other space exploration prospects, published on April 13 (see *EIR*, April 20).

A major theme in the 3,000-word article is LaRouche's understanding of Russia's strategic place in the world today, which Terra America authors Kirill Benediktov and Mikhail Diunov termed unique among major American and European figures.

The [article](#) is illustrated with the image of a Summer 2008 *EIR* cover picturing Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin with military officers and bombing victims during Russia's conflict with Georgia in South Ossetia, and titled "LaRouche: Putin Was Right, Acted To Prevent World War." The allusion to today's strategic situation would be hard to miss.

The new article notes that LaRouche is popular in Russia, and has influenced a range of public figures and writers such as Eurasian Economic Community official Academician Sergei Glazyev, economists Mikhail Khazin and Andrei Kobyakov, and journalists Alexander Prokhanov (editor-in-chief of the weekly *Zavtra*) and Maxim Kalashnikov. The Terra America authors emphasize: "Lyndon LaRouche is practically the only major Western intellectual who continues to view Russia as a key player on the international scene. . . . The ideology that triumphed after the fall of the Berlin Wall consistently and deliberately downplays Russia's role in the world, without regard for how things actually stand. Meanwhile, LaRouche says that Russia 'together with China, and India, and the United States, represents the only hope for the rescue of . . . the world, from the greatest crisis in modern history.'"

## 'Truth and Lies'

Under the subhead "Truth and Lies about LaRouche," the article refutes a number of myths about LaRouche that are often attached to his name in

Russia: that he is a "Senator," that he is a "millionaire," and that he advocates a "gold standard." The refutation of the latter point includes references to the Russian text of LaRouche's *So, You Wish To Learn All about Economics*.

Turning to a discussion of who LaRouche really is, the authors use some gossipy material from Wikipedia, but that takes a back seat to more accurate characterizations of how LaRouche's life-long antipathy to the British Empire was shaped by his post-war experience in India at the moment of independence, his early attacks on the Wiener-Shannon information theory doctrine, and the pro-growth outlook he introduced into radical student layers in the late 1960s.

The subhead "The Father of Star Wars" introduces one of the most honest accounts of the Strategic Defense Initiative ever published in Russia. The authors acknowledge that the Soviet Union had serious directed-energy anti-missile programs in the 1970s, about which LaRouche was aware through the work of his physicist colleagues and friends in the Fusion Energy Foundation (Terra America links to an archive copy of a 1977 issue of *Fusion* magazine, containing an article on "The Science Behind the Soviet 'Superweapon'"). They excerpt LaRouche's November 1993 interview with human rights activist Victor Kuzin, in which LaRouche detailed his interaction with the Reagan Administration and Soviet officials in 1982-83.

## A Science-Driver

They report the concept of SDI as an economic science-driver, as well as a war-avoidance approach; the ice-out of LaRouche after Soviet leader Yuri Andropov rejected the SDI; and the interest in LaRouche's work from various Soviet institutions at that time, both positive interest on the part of the Central Mathematical Economics Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and the "less friendly" attitude of Soviet circles linked with the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis and the Club of Rome.

Although LaRouche's representatives visited the Soviet Union in 1979, and again in 1982, the article says, the invitations stopped after Andropov's vehement rejection of the SDI.

The prelude to the Terra America series, LaRouche's interview on the SDE, is being linked to and blogged on various Russian websites, including the widely watched oko-planety.su (Eye of the Planet) portal and a blog called Kosmos ("Space").