LaRouche Webcast: On The Eve of March 23

Here are LaRouche’s opening remarks to his weekly Friday webcast March 22, 2013, in answer to a question posed by a high-level institutional source in Washington, D.C.:

Q: Mr. LaRouche, in light of your comments last week, and in anticipation of the weekend Schiller Institute conference, coming up this Saturday, commemorating the 30th anniversary of President Ronald Reagan’s SDI speech, we would like you to answer the following question.

There is, to this day, significant debate over whether the Reagan SDI offer, in which you played a crucial role, was a failure or a success. Significant scientific and technological progress has been made towards realizing the dream of Mutually Assured Survival, and there are efforts that you cited last week, to revive Russian-American cooperation at the highest level. What lessons are to be learned, and what is to be done to assure that this collaboration between two great nations can actually succeed, fully, this time? Thank you.

Lyndon LaRouche: Well, this occurred under special circumstances. It started to move, in the latter part of that decade. And I had some influence in various quarters. I actually initiated a good deal of this, but it would not have happened by my initiation, except that a number of people who had been leaders in the intelligence community of the United States for some time, came forward to me, and suggested we start talking about things. This led into the condition where we had leading figures from Germany, from France, from Italy, and from other parts of the world, including Argentina, for example; and the agreement was, we should move in that direction. The thing was decided through a process which I was involved in; it’s on the record. And President Ronald Reagan, at that time, pushed it through.

Unfortunately, we had, at the same time, a change in the leadership of the Soviet Union, and a British-influenced, shall I say, bum, was then the head of the Soviet Union. He sabotaged the effort. But he was simply acting as a British agent, under orders from the Queen of England at that time. But Reagan was committed to going forward with this; he had made another public attempt at that before. He made a speech on that subject, as well as the negotiations he made. He made remarks toward the end of his career, that whether or not it was going to be done in his time, it had to be done. And I think that is a proper part of the whole process.

He not only had picked up on the SDI, he’d been inspired on that, not just by me, but by others. He went for it a second time, a second attempt through the U.S. to get this thing going, and when he was about to leave office, he said he would bequeath this responsibility to somebody, because it had to be realized in the future for mankind. So that was the essence of the matter.

As to the quality of the effort made then, I would say from my personal knowledge, because I was dealing with the people and institutions involved, and I knew them, and I knew what their opinions were at that time, that this attempt is something which was merely postponed. We’ve now come to the point where it would not be possible to postpone it longer.

But the fact that we did it first, that we repeated the effort, was essential to our ability to bring it off now! Without what we had done—my own role was in about the last quarter of the 1970s, and I had initiated this, but I had picked up all these responsibilities as well. And, without the steps which we made step by step, the preconditions for ever bringing in an SDI would never have happened!

So, what those who are responsible today have to face, is the responsibility of fulfilling something which was necessary even then, and is more necessary than ever, today. Without the precedent we set, during the late 1970s and the beginning of the 1980s, it would never have been made possible. So, I can speak for a lot of people who are now deceased; I’m magically not quite deceased. And they did their duty. And if there’s any possibility of saving humanity today from a terrible outcome, much is owed to them.

The present point is that the whole system, as a monetary system, as a financial system and so forth, is, in its present form, doomed to extinction. It could be the extinction of nations, because they’re no longer functional. Or it could be the extinction of populations of nations, because a thermonuclear war is launched. And we are on the edge of the potentiality of a thermonuclear war, under this current President of the United
States, and particularly, under the Queen, who is his real master.

So therefore, what’s being done on this now, is something which is essential for all mankind. And the people in the U.S. military establishment who are leading their part in this job, are actually now an integral, essential part of what is needed, if this is ever going to come off, which means, if civilization as we have known it, ever exists, after these times.

Russians Put Forward Several SDE Proposals

Rachel Douglas, EIR Russia and Eastern Europe Editor, presented a video on IGMASS (International Global Monitoring Aerospace System) to the Schiller Institute Conference (the video-script follows.) Helga Zepp-LaRouche introduced Douglas.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche: I want to actually end with a presentation, or have presented, a video which was sent to us by [our collaborators in] Russia, from the IGMASS program, which is really the offer on the table. And the reason why we had this conference on the 30th anniversary of the SDI [Strategic Defense Initiative], was because we want to rally forces, especially in the United States, who answer positively to the proposals that Russia has put on the table. And I’m very happy to say that the Europeans have already agreed that they will study these proposals and cooperate with them.

So, I think I would like to ask Rachel Douglas to make a couple of remarks on the significance of this video which then will conclude this morning’s panel.

Rachel Douglas: The very short video that we will see is actually Russian television coverage of the asteroid defense program called IGMASS, which stands for International Global Monitoring Aerospace System. And this is the group at which one of our speakers this morning, Ben Deniston, and Jason Ross [also of the LaRouchePAC science team], addressed their conference in Ukraine, last Fall, as actually the only U.S. representatives for an important international scientific discussion of this question. And they greet our conference and have asked us to look at the video featuring their work, as their contribution to it.

I just wanted to put that in a context. I’ll talk real fast (maybe not as fast as 1993, at our SDI anniversary conference, when my speech started at 10 minutes to midnight after the fire drill!), but I wanted to put it in the context of the fact that there are on the table a whole range of Russian proposals, inclusively, not only on SDE [Strategic Defense of Earth], but on strategic [military] defense.

And it’s really such a case of the tables turning, because back during the Andropov-Gorbachov period, one of the reasons they could get away with this, even in the Soviet establishment, which was not entirely in the pocket of the British, but included people who, since Marshal Sokolovsky’s book in 1962 had held that lasers against ICBMs were an essential development—the reason they could get away with it, was total control of the media, saying that Reagan’s SDI was an attempt to achieve a first-strike capability disarming the Soviet deterrent.

Today, we have an ironical situation, where, starting at the Vancouver summit in 1993, when even under the Yeltsin regime, some Russian representatives brought to the Yeltsin-Clinton summit in Vancouver, a proposal called “Trust,” for a joint Russian-American anti-missile experiment. Since then, the Russians have had actually a whole string of such strategic proposals, which you don’t know about unless you read EIR and monitor larouchepac.com, because they’ve been as blacked out in our media today, as the true intent of the LaRouche-Reagan SDI was in Russia 30 years ago. Those include, for example, Sept. 11, 2001, when then-Russian Prime Minister Putin was the first foreign leader to contact President George W. Bush—he actually spoke with Condoleezza Rice, the Secretary of State, after the attacks on our country, and said, “We know what’s going on; we are taking all our nuclear force alerts down, and cancelling all scheduled exercises, because we realize that this could be a danger to world peace, and we want a strategic collaboration.”

Instead of that, under the guidance of Vice President Cheney, the United States did exit the ABM Treaty (which was lousy, but that’s another whole story), and said, “Now we’re going to take missile defense,” which as Jeff [Steinberg] pointed out, was no longer what Reagan had envisioned with the SDI! So, “we’re going to take missile defense and we’re going to set up a global shield,” ostensibly against potential attack from Iran or elsewhere. But the Russian strategists and the Chinese strategists saw it as aimed as a threat to their deterrent.

So, in 2007, Putin came to Kennebunkport, met