How Could LaRouche Forecast This Just Five Years Ago?

In the LaRouche PAC Friday webcast of Sept. 15, excerpted below, host Matthew Ogden showed that Lyndon LaRouche had forecast the unexpected U.S. political developments of the past few days, exactly five years ago, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, 2012.

Matthew Ogden: Now, what we’re going to do for our broadcast tonight, is actually rewind a few years. We’re going to roll back history about five years, and we’re going to go back to Mr. Lyndon LaRouche’s 90th birthday. On that occasion, Mr. LaRouche delivered what has now become a fairly famous speech in which he called for the end of the party system; but he also lays out the program for the economic recovery of the United States, and a completely new vision for what has to happen in terms of international relations and the policy of this country.

A lot has happened since that time, five years ago. It almost seems like an eternity ago in terms of the course of world history. If you think about what has occurred, this speech you’re about to see a part of, was given before the Chinese adoption of the New Silk Road as their official policy—the Belt and Road Initiative; before the plethora of new development banks that came out of the BRICS countries—the New Development Bank and the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank; before all of these developments that happened abroad. And of course, before the watershed election of 2016 that happened here in the United States.

If you look at what has happened in the United States, granted this speech that you’re about to see a part of, was given during the 2012 Presidential elections that were a contest between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney, if you can remember. But it’s almost phenomenal how prescient Mr. LaRouche was, for what was about to occur in the United States, something that nobody else saw coming, and probably were in disbelief when they listened to the words that Lyndon LaRouche said at that time. If you think about both so-called political parties in this previous Presidential election, both of them ceased to exist in their previous form. There’s no recognizable Democratic Party, nor recognizable Republican Party. Perhaps some of the same personalities are still there, but the so-called establishment parties that we had before 2016, before the insurgency in the Democratic Party that took form around Bernie Sanders, and then the insurgency in the Republican Party that took form around Donald Trump; before both of those happened, Mr. LaRouche was laying out what he called the end of the establishment party system which was destroying the very soul of the United States.

We’ve seen that going into the 2016 elections, and we said this very clearly, there was much more that unified the American people, that united the American people than divided the American people. Look at the broad support for Glass-Steagall for example; something you’re about to hear Mr. LaRouche talk about in this speech from five years ago. Look at the broad support for infrastructure, for productive jobs; look at the broad opposition to the confrontation with Russia that was going to lead to World War III. This is what Hillary Clinton’s campaign represented in the eyes of the American people. This is what the establishment Republicans’ various campaigns represented in the eyes of the American people. There was much more at that time that unified the American people than divided the American people. In fact, it was the LaRouche program.

But, if you come to the present day and think about what has happened in the United States just over the past few weeks, we can see again that the American people are becoming united. Look at what happened in Houston around the recovery in Harvey; the kind of selflessness and love for their fellow man that everybody showed in terms of this effort to go out to save and protect people from this natural disaster. This recognized no divisions; there were no party lines. There was no “Are you a majority, are you a minority? Are you a Republican, are you a Democrat? Are you a conservative, are you a liberal?” Everybody was an American. The same sentiment happened in Florida in the wake of Hurricane Irma there. Now we can see this even spilling
over into politics in Washington. In a very nascent form, but the President of the United States has now very much offended his Republican Party establishment figures—the Mitch McConnells and the Paul Ryans—by reaching out to the Democratic Party to put through a recovery program for Houston and to start working on some of the policy that should have been policy from Day One. This was supposed to be the first 100 days of this Presidency: infrastructure; productive jobs. This is now beginning to emerge finally in its nascent form; and it’s our responsibility to continue to lead.

But what I want to do is play this excerpt from Mr. LaRouche’s remarks. I think you’ll find it fascinating, reflecting on what has happened in the past five years between Mr. LaRouche’s 90th birthday and Mr. LaRouche’s 95th birthday. In fact, what is the power of ideas to shape history? What do we have to expect in the days, weeks, months, and years to come? This is the vision of that leadership, that statesman-like leadership that you’re about to hear from Mr. LaRouche. This is how history is formed.

[Video excerpt begins.]

Lyndon LaRouche: The problem is, the party system.

Now, George Washington, President George Washington and others, at the founding of our republic, as an independent republic, tried to prevent the formation of a party system. And I think, the time has come, to eliminate the party system. [applause] At this time, it’s the only way, formally, through the legal process, that we could eliminate the possibility of these two kinds of Presidents.

What’s wrong? Why should we have party systems? We have a Constitution, which is defined; the Constitution is fine, if it’s carried through, as intended; it is our system. But why do we have to have parties intervening in between the process of selecting Presidential leadership in national government? Why do we do that? What screwball invented this kind of nonsense? Because that’s what happened: People become partisan, and say, “which party wins is going to determine the fate of the nation!”

No party has that kind of right! There can not be a party, that has the right, to oversee and control the destiny of the nation! You can have a President, there’s nothing wrong with that. But you can’t have a President as the President of a party. Or, you can not have a conniving, between two Presidential teams, or two party teams, which connive by special agreement among themselves, to create the composition of a national government! These things are obscenities, which leaders of our nation, beginning from the George Washington Administration, recognized as evils! And the idea of going to a European kind of government, which is inherently corrupt—by its very nature, not necessarily by the intention of the people, or the intention of the politicians, they just don’t know any better!

And the only way this can be done, is, if we infect the population, with the realization, we do not want a party system! We have state governments, don’t we? Under our Constitution. We have local governments, within state governments, under our Constitution. We have bodies which the nation creates, to perform functions of the Federal government, the military and the rest of it. So we don’t need parties! They don’t do any damned good!

I mean, it’s like Franklin Roosevelt: If Franklin Roosevelt had just been the President and didn’t have to deal with these damned parties, we would not have had the mess we got into. What we need, we need to have not a contention, over which party is going to win, when the party was not inherent in the conception of nation. What we need is a Federal Republic, with its state composition and other local compositions playing their role.

We don’t need this party system which is a system of inherent corruption. What we need, is the election, due process election, of a composition of government. And we don’t want people diverting the attention of the population, from the issues of the nation, over the issues of partisanship! That’s where the problem lies!

When you rely on parties, as such, you set up a kind of controversy, or competition, for power, between or among party systems. These party systems then excite the passions of the foolish voters, who now are con-
cerned about voting for the party, first, and the nation, second! When it must be the nation, first, and not the party.

The Basis of Corruption

The voluntary part of the system, that’s fine; the citizen has a right, to make formations, to make agreements among themselves, and to cast their votes accordingly, and to discuss these matters accordingly. But we don’t want the top-down rule of a party system, which is controlled by the money sent to them, by financial interests which control the money which gives one party advantage over the other! You want the bare citizen, as a citizen, to have an equal right, and independence of this party system.

This has been said, again and again, in the course of the history of the United States! That people with insight, realize that the essence of the corruption in the United States, is based in and derived from the use of the party system. And you see it right now: You have, the nation is now mortgaged, for the selection of its government, its national government, is mortgaged to the party system! Everything is stopped, except which party is going to win! And one is almost as bad as the other.

And why should we be spending our time, selecting a government, of two parties, neither of which is fit to be our government! Why don’t we have a national government selected in the way that George Washington, for example, President George Washington, had intended? We would not have that mess! And the citizen would be called upon, not to decide who’s butt he wants to kiss, but rather what the issues are and programs that this citizen wishes to express. We want to engage the citizen in the dialogue! We don’t want to take the competition between groups of citizens. We want the citizen to force the reality, that he or she is voting for the government. And what the citizens do in voting for a government, will determine the fate of the nation.

What’s the state of mind of the voter? He’s playing a version of football, baseball—gambling! ... And his mind, his passion, is associated with winning this, for this party, this team—not for the nation! The objective of our system of government must be to force the citizen, as a citizen, to think through what the national interest is!

And the corruption that was done, to the United States, by the election of Andrew Jackson, and the people who controlled him, which were British bankers; so, Andrew Jackson was a tool of British imperial bankers: They owned him. They ran him. And it was because of the party system, that this could happen.

And we got the same thing today: You’re shackled up with a couple of clowns—Dummo and the Crook, and the Insane Crook.

Now, the only thing we can do, or the only thing I can do, on this thing right now, apart from telling you this wonderful information, is to awaken you to realize what we’re really up against, to recognize what the real problems are. If you’re thinking about looking at this mess out there, from the standpoint of Democratic or Republican, you’re not thinking! Because you’re not thinking in terms of the essential interest. Because what you’re doing, whatever you do, you are imprisoned to pledging your support, to a party! Not to the nation. Yes, you say, “to the nation,” but it’s the party that controls you. And that is how Andrew Jackson destroyed the United States, it was with the party system! That’s what doomed Franklin Roosevelt. Franklin Roosevelt would never have had this clown, Truman, stuck on him, except for the party system business. And that’s where our problem lies.

And we have to make that clear. Because we know what the state of mind is. What’s the state of mind of the voter? He’s playing football, not politics! He’s playing a version of football, baseball, whatever—gambling! Racketeering, whatever! And his mind, his passion, is associated with winning this, for this party, this team, this, that, that, and so forth—not for the nation! The objective of our system of government must be to force the citizen, as a citizen, to think through what the national interest is! And we don’t do it. We say, “Which party are you going to support?” Well, what’s the party going to do? “Well, I think it’s a good party,” in other words, they don’t know what the hell they’re doing—and their passion is involved in being sure they won’t know it. And that’s where we stand. And that’s the thing we’ve got to think about.

And you’ve got to destroy the self-confidence of
those damned fools, who think that the “party vote,” the vote for the party should determine the decision of the nation. That is a false and fraudulent conception, and it’s about time we called a halt to it. And right now, would be a very good time. All right. [applause]

Now, what’re we going to do? Let’s lay out, here, we have our organization. We have a conception of how to organize this nation, how to deal with the great crisis, the financial crisis, the economic crises, which occur in this nation; and which occur, also, similarly, in other nations, which I think would tend, at this time, to look with a friendly eye at what I might propose here, right now.

All right: First of all, the world is bankrupt. The trans-Atlantic region is totally, hopelessly bankrupt! Every part of Western and Central Europe is totally bankrupt! It’s incurably bankrupt, under its present system. Nothing be done to save it in its present form. There’s no way you can bail it out! There’s no way you can take it out of this—except one way: Glass-Steagall.

Now, of late, you will have observed that Glass-Steagall has become increasingly popular, in England, in the continent of Europe, and other notable places! So what does Glass-Steagall do? Well, essentially it says that the system of government we’re running under right now, is hopelessly corrupt; so, let’s shut it down! Let’s shut down all the bailouts. We’re not going to pay it! We jes’ ain’t gonna pay it! [applause]

So what’re we going to do? Well, we’re going to have a grand old way: We’re going to go to a straight credit system, which is Glass-Steagall, immediately! Now, that means, that all those other guys, the gamblers, Wall Street types and so forth, are going to find themselves sitting—well: They have all these claims. All these values. They own all this property, in terms of title. But we say, the point is here, with Glass-Steagall, that you can run your kind of banking system if you want to—under penalties of law, of course! But you don’t have any right to come to the Federal government, to demand that the Federal government bail them out, if they happen to go bankrupt.

Now, I can tell you, as you probably have suspected, that practically every part of the whole system in the United States, today, is already hopelessly, incurably bankrupt! And there’s only one way we can escape from this bankruptcy: You want to have some money to live on? There’s one thing you got to do: Glass-Steagall! And that will open the... it won’t solve the problem, but it will open the gates, to permit the problem to be solved.

If you take, and say, all these things that are not and don’t conform to Glass-Steagall, all these things must be cancelled. That means these banks can still have their banking system, as long as they don’t go bankrupt. We’re not going to shut them down arbitrarily, we’re just letting them out on their own, and saying, “this is not our business. The Federal government is not responsible for this.”

All right, now that will reduce the debt of the United States, tremendously! It would have a similar effect in nations of Europe! The French banks would not be pleased with me. They would probably say some very nasty things about me, but... things like that.

But the point is, the world now knows, and increasingly in Europe, and starting in England and other countries in Europe itself, there’s an understanding that Glass-Steagall is a necessary alternative. And these guys are having a terrible time, in fighting off the Glass-Steagall popularity. But that will do it.

The problem is, because we waited so long, since we cancelled Glass-Steagall, we waited too long, and they ran up a hyperinflationary debt, which is really beyond even dreaming. So therefore, the result is, if we go with Glass-Steagall, we’re going to have relatively little money, under our Federal system; because we wasted it by throwing it into the garbage pail, and we can’t get it back. So therefore, we’re going to have to go to another measure. Now, I said, national banking. Now, why national banking? Because, unless you create a banking system, under the U.S. government, under protection and regulation of the U.S. government, you can’t do anything much with the economy.

Where Will the Money Come From?

We have very little industry left in the United States, it’s been systematically destroyed. Especially since the last three terms of the Presidency. We have been running a garbage pail; and therefore, we have no means, by ordinary means, to save the economy. We don’t have jobs. Now, as most of you know, under NAWAPA [the North American Water and Power Alliance], we would create, quickly, 4 million or more jobs—real jobs! Really productive jobs. We would create, at least, immediately, a couple million more highly skilled categories of jobs. We would start the process of a general recovery of the United States—but oh! Wait a minute! Got one more problem. Where’s the money going to come from, that we’re going to loan, for NAWAPA, and loan for other high-technology jobs, and certain other kinds of skilled jobs? The Federal government is going to have to create credit, which will be run through a national banking system, so that under national banking
and Federal government approval, we can conduit credit into creating these jobs.

Let’s take the practical question of the food supply in the United States right now: As you probably know, food is about to be cancelled, and the Obama Administration is doing everything possible to destroy it. Because they’re doing everything to destroy food, for fuels.

So therefore, what’re we going to do? Well, what we’re going to do, is by giving the Federal credit, into, say, the NAWAPA system, we’re going to create a flow of credit, into the various phases of this process, which will immediately charge NAWAPA, in particular, and other things that go with NAWAPA. We have also, we have the lost auto industry, the whole Detroit system, for example, and we’re going to put that back into work! So, we’re going to create, instantly, that is, by Federal decree—instantly create sufficient growth, not only to get rid of this hopeless debt, which never was really a legitimate debt, at all, and we’re going to restart the economy, by taking people, when you have very few people who are actually involved in productive jobs, they’re not involved in producing things; they’re mostly employed in various kinds of services, which are not particularly productive, and do not lend any productive value to the U.S. economy. They’re simply pass-outs, under one guise or the other.

So in this case, we are launching a recovery of the U.S. economy, by supplying credit, as we did in the beginning of the development of our economy, after we won our Revolution, we’re going back to that system of recovery to get things moving, and it’s going to start immediately. And the easiest way for us to do this, is NAWAPA. NAWAPA is a project, which is relevant, because it’s focused on water management. And the problem we have in the United States today, is a water management problem! In the Central States, we don’t have rain! We don’t have the means to grow crops. And we don’t have people who are employed, in actually productive forms of employment! Physically productive forms of employment.

The difference is, with this kind of reform, of three steps: NAWAPA as a driver, an incentive driver, which will save the organization of production in the Central and Western States of the United States! The going back into the area of the so-called Detroit area, with several million jobs, immediately, will have a similar effect. Which means that we then can use a credit system, managed under Federal control, as we’ve used credit systems, like Franklin Roosevelt did in the past, and use that kind of credit system under a Glass-Steagall type government system, and we can start the re-growth of the U.S. economy.

We also have, as a byproduct of this: If we as the United States do this, you will find that the nations of Eurasia, will join us. You will find that nations of Europe, who are now being destroyed by their own system, will now go back into functioning, and we will use international credit, which is an extension of the national banking concept, instead of speculation, in order to restart the economy. And that can be done.

So there is a practical solution, a sane practical solution, as opposed to the other kind, for this problem we have as a nation. How far are we from getting it, is the question?

Well, that depends. It depends how desperate people are, and how much their desperation is moderated by the sense of attachment to a solution. Our job is to present the solutions. You know, society is actually led, when it’s led, by a tiny minority of the human race. We have not, because of our underdevelopment, we have not built up nation systems, which are actually rational, and truly represent the will of human beings. What we approach is the conditional will of human beings, by providing them with promises, which we hopefully can keep, and that they will be satisfied by trusting us, by the means of the measures we offer to them, as suggestions.

A very tiny minority, of the human population in all nations, actually has any comprehension, any qualifications for comprehension of how an economy runs or how it should be run. We have to bring them to us, to our ideas, our conceptions, based on the fact that they need precisely the solutions that we present. It may not be exactly what they would dream for, but it’s what we could deliver! And if people understand that that’s what the game is, they’ll accept it, at least in large part.

It’s what they can believe that we can deliver. And it’s our saying that we can deliver this, but we can’t do that, yet. And if you promise everything, they’re not going to trust you, and for good reason. If you give specific promises, that will work, and make sense, and can be explained to the people, it’ll work! And if they don’t accept it, that’s their fault!

But our responsibility, which is limited—we don’t run the world; we don’t have powers to supervise the world as a whole. We can only argue! We can only argue as an intelligentsia, that we have done some thinking that the other people have not yet caught onto, or didn’t know about. And we can tell them, what we can do! What we understand, what will work for them; and say, “We’re going to have to work harder, and better, in
We’ve got to give them a sense, that whatever we’re promising them, we’re committed to delivering, and that our promise of delivery has been made credible to them. And that experience, as in the case of the Franklin Roosevelt recovery in the United States during the 1930s, the same program, the same policy that Franklin Roosevelt used in reviving the U.S. economy.

So, we as mankind, have to address this question, and it’s obvious that to address this question, we have to give new attention, to space, the questions of space. We have to find ways of intervening in the space system, or the Solar space system and so forth, and this is possible. But we must turn to that direction, to think, “well, we can’t stand around, following a fixed recipe, like a kitchen cookbook recipe, forever. We have to anticipate the problems which face mankind in the future, we have to search for solutions to those problems, and we’ve got to convince people.

And the big thing you have to do, is this: Most people in the United States today, behave stupidly, and this, of course, is helped by the educational system, it’s helped by the terrible conditions of life of children, as well as adolescents, and there are many things that have to be done. And our job is, as a minority in society, and with other minorities in society which wish to find and initiate true solutions for these problems, we have to get out, and convince people, and educate them.

And in particular, get them immediately to understand, that these two Presidencies that they’ve stuck out there for voting, ain’t shucks! And we’ve got to do something about that, and the best way, is to go out and say that these guys aren’t fit to run anything, and give some indications of what we’re thinking.

It can work. It can work because the situation of all humanity, on this planet right now, is almost a hopeless one. The war danger, the thermonuclear war which is hanging over us right now, is threat number one. The shortage of food in the United States, for people, citizens of the United States, is another. The conditions of health care, are another. All of these conditions are intolerable! And nobody’s doing a damned thing about it, from the standpoint of government on down! I don’t hear of any big riots coming out of the Congress, against the lack of such needed reforms! They’re going by… the party system. And I think we have to just treat the party system, as the kind of fraud that it has always been!

We should have a system of representative government, in which the citizens can use those other citizens who are the most qualified, and the most committed, to provide leadership, to provide the ideas and the leadership which is needed for the rest. If you can’t be something, inspire it in somebody else.

Thank you. [ovation]