

# LaRouche warns Western governments: Stop appeasement, support Lithuania

*As the Lithuanian crisis heated up, congressional candidate Lyndon LaRouche issued a series of statements from what he calls his "Eagle's Nest"—the federal prison in Rochester, Minnesota, where he is incarcerated as America's number-one political dissident. We publish several of these below.*

## **Soviet instability heightens war threat**

March 23—Some weeks ago, just prior to the Soviet military operations in Azerbaijan, I forecast an extreme likelihood of a Soviet action in or around Azerbaijan, and a lesser likelihood of a Soviet action in the Baltic states, specifically including Lithuania. I also talked of several other Soviet operations for aggressive action, including in East Germany. At that point, I indicated that there was a very high threshold of resistance or penalty against the Soviet regime should it move against the Baltic states, and, of course, a much, much higher threshold of penalty to the Soviet government, should it move in other parts of Eastern Europe, e.g., in East Germany.

Now the time has come that it is most likely that the Soviet government will move into Lithuania, with military force, largely acting with the Soviet troops already on the ground, inside Lithuania.

What this means, is that the Soviet regime has become extremely unstable since the beginning of the year. That is, at the time that the Soviet government moved into Azerbaijan, the time that Gorbachov moved in Azerbaijan with Soviet troops to shoot, it was unlikely that he would also take the risk of moving into Lithuania. Now he is ready to move into Lithuania. *He is willing to take that higher degree of risk.* What that means, is that despite the appearance of the consolidation of Gorbachov's personal power as President of the Soviet empire, he is prepared to take more risks *because his situation is more desperate*, and therefore he is willing to do now, what he would not have done six to eight weeks ago. That's the nature of the situation. If this continues, he will be prepared down the line, if he's still there, to take even higher risks.

These situations not only measure a threat to the Azerbaijanis, or to the Lithuanians or other Balts, and so forth: They represent a process of spiraling destabilization, internal destabilization, of the most powerful military force on this planet, the Soviet empire, whose military capabilities in terms of force capability have been increased, not reduced at all, during the past six months to a year and longer.



We are moving in the direction of a possible military confrontation, not necessarily immediately, but down the road. And now is the time to take the actions to prevent that military confrontation from occurring, maybe a year, two years, down the road. That's the way we must look at it.

What we must stop is this namby-pamby attitude toward the Soviet regime; we are acting toward Moscow as the British government acted toward Hitler in 1938. And we are headed toward the same results. We cannot play the game of being soft on Moscow in the hope of keeping some presumed British intelligence asset, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachov, in power in Moscow. That is stupidity. We are now in a situation where Gorbachov will either act worse than Stalin, or he might even be overthrown because of the increased instability. We in the West have no control over that, and we should not attempt to control that. What we must do, is to deal with the realities that confront us and stop hiding our heads in the sand, stop pretending that everything is peaceful and nice, when it is far from peaceful and nice. The world is dangerous, and is becoming more dangerous by the day. We must wake up.

If the United States and other nations had taken a firm position in support of Lithuania's declaration of independence, the Soviets would not be moving troops inside Lithuania today. We acted toward Lithuania as Neville Chamberlain acted in 1938 toward Czechoslovakia. It may be five minutes before 12 o'clock, maybe it's two minutes before midnight, on the Lithuania situation. We must act immediately to correct the errors we have been making, increasingly, since October 1983, when President Reagan was slipped a fake report from a very dubious gentleman in London, Oleg

Gordievsky. We must stop this foolish road of belief that Gorbachov is a man of peace. Yes, we must avoid war with the Soviet Union, but we will not do it by playing the kinds of games that were played recently in risking Lithuania, as we did by failing to support her independence more actively.

One hopes that the President's recent statement, in a more positive direction, will be helpful. I fear it's too late, and too little, but I would encourage him to do more.

### **A warning to the governments of the West**

March 23—We appear to be within hours, possibly, of a major Soviet military operation against the nation and people of Lithuania. The instinct of the U.S. government in this circumstance will be to recommend, in conjunction with the lame duck prime minister of Britain, Margaret Thatcher, that Western agencies do everything possible to suppress casualty reports and atrocity reports arising from Soviet atrocities perpetrated against the people of Lithuania.

This would be a very stupid policy on the part of the administration. If it were to condone such a military action, this would backfire immeasurably, and would lose the administration a great deal of credibility. This was done, successfully admittedly, to some degree in Panama, but the United States has not yet seen the bill to be paid on account of suppression of the extent of the casualties in the Panama operation. To cover up for the casualty levels in the Soviet operations against Lithuania, to try to play down the magnitude, the horror of Soviet actions there, would be something which would catch up with the relevant Western governments responsible, and news agencies responsible, very, very, quickly.

So, I wish to publicly urge all news agencies and our government to do nothing to suppress any evidence of Soviet atrocities or other related operations in Lithuania during the coming period, but to report these things immediately, for the edification of the observing peoples of the world.

### **When will we learn the lessons of appeasement?**

March 24—I was born in the year 1922, and therefore, was approximately 16 years old at the time that Adolf Hitler obtained Czechoslovakia with the blessing of Britain's Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain.

Now, during that period, I happened to hear a portion of one of the first speeches of Adolf Hitler which was re-broadcast into the United States; I heard Hitler, in his own voice, saying that the conflict involving Czechoslovakia was not about Czechoslovakia as a nation, but only about Eduard Benes, then the elected leader of Czechoslovakia.

Now we're getting today the same kind of garbage out of Moscow. We're hearing that the problem is not the sovereign nation of Lithuania—Lithuania can have its sovereignty in due course, in five years, perhaps, if the referendum goes the way the Soviets approve it might go; the problem is Sajudis

and the President, Landsbergis, and the elected parliament of Lithuania—they're illegitimate. Why? Because they didn't follow exact Soviet orders according to formula.

And we have today, as we had among the liberal sympathizers and fellow travelers of Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, back in 1938, those who pick up the aggressors' line, in the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*, and accuse the tiny nation of Lithuania of making mistakes which provoke aggressive actions by the monster of Moscow.

Don't we ever learn? Don't we ever learn the game of appeasement does not work? How many millions of Baltic people and others are the American liberals prepared to sacrifice for the sake of appeasing Moscow? What was the lesson of appeasing Hitler? It was World War II. The lesson of appeasing Moscow, as the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* do today, could be World War III. Are they peace-lovers? Or are they just confused people who refuse to learn the lessons of history? Well, the thing to remember in this, is the *Times* and the *Post*, in doing what they did today, did nothing but carry out orders of the Bush administration, and that bunch of liberals in the Congress, who refuse to recognize the sovereignty of Lithuania, a thing we've recognized for most of the postwar period, until just recently.

Is this the case of a press following the dictates of an administration which has ordered that the U.S. news media cover up evidence of Soviet atrocities, to make the thing seem milder than it is? Don't we ever learn? Have you learned? Or do we have to go through World War III before you learn that it is a mistake to follow the course the Bush administration has been following recently, of appeasing the dictators in Moscow?

### **'We fight for Lithuania; we fight for ourselves'**

March 25—About 18 months ago, I presented internationally a series of announcements, forecasting, in effect, a worldwide anti-bolshevik insurgency against communist tyranny and related matters around the world. It now appears, of course, that each of these nations, in which this anti-communist insurgency has come to the surface, is somewhat imperiled. That is true, and yet it is misleading. It is true, in the sense that a grave peril exists, as it exists in Lithuania now, where we face the prospect of a Muscovite bloodbath.

But the danger was already there: This point is made more clearly, if we look at the courage of the Lithuania patriots, who are standing up, unarmed, in peaceful resistance, non-violent resistance, against Soviet military might. These patriots knew what they were doing; they knew they were putting their lives on the line as a potential sacrifice, in order to save the nation from the greater horror which must result, if they did not stand up. They face the prospect of the extermination of the nation; they face a situation demanding the utmost heroism (and, sometimes, non-violent resistance is the utmost heroism; it not only is mobilized against one's enemy, but it's mobilized against one's own legitimate, just-

fied rage against the oppressors; it takes special courage to do that, as I know from experience).

That is the situation: The horror did not begin today, the horror did not begin yesterday; the horror began, for Lithuania, back with the Hitler-Stalin Pact of 1939—a Hitler-Stalin Pact, which, right now, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, the outgoing prime minister of England, is supporting, in the spirit of Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain before her. It is a pact which the U.S. government, at least to a large degree, has been tolerating, as we saw in the defeat of the Helms motion in the U.S. Congress, and as we saw, in a similar vein, in the overturning in the U.S. Senate of the attempt at denunciation of the horrors perpetrated by the Communist Chinese regime.

The horror goes back to the roots of the horror; it goes back to the watering of the roots of the horror; it goes back to the fertilizing of the roots of the horror, the tolerating of the roots of the horror, over all these years.

Look in our own country; look in the black and Hispanic ghettos; look over the past 25 years; look, particularly, since the assassination of Martin Luther King. Look at the changes. It was terrible then; it's worse today. How is it possible, after the great political victory of civil rights during the 1960s, that things should have become worse, for the majority of black and Hispanic minorities in the United States, rather than better? How is it, that all these efforts for Affirmative Action, and so forth, have ended up a net failure? It happened, because we tolerated a trend, in this case, in the economy, and in economic, social ideas, which abandoned more and more and more of the poor to this kind of gruesome, grisly, monstrously cruel poverty, impoverishment, neglect, and to drugs. We said, "Oh, drugs are a matter of choice, just say no." And so, the babies of the ghetto were murdered, to and from their way to school, because of our tolerance of drugs, and so forth and so on.

The problem goes back a long way. The fight did not begin today; the fight was forced upon us today, when we should have fought it a long time ago. What we must do, is do everything possible to deter the Moscow monster from what it will tend to do: Impose a Tiananmen Square upon Lithuania, and elsewhere. We must do that, for the sake of the Lithuanians, for the sake of our conscience, and, also, to create a barrier to protect others, and to protect those in the United States, in the black and Hispanic ghettos, who may soon suffer the same kind of oppression, brutish oppression, in the United States, as the Soviets impose upon Lithuania.

If we capitulate to a condominium, to a common rule over this planet with the monsters in Moscow, who perpetrate this bloodshed in Azerbaijan, and, now, in Lithuania, then we shall find we are bringing that home. When we fight for the life of one person in Lithuania, as a defense against this horror, we're fighting for us all, everywhere. If the fight is bitter, if the fight is brutal, if the fight is difficult, if the fight is frightening, it is only so, because we have awakened so

late. We should have been fighting this 20 or 25 years ago. We should have been fighting it, when the roots were planted. Now, the evil weed has grown; the roots have gone deep. The weed has been tolerated a long time, and now it strikes, and now, it moves to kill. We must join together, because this evil we fight, is not a threat to merely one of us; it's a threat to us all. It strikes down one of us at a time, and, if the rest of us stand around, and let us be struck down, one at a time, then we shall all die.

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We fight for Lithuania; we fight for ourselves. The U.S. government must understand, that there is a growing mood in this country which will not tolerate Tiananmen Squares, in China or elsewhere, and which will not tolerate governments in power that tolerate Tiananmen Squares, in China or elsewhere. The sooner, and louder, that message is delivered to Washington, and to other capitals, and the sooner Washington and others relay that message, that warning, to Moscow and to Beijing, the sooner we begin to save lives, and whole nations, from death, murder, and other forms of oppression.

Let us unite in awareness that all human beings are cast in the image of the living God, and are sacred on that account, and are one on that count; let us stand knowing that we are one; let us stand together, so that we can no longer be divided, so that we're no longer killed, one by one by one. Let us resist this beast, as recent months have shown it can be resisted, and resisted successfully. Let us resist it more strongly; let no one turn his back on the fight, and then we shall win sooner, and then lives shall be saved.

The Lithuanian government, which has declared its independence and stood in non-violent resistance, with that great courage, against the Soviet beast—they are fighting not just for themselves; they are fighting for us all. They are fighting to assert their dignity as a people, their importance as a people, to humanity as a whole. And, let us, therefore, acknowledge that Lithuanians are important to humanity as a whole; and let us fight for them accordingly, because we are really, each, fighting for ourselves.