

Editorial

What it will take, to save the world

We are heading into a turbulent autumn, in which, most likely, the future of the human race for years to come, will be determined. Regular readers of *EIR* are by now familiar with Lyndon LaRouche's "triple curve" schematic of a collapse function: the hyperbolic growth of financial and monetary aggregates, and the corresponding decline of physical production. This "triple curve" is now coming to life before our eyes; we are moving inexorably to the point at which an inelastic boundary condition will be met, and the world's governments will either move swiftly to implement LaRouche's reform program, or we shall plunge into a Dark Age.

This is not a scenario for Armageddon. If we can find within ourselves the emotional and intellectual resources required for courage and leadership, we can leap from the old, bankrupt system, to a new creative hypothesis, a new order.

LaRouche addressed this matter very forcefully, in an Aug. 15 memorandum to his close associates. It is of such universal importance, that we quote portions of that message here.

"In the behavior of both individual persons," he wrote, "and of large components of entire populations, or, also, entire populations, the relation between the emotions and judgment is crucial. However, this is a matter as much misunderstood, as it is important. During upcoming developments, this will be the crucial issue, which determines, in large degree, whether or not the planet as a whole plunges into a 'New Dark Age.'

"The immediate issue is the following:

"The world at large, which, curiously, includes the state of virtual reality known as the minds of the U.S. population, has entered a 'boundary layer,' a kind of 'transonic' region which separates the preceding 30 years from that entirely new order of things, for better, or for much worse, which lies beyond what we shall experience as the increasing turbulence within this boundary layer."

LaRouche stressed that the crucial political effects produced by this boundary layer are scarcely recognized at all by leading strata of the population: that is, the

processes which govern sudden, traumatically induced, "cultural-paradigm shifts."

"Summarily, therefore:

"Given: a large array of possible choices among sets of axiomatic principles of belief (e.g., such as the dimensions of a Riemannian form of n-dimensional manifold), the way in which the emotions controlling the individual's mind select some of those principles, and avoid others, will determine the way in which opinions and actions are selected by that individual mind.

"Thus, a sufficiently powerful trauma, such as the manifest collapse of the international monetary-financial system, is capable of inducing extremely radical transformations in the set of axiomatic assumptions underlying the formation of individual belief. This could be produced as a by-product of the suppression of some axioms and the activation of others which had been, so to say, 'slumbering.' It is also the case, that, under such circumstances, a new axiom (e.g., transforming the manifold of axioms available from n to n+1) may be introduced.

"Generally, the way in which the selection from the n+1 array will be formed, will be based upon the relative optimism, or pessimism prevailing. The factor of optimism is aroused by confidence in the new belief-system as either the basis for generating useful theorems of belief for action, or a conditional confidence, conditional upon some available leadership for formulating and directing appropriate forms of action."

Without addressing the sudden disposition for extremely radical changes in axiomatics underlying the opinion of populations, LaRouche wrote, anything said about strategy and tactics for this period would be thoroughly incompetent.

Such changes are what LaRouche has often described as the "Pearl Harbor effect," by which the American people were transformed, overnight, after the news of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor was transmitted over the radio. We can draw courage from that example, as we mobilize now to achieve a breakthrough of equally historic proportions.