

## Editorial

### *The State of Denial*

The most succinct evaluation one could make about President George W. Bush's Jan. 20 report on the "State of the Union," is that it showed that the President and his advisors are in a state of denial. Most importantly, that denial concerns the world financial system and the U.S. economy. President Bush says it's on its way back, and growing in certain respects at an unprecedented rate. The reality is that the system is shot, the depression is deepening, and catastrophe is right around the corner—unless measures such as those proposed by LaRouche are adopted.

It is quite possible that the President honestly believes what he said, even though it's a lie. Clearly he also believes what Dick Cheney and his disinformation-factory have told him about the threat of terrorism hitting the United States, and therefore felt it necessary to reiterate various of the themes that the Beast-Man Vice-President has been putting forward in recent public speeches. But by retailing these lies—about the alleged danger of WMD and the need for an even more draconian Patriot Act—the President further discredited himself, both before the thinking U.S. public, and the world.

Unfortunately, however, most observers will not be rushing to point out the President's inanities on the economy. Yes, of course, the Democrats are taking potshots at him for his pitiful and deceitful jobs and healthcare programs, not to mention the "help a rich man today" tax cuts. But such criticisms are the equivalent of requesting that the President rearrange the deck chairs on the Titanic. They do not address the fact that the system as a whole is sinking.

For, you see, the bulk of the American population is also in a state of denial about the collapse of the financial system; and, more importantly, about the way they were sucked into accepting the shift into a consumer society over the past 40 years. The impending disaster is acknowledged more openly in Eurasia, but even there, the implications are ignored, out of fear of taking responsibility for coming up with an alternative to the bankrupt dollar system. In fact, the requirement for crafting such a new system, along the lines of LaRouche's New Bretton Woods, means intervening to

change the situation within the United States, starting by such measures as telling the truth.

It may seem astonishing, but if the President had told the truth, he may have come under even more attack.

There is nothing more hysterical than a population committed to blinding itself to the collapse. They choose not to see, and therefore do not see, the loss of manufacturing capability, the bankruptcy of the state governments, the dramatic increase in poverty, including homelessness, hunger, and lack of medical care. They do not wish to see this reality because its implication is that this nation *has no future*, unless there is a change in policy, and soon.

Soon, however, they will be forced to see. The very speed and scale on which the bankers are moving to defend their right to loot, in the midst of this collapse, is going to not only accelerate the rate of physical collapse, and a collapse in living standards, but is also going to eventually create a blowout of the bubble. What is being stoked up by the Federal Reserve, as *EIR* has long and correctly asserted, is nothing other than a huge cancer, which is consuming its host. When the host (productive activity and living standards) dies, so will the cancer.

It were best, of course, that the citizenry, at home and abroad, take appropriate measures far before that time. They need only look at the proposals which have been put on the table by Lyndon LaRouche, in terms of bankruptcy reorganization, massive credit generation for infrastructure building in the United States, and trade and reconstruction collaboration with other nations. The model is the shift made by Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who exerted the kind of principled leadership that permitted the population to overcome its fears. Even after FDR had been in office four years, and turned some of the horrors back, he was willing to admit the desperate state of large portions of the U.S. population.

It's that kind of courage to face reality that we need today. It's harder than confronting imaginary enemies, or just blaming the powers that be for disasters. And it's what is necessary to really secure our future.