

## Editorial

# *The Super-University of Our Planet*

As we mobilize all our political and mental resources to defeat the evil that the degenerates who seek nuclear warfare represent, it is all the more important that we keep our mind's eye on the future for which we are fighting. One very positive and appropriate image of that future is embodied in the United States' recent return to manned space flight, with the successful mission of the Space Shuttle *Discovery*.

*EIR* founder and economist Lyndon LaRouche has a long history of promoting space exploration, including the Space Shuttle, as part of man's essential mission to develop both the Earth, and himself. In his article on "Cauchy's Infamous Fraud," published in *EIR*, April 1, 2005, LaRouche put it this way:

"The notion of developing capabilities for putting men and women into indispensably human functions of exploration of the space of the inner planets of our Solar System . . . subsumes every problem mankind can touch from within the orbits of Jupiter and Saturn during the foreseeable future.

"Science today means space science, from the top down, down to the little things that happen, or might happen, on some part of the surface of our planet. The practice of space exploration and space-related science becomes the super-university of our planet, to which all matters of exploring the Biosphere and Noösphere may be profitably referred. This mission, contrary to the implications of the frauds promoted by Cauchy et al., is to increase the potential relative population-density of the human species, and to define physical margins of profit of national economies as, essentially, the realization of the margin of gain of Dirichlet-Riemann potential which realized scientific progress contributes."

LaRouche further discussed this same point in his *Earth's Next Fifty Years*, published earlier this year. It is in this book that LaRouche elaborated his vision of how the planet's leading nations must come together, around the concept of the Noösphere outlined by Vladimir Vernadsky, in order to develop a system for managing, and eventually creating, the world's raw materials. From that standpoint, he emphasized, space science

cannot be seen as an option, but rather as an *imperative* for solving the problems that will need to be mastered.

Mankind must understand the Solar System much better than we do today, LaRouche argues, in order to be able to deal with the problems which human existence will encounter in the millennia ahead. New systems developed for manned space exploration will have to achieve a degree of power per capita and per cross-section of operation heretofore unknown, as necessary for survival.

LaRouche continues: "However, the greatest immediate practical impact of a space-oriented science-research function, will be the provision of knowledge essential for improvement and security of life on Earth. There is very little which might be developed in promotion of space research, which does not have a powerful application for human benefit back here on the surface of our planet. Hence, the principal public efforts in support of scientific research and development now, should be located in space-research-oriented programs which, by their nature, touch every area of interest for science to be practiced here on Earth."

From this scientific standpoint, it is clear that the Shuttle program must not only not be allowed to die, but that the whole space-science program of exploration and colonization must be revived as a project among cooperating nations. The ideas of nickel-and-diming the program, or simply going for single prestige projects, must be trashed. Under the new world monetary system which we *must* put in place to save the planet, we *must* go into space for the long term.

There is a final element to re-embarking on a space program that should be underscored. It is a question of self-image. Why should people today see themselves as individuals fearfully huddling in some part of the Earth, rather than soaring over the Earth, with the mission of advancing our knowledge and our future? Our self-conception, as men and women mastering and exploring the universe together, is crucial to uplifting ourselves out of the wars and the muck with which we now threaten to destroy ourselves.