

LYM Mobilizes Washington For 'Double Impeachment'

by Niko Paulson, LaRouche Youth Movement

During the week of Nov. 13 in Washington, D.C., in the immediate aftermath of the dramatic Nov. 7 shift in Congressional power, Lyndon LaRouche and his youth movement made the first bold moves in the battle to establish the ideas which will govern the actions of the incoming Congress; the first front of that battle was waged over the issue of impeachment of Bush *and* Cheney.

For the first time in 12 years, the Democratic Party holds a majority in both houses of Congress; however, this victory is not entirely of their own making. Leading up to the midterm Congressional elections, the Democratic Party relied heavily on the population's already existent disdain for the Administration and its policies. Rather than offering a positive agenda providing leadership to their desperately suffering constituents, the Democrats chose instead to present the election merely as a referendum on the Bush Administration. Thus, the landslide victory in the House, and narrow victory in the Senate, could have been even more stunning, had the appropriate policy direction been provided. As it was, the slim margins in many Congressional Districts could have meant an overall defeat, but for the work of the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM), focussed on generating youth political activity throughout the country, particularly in the decisive cases of Michigan, Ohio, and Missouri.

Following the unnecessarily close elections, the Democrats chose etiquette over truth; many foolishly spoke of bipartisanship and reconciliation with the fascistic Bush-Cheney Administration; noteworthy was incoming Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's statement that "Impeachment is off the table." The Bush Administration, disregarding the affected bipartisan graciousness of the Democrats, announced a hard-line legislative agenda for the final session of the Republican-controlled Congress, attempting to push through the most extreme legislation, and nominees, while

the GOP still held a majority.

Considering the fact that numerous Democratic Congressmen in both the House and the Senate, have for the past six years conducted extensive investigations, and documented the many egregious violations of the U.S. Constitution committed by Bush and Cheney, the above-mentioned election strategy, and subsequent public posturing, smack of a sophistry which endangers the nation.

In that context, on Nov. 8, President Bush held a post-election press conference where his conduct exposed him as wildly insane, going so far as to ask the audience "Do you think I'm nuts?" (The press corps' demeanor indicated the affirmative.) In response to Bush's psychotic outbursts during the event, LaRouche issued a report titled "Bush Sings His Swan Song" (see last week's *EIR*; the report was also issued as a leaflet), which identified the systemic threat posed by the impending collapse of the international dollar system, coupled with the utter insanity of President George W. Bush. LaRouche concluded the report with the following statement: "Impeach that worse than useless pair while we still have a nation which exists to forgive them for what they have done. Let them go kindly; let them go humanly, but 'humanly' means that they must go, and that quickly, for the sake of our nation, and also for all humanity, too. Those who lack the political guts for that great send-off should not be treated as leaders inside the U.S.A."

Leaflets and Song

Beginning Nov. 12, armed with LaRouche's bold statement, the LYM descended upon Washington, D.C. for a Week of Action. The mission: to break through the sophistry undermining political progress, and to establish the necessity for a "double impeachment," so that it be made the first order of business for the next Congress.



EIRNS

The LaRouche Youth Movement on the move, organizing and singing in Washington, D.C. during the Week of Action, Nov. 14.

On the days leading up to LaRouche's Nov. 16 webcast, choral rallies were held by the LYM to begin the impeachment drive on Capitol Hill. On the first day, two early morning choral rallies were established at the busiest access points for both the House of Representatives, and the Senate office buildings. The two 30-person choruses sang Bach, and political canons dedicated to the ouster of Cheney and Bush. The choruses were flanked by giant banners saying "Democrats, Don't be Eunuchs: Put Bush/Cheney Impeachment Back on the Table." Everyone who headed into Congress that morning encountered the LYM deployment, and thousands of leaflets made their way into the Congressional office buildings with the staff members.

On various evening rush hours throughout the week, the approximately 70 LYM members convened at the busiest subway stops near the White House or State Department; the choruses and organizers hailed all those leaving, with Bach and political necessity. In all 40,000 leaflets were distributed in Washington D.C. in the days leading up to the webcast.

Inside the Congress

On the first two days of the week, the LYM deployed to, and distributed the "Swan-Song" leaflet to all 435 house, and 100 Senate offices. Over the course of the two days, the LYM held over 60 meetings with Congressional staff members, and Congressmen directly, with a determined focus on double impeachment. The LYM also targetted all of the committee offices that would be involved most directly in initiating im-

peachment and oversight on the crimes committed by the Bush-Cheney Administration.

A typical discussion would go like this:

LYM: Have you heard about the new bill?

Staffer: What bill?

LYM: The new double impeachment bill.

That opened a discussion.

The generic response from many of the staff members in Democratic offices, was personal agreement that an impeachment was justified and appropriate for Bush and Cheney; however, as a matter of official policy, they either clung dogmatically to the Pelosi line, claiming that impeachment would jeopardize the Democrats' chances in the 2008 elections, or gave a litany of other excuses as to why it was impolitic at this time to publicly support a double impeachment.

In many cases, however, a shift by the LYM organizers to the question of the economy—especially whether the Congressman would trust the Bush-Cheney Administration to deal with the onrushing financial blowout, the collapse of the auto sector, and the like—also created a more thoughtful attitude. The Democrats, in particular, know that they have been derelict in acting on life-or-death economic issues, and have not yet quite gotten used to the idea that they now have the *power* to enact legislation, not just make proposals that go nowhere. It was also evident, in many offices, that the LYM and LaRouche were being taken a lot more seriously, now that the Democratic majority has the responsibility to act.

On the Republican side, with a few exceptions, those who were willing to speak with the LYM were defensive, though not particularly supportive of the current Administration.

Regardless of whether they, Republican or Democrat, understood the premise of the arguments or disagreed completely, the cumulative effect of the deployment of the LYM on Capitol Hill, established and then expanded a serious process of discussion on impeachment and economy with the Congress.

Another aspect of outreach occurring during the week was to foreign embassies. In total 58 embassies were invited to the webcast. Several expressed great gratitude toward LaRouche and his campaigns, including one secretary from an African embassy, who described LaRouche as the stone wall, or "big guy" of D.C. Several embassy representatives came to the webcast as a result of the mobilization.

On Nov. 16, from a hotel in Washington D.C., Lyndon LaRouche delivered an international webcast address (see transcript in this issue), which consolidated all of the preceding political developments, and went far beyond them in scope. He developed the needed cultural principles which form the basis of long-term strategy, and gave an early demonstration of the rudiments of those principles, through the LYM's performance of Bach's motet *Jesu, meine Freude* to open the event. Approximately 220 people attended the webcast, including diplomats, Congressional staff members, scholars, and over 100 youth. While the audience in Washington was impressive, thousands more tuned in around the world.