

‘We Shall All Sail, or All Sink, Together’

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[Remarks to a gathering in the chambers of the São Paulo, Brazil City Council on June 12, at which the City Council declared Lyndon LaRouche an honorary citizen of the city.]

Considering the circumstances and the state of the world’s affairs, the world is now in one of the most perilous periods of modern history, in which, in most nations, we will be required to look deeply into ourselves, for the resources—emotional, intellectual, and other—to solve the great problems which now confront us.

Therefore, under these circumstances, because of the significance of both the United States and Brazil, as leading influences in the Western Hemisphere, in the Americas, it is important to reflect upon the possibilities of the collaboration between the two nations at this time. And therefore, I shall tell you something about myself, as a figure of the United States, and what can be learned about the future relations between the two countries, and others, from examining that aspect of U.S. history.

Formally, the history of the United States began, as a nation-state, in 1763. At that time, the English colonies in North America had been allied with the British monarchy, in combatting the French Empire in the Americas. It came as no surprise to the patriots of those colonies, that the British Empire would immediately turn upon them, and attempt to destroy the liberties of the colonies, once the French had been defeated.

At that point, the history and the population of what became the United States, was divided between two factions—two factions, which have fought a see-saw battle for control of the United States, from that time to the present day: One, led by Benjamin Franklin, defines my tradition in the United States, the tradition of patriots such as Franklin, such as Hamilton, Washington, such as President Monroe, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, President John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, and others; and Franklin Roosevelt. The other side, which was formed also as a faction in 1763, were called, then, and now, “the American Tories.” Their loyalties, then, and now, are to the British monarchy.

In the 20th Century, in 1901, with the assassination of President McKinley, the American Tories took power around President Theodore Roosevelt. The power returned to the American patriots, at least significantly, with the Great Depression and the election of a patriot, Franklin Roosevelt, as President. With the death of Franklin Roosevelt, the United States slipped again, into the hands of the American Tories, not completely, but as a dominant force.

U.S. Consumer-Nation Becoming Empire

Now, it was difficult for the American Tories to carry out their policy, in that period. Many of us had been involved in a great war. Many had served overseas, as I did, during that war; just as a simple soldier, but nonetheless, overseas. We were not disposed to give up everything we had won under Roosevelt. Even under President Eisenhower, we were not willing to give up the American military tradition, which we had experienced, in particular, during the Second World War.

In 1961, we plunged into Hell, at about the time Eisenhower retired. President Kennedy, who intended to revive the tradition of Franklin Roosevelt, was assassinated. An ally of President Kennedy, President Charles de Gaulle of France, was nearly assassinated in 1962, in the first of a series of attacks. In 1964–65, the United States went into an insane war in Indo-China. Most of the American military tradition would not survive that war.

In the period beginning 1966, we began to degenerate: We were transformed from a nation which had been based on production, to a nation oriented toward consumption. We began, like the British United Kingdom, to assume, more and more, an imitation, or a parody, of the ancient Roman Empire. As you know, at the end of the Second Punic War, Rome had degenerated into what became, some decades later, an empire. It ceased to be a productive society, as slavery progressed; it lived by looting nations around it. It ruled by a method of terror called the Roman Legions. It ruled by a reign of terror, and then it died of the rot it built into itself.

We have begun to die, in the United States, in a similar way, over the period from 1967 through and beyond 1971. With the events of August 1971, and afterward, we became a predator nation, a consumer nation, living more and more at the expense of people around the world, and less on our own productive resources.

The system that has dominated the world increasingly, for the past 35 years, is now come to an end. We are now in an unavoidable, international, general, total collapse of the existing monetary-financial system. And therefore, it is important for many of you, who would wish

to believe that is not true, to warn you of this, so that you may be prepared to act appropriately, at the time that the crisis becomes apparent.

As you know, from your own experience in Brazil, during the post-war period we went through a number of successive improvements in the conditions of life internationally. This came almost to an end, with the 1971 developments. With the crushing of Mexico in 1982, every nation of Central and South America was implicitly doomed to be crushed, sooner or later. Today, Brazil is one of the only nations in South America which is capable of doing anything about it.

We Can Call Forth Legacy of Patriotism

Now, go back to Roosevelt in 1932–33. In the 1920s, the American people were extremely decadent. I *lived* then; I *know* it. I could give you many clinical examples of the degeneracy of my neighbors and other acquaintances. But we were struck by a great crisis, and we had a great tradition—a great patriotic tradition. We had a leadership in the form of Franklin Roosevelt, which summoned the United States to come back to its true self. In the course of time, by the end of the war in 1945, the United States was not only the greatest power on this planet, but was the *only* power on this planet. There were many injustices perpetrated by the United States and others, during the period of 1945 to 1965. But in net effect, the Roosevelt legacy lived on.

The economic recovery organized by Roosevelt, the great mobilization for World War II, organized and led by Roosevelt, these legacies continued into the middle of the 1960s. The Americas benefitted from this; other parts of the world, like Western Europe under the Monnet Plan, benefitted from this; Japan was rebuilt on this basis. So, despite the injustices, the world was better, as a result of Roosevelt’s having lived and led.

Now we’ve come to another great crisis, a crisis as terrifying, or more terrifying, as that which struck the world in 1929–33. The United States is a piece of wreckage, compared to what it was in 1929. But, nonetheless, in our people, in the United States, there is still embedded the legacy of the patriotism which was set into motion in 1763, on which our independence was premised. We can call that forth.

There is another aspect of that tradition which is important. In the period following the War with Britain of 1812–1815, the United States was isolated. The entire world, virtually, was against us. We had, on the one side, the British Empire was our enemy, determined to destroy us. On the other side, you had the Holy Alliance, led by Metternich, of the Habsburg empire. At that point, the British went to the Americans, and said: “Come, join us, to fight the Hapsburgs in Central and South America!” The Secretary of State of the

United States, John Quincy Adams, later President, said to President Monroe, “No. Reject the British treaty.”

Adams said two things that are notable right now, for the present circumstances. “The United States must not become a cockboat, in the wake of a British man o’ war, against the nations struggling for independence in the Americas.” And also, Adams secured the support of President Monroe, with the support of two other former Presidents, to enact the so-called “Monroe Doctrine.” Quincy Adams explained it: The United States did not then have the power to defend the sovereign states emerging in the Americas. But as soon as we did, we would kick both the Hapsburgs and the British out of the Americas, in defense of the liberties of those emerging nations.

The Real Monroe Doctrine

That promise was kept by Abraham Lincoln, at the close of the Civil War in the United States. The United States kicked the Spanish, the French, Maximilian, and British influence, temporarily, out of Mexico and other locations, and enabled the Mexican President and patriots to resume control of their own country. Under Teddy Roosevelt and Wilson, that promise was betrayed. Franklin Roosevelt restored the promise with his Good Neighbor Policy. John Kennedy proposed to revive Roosevelt’s policy, with the Alliance for Progress.

Now, that remains appropriate, today. While the United States has an obligation, as we all do, to find cooperation with Eurasia and Africa, in saving the world from this horrible situation which now menaces us, the *primary security* of the United States has been, since the time of Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, the issue of the security of the sovereign states of the Americas. And what Adams defined was a community of principle among what were each *perfectly sovereign nation-states*.

And so it must be today. We, in the United States, are in a mess—a terrible mess. We have great power still, but it’s a sham. Without the revival of the economies of South and Central America, the United States can not work its way out of its own, onrushing depression. Either we shall *sail* together, or we shall *sink* together.

And, what I can hope to contribute, most of all, apart from what I do inside the United States and elsewhere, is to try to provoke among us, as nations, a dialogue on these great issues.

We must not have a hegemonic system. A slave is a poor worker. If you can not evoke the will power and creative mentality of a nation’s people, you can not get much good out of them. Some may be more powerful, some smaller and weaker. But all must be treated as

personalities, with *equal rights*. From each, we must demand the same thing: that they muster their creative power to help solve problems. We need, above all, a community of ideas, a community of principle. We want to eliminate all kinds of supranational control over any nation among us.

And finally, look at Brazil: this wonderfully large, virtually untouched wilderness, with some concentrations of development, but vast, undeveloped areas, symbolized by the sheer *might* of the Amazon River. If you look at the Amazon region from the standpoint of the great Russian scientist, Vernadsky, who devised the terms “Biosphere” and “Noösphere,” you have a sense of the great power for the future, implicit in the development of that, in a scientifically sound and rational way.

That is one of the greatest projects of development for the planet as a whole. And it should be a source of inspiration, to all Brazil, about what this nation can do. And the United States should be very happy to have such a partner.