On July 16, Lyndon LaRouche announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for President in the year 2000. Excerpts from his declaration follow:

A persisting downward trend in national leadership, since approximately May 1996, prompted me to announce my intention to campaign for the Year 2000 Democratic Party Presidential nomination.

“During the early Spring of 1996, I saw hopeful signs of collaboration of the Clinton Presidency with both outstanding leaders of the Democratic Party, especially in the Senate, and with a revitalized movement of organized labor and other important constituencies.

That collaboration collapsed with the President’s capitulation to pressures from a circle including Roy M. Cohn cousin, and political clone, Richard Morris. The capitulation to the demand that the President not veto the pending welfare reform bill, sent the Democratic Congressional campaigns down to overall defeat in the November general election, and sent the nation itself on a spiralling downward political course.

“Under the conditions that Vice President Al Gore clung to his present ideological orientation, and under the condition that Clinton remained increasingly mortgaged to Gore’s future candidacy for the year 2000, a situation would exist which could assure an incalculable catastrophe for this republic even many months before the year 2000 arrived.

“Gore’s candidacy as such, is not the issue. As a practical matter, the evidence is, that it is impossible that Gore could be elected in 2000, whether any Democratic candidate opposes him, or not. The issue is, the effect of allowing the Clinton Presidency to remain increasingly mortgaged to Gore’s future candidacy during the period leading into the 1998 Congressional elections, and beyond.

“The problem is, that the presently onrushing global financial and monetary crises will require the President to make certain kinds of decisions, as the leading statesman of today’s planet, course of the three-year fight for exoneration.

Most universally cited by everyone, from Civil Rights movement veterans of the 1950s and ’60s, to teen-age Youth Council members, was LaRouche’s unique, decades-long role in mobilizing the fight against the genocidal policies of George Bush and the British oligarchy.