
Conference Report

Europe-wide drive for nuclear energy

by William Engdahl, Energy Editor

Delegates from six European nations gathered in Strasbourg, France, Nov. 27 to establish a Europe-wide organization dedicated to the advancement of nuclear energy development, most especially nuclear technology exports. Representing all aspects of industrial, trade union and political life in Europe, they came from France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden and Finland on an initiative of various people, including Deputy Mayor François-Georges Dreyfus of the host city of Strasbourg. As the prestigious daily *Le Monde* put it on Dec. 1, "The aim of the committee is to define and put forth a new policy of 'Atoms for Peace' renewing the historical optimism of great projects of North-South economic development such as those of General de Gaulle and President Eisenhower."

In his opening remarks Mr. Dreyfus stressed that "We cannot exaggerate the evil done by the Club of Rome to France and to the world." He went on to express special thanks to U.S. economist Lyndon LaRouche for his "fight in the United States for a dynamic economic policy in the Democratic Party which for us is a source of confidence," and to Mrs. Helga Zepp-LaRouche and her efforts for the Club of Life. He also declared that "those ecologists who fight against the development of nuclear energy in the Third World, do not, or maybe they do, know that by fighting against nuclear development they condemn to death the inhabitants of all the Third World."

LaRouche: beam weapons key to progress

The deputy mayor's remarks introduced U.S. Democratic Party figure Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., who took up the attempt to revive nuclear growth from the standpoint of the current policy fight over the development of anti-missile beam weapon technologies capable of knocking down nuclear armed ICBMs in mid-flight. "The beam weapons policy, in which I have had a hand," LaRouche stressed, "is crucial for the entire nuclear industry and the general overall progress of technology." Describing the economic collapse facing mankind today as potentially more deadly than the Black Death of the 14th century, LaRouche noted that "until at least a few days ago, no country in the advanced sector appeared willing to do what is necessary to stop this. It appears that President Mitterrand of France is making a shift in policy, with the

input of not only the Socialist Party, toward a determination to save not only France, but civilization itself."

Developing the argument he presented several days before at an *EIR* policy seminar in Bonn, West Germany, Mr. LaRouche then explained that existing technology is not sufficient to lift the world out of its advanced stage of economic collapse. However, he argued, the technological advances embodied in a research and development program for high-energy beam weapons would provide the scientific advances in high-energy and plasma physics which are needed. Then, LaRouche emphasized, society in the U.S.A., Europe, and Japan must reinitiate a full-scale technological commitment to industrial development including joint U.S.-Soviet treaties for exploration of Mars, colonization of the moon and development of earth-orbiting manned space laboratories to explore the frontiers of science. "This will mean the retooling of certain industries which we have liquidated," he noted.

LaRouche concluded, "If we can change our direction toward the development of the beam-weapon technologies, get across the idea of the high-technological base needed for beam development, perhaps we can turn the present attitude and this will get the nuclear question back into focus."

LaRouche was followed by remarks from Jacques Cheminade, spokesman for the initiating French-German Nuclear Committee, and a presentation by Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum of the Fusion Energy Foundation on the implications of recent breakthroughs in polarized plasma techniques to shorten the development time needed to achieve controlled thermonuclear fusion energy.

Saving the Third World

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, chairwoman of the European Labor Party, then proposed that the assembled group resolve to build toward a European conference by approximately mid-February which would focus the attention of European industry on the importance of nuclear exports to the developing nations. That conference would come just prior to the March 1983 meeting of the Non-Aligned nations in New Delhi.

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche described her initiative for the creation of the international Club of Life, which was founded in Rome, Italy and Wiesbaden, West Germany one month ago to take up the fight for the "absolute sacredness of all life on our planet." She also announced that the Club of Life will hold a symposium in New Delhi one week prior to the Non-Aligned meeting and proposed the February European conference on nuclear exports as a manifestation of a "European commitment to a hungry world. We have no right to destroy these technologies," she concluded to enthusiastic applause.

During the ensuing discussion, Herbert Schultz, the Deputy Mayor of the West German city of Biblis, site of a nuclear reactor whose completion has been blocked for months by the anti-nuclear movement, got up to lacerate "politicians who hide behind the greens." He expressed his hope that the creation of this European nuclear committee would finally awaken industry to change the stalemate.