

The year the Schiller Institute began to make policy for governments

by Vin Berg

In the summer of 1983, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, whose husband is *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche, made a speaking tour of northern Germany, and reported herself shocked "by how much progress had been made by tendencies on both sides of the Atlantic toward a decoupling of Western Europe from the United States." It was not uncommon, she reported, to find that even German conservatives viewed President Reagan as a warmonger, and the Soviet Union as peace-loving. And this, as such "decouplers" as Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) and Henry Kissinger grew increasingly active.

The result was her founding of the Schiller Institute, which held its first two international conferences on July 3-4, 1984 in Virginia, U.S.A., and Sept. 22-23, 1984 in Wiesbaden, West Germany. The intent was to strengthen the German-American alliance, by linking the best traditions of the two nations. Its purview, however, quickly came to encompass the nations of the West as a whole, and their friends and potential allies in Asia, Africa, and Ibero-America. More than 1,000 delegates from the United States and Europe were present on each occasion, and, at the second conference, delegates from African countries.

A third conference, Nov. 23-24, 1984 in Crystal City, Virginia, was intended to have a maximum impact on the composition and policies of the second Reagan administration. In particular, it was clear that if the U.S. administration continued its support for the International Monetary Fund's austerity policies, as a result of which famine was already exploding in Africa, the Third World would be plunged into chaos, thereby making it impossible for even pro-American governments to remain friends and partners of the United States.

The danger was that justified hatred of the IMF would turn into a blind anti-Americanism. Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche therefore issued a call to the nations of the West and developing countries to submit discussion papers proposing changes in American policy, that their nations might survive and they might be able to justify their pro-Western orientation. Representatives from 50 nations responded, and some 3,000 went from the conference hall to demonstrate in front of the White House for a new world economic order.

The conference was marked by Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche's dramatic reading of a "new" draft document of principles,

"The Declaration of the Inalienable Rights of Man." The conference hall grew hushed as participants realized that she was actually reading the American Declaration of Independence, with a few words changed ("the present International Financial Institutions" was substituted for "the present King of Great Britain," etc.). By thus simply extending the demands of 1776 to all peoples and nations, Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche had located a point of reference for Americans to understand the aspirations of developing nations, and for developing nations to understand the positive chapter in American history that justified their criticism of the U.S. State Department, while justifying a pro-American outlook.

Thus, in 1984, a new international movement had been born, which appealed to the patriotic traditions of all nations to express their profoundly common interest against supranational, oligarchical forces threatening their destruction. In 1985, that movement not only continued to grow, but began to take over the policy-making of certain governments.

An Indira Gandhi Memorial Summit

The political concept of the Schiller Institute was always at the same time cultural. It is indicative that on Dec. 15, 1985, Peruvian President Alan García, whose government, perhaps more than any other, has absorbed the influence of the Schiller Institute's work, directed that Handel's *Messiah* be staged, in a performance in the Plaza de Armas in Lima before tens of thousands, and broadcast nationally. Such great works of art as those of the Weimar Classic period of Mozart, Beethoven, and Friedrich Schiller, the Poet of Freedom, shaped Western civilization's great reverence for the creative power and the necessary freedom of the human individual. It is on this basis that the nations of the West must realize the historic importance of their unity against the despotic imperial culture of the East.

The year 1985 began with the Institute's Fourth International Conference, Jan. 12-14, in Richmond, Virginia, attended by more than 1,000 delegates from dozens of nations, and was followed on Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Day, by a demonstration in Washington, D.C. of more than 10,000 persons. Demonstrators were black and white, inner-city youth and Midwestern farmers: American civil-rights leaders of the 1960s talked with campaign workers for Gov. George Wal-

lace of Alabama. Mrs. Amelia Robinson, the leader of the famous and bloody Selma, Alabama civil-rights march of 1964, was pleased to announce that the day's activities were formally endorsed by Governor Wallace.

The demonstration's official demands were two: Support for the President's Strategic Defense Initiative, and an emergency program to feed Africa.

At the Richmond conference, Helga Zepp-LaRouche had issued a formal appeal for the convening of an Indira Gandhi Memorial Summit, a meeting of the leaders of the industrial North and the underdeveloped South, to resolve the world debt crisis.

On Jan. 15, in Washington, she addressed the throng of 10,000 at Union Plaza, near the Capitol Building:

"Today, the entire continent of Africa is condemned to death, and many nations are collapsing under the present monetary system. Therefore, we have created a new movement, the movement for the Inalienable Rights of Man, for all people on our planet; and we will not stop fighting until there is a new, just world economic order.

"We appeal to President Reagan to hold, within the first 100 days of his second administration, a summit meeting with Third World leaders to plan out for rapid implementation a program for massive debt renegotiation and for a new, just world economic order. This time, when civilization as a whole is at stake, we do not work only to overcome; this time, we must win."

The Krafft Ehrlicke Memorial Conference

On June 15-16, 1985, the Schiller Institute, together with the Fusion Energy Foundation, sponsored the Krafft Ehrlicke Memorial Conference, held in Reston, Va. The 450 participants included military leaders from Western Europe, Asia, and Ibero-America, and constituency leaders from throughout the United States, representing a body of knowledge and experience best equipped to devise and fight for the Strategic Defense Initiative, and also a European or Tactical Defense Initiative. Keynote speaker Lyndon LaRouche said, in his address to the conference, "Let us proceed to colonize the Moon and Mars, as Krafft Ehrlicke [late rocket pioneer and Schiller Institute board member] committed himself to implementation of this process. . . . Once civilization is secured, and the productivity of labor increased greatly by the technological revolution flowing through our SDI task, we shall have established the more powerful economy we require to begin actually the colonization, first of the Moon, and then of Mars . . . and thus fostering the opening of the long-awaited Age of Reason."

The Labor Commission

At the close of the Third Conference in November 1984, a group of trade union representatives from Argentina, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, Mexico, the United States,

Sweden, and Italy, had conferred and decided to ally, in order to work toward a realization of Lyndon LaRouche's *Operation Juárez* program for unity of Ibero-American debtors to compel debt reorganization and the establishment of a new monetary order—in effect, to force an "Indira Gandhi Memorial Summit."

On July 23, 1985 in Mexico City, trade union leaders from eight Ibero-American countries, whose unions have more than 6 million members, convened the first conference of the Schiller Institute Labor Commission. The subsequently famous "Mexico Manifesto" was adopted, beginning with a quote from Schiller: "No, there is a limit to the tyrants' power," and supporting *Operation Juárez* against Kissinger's and Castro's debt proposals.

On July 28, 1985, Alan García Pérez was inaugurated President of Peru, and immediately declared war against Peru's drug mafia: Why, he was asked, since the drugs affected Peru little, most being sent abroad? He replied that he was only doing his duty, not merely as a patriot, but as a world citizen responsible toward those victimized by the dope mafia in other nations—Schiller's concept of republican citizenship.

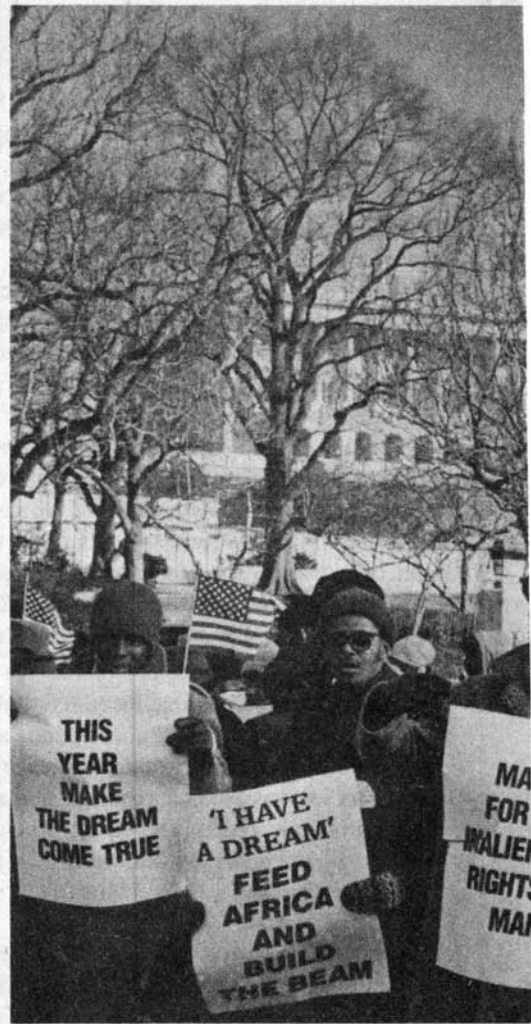
García showed the IMF the door, placed a 10%-of-foreign-exchange limit on debt repayments, and took the lead in fighting for *Operation Juárez*, rejecting both Castro and Kissinger. One of the leaders of the Schiller Institute Labor Commission, Jorge Carillo, was named labor minister of Colombia. In mid-September, President García received a 20-person delegation of Schiller trade union leaders, who extended their full support to his program.

From St. Augustine to the Synod

On Nov. 1-3 in Rome, Italy, the Schiller Institute sponsored a conference on the 1,600th anniversary of the conversion of St. Augustine, "founder of Western and African civilization." Theologians, political activists, Augustine scholars from around the world attended, on a single, overriding theme: *Filioque*—the significance of Christ as conferring divine potential on every, single human individual: the concept ultimately at the root of the Institute's Declaration of the Inalienable Rights of Man.

Within days of the conference's conclusion, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger opened a Vatican seminar on Church and Economy (Nov. 19) with an attack on Adam Smith and the international banking community for destroying developing nations. The Vatican newspaper, preparatory to the Pope's convening of an Extraordinary Synod in Rome (Nov. 26-Dec. 8), headlined: The Spirit Flows from the Father and from the Son—*Filioque* in the Nicene Creed.

An extraordinary convergence had developed, between the commitments and goals of the world's oldest spiritual institution, Institute.



The year of the Schiller Institute:

counterclockwise from top: Helga Zepp-LaRouche; Italian representative Cristina Fiocchi presents Peruvian President Alan García with writings of Macchiavelli as he arrives in Rome in November; Institute Labor Commission delegates at a press conference after meeting with García in Lima in September; some of the 10,000 who demonstrated in Washington in January.



