

## New Age Aquarians plot to destroy Germany

by Mark Burdman

The Christian Democratic (CDU) government of the state of Lower Saxony, West Germany has just sponsored a week-long conference devoted to supporting the satanic New Age/Aquarian movement and destroying scientific and technological progress. The unstated theme of the conference was that, if Germany has historically represented the high points in Western science and culture, that is now to be destroyed as Germany is incorporated into the Soviet empire in the weeks ahead.

Not accidentally, the moving spirits behind the conference are among the leading advocates of appeasement and reaching an accommodation with Moscow.

Under the title *Geist und Natur* (Mind and Nature), the state's Stiftung Niedersachsen (Lower Saxony Foundation), which is run out of the Lower Saxony Ministry of Culture, brought together leading scientists and "New Age" luminaries into what foundation spokesmen described as a "dialogue." But it was much less a dialogue than a bankruptcy declaration issued for the Age of Reason and a pronouncement that the Age of Aquarius would henceforth rule.

Estimates are that as much as 5 million deutschemarks, largely coming from the state, had been disbursed for the event, held at the prestigious Stadthalle (City Hall) in the city of Hanover, with approximately 1,500 individuals in attendance each day. A substantial chunk of this money had to be spent on the dignitaries. These included world-renowned neurophysiologist and brain researcher Sir John Eccles, anti-Plato philosopher Sir Karl Popper, Russian-born Nobel Prize

winner Ilya Prigogine, former Archbishop of Vienna Cardinal Franz König, theoretical physicist Carl-Friedrich von Weizsäcker; Max Planck Institute head Hans-Peter Duerr, and Evangelical (Lutheran) Church "anti-cultist" Father Haack.

From the sex-drug-rock counterculture as such, speakers in Hanover included: R.D. Laing, famous British advocate of mass schizophrenia; Hazel Henderson, "alternative futures" goddess based out of St. Augustine, Florida; Roger Garaudy, Paris-based Sufi gnostic; Hans Sebald, an Arizona-based "sociologist of the occult" and defender of witchcraft; and London "futurist" Peter Russell.

Presiding over the affair was CDU Minister-President Ernst Albrecht, who began by declaring that it was from the time of the Golden Renaissance that one could date the process of religion and natural science moving away from each other. He followed that lie with some slogans about the need for "oneness," warning that the world was in an "ecological crisis," that man had become "a victim of his own technology," and nature was taking its "revenge" for this "exploitation." After this outburst, he appropriately cited Nazi philosopher Martin Heidegger, "Reasoning cannot help us."

Albrecht stressed the necessity of bringing the "concepts and lifestyles" of East and West closer together. and concluded by praising Carl-Friedrich von Weizsäcker as the "spirit behind this meeting."

Von Weizsäcker's father was a leading figure in the Foreign Ministry of Nazi Germany, and a follower of Friedrich

Nietzsche who believed that the Nazis would bring about his philosophical aims. Von Weizsäcker's brother is the President of West Germany, and a leading pro-Soviet figure.

The Stiftung Niedersachsen was founded about two and a half years ago. Earlier, in the 1970s, the Lower Saxony Ministry of Culture's Eduard Pestel was a chief founder and ideologue of the malthusian Club of Rome. But with the *Geist und Natur* event, these Hanoverians have moved beyond the quasi-rational analytic posturing of the Club of Rome, into direct embrace of satanism.

### **Eccles and Prigogine**

As the conference unfolded, there was a very specific method to the madness.

The scientific representatives were, predominantly, of the liberal-gnostic or left-Aquarian persuasion in their views of science and the universe. Either they stated that the universe, the mind, and creativity are impossible to explain scientifically, or they had their own irrationalist explanations for such processes. Either way, the Aquarians ended up the winners, coming forward to proclaim their "holistic" beliefs the way "mind and nature" could be explained in one unified system.

The more "rationalist"-seeming type was New Zealand-born Sir John Eccles, one of the leading researchers in neurophysiology and the brain. Sir John can make many interesting observations about the mechanisms and evolution of the brain, but when it comes to the question, "How did mind develop?" he throws up his hands and says, "It's a mystery. It comes from divine intervention, from God."

That is literally what he stated at the conference—and he doesn't mean the Christian God, either. That is also the theme of many of his writings and lectures. In his 1979 book, *The Human Mystery*, based on lectures given in the 1977-78 period, he states: "I chose the theme of the Human Mystery because I believe that it is vitally important to emphasize the great mysteries that confront us when, as scientists, we try to understand the natural world, including ourselves. There has been a regrettable tendency of many scientists to claim that science is so powerful and all pervasive that in the not too distant future, it will provide an explanation in principle of all phenomena in the world of nature including man, even of human consciousness in all its manifestations. When that is accomplished, scientific materialism will then be in the position of being an unchallengeable dogma accounting for all experience.

"In our recent book [written in 1977 by Eccles and Sir Karl Popper], Popper has labelled this claim promissory materialism, which is extravagant and unfulfillable. Yet, on account of the high regard for science, it has great persuasive power with the intelligent laity because it is advocated unthinkingly by the great mass of scientists who have not critically evaluated the dangers of this false and arrogant claim.

The danger is already evident in the counterproductive flourishing of anti-science."

Here, Eccles has gone beyond propounding the view of German philosopher Immanuel Kant that man can never lawfully know the principles of creativity of the human mind (see LaRouche, *EIR*, Vol. 15, no. 21). Worse, Eccles and Popper have adopted the view of the philosophical school known as the "conservative revolution," which believes that man makes matters worse, not better, by trying to intervene in nature. This view created the conceptual basis for both "universal fascism" and Nazism.

Sir John's God is a *deus ex machina*, an arbitrary god of the Babylonian-Mesopotamian, not Judeo-Christian civilization. Indeed, in his book, he purveys the lie that it was in Mesopotamia that "there was the first great flowering of a civilization that flourished for some 3,000 years. So much of the culture we cherish today had its origin in that miraculous epoch."

Another approach is that of Nobel Prize winner Prigogine, who weaves Russian "Old Believer" irrationalism and Jesuit "liberation theology" activism into a pseudo-scientific belief structure. Prigogine's fundamental belief, expressed in his May 22 conference presentation, is that what you *can* explain is much less important than what you *cannot* explain. The order represented by being able to correctly map the flights of the planets in the solar system over millions of years is less important than not being able to predict the weather two weeks from now. What matters is instability, chaos, fluctuations. "Instead of *singularity*," he stressed in his May 22 speech, "the universe is born of *instability*." Into Prigogine's conceptual pot, are mixed ideas rich in jargon, like "self-organizing structures," "nonlinear processes," "feedback," etc.

Society is going through a period of "transition," he said, in which concepts like "instability, fluctuation, and chaos" would meet with greater interest. "After Oct. 19, 1987, Black Monday, everybody became interested in chaos. The overall atmosphere is developing."

Many speakers at the conference played with Prigogine's jargon. One, Professor Goudblom of Amsterdam, had adapted Prigogine's notion of "irreversible processes," to concoct a wild theory that the "domestication of fire" has forced the hominids and *homo sapiens* into a million-year-long process of dependency which is now leading to man's own possible destruction! Goudblom claims that the "domestication" arose from a struggle between hominids and other species over control of fire, which was won by dominating proto-humans. This presentation was typical of much of the absurdity contained in the "scientific" theorizing.

### **'Life and death are one'**

By the third day, the Aquarians in the audience were becoming restless. Messages were being scribbled on the

conference information board that the conference format represented the "old paradigm" of speakers and passive listeners, with the audience excluded from "participation." To correct this, one scribbler from the United States wrote, everybody should congregate at the vegetarian restaurant that had been set up in the basement of the Stadthalle and discuss a new strategy. Another visitor from the United States made the profound suggestion that the meditation sessions that had been made available to those who wanted to participate, should be expanded to the entire "plenary" of 1,000-1,500 people, so that all and sundry would be "in touch with their energy." By the night of May 23, the word had come back to the Aquarians that the conference organizers had made critical "concessions" in response to their complaints.

In any case, the second half of the event was dominated by the Aquarians' own: Laing, Henderson, Sebald, et al. By some time around May 25, less-initiated folk might have begun to wonder if they were alive or dead: A 90-year-old German Jesuit named Father Hugo M. Enomiya Lassalle, flown in from Tokyo, traditions of Zen Buddhism and Christian mysticism. To describe the former, he pointed out that Zen belief contained "no creation, no sin, no revelation," but achieved "liberation" through the "burning out of passions." Through "meditation," he droned, man could achieve unity with the Absolute Being, by which time there is "no individuality" and "life and death are one. It is the dissolution of opposites," "unity with the Cosmos."

Albrecht was seated nearby during this speech, which echoed aspects of his introductory comments. One book by Father Lassalle on display at the event, had a praise-filled forward written by Carl-Friedrich von Weizsäcker.

In and around this, the environment was saturated with "New Age" propaganda. The central book-exposition was composed, minimally, of 50% books dealing with astrology, defense of witchcraft, the occult, transpersonal psychology, mysticism, and the like, while literature from the Bhagwan cult and various esoteric movements freely circulated. Outside the hall, a new political party calling itself "New Consciousness," and linked to a Zurich group formed to overcome "rationalism," was giving out literature announcing that it would be competing in the June 1988 European Parliament elections.

The conference's method was based on an ideological sleight-of-hand. Speaker after speaker equated the "Newtonian-Cartesian worldview" with "science." The real tradition of science, that extending from Socrates and Plato, through St. Augustine, up to the Golden Renaissance greats like Nicolaus of Cusa and Leonardo da Vinci, then through Leibniz and the "Göttingen School" of Gauss, Riemann, Cantor, et al. is either ignored, or is selectively referenced in order to pervert its real content.

In the case of Prigogine, for example, it is noteworthy that colleagues of this correspondent who met him some years

back had the remarkable experience of watching a seemingly rational discussion aborted, as he exploded into a fit of rage and incoherence, when he noticed they were carrying a publication with portraits of Riemann and Cantor.

It became quite clear that the Stiftung Niedersachsen has a special unit to monitor the writings and ideas of Lyndon and Helga Zepp LaRouche, and to undermine these, whether it be (as Benedictine Father Jaeger from Würzburg did) by claiming Nicolaus of Cusa was the father of mysticism in Christianity, or playing around with "Keplerian harmonics" in music, or citing "Leibniz's least action principle" for economics—but always mixing it in with kookery.

### 'High point of the New Age movement'

In the Federal Republic of Germany as a whole, the *Geist und Natur* event is, regrettably, not the only instance of political-cultural insanity gripping leading layers among the CDU-CSU "conservatives." As the Lower Saxony event got under way, a festival in West Berlin entitled, "Consciousness '88" was entering its third week. It was described by the daily newspaper *Die Welt* May 26 as "the high point, up till now, of the New Age movement in Germany." It has brought together Hopi Indian prophets who believe the world will end in 1992; practitioners of reincarnation therapy; UFO enthusiasts; the therapist of actress Shirley MacLaine and East German-born rock star Nina Hagen. MacLaine's therapist told participants that the actress had been transposed through "acupuncture parapsychology" into her "earlier life." Hagen declared she was forming a new political party that would draw together all UFO true believers and similar types into a global "family of love" linked by vibrations.

All this was officially co-financed by the Berlin CDU-run government. The minister for cultural affairs in West Berlin is the CDU's Volker Hassemer, who had declared several weeks before the conference: "Berlin must become a pivot of East-West cultural encounters. Berlin is the easternmost of the West, and the westernmost of the East." He told the press that this conception had been given to him by President Richard von Weizsäcker, brother of Carl-Friedrich.

With the Christian Democrats of Lower Saxony and West Berlin so out front in the race to the "New Age," can the Christian Social Union Minister-President of Bavaria, Franz-Josef Strauss, afford to be left behind? As always, the opportunist Strauss has to be in on the trends. From Sept. 14-17, the "First International Congress on Cerebral Dominances" will be held in Munich, on the theme "Cerebral Dominances/Left-Right Brain." Conference brochures indicate that the event will be held under the patronage of Strauss, and that assurances of support have come from the ministries of the interior and economics, and from the department of public health. The chairman of the first panel, on the theme "Consciousness," will be Professor Pribram of Stanford University, a collaborator of "Aquarian Conspiracy" author Marilyn Ferguson.