

## The Rütli Oath

*The Rütli Oath from Friedrich Schiller's play of freedom, Wilhelm Tell, has been chosen as the proposed oath of allegiance to the worldwide anti-bolshevik resistance. Hear that oath in its original German, and its English translation:*

Nein, eine Grenze hat Tyrannenmacht,  
 Wenn der Gedrückte nirgends Recht kann finden,  
 Wenn unerträglich wird die Last—greift er  
 Hinauf getrost den Mutes in den Himmel  
 Und holt herunter seine ewigen Rechte,  
 Die droben hangen unveräusserlich  
 Und unzerbrechlich wie die Sterne selbst—  
 Der alte Urstand der Natur kehrt wieder,  
 Wo Mensch dem Menschen gegenübersteht—  
 Zum letzten Mittel, wenn kein andres mehr  
 Verfangen will, ist ihm das Schwert gegeben—  
 Der Güter höchstes dürfen wir verteidigen  
 Gegen Gewalt—Wir stehn vor unser Land,  
 Wir stehn vor unsrer Weiber, unsrer Kinder! . . .  
 —Wir wollen sein ein einzig Volk von Brüdern,  
 In keiner Not uns trennen und Gefahr.  
 —Wir wollen frei sein, wie die Väter waren,  
 Eher den Tod, als in der Knechtschaft leben.

—Wir wollen trauen auf den höchsten Gott  
 Und uns nicht fürchten vor der Macht der  
 Menschen.

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No, there is a limit to the tyrant's power,  
 when the oppressed can find no justice, when  
 the burden grows unbearable—he reaches  
 with hopeful courage up unto the heavens  
 and seizes hither his eternal rights,  
 which hang above, inalienable  
 and indestructible as stars themselves.  
 The primal state of nature reappears,  
 where man stands opposite his fellow man.  
 As a last resort, when not another means  
 is of avail, the sword is given him,  
 The highest of all goods we may defend  
 from violence, Thus stand we before our country,  
 thus stand we before our wives, our children! . . .  
 Now, let us take the oath of this new league.  
 We will become a single land of brothers,  
 nor shall we part in danger and distress.  
 We shall be free, just as our fathers were,  
 and sooner die, than live in slavery.  
 We shall rely upon the highest God  
 and we shall never fear the might of men.

of flow of logistics and technology into Poland.

We do not need to put up front, at least from the standpoint of the United States, any political timetable or political criterion projecting a unification of the East Zone of Germany with the Federal Republic of Germany. That is not where we should put the emphasis at this point. That is the German and European question, more than the U.S. question. What we must concentrate on is the implementation of a successful rescue effort in Poland, before the opportunity to do so is destroyed by the effects of a miserable, cruel winter.

Therefore the issue today is not how the two Germanies shall be linked in political abstract terms, but rather how they shall cooperate in assisting the salvation of Poland. And obviously there can be benefits to be shared, not to be despised, to the East German economy, from other parts of Europe, to the specific purpose of ensuring that the East German economy is able to deliver its part effectively in that rescue operation toward Poland. That should be our focus.

### Politics must catch up with reality

Finally on this matter, there are some, including Secretary of State Baker, who reject the tempo of events and wish it were much milder, that it could all be nicely managed withing condominium summitry, like the kind which is ap-

parently planned for Malta. This is wrong. This is faulty. Politics cannot hold back the tempo of events in a period such as this one. Rather the tempo of political events and political decisions and institutional change must race to catch up with physical reality.

The causes for the explosion in Eastern Europe and elsewhere today are not meddling by politicians as such, at least nothing recent, nor are they immediately the decisions of governments or interventions by governments. The cause for the spread of international political and economic crisis is very simply the global physical economic breakdown crisis process, the crisis process which has been energized by 25 years of persistent folly in the drift of the economic, monetary, and financial policies of the United States and other relevant nations. We have nobody but ourselves to blame, and the Soviets have no one but themselves to blame for the mess.

Now the exigency of the hunger crisis and general economic breakdown crisis has gripped us all. We must respond to the tempo of events dictated by physical reality, not to try to impose upon physical reality, like King Canute, our mere subjective whims. Men and women who cannot keep pace politically with the physical requirements of events should step out of the position of leadership to make room for those who are qualified to undertake these tasks.