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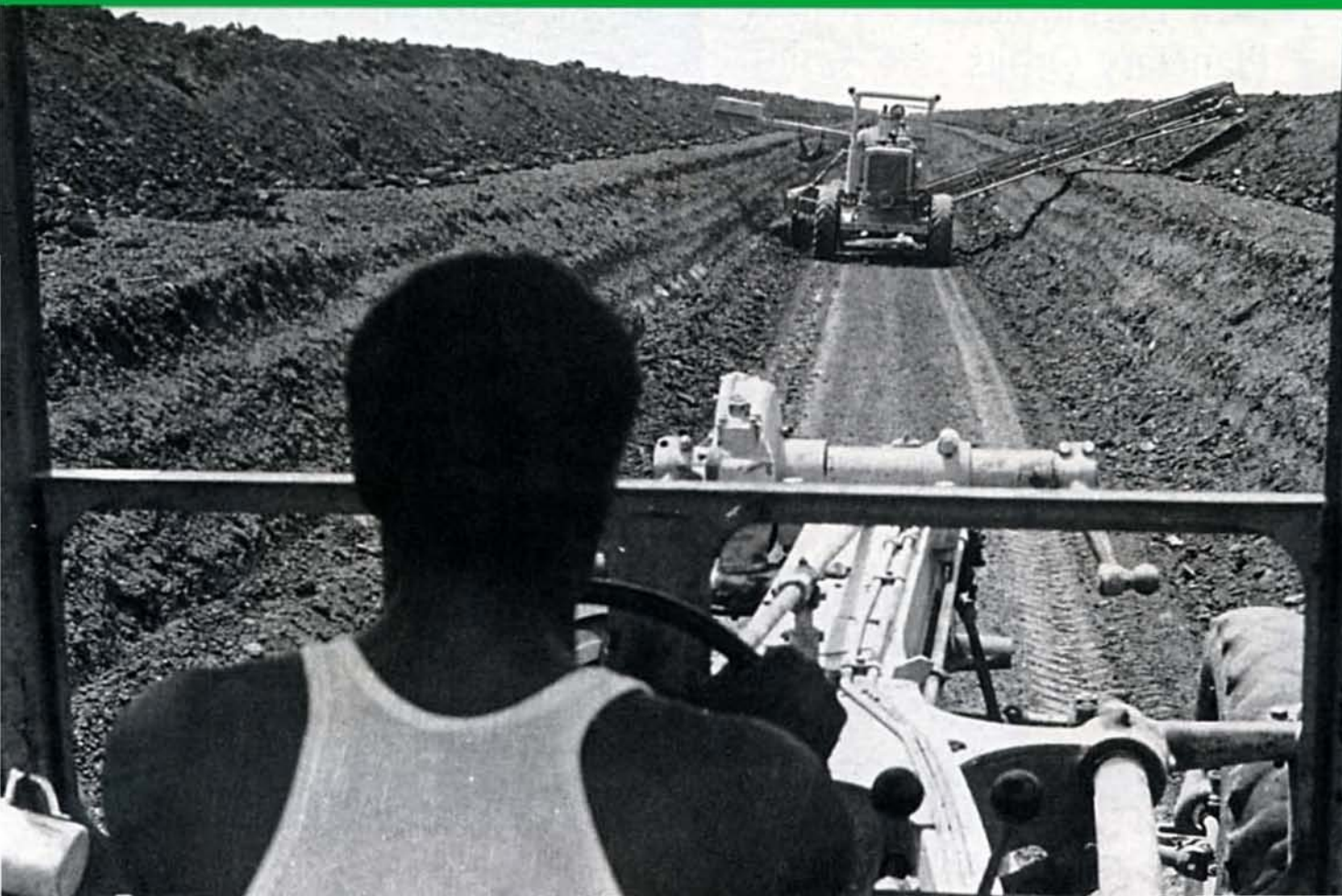
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Personal bankruptcies wreck U.S. households
'Silk Road Lady' mobilizes for the Land-Bridge
Clinton's War on Drugs effort angers London

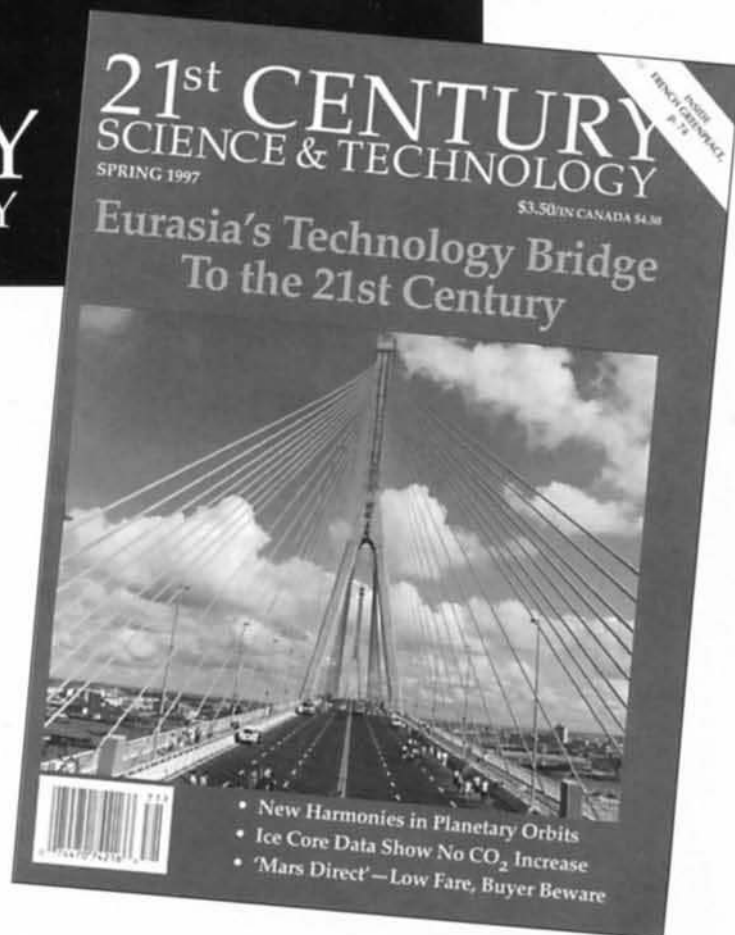
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European Headquarters: Executive Intelligence Review Nachrichtenagentur GmbH, Postfach 2308, D-65013 Wiesbaden, Otto von Guericke Ring 3, D-65205 Wiesbaden, Federal Republic of Germany Tel: (6122) 9160. Homepage: <http://www.eirma.com> E-mail: eirna@eirma.com Executive Directors: Anno Hellenbroich, Michael Liebig

In Denmark: EIR, Post Box 2613, 2100 Copenhagen ØE, Tel. 35-43 60 40

In Mexico: EIR, Río Tiber No. 87, 5o piso, Colonia Cuauhtémoc, México, D.F., CP 06500. Tel: 208-3016 y 533-26-43.

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From the Associate Editor

A recent issue of *Time* magazine hails Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni as a former leftist who has now embraced free-market capitalism, and who is offering a “new beginning” to the people of neighboring Zaire. Museveni states that he and his cronies are happy to receive American support, since they are “patriots” fighting for “independence.”

What an unbelievable lie!

If you want to know who Museveni really is, read his own words, from a speech on April 4: “As Hitler did to bring together Germany, we should also do it here. Hitler was a smart guy, but I think he went a bit too far by wanting to conquer the whole world.” Museveni’s plans for conquest are somewhat more modest than Hitler’s: “My mission is to see that Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, and Zaire become federal states under one nation,” he said. (Three guesses who is to be the chief of that “one nation.”)

If Africa is to have a real “new beginning,” it will originate from the core group of people whose views are the subject of the *Feature* in this special, expanded issue of *EIR*. We publish selected speeches from a two-day conference held in Germany, on the theme, “Peace Through Development in Africa’s Great Lakes Region.” (Many participants spoke in French, and the speeches not included here will be translated as soon as possible, for future publication.) The conference included Lyndon and Helga LaRouche, representatives of the Schiller Institute and *EIR*, and a courageous group of political figures from Africa’s Great Lakes region, who are not going along with British plans to carve up their continent.

To get a sense of the moral caliber of these people, let me draw your attention to the speech by William Munyen Babazi of Burundi (p. 54). He notes the relative youthfulness of the Burundian delegation: “It is true that we are young, but we bear a great weight of history. I often say we have taken on great responsibility, because we have no other choice. Our fathers are dead, our older brothers are dead, so we have the duty not to pass this misfortune onto future generations. . . . If my father were still living, I would be at the beach having fun, but for the moment, I am obliged to assume this responsibility.”

Susan Welsh

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Correction: In our May 11 article "Corruption in the DOJ: 'Enough Is Enough!'" we mistakenly characterized the Mann-Chestnut Commission as consisting of only prominent state legislators. In fact, in addition to those, the commission includes its chairman, Alabama attorney JL Chestnut, former U.S. Rep. James Mann, and Msgr. Elias El Hayek, Chor Bishop of the Maronite Church, and Professor of Law. Further, in the list of legislators signing the call, we misidentified State Rep. Howard Hunter as Deputy Minority Leader; that post is held by Toby Fitch. We also misidentified Tennessee Sen. John Ford as being from Nashville, Tennessee; he is from Memphis.

Economics

4 Personal bankruptcies devastate U.S. households
Americans' personal credit is not going to purchase Gucci shoes and Louis Vuitton handbags, no matter what the media would have you think. *EIR*'s in-depth study shows that U.S. households' standard of living has dropped so far that, even with two or three jobs per family, households require credit to buy groceries, to pay medical bills, or meet the monthly mortgage payment.

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Keynoting the conference, LaRouche urged the audience, which consisted mainly of Africans, to "step out of being Africans for a moment, and go up to the top of a mountain, where you can see in the distance both the breadth of this planet's population, and also, see into its past, several hundred years." It is from that vantage point, he said, we can discover the *passion* to do what is necessary to save Africa, and all humanity.

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The Clinton administration has opened a flank on drug-money laundering, with U.S. Treasury agents snooping around the City of London banks and putting the squeeze on the offshore haven of Jersey. "That's not cricket!" the British are shouting.

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Personal bankruptcies devastate U.S. households

by Richard Freeman

In 1996, some 1.125 million American households, more than one in every hundred, filed for personal bankruptcy protection, the highest level in U.S. history. As **Figure 1** shows, 1996's level is 30% higher than 1995's, and three times the annual level of personal bankruptcies that prevailed prior to 1986. Based on first-quarter figures, personal bankruptcy filings in 1997 will be higher still.

Pushing the rate of household bankruptcies upward has been the condition of personal credit card accounts: More and more households have fallen behind on their credit card payments, engendering a record delinquency rate (payments 30 days or more past due). Many of these delinquencies, especially those 60 to 120 days past due, enter into default. This has resulted in a significant, and growing, amount of charge-offs for credit card lenders.

The growth in personal bankruptcies, plus the growth in troubles with credit card accounts, has sparked a national debate. The oligarchical financiers, grouped around Britain's royal House of Windsor, can't deny the irrefutable trend under way, but somehow can't fit it neatly into their public claim that the economy is in the greatest economic upswing since the end of World War II. But, if everyone is doing so well, why are so many people going broke? This viewpoint was expressed in a front-page story in the Aug. 25, 1996 *New York Times*, headlined "Personal Bankruptcies Surging as Economy Hums." In the same vein, on May 3, 1997, in San Diego, U.S. Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan stated to the conference of State Bank Supervisors, "We don't know why personal bankruptcies have soared as sharply as they have, especially considering the fact that the economy is doing so well and consumers in general are doing well."

In order to preserve the "everyone is doing well" myth,

the oligarchical financiers have resorted to two lies. First, that American households have large credit card debts solely because they bought things they shouldn't have, that Americans were profligate with easy credit. In effect, every household bought dozens of Gucci shoes, gold-plated handbags, and several VCRs. Second, that even with these large credit card balances, American households are not broke—they are faking it. They could pay off most of their debts if they chose to, and only about one-tenth of the bankruptcy petitions filed in bankruptcy court are legitimate.

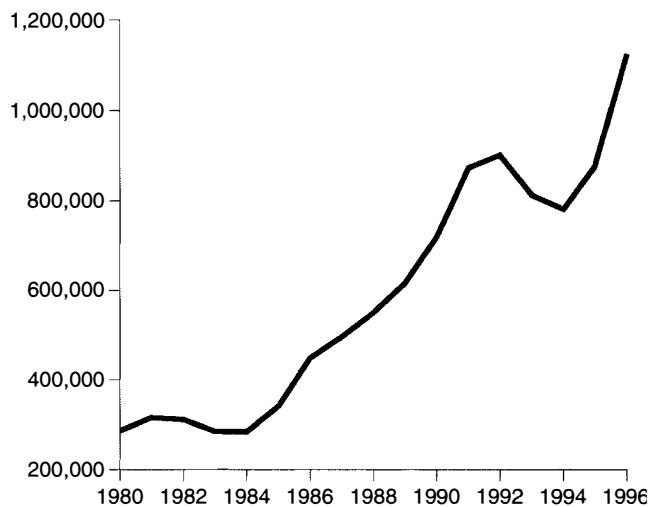
The bankers are now trying to get their friends in Congress to pass legislation that would severely restrict a household's access to Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection, which is the most commonly used, and allows a bankrupt household to write off most of its debts. Instead, the bankers would make households file under Chapter 13, wherein after bankruptcy, a household is still liable for most of its debts. The banks have a golden goose—lending on credit cards and consumer loans at 15-25% interest rates—and they won't tolerate the loss of it by having families simply go broke on them.

Yet, the City of London and Wall Street financiers' allegation that "households' financial mismanagement" is the cause of the record number of bankruptcies, is a monstrous hoax. It is no more true today than when the bankers used the exact same argument during the 1970s and 1980s to explain away the farmers' and machine-tool builders' record bankruptcies occurring then.

The reality

The reality is that the record number of household bankruptcies is a function of the 50% collapse of the consumer market basket, and thus of household purchasing power, dur-

FIGURE 1

Personal bankruptcy filings, 1980-96

Source: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, "Annual Report of the Director."

ing the 30 years since the post-industrial society was first imposed on America in the mid-1960s. Even working three or four jobs, families cannot survive. Families compensated for the collapse in living standards by stretching their borrowing to the limit. They contracted record amounts of household debt, which by the end of 1996 had reached a total of \$4.875 trillion. Over the recent period, families were forced to use their credit cards (an instrument largely for convenience or luxury purchases) to buy necessity items that they could not afford to pay for out of their bank accounts: food at the grocery store, rent, car repair, and growing medical bills uncovered by medical insurers.

This is an unstable condition that cannot continue. Indeed, the more that incomes fall, the more families will borrow, and the more their debt, swelled by usurious interest rates, will grow. Thus, an expanding household debt bubble is drawing from a contracting real income base, paralleling the situation in the economy at large. The interest charges further push down the living standard.

In an April 22 interview, Stephen Brobeck, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America, told *EIR*, "While I'm concerned about those 1.1 million families that filed for bankruptcy in 1996, I'm just as concerned about the families that haven't filed. Many families have as much as \$15,000 to \$20,000 in credit card debt, which is the level that families often have when they file for bankruptcies. But take the families with that level of balance [on their credit cards], which haven't filed for bankruptcy. At the current interest rates, they could owe \$3,000 to \$4,000 per year in interest. Compare that to an after-tax income of maybe \$20,000 per

year. How long can that last?"

This situation obtains for millions, perhaps tens of millions of families, when their total household debt profile is taken into account. Given a financial crisis, the numbers of household bankruptcy filings will become a flood tide. The United States is inches from such a development.

This article shows the true state of household finances, based on actual household living standard. We examine the explosion of household debt, and the expanding "subprime" lending market, which lends to households that have lost their credit worthiness, but at interest rates of 20-165%. Finally, we explore the implications of what the bursting of the consumer credit bubble will mean for the banking system and U.S. households.

Plummeting living standards

The average household today receives a market basket that is half of what it received 30 years ago. This market basket is measured as the essential consumer goods, as well as hard and soft infrastructure—ranging from water management, power generation, and transportation, to medical and educational services—whose consumption enables a household to maintain and improve its material and cultural condition of existence. This includes the nurturing and raising of the next generation of the labor force.

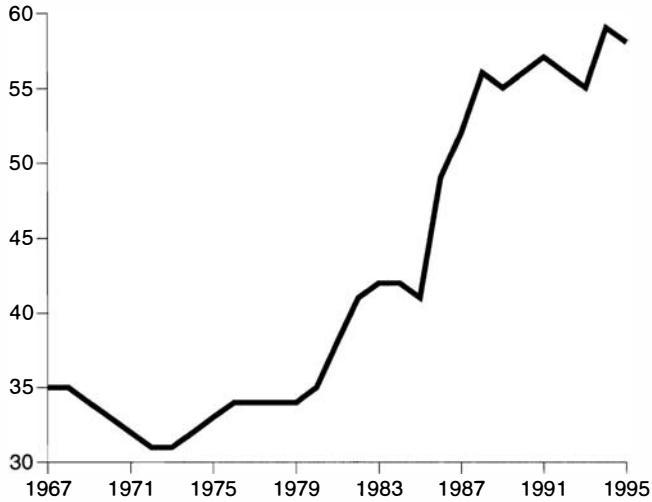
Economics is not the measurement of monetary values. It begins from the premise that man's creative power of reason, making new, revolutionary scientific discoveries of principle, is the source of all economic wealth. These discoveries are transmitted to the economy through the Machine-Tool Principle and basic infrastructure (see *EIR*, Feb. 7, 1997). As man's power to create new ideas and positively alter nature is increased, this produces a rising rate of potential relative population-density.

But in the mid-1960s, the British financier oligarchy imposed the policy of the post-industrial society on the United States. This fostered speculation, while causing production to wither. A giant speculative bubble was launched. Economist Lyndon LaRouche, in his Triple Curve Function, has explained that financial aggregates grew at a hyperbolic rate, as did the monetary aggregates needed to keep the financial aggregates liquefied. And, as they grew, they caused the physical economy to contract—since the late-1960s, at the rate of approximately 2% per year. We are now at the brink of the disintegration of the entire financial system.

EIR has documented the collapse of the U.S. consumer market basket (see *EIR*, Sept 27, 1996, "U.S. Market Basket Is Half What It Was in the 1960s"), and showed that it now requires three full-time jobs to earn the equivalent purchasing power that one full-time manufacturing job provided to a family during the 1950s. This is very important in the growth of household debt. *EIR* also documented the fall in household purchasing power, by showing the increased number of paychecks required to purchase basic consumer goods. **Figures**

FIGURE 2

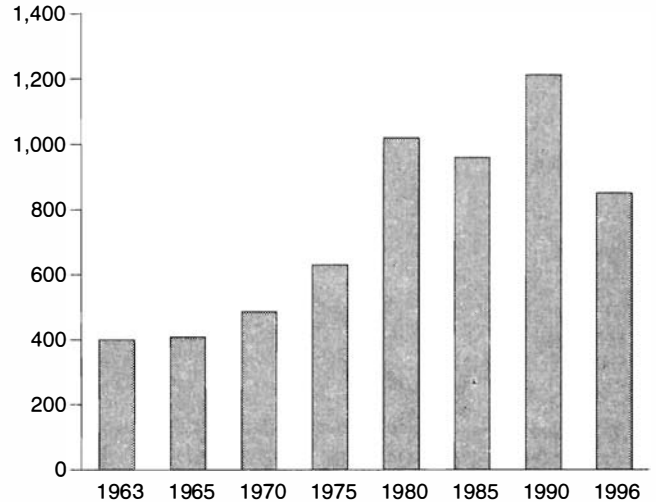
Number of weekly paychecks required to purchase a new car, including financing



Sources: American Automobile Manufacturers' Association "Facts and Figures," various years; Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment and Earnings," various years.

FIGURE 3

Number of paychecks required to purchase a new home



Sources: National Association of Homebuilders; Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment and Earnings," various years.

2 and 3 show, respectively, the number of paychecks required to buy a new car and a new home. In 1967, it required 35 weeks of an average worker's paycheck to purchase a new car (including financing charges); today, it requires 58 paychecks. That is, a worker must work another 25 weeks, or 65.7% longer, to acquire a new car. Stated inversely, a worker's standard of living has fallen 39.7%, compared to 1967, relative to the ability to purchase a car.

How did the worker compensate for the loss of purchasing power? The answer is, by sharply increased borrowing. In the case of auto loans, one of the principal constituent parts of "consumer credit" (the other major part is credit card borrowing), the maturity of an average loan went from 36 months in the late 1960s, to 52 months today.

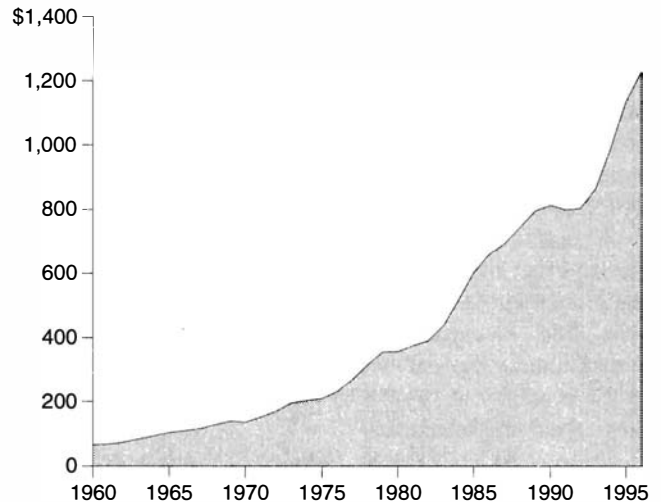
Under this impetus, the growth of consumer credit (see **Figure 4**), especially since the 1980s, has been steep. For example, auto loans are financed at interest rates varying from preferred status (currently about 8.5%), to less preferred status (up to 13%), to "subprime" status, which ranges up to 25%. One-fifth of all auto purchases are currently financed at "subprime rates," highlighting both the deteriorated credit quality of American borrowers, as well as the added interest charges which are impelling the consumer credit bubble toward a blowout.

Consumer credit constitutes approximately one-quarter of all household debt, and it is by far its fastest-growing portion. The other three-quarters is home mortgage debt (see *EIR*, Dec. 13, 1996, "Housing People in a 'Post-Industrial' U.S.A."). Driven by consumer credit expansion, overall

FIGURE 4

Consumer credit, 1960-96

(billions \$)

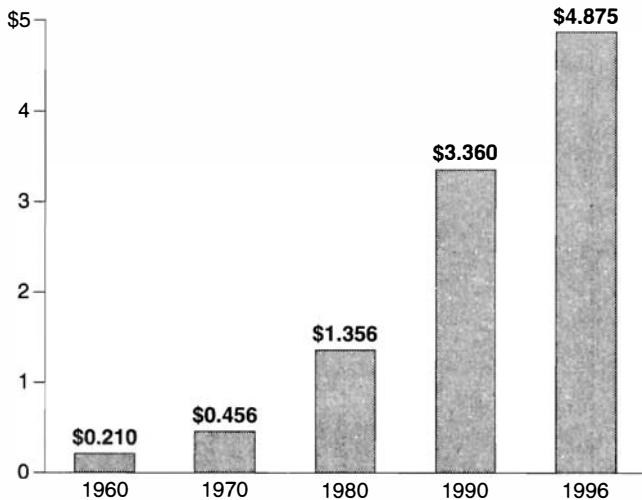


Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, "Flow of Funds Accounts of the United States," "Household Table," various years.

household debt has soared (see **Figure 5**). **Figure 6** shows the volume of household debt expressed on a per-household basis, which in 1996 reached \$48,317.

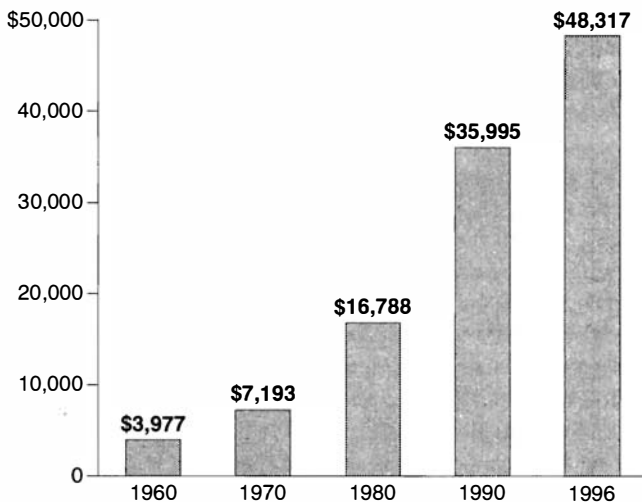
To grasp how large this \$48,317 figure is, we look at the

FIGURE 5
Total household debt
 (trillions \$)



Source: Federal Reserve Board, "Flow of Funds Accounts," "Household Table," various years.

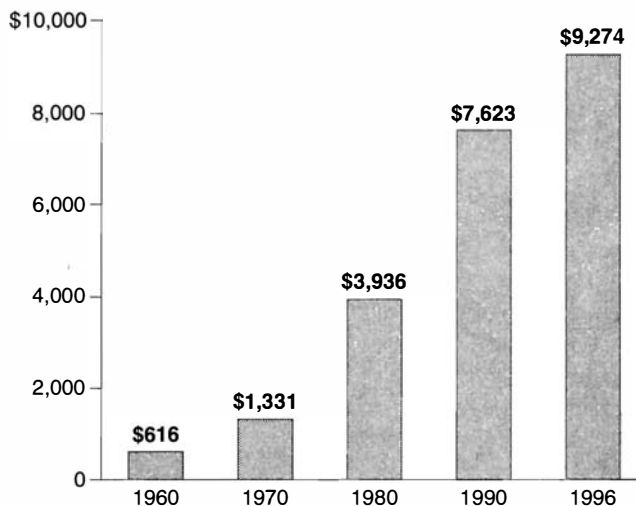
FIGURE 6
Household debt per U.S. household
 (dollars)



Source: Federal Reserve Board, "Flow of Funds Accounts," "Household Table," various years.

associated debt service charges, and the number of paychecks it would require to pay it off. **Figure 7** shows that by 1996, the annual per-household debt service (interest and principal repayment) charge on the average household debt of \$48,317,

FIGURE 7
Average annual debt service paid per household on household debt
 (dollars)



Source: Federal Reserve Board, "Flow of Funds Accounts," "Household Table," various years.

was \$9,274 per year. Much of this charge is due to mortgage payments, but a sizable part of it is due to consumer credit, and almost 40% is due to excessively high interest rates. **Figure 8** shows that were one to devote an average worker's weekly paycheck exclusively to paying off household debt, it would require more than double the paychecks it required in 1960—again verifying that a household today possesses less real income with which to service its debt.

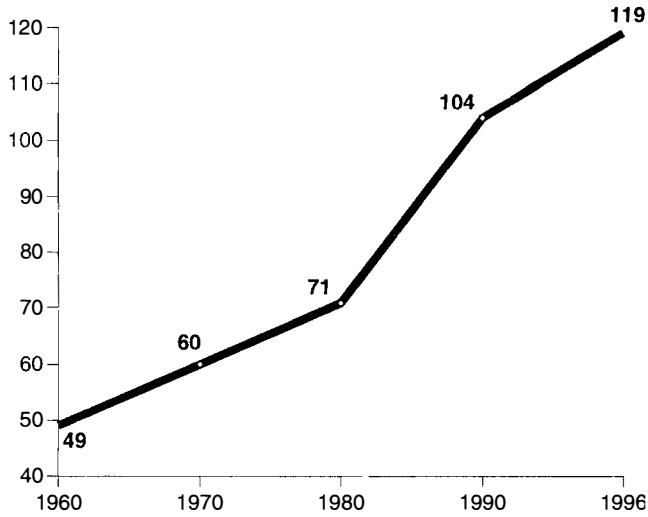
The credit card debacle

Consumer credit is the fastest-growing element in household debt, and credit card debt is the fastest-growing element, and is now the biggest portion of consumer credit. **Figure 9** reveals the level of credit card debt from 1970 through to the present. In absolute volume terms, half of all the growth occurred during the last six years, with the following annual growth rates in credit card debt: 1991, 9.9%; 1992, 5.2%; 1993, 10.9%; 1994, 18.4%; 1995, 22.1%; 1996, 11.9%. (Most analysts simply use the Federal Reserve Board's figure for revolving credit as a stand-in for consumer credit, but that figure is too large; *EIR* has made adjustments which more accurately reflect the real level of credit card debt.)

Just as important as the growth rates of credit card debt, is the level of balances owed by those credit card holders who maintain balances. Today, approximately 80% of U.S. households own one or more credit cards, and of these, approximately 25-30% pay off their balances when due, i.e., they don't carry a balance. This means that 56 to 60% of

FIGURE 8

Number of weekly paychecks required to pay off household debt



Sources: Federal Reserve Board, "Flow of Funds Accounts," "Household Table," various years; Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment and Earnings," various years.

households carry credit card balances. In 1996, there were approximately 100 million households, so that means 56 to 60 million households carried credit card balances. If one divides the total amount of credit card balances outstanding by the number of households carrying balances, one obtains the average balance that the latter household carries on its credit card (Figure 10).

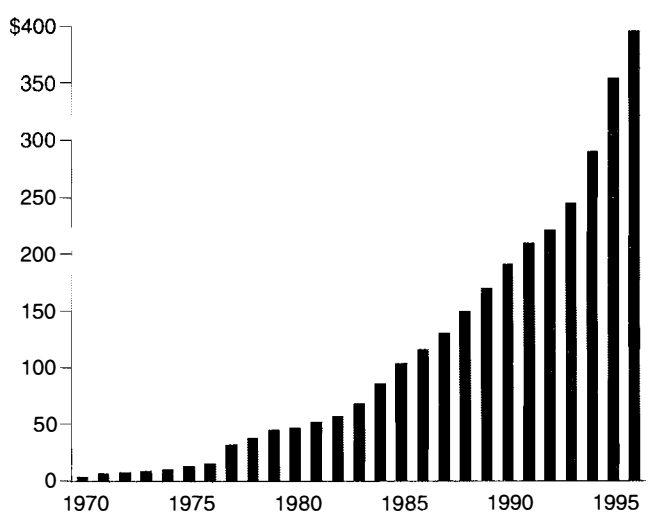
The figures indicate a tremendous leap in credit card debt per household carrying balances, from \$1,235 in 1980, to \$6,826 in 1996. At the annual interest rate of 15.9%, the interest charge in 1996 would be \$791, which is about what the average household spent in 1994 on its electricity bill (\$861), telephone service (\$690), car repair (\$680), or car insurance (\$690). But here's the rub: These balances are not distributed evenly. Approximately 15 to 20 million card-holding households carry balances ranging from \$15-20,000, up to \$50,000 or more. On a \$20,000 balance, at the prevailing interest rate, the annual interest fee is \$3,180. For a household earning \$30,000 gross per annum, with one-quarter of income going to tax and social insurance, and an after-tax annual income of \$22,500, the \$3,180 represents one-seventh of the household income. If the household rolls over the interest, the next year it will owe \$23,180, with a still larger interest charge, and so on. This puts 15 to 20 million households potentially on the road to bankruptcy.

As a result, the delinquency rate on credit cards is soaring. In fourth-quarter 1996, credit card delinquencies in the United States reached the highest level since 1973, when the Ameri-

FIGURE 9

Outstanding credit card debt, 1970-96

(billions \$)



Sources: Federal Reserve Board, "Flow of Funds Accounts," "Household Table," various years; EIR.

can Bankers Association began tracking the rate. The delinquency rate increased to a record 3.72% of all accounts in the fourth quarter, up from 3.48% in the third quarter (see Figure 11). However, based on the dollar balances outstanding of all credit card accounts, the delinquency rate in the fourth quarter reached a record 5.45%, meaning that 5.45% of all the dollar balances owed on credit cards are delinquent.

Why purchases are made

As for the claim by the banks that credit card balances are largely run up for the purchase of extravagances, undoubtedly, persons exist who either ran up exorbitant credit card costs for frivolous purchases, and/or who walked out on credit card debt that they might have paid had they made the effort. Perhaps, when a serious detailed analysis of bankruptcy filings is completed, it will be found that these two factors account for 15 to 30% of all bankruptcy filings. But to claim, as do the London financiers and their coterie, that these two factors account for most, or even the majority of bankruptcy filings, is a travesty.

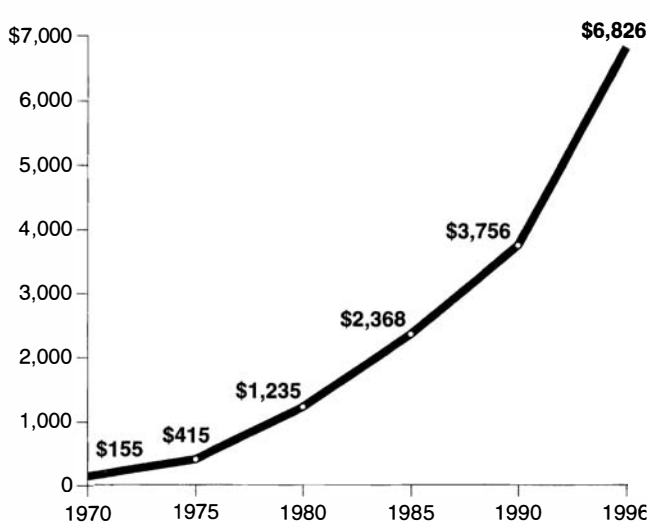
The evidence presented on the collapse of the consumer market basket by 50%, devastates the financiers' premise. Furthermore, a sifting through of public record information provides sufficient anecdotal evidence and supplementary substantial proof, to shatter the bankers' contentions. The depression-induced collapse in living standards is the determining factor.

For example, consider the case of Irene, an 84-year-old

FIGURE 10

Credit card balance, per household carrying a credit card balance

(dollars)



Sources: Federal Reserve Board, "Flow of Funds Accounts," "Household Table," various years; EIR.

resident of Bogota, New Jersey, who was interviewed for the Aug. 25, 1996 *New York Times* article on credit card debt, on condition that her last name not be used. She first went into debt in 1988, when her husband was found to have Parkinson's disease. Her insurance would not cover the \$300 a month in drugs he needed, so she used her Visa account. Over six years, the couple ran up a debt of \$16,000, using their combined Social Security checks to make the required monthly minimum payments. When her husband died in February 1996, Irene filed for bankruptcy protection. "I don't like the idea," she said. "But I had reached a point where we weren't even able to make the minimum payment."

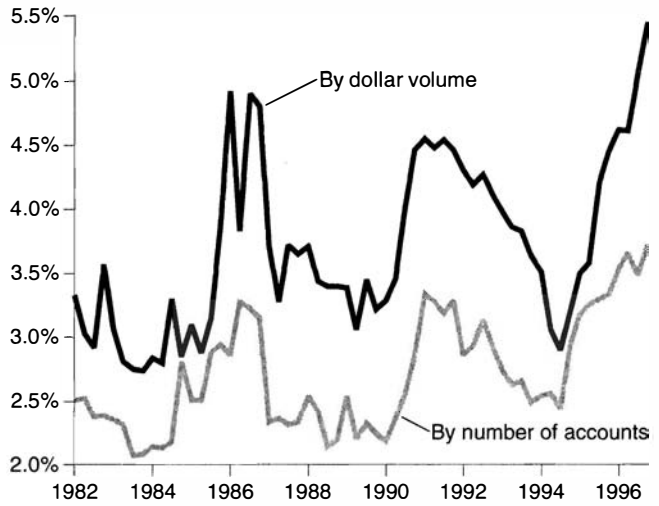
The *Times* listed cases of those who lined up before a bankruptcy court in Newark, New Jersey one morning: "A doctor hit by the plummeting value of his \$300,000 home. A salesman who plunged into debt when his company took away the commissions. A man who could not pay his taxes after his divorce. A young woman . . . whose long struggle with the disorder lupus bankrupted first her parents and now her."

Jonathan Kohn, a bankruptcy trustee who represents the bankruptcy court in Newark, reported, "Downsizing is the current theme here. People who have been let go from good-paying jobs have to settle for jobs paying much less. They start using their credit cards to meet ordinary living expenses."

There are millions of Americans who are scraping by to make medical payments, especially for copayments or medications which their managed-care medical insurer won't

FIGURE 11

Rising rate of credit card delinquencies, 1982-96



Source: American Bankers Association, March 13, 1997, "Consumer Delinquency Bulletin."

cover, by using their credit cards. There are millions of persons who lost their jobs, and who, unable to survive on their combined unemployment insurance and spouse's income, charge household expenses on four, five, even as many as 10 different credit cards. According to one financial journal, in some sections of the Washington, D.C. area, \$1 out of every \$7 charged on a credit card is for the purchase of food at the grocery store. Of course, for some people such charges are conveniences, but for others, it is the only way to afford the monthly food bill.

The credit card crisis has reached the very poor. Nearly one in every three families whose household income is below \$10,000 now has credit card obligations that exceed 40% of its income, reports David Wyss, an analyst for DRI/McGraw Hill.

But the evidence of the dire economic straits that cause a majority of the household bankruptcy filings can be gleaned even from the bankruptcy court records themselves. The Credit Research Center at Purdue University released a survey of personal bankruptcies for 13 cities. It found that the average annual after-tax income of Chapter 7 bankrupts (the most common) was \$19,800, while these bankrupts held credit card debts averaging \$17,544. An after-tax income of \$19,800 does not represent an upper-income scam artist. It is barely enough for one person to live on, and for two, three, or more people to survive on such an income is difficult, if not impossible.

The point is further confirmed. In a recent study, Visa

International reported that whereas in 1988, the average household filing for bankruptcy had debt that was 3.5 times its income, in 1997, the debt had risen to 5.3 times its income. Thus, the debt-to-income ratio rose 50% for those filing for bankruptcy. In real terms, it was the debt level, not the income, that did the rising.

The 'subprime' market

But even after a household has fallen into bankruptcy, the City of London and Wall Street financiers will resign it as a customer, but now at interest rates that could go to twice as high as before.

This is the "subprime" market, a kind of "junk bond"-rated market for households. Duff and Phelps, a credit-rating agency based in Chicago, rates customers who are prospective borrowers, on the basis of A through D. An A customer has a good credit rating; B through D are subprime. A B-rated prospective customer is someone who *may have experienced bankruptcy within the last three years*. A D-rated prospective customer, is someone who may have experienced bankruptcy within the last 12 months.

The subprime market has exploded in size: Billboards across America and late-night television advertisements trumpet their wares. Its stunning growth signifies two developments: first, how desperate households are to obtain credit, at whatever cost. Most subprime borrowings are for car or

home purchases, or hospital bills. Most frequently, a customer does not enter the subprime market just to get an extra pair of Gucci shoes, not when it will cost him or her a 20 to 35% interest rate charge (there are exceptions). Second, it signals how shaky and close to implosion the consumer debt bubble is. On top of the highest level of credit card delinquencies and defaults in history, financial institutions are making loans to people who have been through bankruptcy once, or even multiple times, or who have impaired credit ratings, which makes lending to them risky.

The nature of the \$4.875 trillion household debt bubble is that the bankers must feed it with new lending, bringing in temporary (and fictitious) earnings, just to keep the bubble aloft. This has increased the risk factor of the bubble many times over.

Subprime lending is most advanced in auto. At the start of the 1980s, its size was minuscule. By the end of 1996, subprime auto loans were approximately \$70 billion outstanding. This represents 18.5% of the nation's \$378 billion outstanding auto loans. Moreover, in 1995, it represented 21% of new auto loans, and has even extended to the car leasing market. In 1995, of all new auto leases, 14% were in the subprime market. When it comes to used cars, the ratio is higher: In 1995, of the vehicles sold from used-car lots, 52.8% carried subprime loans. (Some of these subprime loans are bundled together, and bonds are issued against them—a process called securitization—which are then hawked to the financial markets.)

The volume of subprime housing loans is estimated to be \$50-120 billion. This is still less than 3% of the total volume of all home mortgages in America, but the growth of this subprime part of the market is brisk.

As for the credit card market, a number of leading banks compete to offer credit cards to subprime customers—but at a price. A financial analyst explained how it works. For a customer, coming out of bankruptcy, to get a new \$2,000 subprime line of credit-card credit, he will be asked to put \$500 to \$1,000 on deposit in a savings account at the bank or financial institution issuing him the subprime credit card. He will also be told to pay a \$25 annual fee. The interest charge on his new credit card will be 20 to 30%. But a percentage of the money that the bank lends him on the new credit card, is money that the subprime customer deposited in a savings account at the bank, as a condition for the loan, but on which he is only earning about 3% interest. Assume the customer draws out \$500 on his new credit line—this is not new money, he already put that money in the bank; but, he will now have to pay 20 to 30% interest on the \$500. When all the different features are added together, the subprime customer could be paying an effective interest rate of 30-35%.

There are some who think that this rate is not high enough. Robert Johnson, the founder of the Center for Consumer Research at Purdue University, told *EIR* on May 2 that the inter-

Credit card issuers wage terror campaign to collect

Banks and other issuers of credit cards are resorting to terror campaigns to collect their debt. For example, the Sears Roebuck retail firm, which issues a store credit card, is sending out letters to customers to pay off their Sears cards, even if the customers have already declared bankruptcy. It is not legal to ask a Chapter 7 bankrupt to pay off his old debt.

Sears sends out a "reaffirmation letter" to the bankrupt customer, which declares the Sears debt to be "non-dischargeable." Sears threatens to prosecute customers with credit card fraud if they refuse to sign the letter.

A federal bankruptcy judge in Boston ruled in November 1995, and then again in February 1996, that Sears's method of collecting debt from bankrupts was illegal. Until recently, Sears continued the practice. Similar practices, which are legally a little more refined, are routinely engaged in by other credit-card-issuing financial institutions.

est ceiling (that is, the usury ceiling) for credit card interest charges in Indiana, is 36% for the first \$700 loaned, and then 18% thereafter. Johnson, who is a free-enterprise deregulator, is seeking to have all state interest ceilings eliminated. Johnson stated, "By not allowing a financial institution to charge what it wants, it may force a financial institution to choose not to make a loan to a prospective customer, and then that customer will have to go to a loan shark." If a 36% interest charge is not loan-sharking then what is? Johnson explained, "In Texas, there are places that will make you loans for a few hundred dollars at a 165% interest rate. It's legal." According to Johnson, borrowers who are ignorant or who don't have a credit rating, and are desperate for money, will go to such loan houses.

The reason that banks are attracted to credit card lending is the gigantic interest rates they can charge. Even the "average," plain vanilla credit card interest currently charges 15.9% (this is the blended rate, including the introductory 5.9% rates that banks charge to get you to transfer your account to them). By contrast, the cost of the bank's funds—what it will have to pay to attract money on either a savings account or a CD—runs, at most, 7%, and usually is less than 5%.

The increased number of household bankruptcy filings has led to increased charge-offs. Visa and MasterCard claim that there were \$8 billion in credit card charge-offs last year.

Stephen Brobeck pointed out in Congressional testimony in February that if the banks really believed that they were being taken advantage of by unscrupulous customers who file for bankruptcy at the drop of a hat, the banks could tighten their eligibility requirements, and restrict the amount of credit they extend. While this has happened on a small scale, the larger reality is that in 1996, banks and related financial institutions mailed out 2.5 billion credit card applications. This comes out to 25 per household. A household would be receiving an application every other week.

Crossing the line

The household/consumer credit bubble is on the verge of popping. It was inevitable that the record levels of personal bankruptcy filings and credit card delinquencies would make themselves felt in the credit card sector itself. During the past two years, in particular since the beginning of 1997, banks and financial institutions that engaged in the credit card business, have experienced an increasing density of large-scale failures, some of which have led to bankruptcy filings.

Perhaps the biggest failure—it has not been declared a bankruptcy, lest there be panic—is Advanta Corp. of Spring House, Pennsylvania. Advanta built itself into America's eighth-largest credit card issuer, with a credit card loan portfolio of \$12.4 billion. In the process, it became a poster boy for the credit card sector. Advanta developed a "fail-safe scheme" to seek out more affluent customers, offering "gold cards" with greater credit limits. According to the March 18 *New*

York Times, "The company . . . developed complex computer models intended to sift millions of tidbits of information about prospective customers to find those it believed would run up big balances while still being able to repay them." It offered a 5.9% introductory interest rate, for new customers to shift their balances from other credit cards charging higher interest rates, to Advanta. But after the introductory period, when Advanta attempted to shift these new customers to a 15% interest rate, the customers either shifted their balances to another credit card company, offering a low introductory rate, or fell behind on their balances and defaulted. Advanta could not sign up enough new customers to cover its surging losses on new and existing balances.

Advanta announced first-quarter 1997 losses of \$20 million. But the shocker came when Advanta announced that it was taking gigantic charge-offs of \$820-860 million on its \$12.4 billion credit card loan portfolio, an amount equal to 6.6-7% of its entire portfolio, in just one quarter. The financial press is filled with stories of attempts to find a company that Advanta could be merged with to prevent its bankruptcy filing.

Two years ago, Mellon Bank and Mercantile Bancorporation chalked up "unexpected losses" from their credit card operations. Today, Dean Witter, Discover, First Chicago NBD, and Banc One, all credit card sector leaders, are experiencing escalating losses. Banc One had to take the extraordinary step of bailing out bonds backed by its credit card loans, because losses were higher than investors in the bonds expected.

The burgeoning, and credit-risky subprime market is suffering casualties. On Feb. 6, the Dallas-based Jayhawk Acceptance Corp., a large player in the auto subprime market specializing in used-car loans, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. During the last week of January, Mercury Finance Corp., the giant in the auto subprime lending market with \$1.5 billion in loans and 300 branch offices, announced that it was taking a \$100 million write-off. While analysts pointed to internal fraud (alleged padding of figures), the real culprit is the weakness of the subprime market. Mercury's stock has since plunged more than 80%; potential investors are being sought to purchase part or all of Mercury's operations to prevent a catastrophe in the subprime market.

The conditions for meltdown are ripe. The household debt market, at \$4.875 trillion, is so huge, that a failure of even a significant part of it could bring on a worldwide systemic financial collapse. The underlying problem is the same as that producing the record rate of household bankruptcies: the pyramiding of a growing debt load upon a shrinking household living standard, in the context of a collapsing economy.

In this environment, to attempt to stem the tide of financial disintegration, the financiers may proclaim that the economy is doing fine, and put the blame on "profligate consumers." But it is time to face reality.

Business Briefs

Economic Policy

D-8 working groups map out projects

On May 2-3, the first meeting of the industrial working group of the Developing 8 (D-8) group of nations took place in Ankara, Turkey, to identify industrial projects for joint investment, the Iranian daily *Ettela'at* reported on May 5. Turkey, which is chairing the working group, proposed 30 projects, of which the three leading ones were: a D-8 automobile manufacturing capability, to produce 2-5 million cars per year; an airplane production capability, to produce 150-seater planes; and, a textile machine production capability, to overcome the trade gap between textile goods exports and machinery imports.

Iran proposed 12 projects, including manufacture of passenger aircraft and locomotives, and projects in the auto industry, electronics, and small and medium-sized industries. The Iranian envoy to the meeting, Mohammed Sardarnia, told the press that the first automobile manufactured entirely by Iran would be on the assembly line in 1999. He also said that Iran had begun manufacture of a 50-seater plane, and was studying production of larger aircraft.

Turkish Minister of State Abdallug Gul said that the D-8 was not trying to create a new Muslim bloc, but rather was exploring means of cooperation among members in new areas. Sedat Celik-Doghan, adviser to Turkey's Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, said that Turkey would present 30 projects for joint investment.

The working group on telecommunications and information, chaired by Iran, will meet in Teheran on May 6.

Infrastructure

Indian officials pan high interest rates

The Indian Parliamentary standing committee on finance expressed concern that the continuing high rate of interest being

charged by public sector banks could adversely affect the start of infrastructure projects in the country, in a report released in early May. "The key issue for industry is whether any projects, especially infrastructure projects, will be viable at such high real interest rates," the committee said, as reported in the *Business Standard* of New Delhi on May 8.

The committee warned that despite the support provided by the slack season credit policy, the high interest rates would harm domestic industry's prospects of becoming globally competitive. Although most of the banks have fixed their prime lending rates at 14-14.5% annually, their effective interest rates remain in the range of 16-17%, the committee members observed.

"The committee doubts whether any of the public sector banks extend loans to even the best-rated corporations at their prime lending rates," said the report. Factors considered by banks in setting interest rates on loans and advances include productivity and efficiency, the average sales per employee, and the level of non-performing assets in a particular firm.

Germany

400,000 construction jobs are threatened

The general collapse of new contracts, and especially the disappearance of public sector contracts for housing and infrastructure projects, as well as the decrease of commercial and industrial construction projects by about 25% during the first quarter of 1997, mean that of the 1.3 million construction workers in Germany, at least 400,000 are certain to lose their jobs, Fritz Eichbauer, president of the German association of construction firms, warned in a report on May 8.

Worse, the European Union's Maastricht policy will deregulate the markets and lead to a stream of foreign construction firms that undercut prices, coming into the German construction market, Eichbauer said.

Meanwhile, a report prepared by Hanover's Pestel Institute (named after the late Club of Rome co-founder Eduard Pestel), for

the state government of Thuringia, insanely claims that a drop in population growth reduces the need for new construction projects. By the year 2000, there will be 10% fewer citizens in Thuringia than in 1988, and far fewer young people, so that there is a reduced need for housing and schools, the report says. Construction of new homes could be reduced from 20,000 per year to 7,000, which, along with other reductions, for example, in department stores and office buildings, would imply significant relief for the state budget, if coupled with a better distribution of unused housing, the authors of the report say.

The same argument is also made in a recent study by the Berlin-based IGES group. In a report on the health sector of the state of Rhineland-Palatinate, it proposes to close down 15% of the state's hospital capacity. In pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology, reductions could exceed 25%, it said, eliminating 3,900 of 28,000 hospital beds in the next five years.

Finance

Italian economist attacks globalization

In a new book, *Unemployment and the Third Capitalism*, economist Paolo Savona, former industry minister in Italy's Silvio Berlusconi government, attacks globalization as a dictatorship which gives power to financial oligarchies, takes sovereignty over monetary policy away from nations, produces unemployment, and destroys the social fabric of a nation.

"A new form of democracy (but I doubt that democracy is the right word to define it) is emerging, in which policies are not proposed by governments and decided by parliaments, but proposed and not infrequently decided by financial markets, above all the international financial market," Savona writes. This dictatorship, he says, is composed of "those who possess, or more simply can move, huge masses of money from one place to another, exploiting market liberalization, globalization, information systems, and the abdication by monetary authorities

to control those masses of paper. . . . It is an economic-financial oligarchy, that is, a limited number of persons in relationship to the inhabitants of a country or of the world. . . . Markets today count for more than parliaments, never mind the 'man in the street.' . . . It is the international financial market which has monetary sovereignty."

Savona reports on an initiative for a new international monetary order. "The Guido Carli Association, recently founded by the Italian Senate, the Banca d'Italia, Confindustria [industrialists' association], LUISS university, and Mediocredito Centrale bank, and chaired by [Banca d'Italia] Governor Fazio, wants to propose anew the issue of a functioning international monetary system." Savona says that "the fight can be won, however, not at the level of a single country, but rather through an international agreement. . . . The responsibility still rests upon those authorities which count: the United States and Germany, first of all, but Japan as well."

Trade

China, Iran improve economic cooperation

Economic cooperation between China and Iran was strengthened during the visit to Iran of China's Vice Premier Li Lanqin, for a meeting of the Ninth Sino-Iranian Economic Cooperation Commission, beginning on May 3. He was accompanied by a 60-member delegation of economic and policy advisers.

"Iran, China, and Russia are three important and strategic states in the region and the world, and they should strengthen their relations," said Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, during his reception of Li Lanqin on May 4. He added, "Iran, China, and Russia have major economic, political, and industrial and trade potentials, and the trilateral cooperation among them can meet their needs and contribute to the development of regional cooperation." He emphasized that cooperation between Teheran and Beijing "promotes peace and stability in the region."

The two sides signed a far-reaching economic agreement to complete several joint projects in Iran, including a cement factory, and on the transfer of satellite communications technology. They also agreed to increase cooperation in shipbuilding, fisheries, and transport. Iran will boost its oil exports to China by 43%, to 100,000 barrels per day, over the next two years. China's current investment in industrial and infrastructure projects in Iran stands at \$1.3 billion.

Eurasia

Italy improves economic ties with Kazakhstan

Italy's President Luigi Scalfaro discussed expanding economic cooperation with Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev, during a visit to Almaty, the capital of Kazakhstan, the Italian daily *Sole 24 Ore* reported on May 6. Scalfaro was accompanied by Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Piero Fassino, and Guglielmo Moscato, the president of AGIP, the state-run oil company.

Italy's presence in Kazakhstan, through AGIP, includes work on the huge field of Karachaganak (oil and condensed gas); participation in a consortium to build a pipeline from the Caspian Sea to the Black Sea, capable of transporting 60 million tons per year; and exploration of the Kazakh offshore area of the Caspian Sea. Italy is Kazakhstan's seventh largest trade partner, and second in the European Union.

In addition to economic cooperation deals, Scalfaro signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation, the first of its kind in the region, which provides for regular political consultations over 15 years. Scalfaro said that he and Nazarbayev had found they shared "a largely identical evaluation" of the main international problems. The treaty also covers joint work in the fight against terrorism and drugs.

It should be recalled that Enrico Mattei, the founder of ENI-AGIP, had a vision of such cooperation throughout the Mediterranean and in the East. ENI has designed a huge project for development of gas and oil capabilities in Central Asia.

Briefly

MYANMAR and China have agreed to build a new channel along the Irrawaddy River, which is expected to speed development in the Chinese provinces of Sichuan, Guizhou, and Yunnan. Kunming, the capital of Yunnan, will have direct access to the Indian Ocean, thus avoiding the Malacca Straits, Xinhua news agency reported on May 6.

ROMANIA'S farmers are staging protests against the International Monetary Fund-dictated program, including lowering of import tariffs. Agriculture Minister Dinu Gavrilescu has said that a growing portion of consumption of meat, milk, and milk products is to be covered by foreign imports.

INDONESIAN President Suharto praised full-set industrial development, at the inauguration of a new Pure Terephthalic Acid plant built by Texmaco. The firm, he said, is aiming for "vertical integration . . . which also lays the groundwork for a national industrial base."

A NEW MEKONG "economic circle" was discussed by the foreign ministers of Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar on April 20. The proposal is distinct from Mekong development plans, and emphasizes rail and road routes reconnecting the ancient trade routes of the region of 260 million people, also to include Vietnam and Yunnan province, China.

A GAS PIPELINE which will deliver gas from Turkmenistan to Pakistan, has been agreed to by all Afghanistan factions, the managing director of Bidas, the Argentine firm which proposed the project, said in Kabul on May 4.

NIGERIA has awarded a \$23 million contract to a French company to install modern instrument landing systems at its 19 airports. Aviation Minister Air Commodore Ita Udo-Imeh said, "We have also awarded a contract for the survey of our entire airspace for radar coverage."

Africa needs peace through development

by Linda de Hoyos

EIR presents here a selection of speeches from the April 26-27 conference held in Walluf, Germany, on Peace through Development in the Great Lakes Region. The conference was sponsored by *EIR*, the Forum for Peace and Democracy (Bonn), and the Schiller Institute of Lyndon and Helga LaRouche.

The conference was unique in that all participants were committed to the proposition that any reconciliation process in the Great Lakes region must be based on the rejection of the conditionalities policies of the International Monetary Fund, which has played such a subversive role in priming the economies of the region for the conflagration that erupted in 1994. This thesis was poignantly developed by Jean Gahururu, of the Forum for Freedom and Democracy in Rwanda, in his paper "Rwanda: Peace through Development and Regional Integration," delivered to the conference on April 27. Conversely, conference participants such as Nkiko Nsejimana of Rwanda, whose speech is printed below, also concurred that peace must be based on actual economic development, which begins to give relief and hope to the population.

The truth is told

Second, the conference uniquely served as a forum in which the African patriots of Rwanda, Burundi, and Uganda were able to tell their story—the story that has been thoroughly blacked out of the Western press. In most cases, the African speakers present have all met with personal tragedy in the wars that have engulfed their region, and watched with extreme anguish as thousands of their people have died by starvation, disease, or direct killing in eastern Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi, and Uganda. This is the subject of the report printed here by François Nzabahimana, president of the Rally for the Return of Democracy and Refugees (RDR).

The conference also heard how, even though facing the extreme hostility of the international community and a murderous military, citizens of Burundi took responsibility to wage their fight for democracy in Burundi, against the Uganda-



Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. addresses the conference in Walluf, Germany, on April 26.

backed mono-Tutsi military regime that has a record of mass murder during its 32 years in power. This story is highlighted by the speeches of William Munyen Babazi, secretary general of the Burundi National Council for the Defense of Democracy, and Perpetue Nshimirimana, Burundi's former ambassador to the United Nations.

These are the reports that the reader will be unable to find in any other published location. These are the stories that have been buried with the murdered Presidents of Burundi and Rwanda, and with the hundreds of thousands who followed them in death. These are the stories that have been buried under an avalanche of propaganda extolling the virtues of British warlord Yoweri Museveni of Uganda as the "new leader of Africa," or the Museveni-run mercenary Laurent Kabila as the "liberator of Zaire."

Therefore, in the first instance, the conference brings into the light of day *the truth* of the horrific events that have unfolded in the the Great Lakes region since the British-ordered invasion of Rwanda from Museveni's Uganda in 1990.

Strategy against evil

The question—how can we defeat the British imperial plot that has destroyed the Great Lakes region—was the uppermost issue on everyone's minds. On this issue, the conference was a dialogue particularly between American statesman Lyndon LaRouche and the participants, as LaRouche's speech called upon everyone "to forget that you are African for a moment," and "come up to the mountaintop" to view the

situation globally and see it from the standpoint of the last 500 years of human history, and an impending collapse of human civilization. And from this standpoint, LaRouche proved, the fight against the British empire in Africa is an action that can change the world, becoming the pivot of the world strategic crisis—especially through forcing intervention on the part of the United States and its President.

This challenge posed in the early part of the conference was accepted by most participants, who further expressed their appreciation that LaRouche had raised the conflict in Africa to a global strategic plane. This process acted to strengthen all participants, including those of the hosting organizations, and led to discussions of the requirements of moral and emotional stamina required for victory.

Lastly, the conference was, in the words of one Zairean participant, "a kind of university," in which the philosophies and methods of British imperialism and social control were examined, as in the speeches of Helga LaRouche, Dennis Speed of the Schiller Institute, and Godfrey Binasia, former President of Uganda, calling upon all present to become self-conscious of the insidious effectiveness of these methods, and to arm themselves with a scientific method that will effectively counter it. After hearing the call for an African Civil Rights Movement read by Binaisa, the conference participants decided that this seminar would be only the first, with more such forums to be organized in cities in Europe and the United States. *EIR* will be publishing the full proceedings of the conference in a special report to be released soon.

Viewing Africa's current crisis from the vantage point of universal history

This speech was given on April 26, at the Schiller Institute conference on "Peace Through Development in Africa's Great Lakes Region."

Although I am . . . involved in many of the topics which will be discussed today, I thought it more appropriate that I address the one topic which no one else would address, which is the situation in the world, which defines the situation in Africa.

Now, I ask you to step out of being Africans for a moment, and go up to the top of a mountain, where you can see in the distance both the breadth of this planet's population, and also, see into its past, several hundred years. And, look at the situation that we're in; look down on this planet on which you happen to live, but stay on the mountaintop for awhile, and say: What is going on—around the whole world?

Let's look at Africa, and its development, and its pain of today, in terms of what is happening around the world. And what you see is, this planetary civilization is *disintegrating!* We're on the verge, in the process actually, of the greatest financial collapse, globally, in all human history. We're at the point that the monetary systems of every country, with possibly the exception of China, can disintegrate on a given morning. That is, we could have a chain reaction in financial speculation, which, within 48 to 72 hours, can annihilate every currency, every bank on this planet, simply because everything freezes; money is no longer negotiable, because of the collapse. That can happen.

You look in the United States, over the past 30 years—again, stretch back into the past. Look at the standard of living in the United States for a typical family, and look at the contribution to that standard of living represented by the income of one working member of that family, 30 years ago. Now, look today at a comparable family. The standard of living in consumption, physical consumption, is *half*. The quality of medical care available is also about half. The educational level, I would say—maybe I exaggerate, but I don't think so—is about zero what it was years ago. The graduate of a university in the United States today is almost a different, inferior species to what they were—and they were pretty bad, 30 years ago. As a matter of fact, they've almost achieved the nadir achieved by royalty in Britain.

Look at the condition of Europe. Go through the list in

Germany, or France, or Italy, of the great industries which once existed. Look at the great banks. Pick up a newspaper in Zurich about the condition of the Swiss banks. Look at the mighty Japan. Pick up a newspaper, and look at the mighty Japan. We see all across this planet, a disintegration of civilization. Look in the former Soviet Union. Look in the Middle East. We have a dying civilization. Then, look at Africa, where Prince Philip, in 1961, committed himself to defend the beast, and said he were one, in his plurality. As a matter of fact, he moved to try to defend his putative relatives, the gorillas of Rwanda—that's his conception of man, I think. Look at these conditions today. You say, this is the end.

Now, what does this mean? Before we go back to Africa as such, what does this mean about this civilization, in which Africa is locked?

What is Man?

Now, what is man? Man is not, contrary to Prince Philip, an ape. He could be an ape if he chooses to be; we'll find a zoo for him. But man is not by nature an ape. Because human beings, if they were apes, or like great apes, would never have exceeded several million people, in numbers upon this planet, during the past 2 million years of conditions of life. An ape-like man could not achieve a higher level of population, on this planet, at any time, during the past 2 million years, in excess of several million individuals. But man, by the end of the Fourteenth Century in Europe, populated this planet with several hundred million—approximately the level it had been during the time of the Roman Empire. And, since the Fifteenth Century, the population of the planet has increased to over 5 billion people. And generally, until the middle of the 1960s, there was a general improvement in the life expectancy and conditions of life of people.

As you know, in Africa itself—just to glimpse back at Africa for one moment, what is happening in Central Africa, in respect to life expectancy—even without this genocide, the life expectancy is dropping. Diseases which had been half-conquered, are now returning, deadly diseases. Lassa fever is spreading; ebola is spreading; the HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus, is rampant, killing off populations. Famine conditions, nutritional conditions exist, which are lowering, actuarially, the life expectancies of people throughout Africa.

But then, look at Africa again, look at the planet. Look at it over the past 400-500 years. And, look at it over the past 30 years.

During the past 30 years, we have seen a descent from a world civilization which was increasing the power of the individual, increasing life expectancy, increasing standard of living, increasing productivity, improving the environment—in fact, by cleaning up some messes we used to make—and, over the past 30 years, everything has become worse. Now, why did everything become worse? Was it an act of God? Did the Hale-Bopp comet drop disaster upon this planet? Or, was it the will of man, that brought about mankind's own destruction, the destruction of this civilization?

Mankind is not an animal; we are not a creature of habit ingrained in us biologically. We are a creature of *mind*. Hence, we are in the image of God. We have the power to exert dominion in the universe. We have the power to increase man's power *over* the universe; to change the conditions in the universe, so that we may increase in number, so that our life expectancy may be increased, our health improved, and above all, the development of our minds advanced. And by these means, everything good that man has accomplished has been accomplished. When something goes wrong with mankind, very rarely does anything bad happen, which mankind did not bring upon itself.

How does mankind live, in relationship to the universe? By ideas. Language was not dropped upon us; it was developed. A whole series of discoveries, which are reflected in the evolution of languages, which we acquire from our parents, and so forth, and so on. They are inventions.

For example, here in Germany, there was a kind of civilization, we now know, in the Hartz Mountain region, about 500,000 years ago. Someone in a Hartz mine, digging in there, found a site which dated from about 500,000 B.C. In this site, they discovered artifacts of human existence, including a throwing spear made of hardwood, perfectly balanced, as the one-third length throwing spear. And other signs of civilized life. Now, this is actually two glacial ages before this time. But from all these ancient ages which are lost in the mist, beyond what we know about the past 6-7,000 years of human existence, this is all we know about history and pre-history generally, except a few odd bits, here and there.

Storehouse of ideas

All these thousands of years, and hundreds of thousands of years, before, our predecessors were generating discoveries, which were transmitted and re-experienced by their children. These discoveries include language, and all these other things. These discoveries, we can call *ideas*. Mankind is a creature of ideas. Mankind has had many crises; many societies have failed, because they lacked an idea which was necessary to deal with their mistakes. And other societies have arisen which discovered the idea, which solved that mistake, and so, mankind went through a crisis, and then came out of it again

someplace else. And this storehouse of ideas, of all human achievement, is now embodied in people from various parts of this planet, and is the common stock and property of us all. The common contribution of all ancestors of all humanity, of those proven and valid ideas.

That's how we exist. We don't exist because we were born yesterday, and went out and conquered the planet, and did something wonderful. We exist because our predecessors developed and practiced ideas, which were given to us as a heritage at the time we were born. And if we had education, we had more of these ideas. Therefore, when civilization generally collapses, one should not look in any particular part of it, to find the cause of the collapse. The disease of disintegration is nearly everywhere.

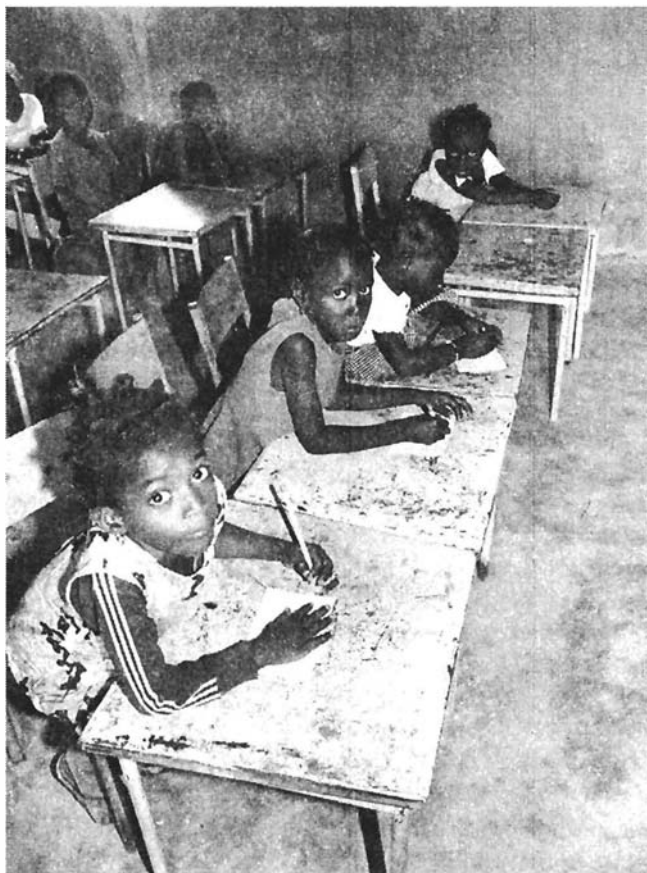
But how does this happen? How do people rule themselves? By their minds, by their ideas, their opinions, their practice. Which means, there is something wrong in the head of mankind. Something has gone terribly wrong, that was not as terribly wrong 30 years ago. But the fact that we accepted bad ideas 30 years ago, approximately, was made possible because there were defects in the world civilization existing previously, which allowed this to occur. What we're looking at is a crisis of civilization, in which then, one can understand Africa. Because the crisis of civilization, the collapse of civilization, has closed in upon and struck Africa.

Where do we stand today?

The clock is nearly at midnight. I don't know what day, exactly, or what month, or what week this system will collapse, *but it will be soon*. It will not be ten years from now, it will not be five years from now, it will be soon. The collapse will occur—if he's still living, if they haven't shot him—while President Clinton, of the United States, is still President. It will occur soon. Nothing can save the financial system. Nothing can save the IMF, and what it represents today. Nothing. It's impossible! It's self-destructing. It's the *Titanic*, which is already holed, it is going under the water. Nothing can save it. It will never float again. And if humanity doesn't get off the *Titanic*, they'll go down with it. You can't save this civilization.

We've seen things like this earlier in history. We call it the brink of a Dark Age. Africa has seen a number of dark ages, where civilizations existed, then some catastrophe has occurred, and the whole culture collapsed. Mass death. Collapse of life expectancy. Virtual extinction of whole parts of the culture. We're now seeing this on a planetary basis.

As a result of the changes in technology and ideas, which occurred in the past 500 years, radiating from Europe, the population of this planet increased from over several hundred million, which had been the highest level achieved since the time of the Roman Empire, to 5 billion, in about 500 years. The greatest rate of increase and improvement in the demographic characteristics of human existence in all known, or assumed, or inferable existence of mankind. The existence of a population of present characteristics, say of 1965-66; pres-



Schoolchildren in Mali. It is a function of the nation-state to provide universal education, and the improved conditions of life on which a growing population depends.

ent family, demographic, population characteristics, education, culture, productive power, is a result of this accumulation of institutions associated with the modern nation-state economy.

It was the state development of infrastructure, the state promotion of public education, the increases in the universality and scope of education, first to the development in the Nineteenth Century of the universal secondary school, which did not exist prior to the Nineteenth Century, as in Germany and the United States and elsewhere. Then, the development of access to university education, in the late Nineteenth Century and the Twentieth Century. The general idea of the right of access to a university education, did not exist in the United States until the end of World War II, when it was first established by the so-called GI Bill of Rights, which allowed any veteran who was qualified, to be supported in a university education. It never existed before.

Responsibility of the nation-state

But it is this body of ideas, this education, this improved condition of life, on which this population level depends. And,

without the nation-state, that doesn't exist. Global society doesn't exist. It is the responsibility of the nation-state to take care of *all* of the territory, and *all* of the people; to provide education to all of the people. These are the conditions which we know, from this experience, on which the whole population potential of this planet depends. And without the nation-state, this is not done.

The responsibility of government, is to rule over the economy; not to privatize it. Private initiative, yes, in creation, in production, in various ways; but you must create the conditions for that initiative. Without railroads, without roads, without power, without water management, without education, without regulation and protection, this is not possible. Therefore, if you destroy the institution of the nation-state, what happens to the population level?

We now have artificial conditions of famine on this planet—that is, imposed by policy, by the IMF, World Bank, and other institutions, which have created an artificial food shortage. Africa could *more* than feed itself, with its existing land, if it had nation-states and development. No problem. But what has happened? A collapse of the possibility of human existence, means a reduction in population. It means a reduction, very rapidly, to a potential about 20% of what it is today. This means that the human population will be collapsing, over a period of about two generations, in the direction of the levels of demographic characteristics, the levels of total population, of the Fourteenth Century: several hundred million people on the planet as a whole, within less than two generations.

You see that going on in Africa, right now.

In Zaire, for example. Zaire was disintegrating, by orders given by the IMF and others to Mobutu. No army, no central administration, no nothing. Keep your little preserve. And let the country disintegrate, fall apart. Let the diamond dealers, the diamond concessions, the metal concessions, the gold concessions, the oil concessions *take it over, piece by piece*. Set up certain enclaves: Set up gold mine enclaves, diamond mine enclaves, zinc enclaves, copper enclaves. Guard these enclaves with mercenaries! Not government, but mercenaries.

And the rest of the territory around, except for one exception, is *terra incognita*—no man's land, where bands of wild people prey upon each other. With one exception: You have this nice mountain area, around Lake Victoria, the highlands, where Europeans would like to settle. Unfortunately, this nice land is overcrowded by Africans, who can be eliminated, to make way for nice houses for the Europeans, who move in to make their headquarters, from which they operate the mines in northeast Zaire (our friend from Lado has a different opinion about who owns that area), or, from Kivu and from Shaba, and so on.

So, this is the chaos, this is the new Dark Age, like the end of the Roman Empire in western Europe, or the collapse in the middle of the Fourteenth Century, the banking collapse.



An Ethiopian woman carries water during the drought of 1986. "The responsibility of government, is to rule over the economy; not to privatize it," LaRouche says. "Private initiative, yes, in creation, in production, in various ways; but you must create the conditions for that initiative. Without railroads, without roads, without power, without water management, without education, without regulation and protection, this is not possible."

And we see in Africa, a collapse of civilization, which is a warning sign of what will happen to this entire planet, unless we rid ourselves of those institutional ideas which are responsible for the global collapse which is visible throughout the planet, in large part, over the past 30 years.

China has greatly improved

The only part of this planet, in which this has been significantly reversed, for special reasons, is under the leadership, in the past 15 or so years, of the recently deceased Deng Xiaoping, in China. China has greatly improved, with many contradictions involved, but has greatly improved its conditions. It is the only part of this planet which has seen a significant improvement of conditions during any part of the last 30 years, coming out of the "Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution" nightmare, which was going on earlier in China.

The rest of this planet is a disaster, and the disaster lies in the ideas in the heads of influential people, and the toleration of those ideas by the general population. Just think: How many people defend neo-Malthusian ideas today? How many people say the elephants are more important than the people? The gorillas are more important than the people? That's an *idea*.

So, you kill the people, even to protect an insignificant bacterium. This has come to that point! Somebody discovers a bacterium, or a microscopic organism, of a specific species, and says it's endangered. Or some kind of insect—a variety of insect, not even a species, just a different coloration—that

becomes an "endangered species." What is done to human beings, to protect that species, in the name of protecting that species? That's an idea, one of the immoralities.

Who says that nuclear energy is bad? That was not thought 30 years ago, and it was *not* bad. Like anything else, you should use it properly, you should know how to handle it. You shouldn't give it to people like members of the British royal family, who are incompetent to handle these things. But Africa needs it desperately! Without the energy density which only nuclear plants can supply, you cannot supply the level of energy density required to meet the requirements of the African population, that is, to maintain an African equivalent of a European standard of living and demographics.

Everything else, the same thing. Free trade: destroy the right of a nation to protect itself, protect its economy. For example, take any African country. You want to set up an industry? So, the government decides to protect a certain industry, or a certain kind of agriculture. So, the government sets up trade and tariff agreements—or used to—to make it possible for that kind of agriculture, that kind of industry, to develop in that country. And you would supply protection against foreign competition, for that industry, in order to build it up, because without it, you lag.

What happened to that? No. *Global society*, the unimpeded global spread of disintegration of the economy. People go into one country after another, setting up slave labor shops, in the name of "out-sourcing," and then they move on, to another place, where the labor is cheaper. This slave labor

shop actually works people at slave labor conditions. What happens when people work under slave labor conditions? They become sick, they become diseased; all the population around them collapses, the culture collapses.

Those are the conditions we're facing. With bad ideas.

Now, we come, when you talk about ideas, you say, now, what, how does mankind, how is mankind forced to develop new ideas? When man *does* develop new ideas.

Well, we run along with, we believe certain things; we act on those beliefs. Then we come to a point where something happens, and our system doesn't seem to work any more. The

The Africans are being eliminated by methods a little more sophisticated than Hitler used, but just as effective: strife, famine, disease, IMF conditionalities, World Bank conditionalities, agents, compradors, new Genghis Khans like Museveni, turned loose—barbarians—turned loose upon the land, to depopulate Africa.

very mind with which we believed that the old ideas were proven and valid, comes up against a fact that the same mind recognizes, a fact which shows the old system doesn't work. This is called a *paradox*; because with the same mind, we see on the one side that we believe this to be true—our tradition—then, with the same mind, with the same ability, we say, "This is also true."

But the two can't live in the same universe.

This is a paradox. And, then the mind is forced to use the creative power of the human mind, which only the human mind has, to develop a new discovery of principle, and to act upon that to solve these problems.

This system is coming to an end

Humanity is coming to such a point. The system of free trade, the system of Malthusianism, this system of parasitism, is coming to the end. The same mind that can perceive the system and its rules, can also perceive that the system as a whole is not working. There's no one of any significance in leadership of nations today, which will deny—privately, at least—will deny, *this system in its present form is coming to an immediate end*. Not merely in one country or another, but globally.

Let's skip for a moment, before coming back to that theme, to look at what is the policy for Africa.

One could say, as my slightly senior friend—very slightly—as Godfrey Binaisa would say it: This is a ploy of what was described as "the Rhodes Plan," under the former Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII: to depopulate Africa of its "excess" of Africans, in population; to keep a few to do service to the great "Bwana Makouts," to protect the elephants and other game for a game preserve for the future pleasure of the British aristocracy and others. But, essentially, to keep the vast raw materials wealth of Africa intact, unused by Africans, as a resource for the future needs of Europeans—especially British Europeans, especially Anglophone Europeans.

That's what's happening, isn't it? The Africans are being eliminated; by methods, methods a little more sophisticated than Hitler used; but, just as effective: strife, famine, disease, IMF conditionalities, World Bank conditionalities, agents, compradors, new Genghis Khans like Museveni, turned loose—barbarians—turned loose upon the land, to *depopulate* Africa.

"There're too many people in it," they say. To take the natural resources, the gold, the petroleum, the natural gas, the diamonds (which are not much, in the way of natural resources), and the kinds of strategic minerals you've found in the South African Shield, and so forth. And a few choice pieces of real estate, such as Rwanda and Burundi, intended for sale to wealthy Europeans. Eliminate the excess population. Preserve the animals for future game hunters from Europe and keep the resources.

Why are they doing this?

This has been going on, especially in the past two years, since the beginning of 1995, in a massive way; the fellows in London and similar precincts recognize that the financial collapse of the system is inevitable. They've recognized that for a number of years, that *nothing can be done* to save the present international financial and monetary system. And what do they say? They say, therefore it's going to happen; let's prepare for it. What do they do to prepare for it? They seize control of a shortened, contracted world food supply, international food supply. They seize control of those natural resources upon which civilized human life in the future depends. Let money go out of existence. Let the banks vanish in a great crisis. Let national borders crash.

Then, look at the 22-odd companies which control 83% today of the raw materials production of Africa. They, with their mercenary armies, sitting pretty on that property; they're doing the same thing in Central Asia—or attempting to do so. So that, when the world collapses—the civilization in its present form, collapses—these fellows have already charted out, and are fighting, scrapping among each other, like monkeys in a zoo over feeding time, to try to get control of one or another of these natural resources, and building up mercenary armies to hold possession of these things. *That's where we are*. And, that's where the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy stands, behind this operation, and that's where the financial system stands. *This is the paradox which faces us*.

How Africa can change the world

Is there a solution?

Yes, there is. The solution involves, unfortunately, power. Global power. And, it involves ideas which must be imposed upon that power, including the idea of what's happening in Africa—and I'll come, in conclusion, to that point: how Africa can help to change the world as a whole. The power lies in essentially two places.

In 1988, as earlier, I put forth a policy for the impending collapse of the Soviet system, the Warsaw Pact system. I gave that address in Berlin on Oct. 12, 1988, which happens to be Columbus Day in the United States. And I said that the time had come, that the Warsaw Pact-Comecon system was about to disintegrate—as I had warned over some preceding years, would happen under the present policy—that the unification of Germany was in the immediate view. And obviously Berlin would be the likely choice of a future capital of a reunited Germany; that under these conditions, the part of Europe which is essentially an area from Paris, down to Vienna, up across Czechia into Berlin, and back by way of Lille to Paris, is a concentration, historically, of the greatest density of machine-tool-design potential on this planet.

And, that what must be done—and, for example, in most African countries you have *no* machine-tool capability, design capability. Only in South Africa is there some machine-tool capability of any significance, in *all* of Africa. That is, machine-tool design capability. And, that this machine-tool-design capability must be hooked up, especially in Asia, to those masses of the population which must have technological progress. And, that we should mobilize the—admittedly impaired, but nonetheless existent—resources of the former-Soviet economy, to participate in the production of the massive wealth required, to meet this requirement for what would be called, or was called, the developing sector of the Third World, at that time.

Well, something different happened. And, Helga, when I was in prison, proposed this in 1989 (Ralf Schauerhammer was part of it; others were part of it), proposed it as the “European Productive Triangle.” That the center of Europe must mobilize itself, for this purpose, of transforming the planet by reaching out, in the case of the breakup of the so-called “Cold War apparatus,” to utilize the resources of the former Soviet Union—the productive resources—together with those of Central Europe and elsewhere, in order to reach out and provide technology to these other parts of the world, the so-called Third World. And that, where the idea of developing what I call “spiral arms”—using the analogy of the galaxies, the astrophysical galaxies—must, in transportation, development corridors, must reach out across the world to bring, among other things, to bring such corridors from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and down to the Indian Ocean, and thence into Africa and other continents. That must be the plan.

Well, it didn't quite work that way, for various reasons—political reasons.

But, then, in the course of things, China picked up on this;

and, China called this a “Silk-Road Policy.” So, instead of having a proposal which I had originally proposed, of working from Central Europe, from the great concentration of former productive potential, through spiral arms, into other parts of the world, the developing sector, we now have a situation where a developing nation, an old nation, but a developing one, China, was now taking the initiative in pushing the same kind of spiral arms back toward Europe, and elsewhere. Now, this, the Chinese call “The Silk-Road Project.”

We call it generically, “The Eurasian Land-Bridge Project.” And, you'll hear more about that, as you wish, in the course of the day, and tomorrow.

Now, you saw recently this week something very interesting happened. Let's go back to the previous week: In Denmark something terrible happened—well, terrible things *do* happen in Denmark, after all, it's the nation of Hamlet, right? Where, remember the end of “Hamlet,” where the—some of you may know that, particularly those who came from Anglophone countries—where, at the *end* of the drama, Hamlet, who cannot make the decision which would save Denmark in itself, because it's a strange idea, *clings* to his old ideas, and he, and Denmark, go into the bucket, as a result of this at the end.

And, then, the final word in Shakespeare's character is to say: Let us reflect upon these events, while they're fresh in our minds, that we may not repeat this mistake, in a work again. We hope that Denmark never repeats this mistake again.

But, the Danes put out a resolution condemning China. Now, some of you may know, if you've followed history at all, that the fellow that became King Edward VII of Britain was very much opposed to an idea which came out of the United States; and came out of the United States by way of Germany and Russia and so forth, which was called the great railroad development project. That we had, in the middle of the Nineteenth Century, we had developed corridors of development across from the Atlantic to the Pacific, using railroads.

Henry Carey's network of railroads

And, the leader, the political leader, of the United States' patriotic faction after the assassination of Lincoln, was a fellow from Philadelphia—a rather aged fellow at that point—Henry Carey. And, Henry Carey proposed, with his friends in Europe and elsewhere, proposed the development of a network of railroads from the Atlantic Coast, to the Pacific, and to the Indian Ocean, but, especially from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Involved in this, before the end of the century, were Japan (which was, until 1894, an ally of the United States against Britain); involved was Sun Yat-sen (who was a protégé of the United States in his youth—again, an enemy of Britain), the father of Modern China, and which Beijing again emphasizes today.

And, the idea was, to bring these forces together to de-

velop Central Asia, and to bring the machine-tool potential of the United States, and of Central Europe, to bear in solving the problem of development of Asia, where the greatest concentration of population is.

In response to this, the British organized World War I, and also put Hitler into power—and that's a fact—in Germany in 1933, in order to prevent this from occurring; because, the natural impulse, from Germany, since this 1876-79 period, has been this direction. And, you will find in Germany today, despite governments, there *still is* an impulse toward this kind of development in Central Asia, and so forth.

So, now what has happened, is the Chinese have taken this up. And the British are out *to destroy it*. The British are out to make war against China. They're engaged in virtual war against China; they're involved in war against me, as I hear from Scandinavia recently; and they're also engaged in war against Clinton, trying to destroy the President of the United States.

Now, here's what the policy is: You've probably noticed, the week after the Danes joined their British masters in attacking China, on human rights (as well as human rights of cannibalism, in the British mind), but, now, in refutation of the fraud which was picked up in the European press, that the United States had sponsored the Danish resolution—which it had *not*, it was a British concoction, blamed on the United States. The United States government denied that, immediately.

Now there has occurred this past week, in Moscow, a meeting between the President of China and the President of Russia, in which a historic agreement has been reached, which is not final and not definitive, in which Russia will participate, in cooperation with China *and with* the nations of Central Asia, including Iran, in great development projects. India is in the process of trying to associate itself with this, and has reached agreements and understanding with China on this project.

Recently, you find the reaction to this announcement from Moscow, is that the President of the United States, Clinton, seconded by his Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright (who he apparently has under control, for the time being), and, together with Japan's Hashimoto, have endorsed this cooperation between the former Soviet Union, in fact, and China.

So, what you have in process, is a Great Project, the Land-Bridge project, which presents the possibility, of an economic recovery for this planet—that is, a revival of economic activity on a sufficient scale to revive a sinking world economy. This policy is, in general, supported by the President of the United States.

The Maastricht suicide pact

Europe does not function at present. The Europeans could not make a decision on the Balkans; the Europeans can make no decision on anything. Maastricht is not only a suicide pact, it's like Seneca in the bathtub, committing suicide with many cuts. These are called budget cuts—and that can kill you,

too. The Europeans don't function. The European governments don't function. They're killing their economy. France is being destroyed; Germany is being destroyed; every other part of Europe is being destroyed—but, *by its own hand!* It's cutting its own throat. There are no burglars in the house. The man of the house is cutting his own throat. So, Europe doesn't function.

Apart from the British Empire, which still exists—which my dear friend Godfrey and I agree completely on that—the British Commonwealth is the British Empire. Britain is simply a particular zoological specimen, which is administered by a certain *Grand Guignol* called a Parliament. The empire and Britain are actually controlled by a Privy Council, which is the agency of an oligarchy, which has selected a certain so-called royal family as its Doge, its Venetian-style Doge, hereditary Doge.

But the British Empire, with its financiers, its large corporations, its East India Company-type relics; which controls the entire Commonwealth, which controls their governments, which controls the selection of the ministers of governments of Commonwealth countries, which controls the finances of every Commonwealth country, which controls the foreign policies of Commonwealth countries—as it does Mandela, when he got back into South Africa, and South Africa got back into the British Commonwealth; it was the first thing that happened. The British took it over totally, and they took over Mandela totally. His policies became the policies of the British Commonwealth, just like another Sonny Ramphal, as if we didn't have enough of those already.

So, that is the kind of situation. That is the enemy power. The only power on this planet which can resist that, is a combination of the government of the United States—the Presidency of the United States—and China, together with a number of other countries which have joined together with them, to do two things. First of all, we require the projects, we require great economic development projects, especially infrastructure projects, spread throughout this planet, to reverse the effects of the past 30 years, and to go on to remedy the great injustice which should have been remedied at the end of World War II. And, Roosevelt would have attempted to do so, if he had lived. That is, to eliminate the injustice of colonialism, and its effects, and to establish equality, as Roosevelt intended. That economic project is the basis for doing it economically.

Secondly, we must rid ourselves of the cause of our present distress, and that distress, of course, takes the form of this great financial, and monetary, and economic collapse.

Now, you have all heard about companies going into bankruptcy, being reorganized in bankruptcy. This system is bankrupt, financially bankrupt, monetarily bankrupt. Therefore, governments must act to put the banks into bankruptcy, to put the monetary system into bankruptcy. We must build a monetary system, a new monetary system, which is in accord with great projects needed to develop the economies of these

parts of the world. This cannot be done by the consent of all nations, nor can it be done as a great international discussion ongoing for years.

You're faced with a situation in which a catastrophe is occurring, the collapse of the financial system. You must *act*. If you do not act, billions of people will die. You have no time to discuss; you should have discussed it earlier, when you had time. Therefore, the fate of humanity now hangs upon a few powerful decision-makers, who have the power, pre-emptively, to force the system into bankruptcy reorganization, and to create a new system which is more equitable, and is in agreement with our economic purposes.

The only agencies which can conceivably do that, on this planet, are the partners of an agreement between the President of the United States and China. That is enough power, with the support of Third World countries which will welcome it, to break the power of the present system, the IMF system, as people like to call it.

There's another ingredient to this process, however. Intellectually—I don't need to go through it here, because I've written about it so much—intellectually, there are certain specifications which will make the system work. There are precedents for what we propose, established precedents. That's not the problem.

Where are we going to find the *passion* to act on those ideas which are the solution? It's something which is called in the Greek, and in the New Testament Greek, *agapē*. All of you know it, whenever you did an act of discovery of a valid principle, a rediscovery, as in school, or someplace: You tried to relive the process of a great discovery. And, you went through the paradox, the previous belief, the evidence against the previous belief, and you tried to resolve that paradox; you tried to find out what was the truth, a higher truth, than you had known before.

How did you do that, if you did it? You had to sustain your concentration. You had to develop a certain kind of emotional power, which would enable you to force yourself to stay with the problem—not to go to sleep on it—until you'd reached a solution. It's the power of *agapē*. There must be *passion*. A computer has no intellect! It has no passion to solve problems! It is *passion*.

The passion of Africa

Let's speak, in the Christian sense, of the passion of Africa. The passion of Africa can be a key part of impelling governments, such as the partners of an effort between the United States Presidency and China, to solve this crisis. To use the existing ideas, which could solve the crisis, and make them real.

What is Africa? We in the United States, working from the United States, are aware that nobody seems to care about Africa anymore, in governments. There is no constituency for Africa in the United States. There may be people who *say* there's a constituency for Africa in the United States, but it

doesn't exist, as Jacques Bacamurwanko (former Burundi ambassador to the U.S.) can tell you. It can be created, however. And that's one of the things we're doing. It can be created around the world.

What is happening to Africa now, the *horror* of it, must be made clear to the governments—I think China will accept it, but the government of the United States and others, and forces around it. The horror. The fact that we allow, that the nations allow what has been going on in Africa, especially in the recent years, to continue, is a condemnation of the conscience of the nations. And to these nations we can say, that if you continue to allow this to happen in Africa, you do not have the morality or the impulse required to save your-own-selves from the crisis which is coming down. So, we must, with our weakness—and I speak of “we” in Africa, in this case—we must use our very weakness, as a force to move the great powers. And that power we have, in weakness, is to use the full horror, even by name, of the child who died by the road, under Museveni's and Kabila's torturers. To say, that person died, that child died, that woman died, that man died, that intelligentsia of Burundi which is being murdered, slaughtered, died; but they're not just cattle! These are *individual human beings*, who are dying in the hundreds of thousands, approaching the millions. They are being murdered. They are being murdered by the people that you are hosting,

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as being *salonfähig*, in the governments, and similar proceedings, in the United States as well as in Europe and Britain. Which the press, of Europe and the United States, is praising as the great figures.

Kabila, nothing but the lowest of all common criminals, is being called a “rebel” and a “national leader,” and he is nothing but a thief and a butcher. Museveni, who is nothing but the Mussolini of Uganda (who was supported by the British in his time, too, eh?), is treated as a respectable figure. A mass murderer! Kagame, the same thing; another gangster, who at one point was supported by George Bush, the President of the United States. The same thing.

And this is going on.

What about the faces, what about the individuality, what about the personality, the possible future, of that child or that woman or that family? What are we going to say? We have the test of death, which we have to face in our own life. That is, did we simply use this mortal existence to get pleasure and satisfaction, or did we use the talent given to us, to return it when we died, somewhat enriched? Did we make something of our lives, as they say in simple language.

Also, we are accountable for what we do to others! Not just to ourselves.

There’s a human being; who knows what potential is lost when that person dies, as a child, by the side of the road. And they’re stacked up like cord wood on the side of the road! And these governments, which know that, can sit back and still say, “Museveni is human. Kabila is human. These are respectable people who must be dealt with respectfully.”

That is the passion. If you allow that, what about *your* child, *your* sister, when the time comes. Who will weep for them? If you can allow this, you lack the moral fitness to survive, and the record of history is clear. In the fall of empires and entire civilizations, when mankind makes a mistake, in ruling ideas, mankind is punished by calamities. And when civilizations do not respond to the calamities thus brought upon them, then the universe is so designed, by the Creator, that it does something to *purge* itself of that disease, which that civilization has become.

And this is such a time. And thus, in Africa, I think, as I said at the beginning, to understand Africa, *we here*, in this room, must not allow ourselves to be so involved with the details on the ground, that we lose sight of that knowledge and overview which is needed to win.

We must rise to the mountaintop, from which we can see the past and the breadth of humanity, at least for some distance. See what has happened to humanity, and use our knowledge of the problems which are confronted in the centers of power, to use the very horror of what has been done, the crimes that are being committed in Africa, to use that as a lever, to force people to discover, within themselves—including the President of the United States—to discover the *passion* to do what is necessary to save all humanity.

Dr. Godfrey Binaisa

People of Africa, it’s time to wake up!

Dr. Binaisa is the chairman of the African Civil Rights Movement, founded in July 1995; he is the former President of Uganda (1980-81), and also served in the 1960s as his nation’s Attorney General.

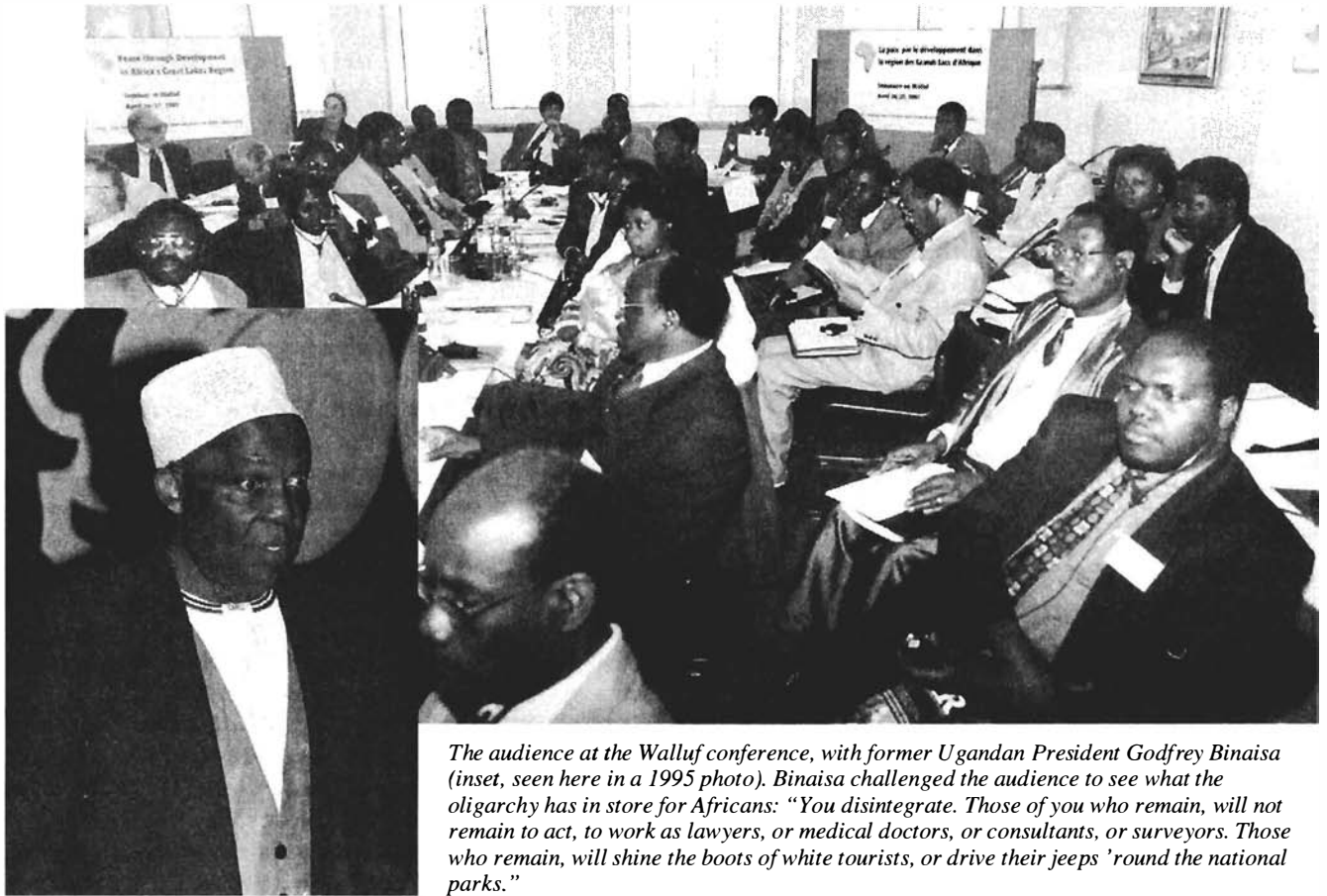
First of all, I’m so happy that I’ve lived long enough to see this kind of day. I’m one of the few persons in Africa today, who are a vanishing species, because there are very few of us left, still alive, who took part in that great movement for Independence in Africa in the 1950s. Few of us who went to prison, in various prisons, in French territories, Belgian territories, and British territories—I for one, went to prison for one year in Kampala maximum security prison in 1959 to 1960—and many of my compatriots have vanished from the stage. They are no longer with us, not only in East Africa, but in West Africa as well. I met Kwame Nkrumah [Ghana’s first prime minister, then President; leader in the African independence movement]. Many of you never even had a chance, an opportunity, to meet people like him.

I received a letter when I was in detention in Uganda, ’round about the beginning of 1960, from a compatriot from the Belgian Congo, as it then was [now Zaire]. He wrote me a letter in detention—a solidarity letter—saying that the struggle continues; we’ve all got to work together. And in that same month, June 13, 1960, Belgian Congo became a free country, but with only 12 university graduates. Congolese.

I won’t waste your time telling you everything I know about the history of the entire region, particularly what they now call the “Great Lakes Region” of East Africa.

I remember taking into my house, when I was Attorney General in Uganda in 1962, two Tutsi Rwandese, from Rwanda, who had fled to Uganda. Then, I called upon a high official of the Uganda government, by the name of Frank Kalimuzo, who was permanent secretary to the prime minister, who was himself of Rwandese origin (his wife was also a Rwandese, both of them were Tutsi). I said to Kalimuzo, why don’t you help some Tutsis who are stranded here? I’ve taken two, and I’m not a Rwandese, I’m neither Hutu or Tutsi. He said to me, that his wife had no space in their big bungalow for anyone, except Frank Kalimuzo, his wife, and their children.

I’m telling you this, to explain to you, the enormous task we have. Here are two Tutsis, who cannot help other Tutsis. And this is what is happening all over Africa.



The audience at the Walluf conference, with former Ugandan President Godfrey Binaisa (inset, seen here in a 1995 photo). Binaisa challenged the audience to see what the oligarchy has in store for Africans: "You disintegrate. Those of you who remain, will not remain to act, to work as lawyers, or medical doctors, or consultants, or surveyors. Those who remain, will shine the boots of white tourists, or drive their jeeps 'round the national parks."

Our leaders are betraying us

We are now being *betrayed*, all of us are being betrayed by our own leaders today in Africa. The trust that was put in them, has been betrayed, to foreign interests. Not only in Uganda. I must say; I must be frank enough, because I don't know whether I will live to see the day, when all of these countries will be absolutely free.

I must mention the name of veterans, freedom fighters, like Nelson Mandela of South Africa. I was *shocked* when I got to know, recently, that South Africa has sent mercenaries, South Africa has sent highly sophisticated arms, manufactured in South Africa, APCs, to President Museveni [of Uganda], to murder not only his own people, but to murder to people in Zaire, to go and invade Sudan.

For South Africa, to *support* people who don't believe in civil rights, people who don't believe in human rights, but people who believe only in gaining power, who are greedy for power, who can work for foreign interests, as long as those foreign interests help them to remain in power, to loot their own countries, to sell their countries down the river, without any scruples. This is what is happening in South Africa.

I have written a letter, in the name of the African Civil Rights Movement, to the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Clinton, before she left for Africa recently. I warned

her. I said, "I would advise you, your ladyship, to postpone your visit to Uganda."

She went to Uganda, all the same, but she issued a statement, by the way, before she left, that she was going to Uganda only for humanitarian reasons. But all the same, her visit gave *respectability* to Museveni.

I warned in that letter, that the rest of Africa is not going to tolerate, neither is it going to accept, being treated as bantustans, by South Africa. Because this is terrible. This is amazing, that people who fought apartheid, which was white against black, are now *sponsoring* a new type of apartheid, of black-on-black. Black-on-black, in Burundi, in Rwanda—Tutsis against the Hutus.

And those of you who don't know, should remember, that unless you are a Tutsi or a Hima, you are a Hutu; whether you are Muganda, whether you are Acholi, whether you are Malawi, whether you are Botswana, you are Hutu, in the eyes of all Tutsis. You are a kind of species who should be looked at with contempt. The Tutsis and Himas are ordained by God, to rule over us. It's a new "divine right of kings."

Somebody told me the other day, that Museveni will very soon be crowned as the "King of Kings" of the *entire area*, right down to South Africa. If Mandela doesn't know this, he should know. Because, very soon, Museveni will march down

through Zambia, Zimbabwe. Because the big corporations have no scruples at all. They will support anyone, who will support their interests. They will support the Devil, for that matter.

And this is what is happening today.

Let me quote to you Museveni's own words. He told the *Atlantic Monthly*, which is a conservative periodical, published in the United States, he told them in September 1994:

"I have never blamed the whites, for colonizing Africa. I have never blamed the whites for taking slaves. If you are stupid, you should be taken a slave."

Let me ask you, fellow Africans: Are you going to allow this state of affairs to continue? If so, for how long? Because, if you do, you will very soon become a vanishing species. Your countries will not only be looted to the bone, but you yourselves will disintegrate, as human beings. You'll cease to exist on this Mother Earth. Because they don't want you there.

This is an *African* President talking to a white reporter. And this is the President Nelson Mandela is supporting. This is the President Robert Mugabe [of Zimbabwe] is supporting. This is the President Arap Moi [of Kenya] is supporting.

If what I'm saying is a tissue of lies, then let them *come out* and disassociate themselves from his remarks. Let them tell us that they don't support him. But they do! This is why they have sold down their own countries, to foreign interests.

This is why the struggle for independence begins all over again. The paper independence of 45 years ago is over. The party is over. But we're not going home. The first party of independence, 34 years ago, is over. That was paper independence. I was there in the arena in Kololo, in Kampala on Oct. 9, 1962, when we were pulling down the Union Jack, the British national flag. That kind of ceremony was repeated, over and over again, in French and British territories, and, I think, in Portuguese.

Why Sudan is under such attack

There is only one African colony which never went through those motions, and for that, is paying a price, and that is Sudan. Sudan said "No!" to the British. First in January 1956: Sudan packs the whole package, the wearing apparel, the official ceremonial apparel of the British Governor Gen-

eral in Khartoum: the plumed hat, with ostrich feathers, and the buckled shoes. They sent them to London. They said, "Never come back! We are independent, sir!"

And for that, Sudan is paying a price. Sudan has been invaded, by Ethiopia, by Eritrea, and now by Uganda. This is the second time that Uganda is invading Sudan. On the pretext that they are going to rescue the black Africans of Sudan. The black Africans of Sudan are Christian or Animists. They are not Arab, and they are not Muslims. They've got to be rescued by Baroness Caroline Cox, deputy speaker of the House of Lords, in London, who leads a fundamentalist Christian sect of Christianity.

She's *shocked* that somebody else can be a fundamentalist Muslim!

She's not shocked when another fundamentalist, by the name of Pat Robertson, a fundamentalist Christian, can exist in the United States. Nobody will raise a finger, because, "fundamentalism" doesn't apply to Christianity. If you're a Christian, you can do *anything*. You can be a "born again Christian," over, and over again! As you wish. You can even change your sex, and still remain in the Church! You can even be a priest, if you wish.

If you happen to be a Muslim, and wish to study your holy book, the Koran, for spiritual strength, you're not allowed. If you do, you'll pay the price. And the price is: You'll be invaded, as Sudan was invaded recently.

Who invades you? Museveni! Museveni says, "you want me to invade Sudan? I don't have any *money*. I want some *money*. The World Bank and the IMF are around my neck, like the albatross. What do I do?"

They say, "Don't mind. I'll excuse you. Three hundred million dollars you owe? You can write that off, as a reward for good behavior. For your having followed the rules of the game. For having paid attention. For having danced to the tune that the IMF plays, and the World Bank plays. And for your having danced, even when we don't play any music!"

So, that's what it is. That's your Africa.

And why is it? Museveni is a man who said those words. He was confronted—about three weeks ago, in Washington, D.C., by two white women—members of the Schiller Institute. They confronted him. They said, "Sir, Mr. President, did you say those words?" He said, "Yes, I did." No denial. He boasts. He's so *arrogant*. Because he's a *bully*. He's a tyrant; he's a bully; he's an unbridled despot.

What do you do?

We know how to deal with bullies. When you were at school, and you were a little boy, and there's one big boy who's a bully, who's in the habit of beating up the little ones. One day the little ones get together, and they put this bully in a corner, and they give this bully a good hiding. And the bully never repeats it.

And that's what Museveni is.

Somebody told me that the new secretary of state of the United States, Miss Albright, made a remark somewhere—I

can't quote because I don't have the verification—they said that because she was born in Czechoslovakia, she said that Hitler was a bully. She said, pity that he was not stopped early enough.

The same thing, I say. We Africans are telling her, that her ladyship is now in a position, to do something about another bully. And that is Museveni. Before it is *too late*.

Because, in all this, it is only the United States of America, that can do something. Make no mistake. I've been disappointed with Germany these last few years, when they've just kept quiet. After having gone through Hell, because not all the Germans were responsible for Hitler. But after learning that lesson, why don't they know, by now, that the only way of stopping bullies, is to stop them before it is too late?

Because now we are discussing Museveni. We're discussing all the other bullies. We're discussing this disease which is contaminating Africa: the disease of our leaders becoming willing agents and willing tools, to be used for the financial interests of other countries.

All-out looting of Africa

Some of you have heard about the Barrick Company—this gold-mining company—which has something like 83,000 square kilometers of soil, carrying gold and diamonds, in Zaire—now has its head office, or has transferred part of its offices, into my capital city of Kampala, in Uganda. That's where they are now operating, to be near their concessions in Zaire.

But all this is made up by the British. Why?

Because the British East India Company is still well and *alive*. What they planted more than 300 years ago, still continues, unabated. Different forms and shapes, ramifications. Today, they may call themselves Anglo-something. Tomorrow, they will call themselves Anglo-what, until they goon, changing names. The substance is the *same*. These are mere labels. They can call themselves anything they like, but it won't take away the fact, that it is the British who are carrying this game on.

Because they have decided, when they saw that the pressure was intense, for independence, among African countries, they said, "O.K. Give the natives what they want. That is independence on paper. Let the natives fly their little national flags. Let them write their national anthems. Let them join the United Nations, as if they were independent nation-states. But, remain operating. Remain looting. Loot even *more*."

That's the message.

Let me ask you, fellow Africans: Are you going to allow this state of affairs to continue? If so, for how long? Because, if you do, you will very soon become a vanishing species. Your countries will not only be looted to the bone, but you yourselves will disintegrate, as human beings. You'll cease to exist on this Mother Earth. Because they don't want you there. You are there by accident. You are not there by design of God. They don't believe in God. They don't believe that

you have the same inalienable human rights, that you are born in the image of God. Because, if they did, they would have given you development. But they won't give you development.

The reason why they are grabbing everything—they grab everything, as my English teacher a long, long time ago, when I was at Buddo school in Uganda used to tell us about the Americans: They eat all they can, and can all they can't.

See, that's why this is happening. That's what is happening.

You Africans, you've got to understand that. You disintegrate. You stop to exist. Those of you who remain, will not remain to act, to work as lawyers, or medical doctors, or consultants, or surveyors. Those who remain, will shine the boots of white tourists, or drive their jeeps 'round the national parks.

Because, some white American woman, when the killing was going on in Rwanda, when bodies of women and children were flowing down the Kagera River, made a remark on TV in America, that she hopes that the mountain gorillas of Rwanda remain alive, that they are saved, that they don't die.

'Christianity, commerce, and civilization'

That shows what type of people we're dealing with. We're not dealing with Christianity. We're not dealing with civilization. Neither are we dealing with commerce. I tell you this. David Livingstone, the British explorer, in 1855, in what we know today as Zambia, wrote back to home and said: "What Africa needs is the three C's: Christianity, commerce, and civilization." Three C's. When you examine them today now, those three C's, they don't exist. Perhaps they existed in the heart of David Livingstone.

But today, who is a Christian in the Western world? Who can be a role model? Nobody! Except His Holiness, the Pope. This is why I always say, that poor man visits our Africa more frequently than any other place, because *there*, there still remain people who are Christians, like him.

What about commerce? Commerce has no morality. Commerce has ripped all our countries. These people have no scruples. They will do anything for commerce. Today it is not even national, it is *global*, we are told. Global. These are the new theories, enunciated by these professors at Harvard, and various other institutions of higher learning in Europe. They say they believe in "global."

So what is "global"? What do you do?

Britain knows this, very, very well. Wherever there is money, Britain has been the first to jump on the opportunity. Three hundred years ago, remember? Those of you who still remember your history—I'm not a history teacher, but let me remind you: During the days of Queen Elizabeth I, the British had neither Christianity, nor scruples for commerce morality. Her Majesty *knighted* pirates on the high seas, like Sir Francis Drake. He was knighted because he was a pirate. Now, a Christian doesn't do that! A Christian would rather *condemn*,

not knight you, for that kind of act.

Today, Britain has jumped on this opportunity of global commerce. They want to grab Africa once again. To colonize Africa once again.

What do you do?

Borders were not drawn by Africans

You ignore geography. You ignore even the lines you drew in 1884, in Berlin. These borders were not drawn by us Africans. There was no African representative at Berlin in 1884. Bismarck was in the chair, the chancellor of Germany. And the emperor, Kaiser Wilhelm, who was grandson of Queen Victoria, said to Her Majesty, that he too, wanted a “place in the sun.”

And Her Majesty said, “O.K. That’s not a problem. What about having southwest Africa? And having Tanganyika? And having Togo, and Cameroon?”

And His Majesty said, “Thank you very much, but what about *snow* at the equator? Because Her Majesty had Mt. Kenya, which was snow-capped throughout the year, and she had Mt. Kilimanjaro, also snow-capped ’round the year.

She said, “What about your having Mt. Kilimanjaro?” So, the Kaiser had Mt. Kilimanjaro. Today, Mt. Kilimanjaro is part of Tanzania, because of that.

This is how Africa has been treated: a *toy*, as a piece of toy. You buy a train for your son for Christmas, as a present. By New Year’s Day, the train has disintegrated, because the son has been trying to figure out how does this work, how does that work? And it ends up being disintegrated. This is Africa! You get it, but at the same time, you have the power to disintegrate it.

So, now today, what they’ve done, or what they’re doing: Destroy all the borders you made in 1884. They’re no good now. They don’t apply. The rules of the game have changed: no borders. Africa is Africa.

In America today, and even here, I think, some people still regard Africa as one country. They ask you, “Are you from Africa?” Or, they say, “Oh, you’re African. Do you know my cousin in Johannesburg?” Because Africa is thought to be one huge village, or one huge country. They don’t even know that there are more than 50 countries in Africa. Nation-states. They would rather agree, that in Europe, you can have more than ten states. In Europe, you can even go and partition Yugoslavia, into Bosnia and Serbia and Montenegro and Macedonia, and whatever you like. Because it’s *Europe*.

In Europe, there are no *tribes*. You are not supposed to talk about the “tribe of Northern Ireland.” No, they are Europeans, they are “northern Irish people.” Basque in Spain. They are “Basque.” But, if they had been in Africa, they would have said, “Oh, he’s a *tribesman* of Uganda,” eh?

You see! This is what it is! This is why I’m saying, Africa, wake up! Africa wake up and realize and perceive what colonialism means. Colonialism means that you are a possession, you are possessed by somebody, like a chattel, like a piece

of goods.

You see!

This is why a man like Museveni can say, that if you are stupid, you can be taken as a slave. And right now, he has started it in Africa. He’s taking all the non-Tutsis and non-Himas to him as slaves. And yet, some Ugandan people I know praised him, saying, “Oh, we can now sleep at night, because Museveni has provided security for us to sleep.” I asked one man, “Were you created in the image of God, to inhabit part of this Earth, in order just to sleep?”

To sleep? I mean, these are *serious* matters. These are serious challenges, to you young ones. I’ve got a few days left, but I’ve got to use them. I’m not going just to *sleep*.

I remember this Communist lady in Spain, della Rosa, who said, “ ’Tis better to die, on your feet, than to live on your knees.”

Didn’t she? She said so.

Today, we in Africa, particularly in Uganda, we are living on our knees before Museveni, and his Tutsi-and-Hima combination. Same in Burundi. Same in Rwanda. Same everywhere. Soon-to-be in Kenya. Because this empire-building still goes on, unabated.

We are still waiting for a Moses, like the children of Israel, when they were waiting for a leader, to lead them out of Egypt. We are still looking for a leader, for a Moses. And there is no Moses on the dim horizon, except we, the Africans. You are the Moses. I am the Moses.

I am not prepared to lead anybody to sleep, to lull him to sleep.

One of the major reasons I was given time, about one-and-one-half to two years, to prepare the country for general elections—when I went ’round Uganda, and I found out that everybody was ready except me, I went back and told the Cabinet, I said: “What I have found, is that everybody is ready, except us, we here in government, in the Cabinet. Why don’t we go?”

The qualifications for leadership

I wasn’t born President. There’s no such study in England, or France or in Germany, at any university. There’s no course called, “You are studying to become President,” or “You are studying to become Attorney General.” “So,” I said, “if this is the case, why don’t we bring forward the elections by six months?” So, I made the announcement: “Elections to Be Brought Forward in Six Months.”

That shook everybody, because people were not prepared. My detractors were waiting for that day when they would *rig* the election. So, I deprived them of that opportunity. Because, I said, it was kind of a surprise election date. They didn’t like to keep it, because they knew they might not *win*.

You see?

But I said, I wasn’t born President. This is not a hereditary chieftainship, like my friend here, who is from Lado—please stand up—he is a gentleman. Say your name loudly, please.

"My name is John Agami."

He lives in Scandinavia, in Denmark. He's claiming he's one of the victims of this partition of Africa. Isn't it?

"Yes, that's true."

Yes, thank you. So, you've seen a living example, of the partition.

But *today* it is not partition. Today there is no partition at all. Today you take Africa as a whole, you colonize it, and you play all the tunes you like. And the whole of Africa will dance—even if you're not playing any tune. And you'll loot, you'll exploit, you'll prevent Africa from developing.

Pope Paul VI said, "Peace is development." If you want development, you must have peace, and vice versa.

No development!

Two kinds of infrastructure

If you follow what my friend Lyn LaRouche has been saying, so many times, about the building of infrastructure, the building of roads, infrastructure as we know it, ask yourself—I think there are two infrastructures here: the infrastructure of railways and railroads, and roads, and highways—and also the infrastructure, which we are lacking today, of democracy. Because you've got also to have an infrastructure of democracy.

You've got to have people *believing in something*; whatever one may like to criticize the Europeans about, at least they have a belief in something, which is today lacking in Africa, because everybody wants to *grab*, grab, and grab quickly; get rich quickly.

And where do you put the *money*? Where do the African leaders put all their money? In European banks! In American banks! They show such a lack of confidence in their own countries, that their money's not safe in their own countries. Not only in their own countries, but even their own continent. You can't convince a Ugandan, or a Burundian, or a Rwandese, even to keep money in, say, Nigeria! No! They send it to Switzerland. And Switzerland has no use for African money!

I've been to Switzerland a number of times. Last time I was there, a long time ago, when I used to smoke. I was walking down the road in Geneva. I had just bought a new packet, and I took out that silvery thing, and dropped it on the street. Suddenly I heard quick steps behind me, trying to catch up with me. I stood, and there was an elderly lady tailing me. "Sir! This is Geneva. Pick it up, or else I shall call the police!" I was so ashamed of myself, I quietly picked it up, and ran like mad to get away from the scene.

You see, this showed me one thing: That may be propaganda or whatever, but still, that woman had something *in her*, that she believed in the cleanliness of Geneva. And there I was, caught red-handed, and I had to do something quick about it.

This is the tragedy in Africa today! We have been caught red-handed by people like Museveni, by people like Kagame, by people like even my good friend in South Africa. I mean,

if I were in South Africa today, if you were to ask me, I'll call in that man de Klerk, and say, "de Klerk, what makes you tick? Disband that little part of your nationalist party, and join the ANC."

Because it's only the Boers in South Africa, the Afrikaners, who have really got an interest in remaining in South Africa. Not the English-speakers. The English-speakers are in South Africa, as they have been in Kenya, as they were in Uganda, as they were Nigeria or in Egypt: They're there to exploit and run. Cut and run. And they have so many places. You kick them out of South Africa, they go to Canada, they go to Australia, they go to New Zealand. But poor Afrikaners have nowhere to go.

But now, what do we see in South Africa itself?

These are some of the major issues the Africans have got to address. They've got to address them, if they want solutions. Because, if you look at the history of South Africa itself, you'll find that the Boers were also discriminated against, by the British. And it was because of this discrimination, when the Boers came into power in 1948, under Dr. Malan, they said, "O.K. You started it all," telling the English-speakers. "You started it all. We go the whole way. We're going to apartheid." The British say, "Oh no! But we didn't mean it that way. You are going to far." They said, "No, no. There's no question of going too far."

This is how it was built up.

And now, we Africans today have allowed the same thing, black-on-black, in Rwanda and Burundi. And we are not making any noise. We are not even crying out in despair.

We're not telling people in the U.N. Today, we have a black African as head of that body. We tell him we wish him just to continue as before, as if nothing has happened? As if Nkrumah never existed?

Today—do some of you know that today is exactly 40 years since the first black country in modern history, Ghana, Gold Coast, as it was, gained independence in 1957?

And today, in 1997, forty years later, exactly, we have also the first black African leader of the United Nations? What a coincidence!

What does it mean?

It's a *challenge*. It's a challenge to renew our thoughts about it all. Particularly those of you who are listening, should remember: We've got to identify the enemy. We've got to identify the enemy. Who is the enemy in Africa today? To me, there is no clearer thing than that.

Today, the biggest enemy, before France—France is what we call in Swahili, a *toto*, a small boy, compared to the big bully, Bwana Makouts—Britain; Britain is the Master. And Britain wants to be the full controller. To have another empire in Africa, "upon which the sun never *sets*," and wages never *rise*.

Before I end, I should ask you this: Stop all this nonsense of "His Excellency," because I think most of "Their Excellencies" really should be "His Foolishness."

What can be done to transform Rwanda

Mr. Nsejimana is a member of the organization "Rwanda Pour Tous" (Rwanda For All). His speech has been translated from French and subheads have been added. He spoke on April 26.

My name is Nkiko Nsejimana: I am a member of "Rwanda Pour Tous," and I live in Switzerland. My intervention is based on three points: reform of the economic system; what form of government Rwanda should have, together with my organization's proposals; and the crimes against humanity being committed in this region.

We have just heard that there is a real opening from the Clinton government, and we would like to see some concrete gestures from that quarter, gestures which are easy to make, whose only price is a certain solidarity. As for reform of the international economic system, it seems to me that, today, 50 years after the Second World War, the economic cycle underlying the development boom in Europe has now come to an end. That cycle has lost all impetus, and must be reformed.

We should shift from a system based on, as Mrs. LaRouche put it, a "casino economy"—like derivatives—to a truly productive economy based on human creativity, and all the transformations that machine tools allow for. We are the ones who must act to bring about this reform, because we have been the main victims, and the Marshall Plan, which provided the economic upswing in Europe, never made it to our African countries.

Of course, we have to know which image of man we defend, what society we want to build, and what kind of world we wish to shape. This is basic to any attempt to redefine an international economic system. We need an ideal that we will promote in spite of all opposition. We also need projects, infrastructure projects of regional and continental scope, that we can propose to the rest of the world, as our projects for Africa. And then we can ask the Clinton administration to help us to work together, we who are dispersed throughout the world, and undoubtedly have some ideas about what to do.

I do have one small reservation. I am enthusiastic about reforming the economic system, but I am frightened by popular opinion which will not act to prevent a catastrophe. It is when the catastrophe is beginning to take place that it can be stopped. Africans have already experienced the catastrophe, but they carry no weight. I am afraid we will have to wait a

bit, until a small European or American catastrophe occurs, before the initiative we are asking the Clinton administration to take in re-creating a new international system, can actually come about. So much for the question of reforming the international system.

Investigate the authors of genocide

I would also like to ask for concrete actions on two other issues. Since 1990, Rwanda has been at war. During that time, over 100,000 Rwandans died before April 1994, most of them killed by the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front]. Even more important, after April 1994, there was genocide against Tutsis, wiping out more than 600,000 of them. There have been investigations on this, and those responsible must answer for their acts. No one can deny this reality. On the other hand, since that same date, in the zone controlled by one of the warring parties—in the region of Biumba—over April, May and June, the RPF systematically killed more than 400,000 inhabitants of Biumba. After the takeover in July 1994, in the death camps in Mutara, Butare, Gitarama, and Kigali, people were found who had been murdered by the ruling RPF government. We all know about the massacres in Kibeho in April 1994, those in Kaname in November 1995, and, since October 1996, in the refugee camps in Zaire, where, in the most cynical genocide, over 500,000 people have died or disappeared.

Just recently in Rwanda, on March 2, at a police station in Kigombe, I believe, more than 300 persons were killed by the RPF army. I think that if the United States really wants to help us build a new world, they should demand an exhaustive, independent investigation into this genocide as well, and that we find out who the authors of it are.

A second aspect that I would like the Clinton administration to help us with, concerns the form of government. We know that reforms were undertaken after the Second World War on two important levels. I have already mentioned the Marshall Plan, but there was also a movement for democratizing Europe, after it had fallen to fascism. If we want to build an international monetary system based on the nation-state, we have to ask ourselves what nation-state and what system? We believe a democratic system is what we need. Within a democratic system, with a great diversity of opinions, we can ward off segregationism and develop our countries economically.

Our association, "Rwanda Pour Tous," has identified and proposed six essential points for this government:

1. Recognizing the inalienable rights of the human person.
2. A far more consensual democracy, which somewhat takes up our traditional approach of *abachacha*, where we learn to take decisions together. That means involving the main political factions in the administration of the country.
3. Bicameralism: In this system, a lower chamber could reflect the popular vote—one man, one vote—and an upper chamber could be based on an attempt at ethnic and regional cohesion.

4. Decentralization: Decrease central power, because when that is too strong, people quickly fall into servitude. So we need more decentralization, more local power, and a greater role for non-politicians in political life.

5. Regional integration: This can help us to build toward a new international monetary system, in which Rwanda and other countries in the region, forming a larger economic entity, can really develop infrastructure and attain strong productive development. We also think that regional integration will help us to solve our big, and small, ethnic problems.

6. Demilitarization: We have seen what catastrophes our armies have created. Since 1990, and still today, we think that a demilitarized Rwanda, together with other such countries of the sub-region, could truly make progress toward peace, leave more financial means for economic development, and prevent any one group from getting a base of power or exerting violence against another group.

These are the basic points for which my association is fighting, and on which we would like President Clinton to urgently take a position, so that Rwanda may finally have a democratic government, with all factions represented, that will give the population greater opportunities and more trust, allow them to strive toward national reconciliation, and lead to justice.

François Nzabahimana

World community did nothing for Rwanda

Mr. Nzabahimana is president of the Rally for the Return of Democracy and Refugees (RDR), and former Rwandan trade minister. He spoke on April 26, and his speech is translated from the French. Subheads have been added.

I will restrict myself to mentioning some facts showing the role of the international community in the crisis and war in the Great Lakes region. I do not want to go into the details which you know better than I do, especially since some of Museveni's ex-friends here know the ins and outs of the situation, and our Burundian friends will complete the picture. In your folder, you have a memo written by Karoli, who sent it from Nairobi because he, unfortunately, could not come himself. We were supposed to present it together; it is the basis of my presentation.

But, first, I would like to read you a letter we received from Bukavu, which relates what happened a few days ago:

"His name is Marc Kasindu: This militarily trained Tutsi played and continues to play a big role in the genocide of Hutu refugees in eastern Zaire, and enjoys considerable support from the HCR [UN High Commission for Refugees], who gives him a frequency band on the HCR communications network, a jeep with the HCR emblem, regular supplies of gasoline, and a monthly salary. Officially, Marc Kasindu is the intermediary between the Democratic Forces Alliance for the Liberation of the Congo and UN agencies and other NGOs [non-governmental organizations]. His job is to identify those places where refugees are to be found, and inform the HCR, who then deploys the NGOs to take care of sending them back home.

"Unfortunately, this man is concretely helping the Tutsi rebels by informing them each time of the precise spot where there are refugees, which they then go to and massacre the refugees. Worse, Marc Kasindu, sitting in his HCR vehicle accompanied by Tutsi soldiers, scours the bush areas where the refugees are hiding, and when they see the HCR sign, the refugees approach. Kasindu takes advantage of that to radio where they are. Then the rebels come and butcher them."

I could continue this report, which arrived this week from Bukavu and shows the involvement of international organizations in the ongoing massacres in Zaire. We cannot talk about the British Empire, or the role of the United States, without mentioning the reality on the ground.

In October, when the RPF attacked Bukavu and then the camps, I was in Zaire, and we clearly stated where the refugees were. There was a runaround over the number of refugees. Nominally, 750,000 refugees were dispersed in the forests and hills along the road. At the time, two missions were under way: There was an American mission taking aerial photographs to identify the whereabouts of the refugees, and the British mission. Canberra took the photographs and sent them off to Kigali. Members of the British Canberra mission visited some African countries and met with foreign ministers whom I personally saw later. They were confused, and told me: "You people in the RDR say there are still refugees, but members of the mission that flew over the area say there are none left there." This was in October 1996, at the beginning of the war. So there was a definite aim to isolate and starve people. President Carter was very clear on this, when he visited the camps in Djibumba in 1995: "We have to find a way to separate the refugees. The good ones will go home, and the others should stay here because they have committed crimes. We will figure out how to solve that problem at a later date."

For us, there is clearly international complicity in what is happening today in Zaire, in the crimes being committed. The first accomplice is the HCR, on the ground, which knew about the attack and which, from the very beginning, was giving computer data about the refugees to the military regime in Kigali. You know, in order to get food rations, the refugees must give their identity—their name, where they are living in the camp, in which hut, which quarter, and so on. So the HCR

can say, Mr. So-and-So lives here. . . . This complicity is a proven fact: There are witnesses, and some members of international organizations are beginning to say it out loud.

Let me go back to the complicity in 1990, in October, when the RPF attacked. The main person behind that attack was President Museveni, as is described in Karoli's document. Military people close to Museveni are clearly also in Zaire today. The chief of operations in the camps, during the 1995 massacres in Kibero, was Colonel Ibingila, the man who had led the operations in April 1996. Colonel Goga, a member of the Ugandan Presidential Guard, is now leading operations in eastern Zaire. So, when we say that Rwanda and Uganda are involved, this is not merely for effect. These are people on the ground, who have been identified, whom we know, and whose methods we are familiar with.

The Arusha trap

The international community did nothing during the war that lasted from 1990 to April 1994. They wanted to solve things in their way, and we fell into the first trap, which was Arusha [regional negotiations held in Arusha, Tanzania in July 1996]. Of course, Arusha let us negotiate power-sharing—honestly, according to European standards. But, in fact, as we realize today, sharing power was not the main problem. Now we understand that the aim was really to get into Zaire, and that is why the Presidents of Burundi and Rwanda were killed. But we did not have the same reading of events in the region at that time. In the Arusha negotiations, one important chapter was missing, although the RPF delegation had brought it up. They wanted to talk about compensation for the war effort, because the war had cost the state budget about 24 billion old francs, and it is estimated that, since the RPF was less structured, it had cost them about 6 billion old francs. Somebody had paid that money. But in the Arusha agreement, the government party did not want to open a debate on the war effort, and whoever was financing the war did not want it to stop, because they thought the sharing of ministerial posts just would not pay. . . .

So, President Habyarimana was assassinated. One week later, the international community pulled out their military men, leaving the way open for what some call genocide—it is still contested in Rwandan circles. In any case, once again, the international community left the Rwandans, the “savages,” to their fate. This week, a Belgian French-language newspaper mentioned information from an *EIR* article, under the subheading: “Depopulate, the Better to Colonize.” Rwanda had been left to itself.

Look at what is happening today in Albania: The Europeans are going in—it's easy, it's very nearby. But in Africa, the blacks are left to die—it's far away. Such an attitude can be considered racist. A resolution could be adopted to send in the Blue Helmets to secure food relief: Several countries agree to participate in this aid, but the United States is against it. The fact that these interventions were blocked has led to the

catastrophes we are witnessing today.

Finally, we are seeing that we always come up against the same men. Kofi Annan [now the UN secretary general] was in Kigali in April 1994, when the Presidents [of Rwanda and Burundi] died, as head of operations, and he decided to pull out the Blue Helmets. His adjutant, Colonel Baril, his military adviser, was later named commander in chief of the multinational force which was supposed to go to Kisangani. In fact, it ended up being based in Kampala, because of deliberate blocking of any intervention. In the end, one begins to think we should probably be talking about an international conspiracy. Many people do not believe in such an idea, but the facts are there: There is a desire to leave the Africans to their sorry fate.

Trying crimes against humanity

I now come to the international tribunal. One of the Canadian lawyers defending a Rwandan who has been indicted, said that, compared to the Hague Court for trying crimes committed in ex-Yugoslavia, they are acting like racists. First, the defense lawyers do not have the same facilities as those in the Hague. There is not enough money, motivation, or logistics, to have an experienced, knowledgeable lawyer. So there really is no tribunal worthy of the name. We want everyone who was a party to the massacres and genocide to be punished. For us, it is out of the question to have killers involved in running the country.

But, we do need a tribunal worthy of the name. And it must go straight to the crux of the matter, which is, the crime of assassinating the two Presidents. There were witnesses to these assassinations, people who were at the airport, at Dar Es Salaam, when the plane took off. These people are starting to disappear, and, despite motions filed with the international court to follow up investigations, the case was not opened. We also filed suit against the RPF for committing crimes. We named the names of RPF individuals involved in crimes. But the tribunal chose not to open the file on those RPF members who, today, are in the government, and who took part in the genocide and massacres.

So, we are in a situation in which, whatever we do, even if we had the best possible program for ruling, we are blocked by the same attitude of the international community, which does not want to seek a solution to the crisis.

I can give you a brief summary of the form of government we defend. We need a Constitution guaranteeing the freedom of each and every citizen. We need a regionalized economy, in which people can be heard, and the state protects the weak and the fragile. In terms of democracy, we need an absolute democracy, not African-style, but one that corresponds to the new generations of today. I do not think we can take the society of our grandfathers as reference. We have new aspirations for government.

We can talk about justice and reconciliation among the three countries, but we are boxed in by the fact that certain

powers want to force leaders on us whom we do not want. They want to forget about the crimes that were committed by those leaders, namely Museveni, Kagame, Kabila, and, we could add, the head of Burundi, Pierre Buyoya. With these four people, we have created a situation in Africa that will continue to remain explosive.

I would hope that Mr. LaRouche, the Schiller Institute, and the organizers of this seminar will be able to make the international community aware of this. The solution belongs, of course, to the Africans, if we are allowed to find an African-style solution. But there are so many interests in that region today, that we can do nothing until we change the attitude of the international community. If that does not change, then we are condemning people to die of hunger, and opening a period of unending war.

Linda de Hoyos

Can we stop the chain reaction of catastrophe?

Mrs. de Hoyos, who spoke on April 26, is the Africa desk editor for EIR. Some of the maps used in her presentation are not included here; the information conveyed in those maps is discussed in the text.

The presentations we have just heard have given us once again the picture that we have seen unfolding in Rwanda and eastern Zaire over the last three years, and while most of the international community has been silent about this, for those of us who *are* concerned, the levels of human suffering that we have seen are absolutely incomprehensible and have never been witnessed in the history of humanity. I do not know that any population that I have ever heard about or read about has been forced to undergo the kind of constant death marches that the Rwandan refugees have been forced to undergo in eastern Zaire in these last six months.

The question confronting the people who have come here is, "How can we reverse this catastrophe? How can we create a victory out of this terrible crisis?" The question is even if this is a possible task for us at all? I think that the answer is that it is possible, but that this can be accomplished only if we adhere to certain principles at all costs, and at all costs no matter how chaotic or violent the seas around us might become.

The first advantage that we have in this fight, is that we

do have a good picture of who the enemy is. As far as I can see, the British and their allies, who have conspired and carried out what we have seen happening in eastern Africa in the last three years, have overextended themselves, have overplayed their hand. They are no longer in the background. They are very much up front. Their companies are very much up front. While it is true that there have not been protests against what has been happening, the story is coming out more and more, particularly in Europe—of *who is making money out of all this blood*. This is coming more to the fore.

We also know, since *EIR* did an investigation that confirmed allegations that were coming from people in Uganda and Rwanda, that President Museveni was completely involved in what was happening in Rwanda. We confirmed that this was done on orders, and in complete cooperation with the British Privy Council, through Baroness Lynda Chalker, who is deployed directly by the Privy Council. She is a member of the Privy Council; the Privy Council relies upon her to carry out policy. The Privy Council is the deliberating arm of the British monarch; it has nothing to do with the British people; it has nothing to do with the British government *per se*.

We know that in 1990, approximately one-fifth of the Ugandan army invaded Rwanda. We know that in October 1993, after the election in Burundi, there was an attempted coup, and that the elected President of Burundi was brutally murdered. We know that there was a conspiracy that was carried out successfully to kill the President of Rwanda in April 1994. These *two* events—not one of them—but both of these events, are what triggered the terrible bloodletting that occurred in Rwanda in 1994. It would be completely ridiculous, as the press does, to ignore the Burundi situation as not being a major factor in what happened in Rwanda. However, in the United States, there was only one small article in the U.S. press in October 1993 on the attempted coup in Burundi. This event was completely buried from consciousness by the Western press.

We also know that the murderers of these Presidents walk free in Kampala today. We have their names. You can go find them; anyone can go find them.

Now we see the next round of this onslaught, which is October 1996, the war against eastern Zaire. We know that Kabila was not even involved in the opening of this war, until a month afterwards, when he was flown in to be placed as the titular head of this operation in November.

EIR has documented that the driving force for this operation is Barrick Gold, Anglo American Corp., which is the "grandmother" of all these mining companies which are moving in. The British geopolitical goal here is the annihilation of nation-states in Africa, and the total monopoly control of Africa's vast mineral and agricultural wealth.

However, were it not for British *methods* of cultural warfare and social control, this goal would not be so close within their reach. It is the power of British methods of cultural warfare that has to be addressed. I would further like to pro-

pose also that they must be absolutely eradicated and defeated, if the lives of all those who have died in the last three years are to have any meaning.

To discuss these methods of British control, I would like to turn to Martin Luther King, who is a man who led the civil rights movement in the United States, along with others. By organizing that movement around the fight for *principles*, as opposed to the fight for *power* of any particular group or constituency, Martin Luther King absolutely defied British methods of control. In his paper on “Ethical Demands for Integration,” he went to the core of the problem. He said:

“The Judeo-Christian tradition refers to this inherent dignity of man in the Biblical term *the image of God*. This innate worth referred to in the phrase the image of God is universally shared in equal portions by all men. There is no graded scale of essential worth; there is no divine right of one race which differs from the divine right of another. Every human being has etched in his personality the indelible stamp of the Creator.

“This idea of the dignity and worth of human personality is expressed eloquently and unequivocally in the Declaration of Independence. ‘All men,’ it says, ‘are created equal. They are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.’ Never has a sociopolitical document proclaimed more profoundly and eloquently the sacredness of human personality.”

This, I think, must be the primary strategic principle of the battle that we have to wage against the British and their methods. First of all, adherence in practice greatly reduces the power of the British oligarchy, because it forces the British oligarchy and its allies to resort to brute force, as opposed to social manipulation. Brute force *has* strict limitations, beyond which it ceases to work at all.

Conversely, those who have lost sight of this principle in their battles—even for a *just* cause—have found that at the point of victory, the British were able to turn that victory into *bitter defeat*.

Look at India. For 50 years, the Congress Party and others waged a *just* fight for the independence of India from what Mahatma Gandhi rightly called “the Satanic colonial system of Great Britain” which had destroyed India and killed *millions* of people in it. However, right at the point of independence, what did the Indian patriots find? That their country had been divided into two, and that at the point of independence, the most awful bloodletting had been unleashed across the entire continent, which created such *chaos* that the first prime minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru, had to invite Lord Mountbatten *back into India* to regain control.

How is that possible? How is that possible? That is because in the 1930s, the leadership of the Congress Party, with the exception of Gandhi, agreed to the British idea that a Muslim could only be represented by a Muslim, and a Hindu could only be represented by a Hindu. They accepted this, when they agreed that it is not a question of the policy the person represents, but only if he is a member of my group. If

that is the case, then why not have two countries?

The Indians also had a bitter defeat, because in 1946, as Mr. LaRouche can personally tell you, at the point that the Indian patriots could have seized independence from Britain, they waited until it was given to them, and in that intervening year, the British caused this communal chaos. But basically, the Indian Congress Party had lost sight of the principle of man in the image of God, and that principle as the basis of political judgment.

Take the United States itself, where the Declaration of Independence was written. Because the Founding Fathers, for whatever reasons, were unable to extend those rights to *all* inhabitants of the United States, this failure caused the strategic vulnerability of the Southern slavocracy, which permitted the British to come in and organize the Confederacy, and we nearly lost the United States, were it not for President Abraham Lincoln and those around him.

This is the principle of man in the living image of God—of his ability to create, of his ability to use creative reason to create a nation, to create a better future for his children—this is the principle that if we lose sight of, as *the* criterion of what we have to do, we do this at great peril to ourselves, and we are likely to be defeated.

How the British operate

From this standpoint, I would like to discuss British methods. The Spanish painter Francisco Goya did this portrait of a British aristocrat right at the moment he was trying to bolster his self-confidence by going back over the genealogy of his illustrious family and going through his bloodlines (see picture next page). This *is* the identity of the British oligarchy. This is their idea of what a human being is. Actually, they do not have an idea of what a human being is; this is their idea of what *they* are.

They see humanity not as people, but as a collection of dog breeds, where each culture and each whatever the nuances and differences of the culture might be, represent a different breed, a different type of species. This species is doomed to repeat the same species-quality of its forefathers and those before them and before them. They are locked into this.

The British recognize certain qualities of the breeds. For example, there are certain breeds that, the British say, constitute the “martial races.” These are the Kakwas of northern Uganda and Sudan, the Ghurkhas of Nepal, the Pathans of Afghanistan, the Tutsis of Africa—and so they are used for this. Everything the British have done in managing Africa, in managing the *mass murder* of Africa, flows from their rejection of the principle of man in image of God, which is an idea they not only reject, but fear.

Since the British look at human beings as different breeds of animals, it is understandable that their concept of management tends in the direction of fences. Since, what do you do with animals? You pen them up—to control them.

Let’s take the apartheid system of South Africa. The apart-



Francisco Goya's portrait of a British aristocrat in a proud moment.

heid system, the laws of segregation, were created not in 1948, but far earlier in the first two decades of the Twentieth Century. The reason for these laws was that the British had two problems with their vast mining operations in South Africa. One, was that there was competition among the mining companies, which was used by the workers to keep wages relatively high. This problem was solved in a short period of time by the cartelization of mining under Anglo American Corp.

The second problem they had, was that Africans couldn't see any reason why they should work in these mines, in the conditions that existed. There was a chronic labor shortage. The first thing the British did to solve this problem was to use prison labor in the mines. Anyone arrested for a crime had to work in the mines as punishment. That was not enough.

In 1895, the first "pass law" was passed. This meant that if you were an African, you could only seek work in certain districts. You were restricted to apply for work as a domestic or in some type of service capacity, or as a miner. You had to have an employer's pass to get into these areas. This enabled the miners' association to lower wages by 35% in the mines.

As Consolidated Goldfields wrote at the time: "With good government there should be an abundance of labor, and with

an abundance of labor, there will be no difficulty in cutting down wages."

In 1902, they tried to cut wages again, with the result that 56% of the miners just left their jobs, period.

In 1904, the British tried to bolster the workforce by importing Chinese workers, but this also was not adequate.

Then in 1913, an entire package was put forward, by which the apartheid system was consolidated. The Administration of Persons to the Union Regulation Act classified 47% of South Africa's mine labor force as "foreign" workers, even though they were not, enabling them to deny black Africans any citizen rights. The 1913 Native Lands Act then legally confined Africans in South Africa to 8.8% of the land—this is the bantustan policy. Africans were rounded up, given 8.8% of the land, given absolutely nothing with which to work even this amount of land. What were Africans' choices then? They could either do nothing, and die, or they could work in the mines.

This is how the apartheid system was actually created in South Africa. Even so, in 1922, when white skilled workers led a strike in the mines for better wages and working conditions, the British mining companies responded by firing every white worker—and from that time, there were no white workers allowed in the mines, except in managerial positions.

As we see in **Figure 1**, another fencing policy was done in the post-independence period, which was the fencing of large portions of land of African countries, into so-called national wildlife parks, for the preservation of wildlife. In Tanzania, for example, this policy resulted in turning 40% of the country into a park! This is the real basis of the *ujama* [communal agriculture] policy of Julius Nyerere, which was written in Sweden, not in China, and which took the most fertile land in Tanzania, and put it in this park. Many hundreds of thousands of Tanzanians died as a result of this forced relocation.

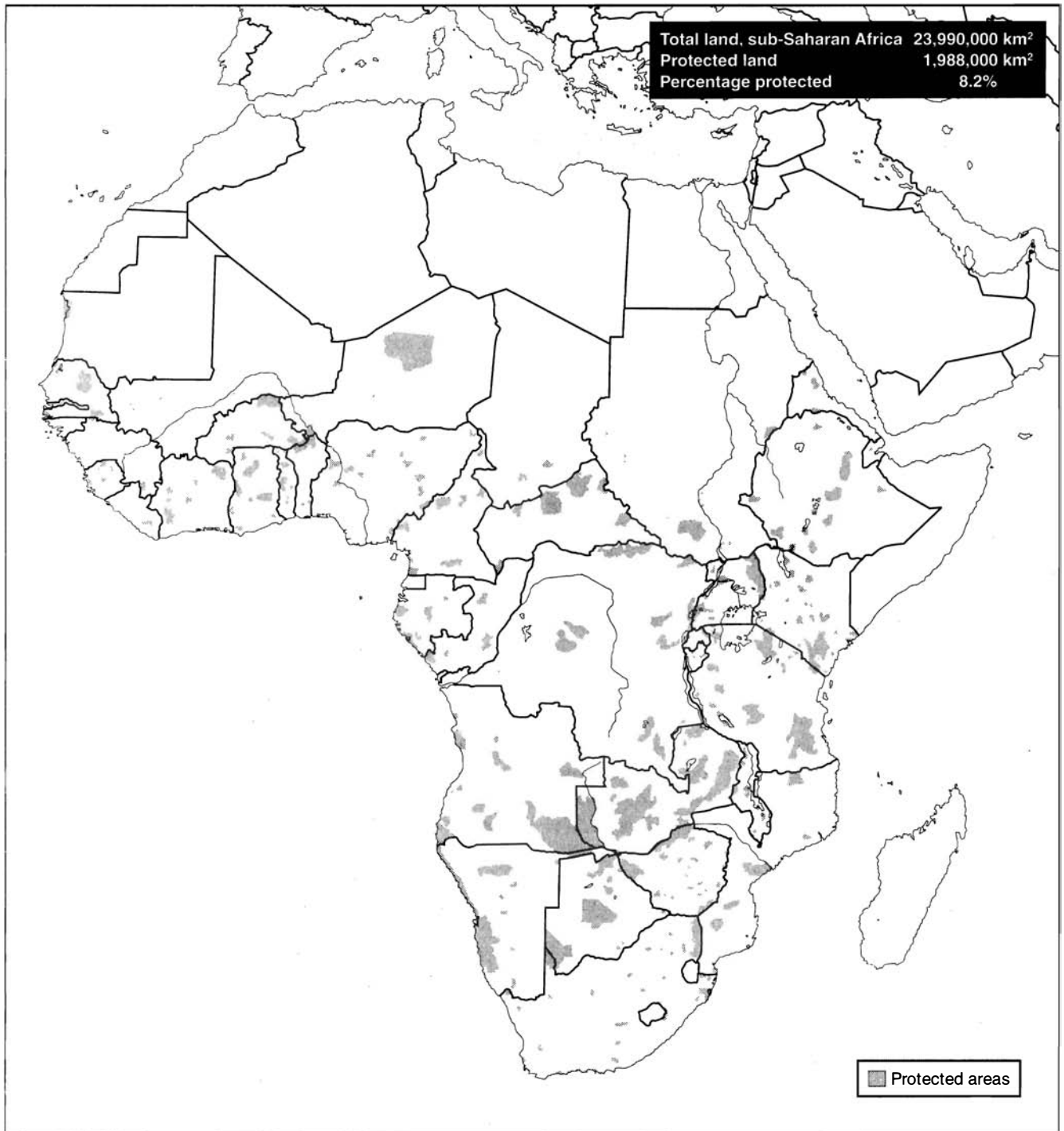
In the case of Rwanda, it was a precondition to independence from Belgium, that Rwanda had to place 7% of its land area into national parks.

In **Figure 2**, this is Sudan, where another large fencing operation took place in the 1920s and 1930s, because the British were afraid that the Muslim Sudanese would come into more and more contact with the southern Sudanese, and the British feared the northern Sudanese, because they had not shown the proper levels of obeisance to the British: They had killed "Chinese" Gordon; they had challenged the British; and they had a universal culture which makes it very difficult to convince a leader or patriot of northern Sudan that his identity should be defined by the color of his skin—I think they think that is a ridiculous proposition.

No matter what color you are, if you are a Muslim in Sudan, the British call you an *Arab*. This is to ensure that there is a separate so-called African identity, which was created for the people in the south of Sudan. There was a total apartheid system imposed on Sudan in the 1920s. The people in the south were told that they were *Africans*, not these *Arabs*,

FIGURE 1

Protected (that is, fenced) areas of Africa



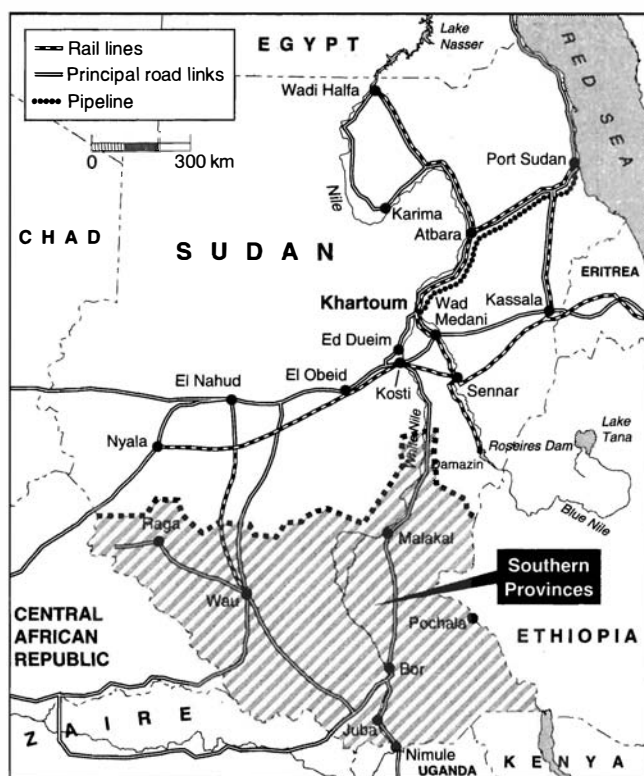
whatever that means, and that meant that they could be very proud to have no development, no education, no inputs whatsoever, and no opportunities.

If you are familiar with the ideology of Yoweri Museveni

and his friend John Garang, you know that this so-called African identity, created out of a literal fencing operation in southern Sudan, is key to their ability to maintain southern Sudan in constant warfare.

FIGURE 2

The line of British-created apartheid in Sudan



Fences in the mind: the case of Uganda

The physical fencing systems the British have imposed in Africa go hand in hand with fences constructed in the minds of people. One of the places that this has been played to the hilt, by constantly creating divisions among people who would otherwise live in relative harmony, is Uganda.

I want to take the case of Uganda, because, as people here know, Uganda is the point where the current operation in East Africa is originating. Why is that?

This is because of Uganda's strategic position within Britain's geopolitical gameboard (Figure 3). There is Uganda; you can see that it is well-situated, right in the middle of eastern Africa.

If you look at the population densities of sub-Saharan Africa, you find that Rwanda and Burundi have the highest population density; Uganda is right next to them, with a significant population density, but not as high as Rwanda or Burundi. But if you were to move in to drastically reduce the population density of this region, you would do it from Uganda.

Uganda also sits right at the headwaters of the River Nile basin, and is at a crucial point for controlling the waters flowing into Sudan and Egypt. If the Jonglei Canal were ever to be built in southern Sudan, this region would become such a breadbasket that it could feed all of Africa. The control of

Uganda is therefore crucial for the British to ensure that nothing *positive is done* with these Nile waters.

Also of great interest to the British are the rock formations of Africa, especially the crystallines, where the strategic minerals are—gold, diamonds, gems, and so forth. Uganda is right in the middle of the crystalline region.

For these reasons, the British have taken care to maintain a very careful control over Uganda. From the days of colonialism onward, the British wove a web of tribal, or group, economic, religious, divisions—any type of division you could think of. This was made easier by the fact that in Uganda there is no majority group. The largest group, which is Buganda, is only 16% of the population. It was very easy for the British to play all kinds of games with alliances, counter-alliances with all the different groups, and for the British to insert themselves in the middle of this. Politics in Uganda has largely become a scramble of each group against all—which is also fed by outside money. The outside money comes in, criminalizes various groupings or cliques, and then violence becomes the way in which this is played out in the country. This has been going on since 1966. The idea is to keep the pot boiling in Uganda at all times, so it is the *scum* that come to the surface.

And there he is (see photo). This is Yoweri Museveni, the President of Uganda today. Museveni is being put forward as the leader of the “new Africa.” He is the cat's meow of African leaders, in contrast to the corrupt leaders like Mobutu or Kenya's Moi, the old corrupt leaders who operated on the basis of a patronage system. Museveni doesn't have a patronage system, because he simply has a hired mercenary force, and the rest of the population is dying. He has no need of patronage.

I want to look at Museveni as a case in point of how the British oligarchy thinks Africans should think and behave. He *is* a model, he is a model of a creation of the British oligarchy.

I will use Museveni's own recently published autobiography, *Sowing the Mustard Seed*, for this purpose, and let's assume that this book is not a vile slander.¹ Let's assume that Museveni considers his own autobiography to be praiseworthy.

The first thing to understand about Museveni—it is hard to imagine, but he *is* a human being—is that his primary problem is that he is a member of the Hima group of the Ankole region of southwestern Uganda. The first problem of this group is that they are nomadic cattlemen, and Museveni does regard his cow not as a possession of his, but as a member of his family.

To wit, the subhead of page 3 of the autobiography is the “Importance of Cows,” and I quote: “Cows were and still are central to Banyankore culture. Our cows, with their long, large horns, are remarkably gentle, and even the bulls are placid. This is because of the way we treat them. We do not

1. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, *Sowing the Mustard Seed: The Struggle for Freedom and Democracy in Uganda* (London, U.K.: Macmillan Publishers, 1997).

FIGURE 3
Uganda in Africa



regard them as existing only for commercial gain. They are like members of our families and we treat them very intimately. . . . I have a great personal feeling for my cows; they are like cousins and sisters to me.”

As if this cow problem were not enough, the Bahimas in this area of Uganda have maintained a very strict feudal system, in which the Bahimas are the feudal overlords, and any-

one else, or the Bairu, are the *serfs*. Bairu really means “Bahutu,” which really means anyone who is not a Hima, and the Bahimas are a group of the Tutsis. They are linked, caste-wise, with the Tutsis. The feudal system in Ankole that the Himas presided over was one of the strictest in all of Africa. The Bahimas prohibited any kind of inter-marriage among castes.



Uganda's Yoweri Museveni, tool of the British oligarchy. "Museveni doesn't have a patronage system," says de Hoyos, "because he simply has a hired mercenary force, and the rest of the population is dying. He has no need of patronage."

This problem of the Bahimas was exacerbated in the 1960s. After independence and the economic achievements of the first Milton Obote government, there was upward mobility in Uganda. The Bairu began to acquire cattle, which previously they had been prohibited from doing. By the late 1960s, the Bairu had more cattle than the Bahimas, which were only about 5% of the population in the region.

Then, the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), which, from the evidence gathered so far, works very closely with Lynda Chalker's Overseas Development Ministry, came in to rescue the Bahimas. Under the guise of a tsetse fly eradication program, what did they do? They constructed fences! They carried out an enclosure system, in the Ankole region. This meant that the communal pastoral lands, which were shared by everyone's cattle, were fenced in. They created large ranches, and they handed the large ranches over to the Bahimas. The most powerful Bahima rancher has his ranch in the national park. So, the AID came to the rescue of this feudal society.

As you will see, this operation had grave repercussions later. Even at the time they carried out the program, the AID people warned: "The ranching scheme may be expected to have a dramatic effect on the economic development of Ankole. It also has a great potential to exacerbate or modify social tensions which exist there."

Underneath Museveni's sense of caste superiority, lies a deep sense of intellectual inferiority. This is clear in the book. The only point at which Museveni breaks with his otherwise

monotone style, is when he describes when, as a young boy, he went to school and was given "E's"—failure marks, because he did not write with a pen. The reason he did not write with a pen, was because his bookbag had holes in it, and his pens would fall out and he would have to write with a pencil and his teacher would flunk him. Then he would get in trouble with his parents, and his teachers. He writes, "that as a consequence of this harassment, I no longer enjoyed going to school."

I think this is a significant episode in the life of this person. Museveni does show an absolute disregard, up to and including his 10-point program for Uganda, where he does not mention the word "education" once, for the power of knowledge. In secondary school, he describes how he had to learn English and history, and read Shakespeare. He writes that although this was of some interest, "this kind of education was *irrelevant* to our situation."

As he grew up into late adolescence, he became a born-again Christian, and then a "died-Christian," and he became political. He and his friends decided to go to Dar Es Salaam University. This was a point of absolute political commitment for Museveni. He writes: "I have come to understand that lack of knowledge is a major factor in many of the mistakes that have occurred in Africa since the 1960s, so it is fortunate that at that time we began to turn our minds to university. We deliberately chose not to go to Makerere University" in Uganda, which was also one of the finest universities in all of Africa. "Because of our group's involvement in politics, we all put down Dar Es Salaam as first choice for university. In

this we were influenced by Julius Nyerere's distinctly more positive and progressive leadership. We thought, and rightly, that there was more political information in Dar Es Salaam, especially since all the African liberation movements were based there. I, for one, decided that if I could not get into Dar Es Salaam University, I would go away and do other things rather than go to Makerere."

Museveni did get into Dar Es Salaam, and on top of this Bahima problem and his problem with having no sense of the power of his own intellect, is now overlaid the problem that he was processed by a university that was designed to create *enragé* Jacobins.

Museveni came out of Dar Es Salaam, he claims (although he is not), a committed "anti-tribalist." And here is how he dealt with the problem of tribalism within his own movement: He writes that most of his group operating in guerrilla warfare against Idi Amin at this time, were Bahimas, but most of the leadership was another group that spoke a different language. One of the Bahima youth protested that the leaders were not Bahima. Museveni writes: "The way we treated him may be instructive. I arrested him immediately and put him in an *endaki*, an underground tunnel, half-naked. It can be very cold at night. He decided to go on a hunger strike. We told him that we did not mind him dying, because, after all, he had been trying to murder our organization by fragmenting it into tribal factions. After a little while, I decided to intimidate him. I told him that since he had decided to go on hunger strike, we were going to shoot him in order to expedite his death. He immediately fell on his knees, quaking and begging for mercy as he had many young children to look after, and so on. Of course, we did not intend to shoot him, but the firm way I dealt with that kind of opportunism contained tribalism in Fronasa [his group] and the young recruits started looking at each other as members of Fronasa rather than as individuals."

This, evidently, is Museveni's concept of education.

This incident is perfectly coherent with what we now hear about Kabila setting up "re-education camps" in eastern Zaire, which is simply brainwashing based on terror.

The bottom line is that for Museveni, the issue is *power*. The issue is not policy, not even who—but power, as raw, physical power. His perception clearly is, that if you do not *have* power, it is because it is your fault. It is because you are weak, you are stupid, if you do not have power. This is how he arrives at his famous formulation which Mr. Binaiisa already gave you:

"I have never blamed the whites for colonizing Africa. I have never blamed them for taking slaves. If you are stupid, you should be taken as a slave."

So, what do we have? The reality is, that the "new leader" of the "new Africa" is a *slavemaster*.

It is noteworthy that in his book, he castigates Milton Obote for attacking feudalism. He claims that Obote ignores how money and wealth was being drained out of Uganda by

imperialism (as if they were not going out at the fastest possible rate right now), and instead concentrated on attacking the feudal structures of Uganda. Whatever tactical errors Obote made, the fact is that it is through those feudal structures—the feudal structures Museveni is defending—that the British are running their genocidal operation right now against East Africa—in Rwanda, in Burundi, in Zaire, in Uganda itself. This is because the British have understood that if they can find those people who believe that human beings are not human beings, and who agree with the British, that they are just different forms of animals, then the British oligarchy can rule through *them*.

Museveni never could have come to power, despite his incredible capacities as a bush guerrilla leader, if he had not had help. In the 1980s, some forces of the second Obote government made a move to expel the Banyarwanda from southwestern Uganda. This was due to an objective land problem, competition over land, which had been worsened by what the AID had done to the region in 1968.

There was an attack on the Banyarwanda. It is at this point that the people we see today, on the ground, running Kabila, running Garang, running Museveni, running Kagame, come into the region.

First, who comes in is the United Nations High Commission on Refugees. The UNHCR's Tom Unwin comes into Uganda to busy himself with the refugee crisis created by the expulsion. He complained loudly against the Obote government. Also on hand, was Jason Clay, editor of *Cultural Survival*, which is *the* minority group-indigenous advocacy operation in the United States, and out of his experience, he wrote a book, *The Expulsion of the Banyarwanda*. He was working at the time with none other than Roger Winter, of the U.S. Committee of Refugees. Roger Winter is the person who said point-blank, as he was quoted in the *Washington Post*, that Rwandans who did not leave Zaire in December 1996 to go back to Rwanda, were "bad people" and "if they are in a bad position, they deserve it."

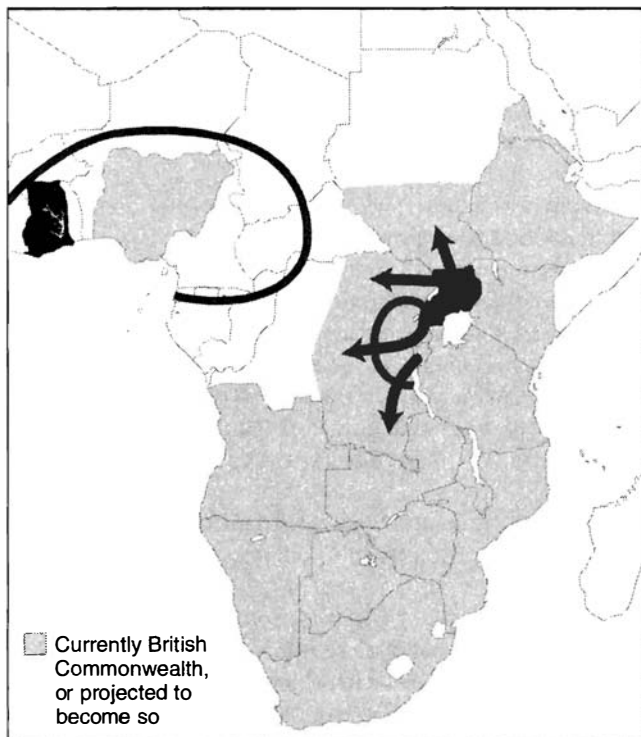
At this point, an event occurred in the north of Uganda which further propelled Museveni to power—and that was that the war in southern Sudan broke out again. John Garang organized the SPLA [Sudan People's Liberation Army], the war began, and everyone knew that Milton Obote was not going to lend himself or Uganda to a war against Sudan from the south. This refusal is a major reason he was pushed out the first time by Idi Amin, and it is a major reason that his second government was doomed.

Starting in 1983-85, a propaganda machine was built up in the United States, saying that Milton Obote is a mass murderer. The myth that Obote is the mass murderer of the Luwero Triangle was created, especially by Winter himself. It is significant that Museveni never once *claims* in his autobiography that Obote killed the people in the Luwero Triangle, because Museveni is the one himself who carried out these atrocities.

At about this time, the money that was coming in to aid

FIGURE 4

London's gameplan



the Banyarwanda refugees began to be siphoned off to Museveni and his guerrilla forces. Just as the Sudanese government has recently caught the so-called Operation Lifeline in southern Sudan twice carrying weapons and troops to Garang, as part of their refugee operations in southern Sudan.

This map (Figure 4) gives an idea of the operations that Museveni was brought to power to carry out. He has moved forces into southern Sudan; he has moved forces into eastern Zaire, from the north, and through Rwanda and Burundi. There is a small arrow there targetting Kenya—since the *Times* of London on April 4 declared war on President Moi of Kenya, and we may expect something there, hopefully not. This shaded area is the land that the British seek to completely control. They want to split off southern Sudan and join it to Uganda. They control Eritrea; they control Ethiopia; they want Kenya; they virtually control Tanzania; they control eastern Zaire; through to Angola. Mozambique has joined the British Commonwealth. I have seen one projection that Kabila would even march all the way through to Cameroon. What we do know, is that Ghana is being built up as a forward military base of operations for the British. The British say this themselves. The pot is beginning to bubble in Nigeria, which is a major oil-producing nation, a major mineral-producing nation, and a major population center—it is obviously a major, major target of British intelligence for Africa. I think we

will see an extended war zone in the west, as the British attempt to consolidate their victories in the east.

It is for this purpose that Museveni came in; it is for this purpose that his regime exists. When Museveni came into Kampala in 1986, with very little resistance, since there were peace negotiations going on, he had only 10,000 men. Within a few years, the Ugandan army had swelled to 100,000 men, with many others under arms. The people who went into Rwanda in 1990, were from the Ugandan army. The head of the Rwandan section was the director of intelligence of the Ugandan army. As early as 1990, the idea was to move that force as rapidly as possible through Rwanda into eastern Zaire. Three top leaders of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) were mysteriously killed at the front, and reportedly they were murdered because they refused to go onward to Zaire. Paul Kagame was the first prepared to go all the way to Zaire. Today, Kagame speaks to the press as if he were the owner of the region around Goma, Zaire, already.

We have seen a chain reaction of catastrophe since the invasion of Rwanda in 1990. The question is: Can it stop? How can it stop? Can it *be* stopped? For instance, at lunch today, someone predicted that there will be an uprising against the Tutsis. Even if there is not an immediate uprising against the Tutsis in this region, what is to guarantee that three, four, five years down the line, the British don't go to the Hutus, and say, "Now's the time for your revenge. We've decided that this guy's no good. Now, you can get what you were denied. You can wreak vengeance for the deaths of your people"? Who is to guarantee that this cannot happen?

There is no guarantee that this will not happen, unless we *organize* and create a movement, an institution, that rejects this concept that we are nothing but different dog breeds, compliments of the British oligarchy, and that power is derived from them, as opposed to from our own creative powers of reason.

There is no guarantee, unless we organize a movement of that form. To the extent to which that is organized—and it must be done extremely quickly, in this moment of opportunity—then we go to the country where the Declaration of Independence was written, and say, "*These* are your friends in Africa." If we do not have an institutionalized force, to which the United States government can turn as an alternative, then it is far more difficult to change U.S. policy and to force the pivot of world history *against* the British empire, which is what we must do.

Therefore, while every person has legitimate concerns—and those concerns could not possibly be questioned—about their people and what has been done to them, we must recognize that what the British fear, is not people who are concerned, but people who are steeled to fight on the basis of the principle of man in the image of God. And I believe that is what the people who have perished in this terrible conflagration want us to do; I believe they are asking us to do it. And that is what we can do, and must do.

Why Americans don't understand Africa

Mr. Speed is a leader of the Schiller Institute in the United States. He gave a slide-show presentation at the Walluf seminar on April 26. Some of the photographs and other graphic material have been omitted in this published version, and the text has been edited accordingly.

This presentation will begin by asking the question: Why are African-Americans, despite, in many cases, the best of intentions, unable to face the greatest genocide going on in the world now occurring in Central Africa? Why is this true, despite the fact that African-Americans have political leadership, which is elected ostensibly to protest precisely such a genocide? Why is this true, despite the fact that African-Americans have contact with leadership from African countries and other well-informed individuals, who have made them aware of the ongoing and impending disasters? Why is this true, despite the fact that African-Americans, through colleges, libraries, and so forth, have engaged in what they have referred to as "Afrocentric" and "multicultural" "consciousness-raising movements" for the better part of 25 years?

In his essay, "The House of the World," Martin Luther King, commenting on the unawareness and the lack of interest of his fellow Americans in the importance of international affairs, said:

"Nothing could be more tragic for men than to live in these revolutionary times and to fail to achieve

the new attitudes and the new mental outlooks that the new situation demands. In the familiar American story of Rip Van Winkle, a man who slept for 20 years, the one thing that we usually remember, is that he *did* sleep for 20 years. But there is another point that is almost always overlooked: It was the sign on the little inn in the town on the river from which the man departed and scaled the mountain before he went to sleep. When he first went up the mountain, the sign had a picture of King George III of England. When he came down, 20 years later, the sign had a picture of George Washington. As the man looked at the picture of the first President of the United States, he was confused and lost. He did not know who George



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Washington was, because he had been asleep. The most striking thing about the story is *not* that he slept for 20 years, but that he slept through a Revolution that would alter the course of human history.

"Every society has its protectors of the status quo. Every society has its fraternities of the indifferent who are notorious for sleeping through revolutions, but, today, our very survival depends on our ability to stay *awake* and to adjust to new ideas."

There was a new idea during the Second World War, that Franklin Roosevelt announced to Winston Churchill, and when he announced it to Winston Churchill, during the meeting of the Atlantic Charter, he said:

"You see, there is likely to be some disagreement between you, Winston, and me. I am firmly of the belief, that if we are to arrive at a stable peace, it must involve the development of backward countries and backward peoples. How can this be done? It can't be done, obviously, by Eighteenth-Century methods."

And then, Roosevelt was interrupted by Churchill, who said, very angrily, "Who's talking Eighteenth-Century methods?"

Roosevelt replied, "Whichever of *your* ministers recommends a policy which takes wealth and raw materials out of a colonial country, but which returns nothing to the people of that country in consideration. Twentieth-Century methods involve bringing industry to these colonies. Twentieth-Century methods include increasing the wealth of a people, by increasing their standard of living, by educating them, by bringing them sanitation, by making sure that they get a return for the raw wealth of their community."

Those are the words of Franklin Roosevelt to Winston Churchill, announcing to him, the new idea; the new idea which was never to be realized, because Roosevelt died; and Churchill did not.

What Adam Clayton Powell understood

The African-American Congressman Adam Clayton Powell was the most significant legislator in the United States after the American Civil War of 1860-65. Powell was a legislator, he was a Congressman from the 1940s, just after the war, up until approximately 1970. Adam Clayton Powell, who attended the Bandung Conference of 1955, pointed out the little-appreciated fact, that when that conference was held, Indonesia's President Sukarno, in his opening of the conference, invoked the American Revolution as the model for the creation of the Third World. Sukarno declared:



Adam Clayton Powell

“The battle against colonialism has been a long one. And, do you know that today is a famous anniversary in that battle? The 18th day of April, 1775, just 180 years ago, Paul Revere rode at midnight through the New England countryside, warning of the approach of the British troops and of the opening of the American War of Independence, the *first, successful anti-colonial war in history.*”

In his autobiography, Powell also recounted a conversation he had with the minister of state of Ghana, then called the Gold Coast. Powell was incensed that all the Africans from British colonies were afraid to say anything about their subject status (this is 1955). Koto Botsio, minister of state of the Gold Coast, after looking around to see if they were being watched, took Powell out on the balcony of his room, and he confided to him: “The British Foreign Office has agents on the scene, and these agents have bluntly told me and other chiefs of the Sudan and the Gold Coast, that if we open our mouths, the British government would not allow the Sudan, nor the Gold Coast, to achieve the Commonwealth status which they have been promised.”

Thus, the African states were intimidated into not speaking, for fear that they would lose the one privilege that would, in the long run, do them the most damage: continued status in the Commonwealth.

Now, Adam Clayton Powell had defied the strident advice of the State Department, which was that he *not attend* the Bandung Conference. But because he defied the State Department and went anyway, he was there to defend the United States, when it was attacked by the Soviet Union, which wanted to have the conference condemn the United States for racism.

Now, Adam Clayton Powell was not an Uncle Tom. He had coined the term, “Black Power” in the 1940s, and he wrote a book by the same name; however, at Bandung, he said: “Let’s not judge the United States by what is happening in its worst states, but let’s judge it by what is happening in *most* of its states, and use this a goal to clean up the rest of the country.”

As a consequence, when he returned to the United States, although he had gone against the will of the State Department, he received a standing ovation when he entered the Congress; and then he said: “Bandung has completely changed my thinking; whereas, previously I had thought of civil rights in terms of rights of Negroes only, I now saw civil rights as the sole method by which we could save the entire United States of America.”

Now, today, unfortunately, few American elected officials, African-American or otherwise, would have the sophistication to even recognize the extraordinary strategic significance of events like the Bandung Conference; and even worse, today’s African-American radical Afrocentric elements, radical so-called Black Nationalist elements, would have completely fallen in the trap of denouncing the United States at Bandung, the trap that Powell avoided.

The LaRouche movement vs. the oligarchy

The International Caucus of Labor Committees, the parent organization of the Schiller Institute, was founded by statesman and physical economist Lyndon LaRouche. The ICLC and the Schiller Institute have accumulated the most extensive, in-depth record of battle in favor of the anti-colonial outlook, actually characteristic of the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. The late Hulan Jack, former Manhattan Borough President and collaborator of Adam Clayton Powell in Harlem, was a founder of the Committee for a New Africa Policy in 1980. This was a precursor organization, prior to the existence of the Schiller Institute, which fought for Africa.



Hulan Jack

The first campaign of this committee was to attempt to convince then-President Jimmy Carter to send 18 million metric tons of wheat, grain, and dried milk to the nation of Zaire. When Carter refused, Hulan Jack became a full-time organizer in *our* movement, until his death in 1986.

Anglo-American intelligence operatives, or individuals acting in de facto agreement with them, have attempted to derail such efforts. A case in point is Lenora Fulani, now a hired gun of intelligence agent Ross Perot, himself a functionary of the same networks that deploy the likes of George Bush. She has gone so far as to support the mass murderer, Laurent “Hitler” Kabila, in his war to make Zaire safe for George Bush’s Barrick Gold Corp. And I quote now from a press release from her on April 14 of this year. It’s about her interview with Congressman Donald Payne of New Jersey, who has been a *real pain* on the question of Africa:



Lenora Fulani

“Amidst all this hypocrisy, it is refreshing to hear Congressman Donald Payne talk about his recent visit to Zaire. Payne, the outgoing chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, was a guest on my weekly television show last week, and he explained to viewers the political origins of the civil war. Representative Payne felt it was important to visit Kabila, and, according to the congressman, ‘Kabila is certainly serious, and needs to be contended with. I had several hours of meetings with him.’ ”

Then she says, “Representative Payne noted what other observers have mentioned as well: Kabila has been treating the people he liberated in a humane way.”

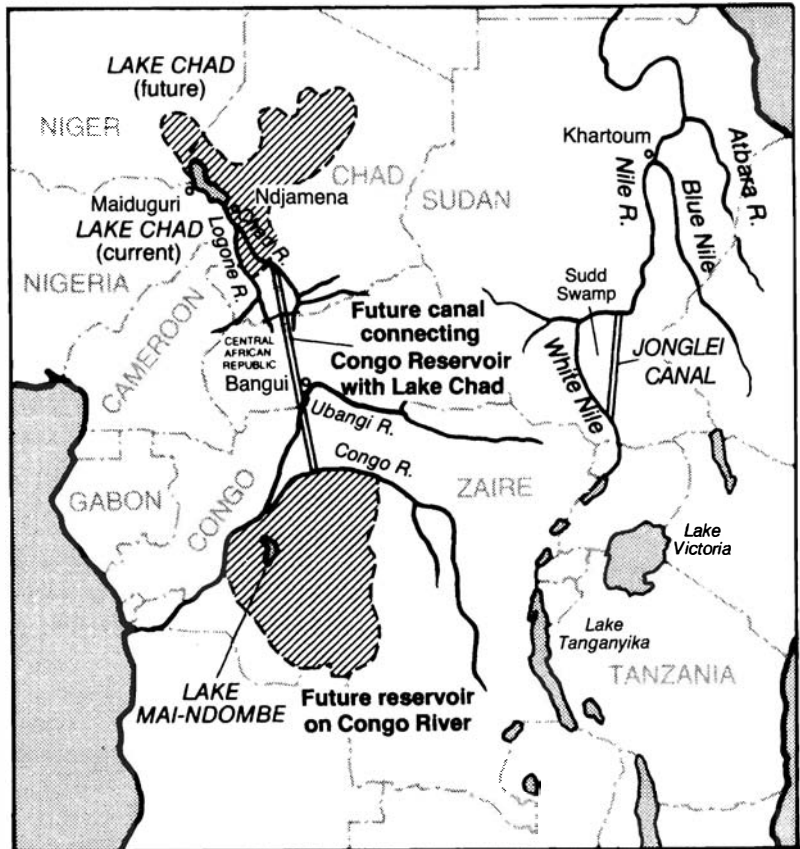
And, I say, that mark will go down in infamy, along with the forms of pro-Nazi propaganda that were preached by people like Ezra Pound in the United States in favor of Mussolini, and, in a different way, of Adolf Hitler.

Look deeper at the oligarchical networks we are combatting in Africa: Barrick Gold Corporation, on which George Bush sits as the honorary head of the board of directors, was the company through which the original "Iran-Contra" arms deal was run, so it is part of the "secret government." Barrick acquired 80,000 square kilometers from Zaire, for mining purposes. Much of the area was on, or near, the present sites of the refugee camps that were recently dismantled. Kabila, far from being a progressive force, has stated that he favors a "free market" solution to Zaire's problems, which means, a turning of the land and the wealth of Zaire back over to the Belgian, British, French, and Anglo-American interests which control the International Monetary Fund and other banking institutions. Zaire's land, according to the views of these genocidalists and their African mercenaries, must be cleared of the "undesirable" black population.

Fulani is working with the African proxy element that has been designated in this way to implement the National Security Study Memorandum 200, written back in the 1970s by Henry Kissinger, and passed into law at the time that George Bush acted as head of the Central Intelligence Agency. NSSM-200 was a call for the depopulation of certain black African states, as essential to the national security of the United States. It was a classified document, only released in 1991. Because there was opposition to these depopulation policies in Africa and other Third World countries, it became necessary to acquire the protective coloration of an African revolutionary movement to sell the depopulation scheme. As a result, many former Marxists, such as Museveni and Kabila, became the vehicles for so-called "revolutionary movements" of mercenaries and corporation-sponsored killers. And, in the United States, Fulani, who also has such a radical cover, was also used in this same way.

Fulani is, herself, a cheap, community college version of earlier 1970s agents like Angela Davis. Davis, contrary to popular belief, was never anything other than an agent of, not simply the Communist Party, but a particular wing of Anglo-American intelligence known as the Frankfurt School. Whatever may have been *her* consciousness of that fact—or lack of consciousness of that fact—her deployment was micro-managed by Herbert Marcuse, her professor. One of the top operatives of Germany's Frankfurt School in the 1930s, Marcuse was later an operative for the Office of Strategic Services and the U.S. State Department. And, from that position, he ran

FIGURE 1
Lake Chad-Congo Basin, and Jonglei Canal projects



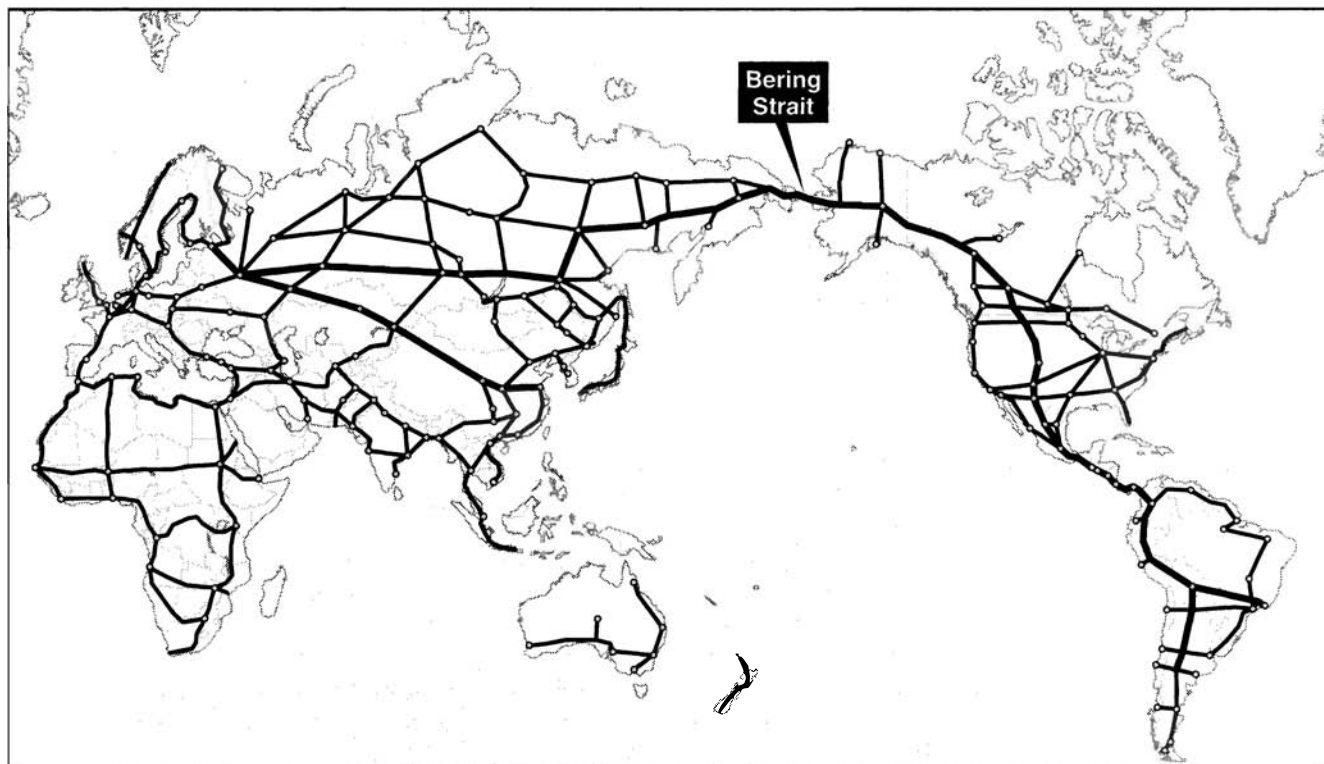
Angela Davis, he ran her whole deployment, and her whole radicalization in the United States.

Now, thereby hangs a tale, which is of particular significance in answering the question, why the African-American community, when the issue of African genocide comes up, is reduced to impotence in the face of this holocaust. This is a book from a man by the name of Claude Lightfoot, who was a top official of the Communist Party, U.S.A. He was also an African-American, and I cite it here for reasons I will explain.

In 1968, Claude Lightfoot of the Communist Party wrote an article in which he instructed the African-American cadre of the Communist Party, U.S.A. to support the efforts, then most-identified with some newly formed Black Nationalist movements, to popularize in the United States, a call for the formation of a separate black nation in the Southern states: in South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, and Georgia. The idea was that this should secede, it should separate from the United States. Lightfoot specifically instructed that Communist Party cadre were to hold a plebiscite in the South, if at all possible, to determine how many African-Americans would actually favor seceding from the United States. He further stated that, if there were even a significant minority that would support the proposal, it should be pushed. And

FIGURE 2

Main lines of a worldwide rail network, as sketched by H.A. Cooper



so, you had your own “Katanga Province movement” in the United States! Thus, the Communist Party sought to strengthen whatever there *might* be, of a Confederate-style secessionism among African-Americans. And, this was a continuation of what their policy had been in the America’s Southern states, during Stalin’s 1927-33 “Third Period.”

African-Americans, in the immediate aftermath of the assassination of Martin Luther King, did not look at the fact that the FBI, Army intelligence, and other agencies were deploying to precisely the effect of encouraging *this kind* of secessionism, to dissipate the power of the civil rights movement. These agencies were successful, and, by 1969, the civil rights movement in America was essentially dead. Thus, instead of the outlook of Martin Luther King, or that of Adam Clayton Powell, which sought to emphasize the revolutionary role of the American Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, and which sought to build alliances with African and Asian nations on that basis, the African-American cultural nationalists, Black Nationalists—that outlook—has now become the greatest impediment to creating a mobilization in the United States, against the murderous policies of the Bush-League-dominated State Department.

This is *not* because everybody who was a member of these movements was misguided or an agent—I’m not saying this—but because intelligence agencies, such as Division

Five of the FBI, U.S. Army intelligence, British MI-5, and so forth, utilized their own operatives to take advantage of the political demoralization within the context provided by the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Mass brainwashing

If you want to know how Harvard University has been brainwashing African-American intellectuals, look at the work of Howard Gardner on the “seven types of intelligence,” which is supposed to instruct you on how to educate the African-American population and other populations. Now, there is no longer just *one* intelligence: There’s “musical intelligence,” “physical intelligence,” “spatial intelligence,” “kinesthetic intelligence”—in other words, the idea is to *dumb down*, to make stupid, the population, and to *claim that your stupidity is what makes you unique*. It is argued that African-Americans lack the disposition to cognition required for highly abstract reasoning. It is therefore argued that it is *racist* to require them to think; even if the person who requires them to think is another African-American, or an African.

Now, even Minister Louis Farrakhan of the Nation of Islam was victimized by this kind of problem, when he performed the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in G Minor on his 60th birthday. For those who don’t know, Mr. Farrakhan is an accomplished violinist; and he performed the Mendelssohn

concerto a few years back. Although a videotape of the performance was produced, to this day, most African-Americans and most Americans have not seen it, and Minister Farrakhan, though he loves music, has been reluctant to repeat such an activity. This is in part because there were some in the African-American community who attacked him for “trying to show off,” implicitly, for “acting white,” and explicitly for “going beyond the people.”

This is how far the pressure of volunteered slavery can push its victims: They will thus reject precisely what is best, all in the name of “protecting their self-interest.” They will even *turn* on those who exemplify their best interest, in order to preserve the slave mentality, which Harvard University has sought to make the badge of their identity.

The way out of the crisis

In contrast to this, it is required of us here at this conference, to begin to provide a way, a means by which the American, the African-American, the African, and those throughout the world, can create a different outlook. **Figure 1** shows one aspect of the program that was produced in June of 1979 by associates of Lyndon LaRouche who were then working through the Fusion Energy Foundation. It was a comprehensive program, dealing with every area of industrialization, but I wanted to show this area for the following reason. This shows you, of course, both the Nile River and what we call “the second Nile River”: the idea of creating a Great Zairean Lake; of diverting the Congo River north, which is where it used to flow, and not have the freshwater going into the Atlantic; and then through drilling a hole in the mountains, creating a great trench, re-filling Lake Chad, and beginning to refill the now-underground rivers of the north; and by doing this, to green the Sahara. That is Nile number two; Nile number one is to develop as Sudan wished to develop it, with the Jonglei Canal and other such projects.

And, so, this is one aspect of the outlook that I believe must unify us *all*, in terms of the conditions, or the request that we make for, both, the rebuilding of Africa, and also, whatever project can be done to *create* the community of interest within Africa, itself, that can then give us the economic base to proceed to the most advanced development of individual states and nation-states—but, in cooperation for these sorts of projects.

Figure 2 shows a complete view of the “Eurasian Land-Bridge” project, with Africa included. The idea is to span the entire globe with railway development corridors, and that these development corridors will allow us to take the best that humanity has, and put it in every village, in every town, in every hamlet, in the smallest possible unit, so that no one is separated from that kind of development that we should *all*, *equally* enjoy.

Because of the threat posed by LaRouche, as seen in his and his movement’s defense of Central Africa, against George Bush, and others, African-American operatives such as Co-

lumbia University’s Manning Marable and other agents, have been deployed to slander him in the hopes of scaring African-Americans, or, as we say in American, “spooking” African-Americans, from stopping the recolonization of Africa. They are also openly deployed to assassinate, or at least to defame, others, such as Minister Louis Farrakhan; and, I just mention to this body, that it was Mr. LaRouche, together with the Rev. James Bevel, who sat with Minister Farrakhan and planned the Million-Man March that you heard about. You didn’t hear about how it was planned, because you didn’t *need* to hear about how it was planned; it just needed to happen. And, that was the way in which that march actually originated.

So, only by rejecting the sickness of volunteered slavery, can genocide be stopped. Goya’s etching (see picture on this page) shows a doctor who is treating a patient, and the caption says, “Of what illness will the patient die?” We will not be saved by the rhetoric of multicultural nationalism; we will not be saved by the rhetoric of secessionism; we must *change how we think*, because, after all, if you are sick, and you are treated by someone who has illusions—someone who is an ass—*of what illness will you die?*



From Francisco Goya’s “Caprichos”: “Of what ill will he die?” Goya asks. “The doctor is excellent, pensive, considerate, calm, serious. What more can one ask for?”

By saving Africa, we can save the world

Helga Zepp LaRouche is the founder of the Schiller Institute, and the president of its international advisory board. She is currently a candidate for the German chancellorship, for the Civil Rights Movement Solidarity party (BüSo). This speech was delivered on April 27. Some of the slides on the Eurasian Land-Bridge which Mrs. LaRouche used in her presentation have been omitted here; see EIR's Special Report, "The Eurasian Land-Bridge: The 'New Silk Road'—Locomotive for Worldwide Economic Development" (January 1997), for full maps and other graphic material on the Land-Bridge.

I think everybody in this room agrees that Africa is the conscience of the world, and that if we cannot reverse what is going on in Africa, that the whole world will not have a chance. I want to remind you of the fact that we are meeting here in Germany, and in Germany it was about 52 years ago that people experienced a Holocaust, and the whole world community said, "Never again!" Yet today, where is the popular outcry; where is the popular revolt; where do people mass demonstrate in the streets against the new holocaust, which is brought by TV into everybody's living room? People cannot say they didn't know about it; it is reported; the horrible pictures are being seen. Where does this incredible indifference of the people come from?

I want to go a little bit into this, because something in all of human civilization has gone terribly wrong. It is my deepest conviction—as a matter of fact, that's the foundation of this organization, the Schiller Institute, and the LaRouche movement—that unless we remedy that, the future of all mankind will be like what we see in the Great Lakes Region. You have seen that in the case of Albania, a new Dark Age can come to Europe very quickly, if we do not reverse the situation strategically. If we do not change the parameters of everything that is going on, you will have an Albania possibly happening in Russia, where the disintegration of the state will then eventually lead to a situation where you have Kabilas running the world—mafia gangs, armed gangs basically being the only ones who have access to food.

So, we have to change those axioms of thinking, not only in one country, but around the world, which have led to the present catastrophe. Mr. LaRouche yesterday identified, on the one side, what went wrong in the last 30 years, where

you had a paradigm shift in values; where the idea no longer existed, which did exist at least a little bit in the 1960s, namely that there should be a Second Development Decade, which was proposed by the United Nations. Even though it was not a perfect idea, there was a commitment that eventually the underdevelopment of the Southern Hemisphere should be overcome. That idea has completely vanished, and it was replaced by new values, which I want to only very briefly identify, as the utopia of the "post-industrial society," the ideas of the Club of Rome, limits to growth, the idea of overpopulation, ideas of people like Prince Philip, who wants to reduce the world population to 2 billion people, or maybe 1 billion people, because this would be more in cohesion with his oligarchical views of a small oligarchical elite ruling over a large—or not so large—population, kept in ignorance, deliberately.

Now, these paradigms, which have taken over the world in the last 30 years, have now brought us to a point of absolute existential crisis of mankind as a whole. We are basically down to two possibilities. One is total collapse, total chaos of human civilization. And you have Samuel Huntington, who proposes that you will have a clash of civilizations; others propose a new *Limes* wall, where only a small portion of the world is to survive, and a large area of the world is to become *terra incognita*, which nobody has access to.

Well, I propose the opposite. I'm saying that we have reached in history, the point where mankind—which is only one race, it's not Hutus, Tutsis, Bavarians, and people from Thuringia; it's only one race, and that this one race is sitting in one boat. So, I want to explain to you where these ideas come from. Because I understand, when you say you are bitter about the reaction of the international community, but I think it is extremely important to understand that the reason this is happening, is because the West itself has been taken over by wrong ideology; but that that is not the only one which constitutes our history. I want to, very briefly, present to you the two completely conflicting ideas about the world which come basically from Europe, and which I think are relevant for the future solution.

Cusa's concept of the representative system

The reason why we emphasize the Golden Renaissance of the Fifteenth Century so much, and Mr. LaRouche yesterday pointed to the fact that it was the Fifteenth Century which showed this incredible increase in the population potential in the world, going from several hundred million to presently 5 billion people in the world, is because this Renaissance signified a complete change. Up to that point, when you talked about human culture anywhere in the world, you would only talk about the culture of the upper 5% of the people. This was the case for Greek culture, Egyptian culture, Chinese culture, or any other culture, because 95% or more of the people had no access to education. They were in a de facto state of slavery or serfdom, because they were illiterate, they never could



Helga Zepp LaRouche: "Let's be warrior angels and save not only Africa, but the whole world."

move away from the place they were accidentally born. And even though, in Christianity, Islam, and Judaism, you did have the idea of Man being in the image of God, being *imago Dei*, still this was not realized politically.

What happened in the Italian Renaissance in this period, was that a very important change occurred with the emergence of the modern national sovereign state, which introduced, for the first time, an idea that there was a common purpose to a nation. Up to that point, it was imperial cliques, oligarchical cliques, that ruled the world. But with especially the writings of a man you can call the founder of the nation-state, Nicolaus of Cusanus, who is also the founder of modern natural science—in his famous work *Concordantia Catholica*, he developed for the first time the idea of the *representative system*: that there was, between the governed and the governing, a reciprocal legal relationship, where the governed would choose, in secret elections, their representative, who would represent the interest of the governed to the government, but also would represent the interests of the government to the governed.

This representative system was supposed to be the guarantee of, on the one side, the maximum development of the state, the community as a whole; but on the other side, the maximum development of the individual, would be guaranteed. The key new idea was that these representatives would be accountable to the people who elected them; they would be accountable to the government and accountable to the population, and this was a very important new idea, because this was, for the first

time, the possibility for the individual to participate in self-government. The purpose of the state was not the oligarchical whim of some small elite, but the individual could participate in his own self-government. Now, therefore, one can say that, in terms of European history, the father of human rights, in this sense, was for sure Nicolaus of Cusa, who also influenced the Declaration of Independence of the United States and the American Constitution.

The Renaissance vs. the Enlightenment

Now, Nicolaus of Cusa had a very important conception about how there could be peace in the world: Namely, he conceived of each nation as a microcosm, where only if you had the maximum development of all microcosms, would there be peace in the macrocosm. The same for the relationship among people: Only if each human person would develop to the maximum his creative potential, would there be peace among them. So, therefore, it would also be important that a nation not only develop in the maximum way itself, but each nation would contribute to the maximum development of all other nations.

Now, this was a very beautiful idea, and it was not only expressed in the Italian Renaissance, but also in the French state of Louis XI, and one can say that, ever since these ideas occurred, there was an absolute, fundamental conflict between the idea of the sovereign nation-state, and the fight of the Enlightenment against it. Because there were two fundamental different conceptions of Man. The idea of the Renaissance was that Man is in the image of God; that Man participates in the ongoing Creation through creative reason; Man is in the image of God, because he participates in God's most noble quality as the Creator; that there is a limitless perfectibility of Man, there is no limit to what Man can become. Obviously, this idea of Man was associated with a tremendous cultural optimism, the idea that the highest ideal of Man is a beautiful soul, and that the nation-state is designed for the common good of the people, and that this common good is associated with scientific and technological progress, because that is exactly what will contribute to the common good. Also, that the conception of the universe is that the universe is a non-entropic universe, which is continuing in the process of evolution.

Now, against that, you had the ideas of the Enlightenment, which had an image of Man, that Man is basically evil; that associated with that was a mechanistic thought process, that knowledge is not to be acquired through creative reason, but basically by sensuous experience; and also that the universe is entropic, it's winding down, you are using it up, eventually. Out of this, comes a tremendous cultural pessimism and cynicism.

As I said, the fight for the last 600 years has been between these two conceptions, and the problem we face today is that all leading institutions—what you call the international com-

munity, the IMF, the World Bank, all of these—have been taken over by the ideas of the Enlightenment.

Cusa on the microcosm and the macrocosm

Going back to Nicolaus of Cusa: His idea, which is what we think should happen, is that we have to have a world in which each nation, each culture is such a microcosm, which contributes, as in a contrapuntal fugue, to the joint task of perfection of mankind as a whole. And, that common task of mankind must be the underlying basic continuity to which we all contribute. The notion of the *coincidentia oppositorum* of Nicolaus of Cusa, namely, simplified, that all differences can be united on a higher level, is not some kind of Aristotelian construction, but it is a way of bringing the political order—*Concordantia*—into cohesion with the fundamental laws of God’s Creation. This order of Creation is a change which is characterized by the perfection caused by Man replicating God the Creator.

So, there is some extremely profound epistemological depth to what we are trying to do.

The sovereignty of the state is important, but unity among the different states is only possible if there is a higher ordering principle toward which the parts are oriented. These ideas became relevant for the first time in the Council of Florence in 1439, which was one high point of European culture, and represents a watershed of modern history. This Council was held around the idea of the *Filioque*; in Christianity, this means the idea that the *Logos* not only emanates from the Father, but also from the Son, in the same way. This means a lot for the identity of the human person. Another idea which was an important characteristic for this period, was the idea of Man being in the image of God—*imago Dei*—and Man being capable of participating in God, *capax Dei*. This is exactly the idea that Man is continuing the process of Creation in the world.

So, to recapitulate: The nation-state, national sovereignty, is the only way to guarantee the freedom of the individual; the nation-state being obliged to the common good of the people, and not to the interests of some oligarchical clique; the intelligibility of the laws of nature, of the laws of the universe. These were very beautiful ideas, so that Nicolaus of Cusa could write in the introduction, very clearly, that this represented the beginning of a new epoch of mankind. Man, all of sudden, was lifted to an incredible dignity, because it also put a special responsibility upon Man. Nicolaus wrote in the *De Ludo Globi* [*On the Game of Spheres*], that the soul is the power which creates the new arts and sciences. The soul invents the scientists, the sciences, arithmetic, geometry, music, astronomy, and in doing so, she experiences that they are folded in her power. Because the sciences have been created by Man, and have been developed, and because they are eternal, and always remain in the same way, the soul, looking at what she has created, recognizes that she is also eternal, and

also is remaining forever. Because the mathematical sciences are folded in her power, so much so, that they would not exist, if she did not exist.

Nicolaus further says that the lawfulness of the human mind and the laws of the universe are the same. That the microcosm contains in principle already everything which is contained in the macrocosm, and the microcosm, each human soul, replicates the entire human evolution which occurred up to that moment. It is really the same idea as the idea of Leibniz’s monad: that each human being participates in all other human beings; that each human being is therefore absolutely connected to the entire evolution of the universal history of mankind as a whole up to that point. This is very important, because it’s the epistemological basis of why there is only one human race.

I just want to add one crucial idea, and that is the method of thinking, which goes back to Plato, and was continued by people like Nicolaus of Cusa and Leibniz, which accounts for the change and improvement of human knowledge. Namely, that knowledge is not a fixed set of ideas or facts, but it is the ability of the creative human mind to make a creative hypothesis, which, if the hypothesis is adequate, leads to an improvement of knowledge about the physical universe. The truth is not what you know at one time, but it is the hypothesis of the hypothesis, which leads to a change in human knowledge. Obviously, if you conceive of Man like that, that each human being has the ability to recapitulate all of universal history up to that point, disregarding race, disregarding color, but that there is one universal history, and that furthermore—which started to occur in the Fifteenth Century—that you can mediate that through universal education, by teaching each pupil, each child, universal history, it is very clear that this idea would mean the end of oligarchism. Because once you have each child participating in universal education, the very idea that there is a small elite, let it be called Tutsi or British monarchy or whatever, evaporates.

The oligarchical assault

What happened was that Venice, which was at that point the center of oligarchism, immediately perceived what had happened at the Council of Florence as a mortal threat, and a threat to the most vital interests of its oligarchical and financial power.

All of European history since 1440 to the present is characterized by the efforts of Venice, and its continuation in the form of Great Britain, to destroy exactly these ideas, to destroy the modern sovereign nation-state, to destroy science and culture associated with the Renaissance. They had a real problem, because the nation-state model was so much superior to the oligarchical model. For example, in the reign of Louis XI, the application of that, by increasing the percentage of the intelligentsia in the country, the living standard doubled within 20 years. So, Venice and its continuations, in espe-

cially Holland and Great Britain, had to subvert these ideas from the inside. It is extremely important, that whatever went wrong in European history was the fight of the Enlightenment against the ideas of the Renaissance.

The Enlightenment was the effort by the oligarchs to conquer the soul of the people after they were freed in the Renaissance, to make them slaves and serfs again, but this time, not slaves from the outside, but slaves of their own sensuous perceptions and desires.

It is those ideas of the Enlightenment which control every faculty in the universities today, every area of science. I want to just very briefly give you some examples.

Even though this was before, in the Middle Ages, there was Roger Bacon, an empiricist who introduced the notion of the difference of human beings and the resulting legal order, according to geographical positions of where they were born, and the positions of the stars.

This idea that there is not one human race, but that geographical differences are important, became extremely important later in Montesquieu, and the social theory of the Enlightenment, and also modern anthropology. This is the root of racism, and especially when you have the debate among the Anglo-Americans of today about the “Dead, White, European Males,” that basically all the European philosophers should not be considered. I would suggest that we should introduce such a category of “Dead, White, European Males” for the representatives of the Enlightenment—but please do not throw out the baby with the bath water.

Another important figure was William of Ockham (1285-1347), a radical nominalist who had the idea that the world was a conglomerate of objects, that knowledge is not the result of creative reason, but also through sense perception, that there are two truths: Theology and philosophy are different, you cannot have cohesion between them. This obviously led to a tremendous skepticism, because if the laws of the universe are not intelligible, then there must be blind faith, there is no purpose of Creation, and there is only the limitless arbitrariness of God as the final cause. This skepticism obviously leads then to an absence of responsibility, because if you cannot understand the laws of the universe, you are not responsible for what happens, and therefore, immorality sets in.

This all later was perpetuated in the British Enlightenment, empiricism, especially Thomas Hobbes, and his mechanistic notion of society, which basically says that society consists of the kinetic interaction of isolated particles; that human beings are just like atoms. Then, you had the ideas of the famous Bernard de Mandeville, that Man is by nature evil, and he even had the abstruse theory that it is the individual sin, the individual vice, which leads to the social good. For example, he argues that private prostitution is a good thing, because it leads to social chastity. He says that if all people would be moral, this would be very bad, because then the lawyers would all starve! He also says that individual luxury

is the motor for industrial progress, because it motivates people to build things.

I want to point to another representative of this Enlightenment School—Montesquieu (1689-1755), especially his book *The Spirit of the Laws*, which was regarded as the greatest production of the age. It was a blatant defense of feudalism; he completely reduced the role of the individual in history. It was Montesquieu who was the foundation of all sociology today. He emphasized, as important for the human person, the role of the climate and the soil. For example, he argued that women in the South, the Southern Hemisphere, should be in a state of dependency, because the climate is such that women in the South should just be dominated. He denied universal truth and laws.

One of his co-thinkers obviously was the infamous Voltaire. There I want to point to his *Traité de Métaphysique*, in which he pretends to be a visitor from Jupiter who lands in Africa, and concludes that Man is an animal with black skin and woolly hair, and that therefore, Man has different ancestors and is not one species.

And obviously what was said here yesterday about Hegel, fits entirely in this category. One should only note that Hegel was a Prussian agent, a police agent. He really worked for Metternich, and Metternich was the incarnation of the oligarchical system. Hegel was just a paid scribbler. Also, his theory of the *Zeitgeist*, which was the idea that it was not the individual who makes history, but that the *Zeitgeist* functions, and only in the end do you know what the history was all about, which obviously is a retrospective legitimization for oligarchical power.

One should take away the dignity of all of these philosophies.

Leibniz and the idea of physical economy

I just want to counterpose the Enlightenment, because they were fighting against especially the ideas of Leibniz, and Leibniz is very important for our own tradition. First of all, he was the inventor of physical economy, and therefore, the idea that it's not raw materials which cause wealth; raw materials are totally irrelevant. It is the level of technology which defines what is a raw material. You can use a stone to kill your neighbor, and then it's a weapon, or you can say, no, this stone is very interesting; it has the following iron ore, or other minerals, in it, and I can use it for a different purpose. So, it's not raw materials. Raw materials are useful and necessary, but they are not the source of wealth.

According to physical economy, which was invented by Leibniz, it is only the creative powers of the mind which are able to develop again and again higher levels of technology, with which you can increase the productivity in the process of production. So, Leibniz was not only the inventor of that, but he was actually the first to propose this Eurasian Land-Bridge to integrate Europe with China, and taking Russian



The opening of an international symposium in Beijing on May 7, 1996. "China is probably the only country in the world . . . where the elite drew the consequences from the fact that the axioms of thinking of a previous time were completely wrong, namely, the axioms of the proletarian Cultural Revolution," says Mrs. LaRouche.

quasi in the middle, through infrastructure projects. He had the idea that Europe should divide up: France should develop Africa, Germany should develop the East, and so forth.

I cannot do justice to Leibniz here; I just want to identify why the Enlightenment went crazy about him. They attacked Leibniz's conception of the so-called best world, which obviously did not mean that each individual would have the maximum happiness in his own mortal life. It just means that God has created the world in such a way that the maximum degrees of freedom are possible. They tried to exterminate the influence of Leibniz, and our movement is trying not only to revive that, but to do today, with modern technology, what Leibniz was proposing.

Origins of the Land-Bridge concept

Dennis Speed yesterday ended his presentation with this map (see Figure 2, p. 45). I want to start with it, because this is really the solution which we have to think about. The world has come to a point of financial collapse, and we will reconstruct the world. This is a very rough outline of bringing, through the land-bridge conception, development into all corners of the world. This is a drawing by an artist, and does not represent the actual development projects. I

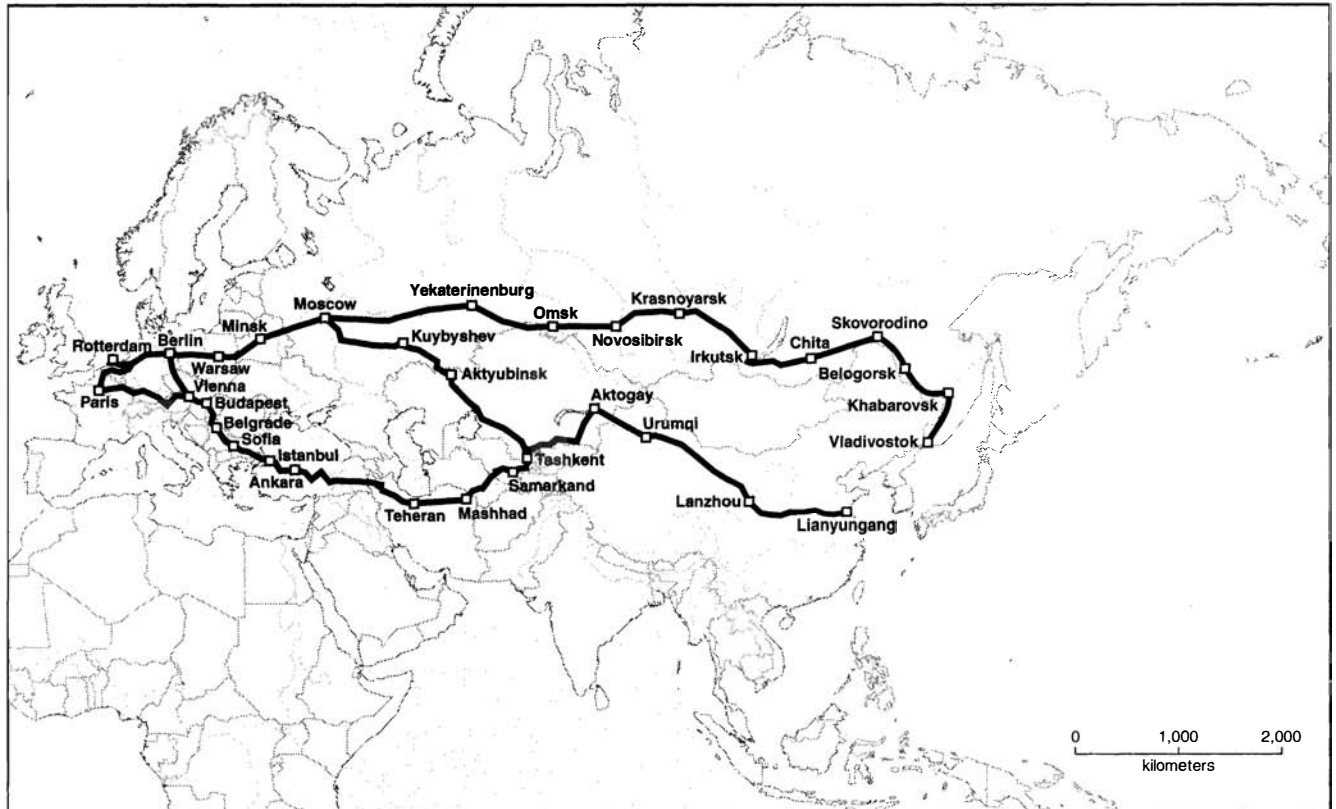
only use it as a way to show you that through infrastructure development, connecting the entire Eurasian continent through the Bering Strait to the United States, through new tunnels and bridges down to Indonesia, through the Middle East to Africa, we can connect the entirety of the world with each other.

This is a proposal which Mr. LaRouche made for the first time in 1975, when he proposed to replace the IMF with a new International Development Bank. We started in 1973-74, to develop a very concrete development project for Africa. Later, we added a development project for Latin America, for the Middle East—an "Oasis Plan" for the Middle East. We worked with Mrs. Indira Gandhi on a 40-year development plan for India. And this is now the Eurasian Land-Bridge, basically the north Siberian line, and then the two southern lines, and especially the southern line, being the revival of the old Silk Road. The reason why the Eurasian Land-Bridge has a certain dominance is very clear.

A map of the population density of the world shows clearly that the highest population density is in South Asia, in Southeast Asia, and a little bit in Europe—Belgium is very densely populated. But Africa is totally underpopulated. So, whoever says that the problem is overpopulation, just

FIGURE 1

Eurasia: currently existing main routes of the Eurasian Land-Bridge (simplified)



does not know what they are talking about, and you can refute the argument very simply by just looking at the map.

This Eurasian Land-Bridge, as the cornerstone of global reconstruction, is not only an idea, but it is already moving ahead, and is therefore a reason for optimism. Last May, in Beijing, I participated as a speaker in the “Beijing International Symposium on the Economic Development of the Regions Along the New Euro-Asia Continental Bridge.” Emphasis is on the regions—not only infrastructure, but the entire regions are supposed to develop. I can assure you, I was in China 25 years earlier, in the middle of the Cultural Revolution, and I have never had such a positive cultural shock, as to see the difference of the development in China in these 25 years. As a matter of fact, really only the last 10-12 years. China has economic growth rates of two digits.

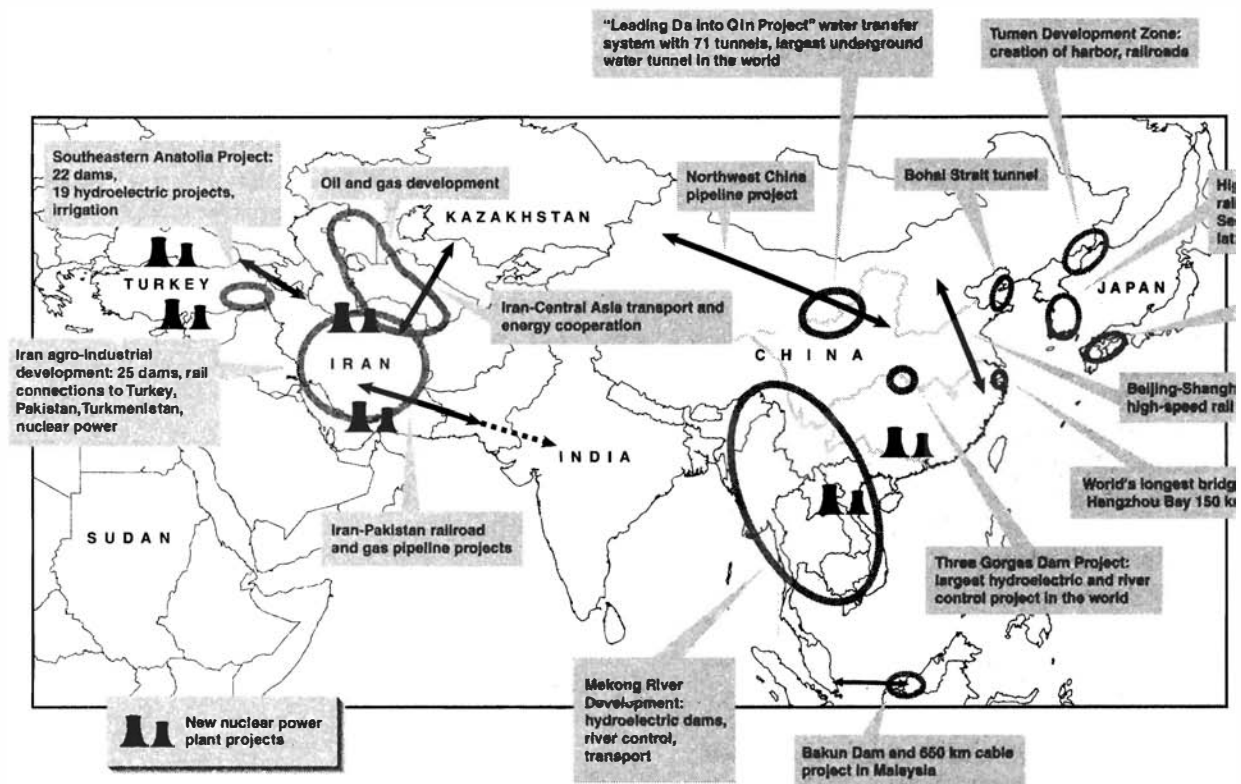
What was most impressive was that many speakers at this conference announced that with this land-bridge conception, for the first time in human history, the geographical conditions of the world would no longer be decisive, but that through the land-bridge conception, you could drive the development into the land-locked areas of the world, by opening up every area, through infrastructure, for economic development. It is very important to understand that China

is probably the only country in the world—at least to my knowledge—where the elite drew the consequences from the fact that the axioms of a previous time, the axioms of thinking of a previous time, were completely wrong, namely, the axioms of the proletarian Cultural Revolution, which was “learning from the countryside,” sending the few skilled laborers to the farms to learn. They have reversed that, and they have basically gone back to the ideas of the founder of modern China, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, who already had, in the 1920s, the idea of developing the interior of China through infrastructure, through many projects which the Chinese government has adopted today.

These are the existing lines for this infrastructure project (Figure 1). As you can see, not only does the trans-Siberian railway exist, but this line, which goes through China, Iran, central Asia, and from there to Turkey. That line has existed since 1990; the first containers have been going through since 1992, and the last part around Mashhad was concluded last year. So, this is already moving, and not only that, but, in this past year, a tremendous dynamic has developed. First of all, China, Iran, India, the countries of the Central Asian republics are now fully on board. The recent visit of Jiang Zemin in Moscow was very important, because there was

FIGURE 2

Large development projects related to the Eurasian Land-Bridge



a conclusion of a special alliance between Russia, Iran, India, and China, with the idea to bring this kind of development into this entire area.

This is a map which I only want to very briefly identify (Figure 2). These are some of the big projects which exist, in addition to the Eurasian Land-Bridge. You have in Turkey, the very large southeastern Anatolia project, which includes 22 dams, 19 hydro-electric projects and irrigation projects. You have enormous projects being developed in Iran right now. You have, especially in China, a lot of major projects, which I only want to identify very briefly. One is the famous Three Gorges Dam project, which is the largest hydro-electric and river control project in the world. Then you have the Bohai region project, which is basically an investment of \$100 billion, and 3,600 individual infrastructure projects. China wants to build 200 new cities in the next 20-30 years, because they expect a population growth of 200 million people. They want to build 200 cities with from 1 million inhabitants each, 100 ports, 100 airports, and so forth.

Now, the Three Gorges Dam project, which is the largest project in the world, and will, when it's ready, eliminate the danger for 15 million people who have been repeatedly threatened by floods; it will produce hydro-electric power equivalent to 13 large nuclear plants; it will also eventually

enable the bringing of the flood water from the Yangtze River through a canal system to the Yellow River to irrigate the entire north of China, including the Gobi Desert, to make the Gobi Desert bloom, and irrigate for agriculture an area much larger than the territory of Germany. They have very ambitious projects to make a system of canalization for the entire Yangtze. So, the Yangtze will look like the Rhine very soon, where, on a length of 700 kilometers, you will have cargo ships going up and down, which obviously is a very cheap way of transporting cargo.

Now, this project, which is attacked very much by the Greenies internationally, is a beautiful idea. First of all, in the past, there were floods where hundreds of thousands of people died. The Greenies never mention that with one word. But this is a gigantic, very optimistic project, which will be concluded by the year 2010. Parts of this are the building of eight large highways over the Yangtze, between the Three Gorges Dam and Shanghai.

I mentioned the Bohai project already, because this is a very strategic project involving South Korea, North Korea, China, and Russia, and therefore also has a very important peace stabilization function for these different regions.

I want only to point to this question of economic corridors, because when we say that we want to open up the

landlocked areas, we do not only mean to build railways and waterways and highways from Point A to Point B. It is supposed to be, let's say, a high-speed railway, a highway, gas pipelines, electricity grids. Then take a corridor of usually 100 kilometers wide, to have cities along it, to have the density functions of the industrial process at a maximum increase in this corridor. At that point, you can basically forget the cost of the infrastructure, because simple infrastructure would only be to bring out raw materials, or to transport raw materials. The idea is to reprocess them, so that the wealth is increased. So, you create an expanding market in this corridor, while you are building it.

With this conception, it can be demonstrated that the profit you make will always be higher than the initial investment, simply for the reason that you add something to the wealth, because it is the creativity of the individual which creates wealth, not the raw materials. This is a very important difference between the free-market proponents and the proponents of physical economy.

The development of Africa

I'm not saying that this is the only possible proposal, but there is absolutely no reason why we cannot think about Africa as being an absolute integral part of this development. I think it is extremely important that, as Mr. LaRouche was saying yesterday, when he talked about the Hannibal principle, that people start to think that this oligarchical system will come to an end very, very quickly. There will come the decisive moment, an incredible historical chance to finish off the system of oligarchism. I would encourage leaders from Africa to now engage in planning and studying physical economy to decide what priority projects you want for your region at the moment of reconstruction. Especially because peace is development.

There will be no lasting peace if there is not a development perspective which unites the people on a higher level. If there is some common purpose, some common plan to develop the African continent, it is much easier; as a matter of fact, it is the only way you can encourage people to overcome the bitterness of the past, to overcome the wounds of the fighting of the past. We published, in the mid-'70s, a plan for the development of Africa. Unfortunately, the edition has run out, and because of our permanent money shortage, we can only make photocopies, but I would really encourage you to include that in the discussion of what the reconstruction of Africa should be.

Therefore, from our standpoint, we have reached a point where this conflict between oligarchical philosophy or epistemology or ideology, and the idea of the universal dignity of Man, are coming to a point of decision. In a certain sense, I'm absolutely convinced that the idea of a global reconstruction with this Land-Bridge conception must be connected to the idea of a cultural and moral renaissance, in which we get rid of all of these rotten ideas. Nations and cultures must work

together like a family, where each one estimates the talent of the other, and the best of all cultures will become part of one universal culture. I am absolutely convinced we can do that. I'm very optimistic that despite the suffering, and despite the horrors which we are experiencing right now, if we do what we should do, we are at the beginning of an incredible new renaissance worldwide. But it obviously requires that we act; we, in this room, have a very specific responsibility. I'm not saying that the whole world will depend on what we are doing, but, as you well know, we represent right now, the warrior angels for all of Africa, because we are privileged: We know who the enemy is, we know what the problems are. I would like to end with the idea: Let's be warrior angels and save not only Africa, but the whole world.

William Munyen Babazi

Restoring democracy to Burundi

Mr. Babazi is the secretary general for Burundi's National Council for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD). He addressed the conference on April 27. His speech has been translated from the French and subheads have been added.

Thank you. My name is William Munyen Babazi and I am secretary general of the CNDD. I have no permanent address, but I can be contacted through our representations around the world. Mr. and Mrs. LaRouche, Mr. President [Binaisa] of Uganda, thank you very much for having organized this very important framework for us. This is the first time we have had such a venue in which we can express ourselves on basic issues concerning our region. Here, we know that the language we are hearing is frank, and one that can be understood by our suffering people. Thank you for organizing this seminar.

Burundi is a small country in Central Africa, with 6 million inhabitants composed of three ethnic groups, the Twas, Hutus, and Tutsis. The Hutus comprise 85% of the population, the Tutsis 14%, and the Twas 1%. These percentages have probably changed in the meantime, since so much has happened since our independence.

The big problem we have is that the party which led Burundi to independence lost its head, Prince Henri Rwagasore, and the Uprona party was taken over by what we call a military-political oligarchy. The power exercised by this oligarchy is based on "anti-values" such as discrimination, con-

tempt, segregation, in all areas of national life. We often say that Burundi's problem comes from the army, and that is true. The army, theoretically, props up all of Burundi's political and social suprastructure. In fact, the problem began with the first assassinations in 1965. The killing of Hutu Prime Minister Pierre Halagounue led to generalized massacres. I am not going to repeat what our tireless spokesman Jerome Ndiho said yesterday, because he gave a good description of what happened in Burundi. I am going to talk about our organization.

A French writer, Victor Hugo, born in 1802, commented on the great changes going on in his country: "We came into the world too late and too old," he said. We might say the same thing in Burundi, or in the region. The world seems very old, but when we look at history, we realize we are not the only ones to have suffered since the creation of our planet, and so we can understand that we shall overcome, insofar as many other people show us compassion.

Burundi has had problems since its independence. As I mentioned, an oligarchy took power after the death of Prince Rwagasore, and it exerted a dictatorial power which led to divisions, massacres, and the genocide of 300,000 Hutus in 1972. The international community did not lift a finger to denounce this problem. Someone said yesterday that the Burundian delegation was young. It is true that we are young, but we bear a great weight of history. I often say we have taken on great responsibility, because we have no other choice. Our fathers are dead, our older brothers are dead, so we have the duty not to pass this misfortune onto future generations.

I once had a meeting with a minister somewhere in Africa. When he heard I was secretary general, he asked straight away: "How old are you?" I told him that that was really not the problem. If my father were still living, I would be at the beach having fun, but for the moment, I am obliged to assume this responsibility.

What happened in the elections

All through this upheaval, a democratic movement was born in Burundi, which is called the Frodebu. We are founders of the Frodebu party that won the elections. I myself am one of the 20 who founded the party in 1986, when I was studying at Burundi University. We worked to win the elections. I would like to stress one point here: Although we often hear about the failures of the electoral process in Africa, if there is one African country where elections were well prepared and well carried out, Burundi is it. First of all, because a real debate on the future of the nation took place among the population; then a Constitution was worked out; a referendum on this Constitution was held, and then came Presidential and legislative elections. So the electoral process was one of the best in this region of Africa. The international community acknowledged that. We won the elections, but only a few months later, unfortunately, our democracy was decapitated. The army, which was opposed to change, killed the President

of the Republic and his close collaborators.

Within days, we all went into hiding. There were a lot of mass killings in the country, and I think the main responsibility for that goes to those who killed our President. A little later, seeing that the international community was not going to react, these people—the military-political oligarchy—managed to complete the Ouvénéma Convention. This Convention imposed forced power-sharing, which was to give power back to those parties who had just lost it.

Against this background, the CNDD was created, to struggle against the military-political oligarchy. They had just violated the Convention. . . . The CNDD was created to demand a return to democracy such as it had existed in June 1993.

At first, we were treated like Hutu extremists. But I would like to point out that the context was extremely difficult, especially after what had just happened in Rwanda. Some claimed there was such a thing as a Hutu International, and that our return from Rwanda, Tanzania, or Zaire, was the same thing. We were maneuvering in very difficult waters. First, we developed our internal elite, establishing a military wing called the FDD. We also developed an all-round, energetic diplomacy to counteract and clear ourselves of that conspiracy trying to put us in the same bag as Rwanda. In fact, it was completely different in our country, since we had already finished the process, which was still ongoing in Rwanda.

Somebody mentioned yesterday that this was a congress of Hutus. I would like to correct that, because I don't think that is the case. I think this is a self-respecting framework for discussion and thought, which is open to other countries and all ethnic groups. Our organization, since it was created within a democracy, has both Hutus and Tutsis among its ranks. We are with the Hutus of the CNDD and the Tutsis of the CNDD. If people say this is a Hutu congress, that is wrong because we always have Tutsis supporting our same struggle.

I would like to add one thing. Don't think that all Hutus are together with Hutus or vice versa. These are stereotypes imposed by the Europeans, who want to stick on a label that we reject. We defend democracy. There are Hutus who have done evil, and we know a lot of them in our country, and there are some Tutsis who have done good, some evil.

The CNDD is a strongly established organization in Burundi and in the region. We organized our armed struggle, starting from almost zero. I remember that when we began the armed struggle, I travelled here to Europe, and some whites tried to discourage me, saying, "Look at the Rwandans who had the army and the administration, they were defeated. How do you expect to start from scratch?" And we did start with nothing, except for courage and, above all, people, and we now have a voice within the concert of nations. I do not say that we are a model, but, I do think we can exchange our experiences with other people from the region who are here. That can be very useful.

Why did we take up armed struggle? Because we were left to fend for ourselves. After Ndadaye's death, we cried out for help to the international community, but in vain. In this way, we came to understand, as Dr. Jjumba said yesterday, that the way to fight fire is with fire. The obstacle to democracy is the army, and that is what we have to attack, to obtain democracy. That is our option. In our culture in Burundi, there is a maxim advising children to behave like respectable persons, but with a certain nuance: It says if children are among respectable people, they should act like them, or be scorned; but, if you are in front of lions, you had better act like lions, or be devoured! I think we are in front of lions right now: so we have to open our eyes and show our claws.

Arms not the solution

In our military fight, we are quite advanced. We have an army inside the country, with a well-established presence over the past three years. And it is growing with each new day. . . . So we can say, that the enemy in Burundi is already weakened: For example, the Burundian army used to have 75 armored vehicles or tanks, and we have burned about 50 of them. We have shot down at least four combat helicopters. We have killed around 4,000 soldiers fighting against us inside the country. I would add that the Burundian army is bankrupt and is being deserted, because we rose up to fight. I would remind you that we are also struggling against the Rwandan and Ugandan armies, who are present in our region. Yesterday, Dr. Gafumbegete showed you a photograph of the three chiefs of staff sitting together. They are always together, they fight together. But in spite of that, the determination of the Burundian people will not let them impose their system. It is true, of course, that we have the support of the population and the peoples of the region. This fortifies us tremendously.

Before concluding, I would say that the CNDD is very well organized now, and we have representations in many places. Those who wish more information on our movement can ask our representatives in Europe or elsewhere. We are also open to people who want to free our region. The theme here of "peace through development" is very important. Peace can not take place if systems of government do not heed the will of the people. We must do the utmost to make our people heard, so they may choose their own leaders and express themselves in all areas relevant to the nation.

We are convinced that in spite of the problems we heard about yesterday, in spite of the British elite, we will, with the determination of our people, stem the tide. We appealed to the international community, and now we have understood that our own force is what counts. And force depends on unity. There is an American author who said, "We have to shake hands and work together, or we will be hanged separately" [sic]. I think the time has come to shake hands. Let me state here my thanks to the Schiller Institute and all the organizers of this conference. I think the time has come to open up a new era of cooperation in order to defeat the

oligarchies ruling our countries.

We not only have enemies, we also have friends. And we must lean on those friends. Our enemies only speak the language of violence and arms. But arms are not the solution to the problem, as is seen in the fact that they have the arms, but no solutions to our problems. We must understand this phenomenon, so that we, who have the support of the people, use this instrument for the democratic rule of our countries.

Mme. Perpetue Nshimirimana

Burundi's future depends on us

Mme. Nshimirimana is the former Burundian ambassador to the United Nations. She addressed the conference on April 27. Her speech is translated from the French.

I will begin by asking a question: "Is there an international conspiracy against the populations of the Great Lakes region?" I have often asked myself this question, and, now, considering what happened in Burundi, I think we should have asked that question a long time ago. That way, we might have been able to avoid what is happening today. I have been well situated to witness the reactions of the international community, to its hemming and hawing, instead of taking care of what is going on in our region. This community should feel at least partially responsible for our suffering.

I was ambassador to the United Nations during the crisis in Burundi. I must say that when the death of President Ndadaye was announced, there was tremendous emotion in the world, and great sadness over what our country was going through. Deep inside ourselves, we thought the world would finally take charge of us. But we were wrong. I say that, because I saw the reactions: The United Nations condemned what was going on, the United States, France, Switzerland (where I live), and Germany, Burundi's leading creditors, condemned this action. So, we thought they had a good weapon—the financial weapon—with which to force those who wanted to take over Burundi to give up. Unfortunately, they did nothing, although the alarms had been sounded early on.

When he was speaking about me yesterday, Mr. Gafumbegete said I was trying to pull together an archive on what has happened in Burundi over the past three years. Let me tell you an anecdote: My father was assassinated 32 years ago, in 1965. I was too young at the time to understand what it was

all about. But when I grew up and wanted to understand, I started to do research. I said: "My father was a policeman, why was he accused of inciting a coup against the king?" When I was older, I started to look into the question, to get it documented. I wanted to understand what had happened, but, in looking at that time period, we could not find anything implicating these people.

In 1993, I was an actor in political events in Burundi. And I thought, for the sake of my children, I do not have the right to tell them in 10 or 15 years, if I'm still alive, that I didn't know what was going on. So I went to work. From that point on, I filed, I indexed, I got my hands on anything I could that had to do with Burundi. I am telling you this, because during the three years I have been doing this, I have piled up a lot of documents, which show that the world is informed about what is going on in Burundi. International organizations, Amnesty International, human rights rapporteurs—they have all written about this. But what is happening to this pile of papers? Absolutely nothing!

During the La Baule conference in 1990, we were told to democratize our countries in order to receive aid. As Mr. William Munyen Babazi said, Burundi was a model for this. But when democracy was endangered, nobody, but nobody, came to help us.

So, we should ask ourselves the question: What is the use of democratizing? What can we gain from following this example, if those who propose it do nothing when it is in danger? This is serious.

You remember that just after the putsch in Burundi, a government was installed in Kigali, Rwanda, with the support of the whole world. Their first demand was: Help us, send us an international force to face down the military power, so that we can restore democracy, establish stability, and give a new start to the country. We have the text. As for Burundi, we were asking for only 800 men; 800 men to protect the President, the government, the television broadcasting station, the central bank, the prisons. No more. The first response came from Africa, which sent 200 men—but Africa has no money. If the United Nations had granted our demand, at that time, we might possibly have avoided those events which spread like wildfire throughout the Great Lakes region. But even those 800 men that Burundi requested were too many. After all, what is this international community? Does it really exist? Every Burundian is bitter when he remembers the indifference we met up with, not only since 1993, but for more than 30 years now.

That is why we now think that the future of our country will depend on what we want it to be. I will conclude on this note: If we do not mobilize in Burundi, in Rwanda, in Zaire or Uganda, we cannot expect manna to fall from heaven. This will not happen, as the facts have proven. The future of our country depends on us. Either we can cross our arms and wait, which means we will disappear, or we can decide to unite, to lay the basis for stability in the region of the Great Lakes.

Jean N. Gahururu

Rwanda needs peace through development

Jean Gahururu, of the Bonn-based Forum for Freedom and Democracy in Rwanda, presented this working paper on "Rwanda: Peace through Development and Regional Integration" to the conference on April 27. It has been translated from the French.

1. Brief review of the socio-political context in Rwanda

After the summit of French-speaking countries at La Baule in June 1990, but especially after the collapse of the communist system in 1989, processes of political reform were launched in French-speaking Africa. In Rwanda, with the promulgation of the democratic constitution in June 1991, more than 15 political parties were registered, during the course of this process. There was a rather remarkable liberalization of individual rights and freedom, above all in the press and private enterprise. I was myself General Inspector of Trade at the time, and I noticed a flowering of the private sector. This was done in spite of the atrocious civil war, that had been launched from Uganda on Oct. 1, 1990 by the RPF.

One can never repeat enough: That war not only devastated the country's economy (Rwanda's GDP reportedly dropped by half from 1990 to 1994), but it has also caused tremendous psychological and human damage. I am among those people who speak out about genocide in Rwanda, and we have called upon the United Nations to go and attest to this reality. I was then head of relief operations for the International Committee of the Red Cross. I stayed in Rwanda during the entire war, and was an eyewitness to many of these aspects of extermination.

The signing of the Arusha peace agreements on Aug. 4, 1993 led the two parties to abandon, at least on paper, their uncompromising positions. A large part of the population was relieved by that agreement, which included, in terms of socio-economic measures, the following points:

Cessation of war.

Formation of a new national army of 19,000 men, of which 60% and 40% respectively were to come from the RAF [Rwandan Armed Forces] (then numbering more or less 35,000 men) and from the ranks of the RPF (more or less 15,000 men).

Demobilization, over a period of nine months, begin-



Four children from among the estimated 1 million Rwandans who fled the wrath of the Rwandan Patriotic Front to Zaire, where they are now being hunted down and butchered by the death squads of Laurent Kabila. Gahururu offers a development strategy for his country and the Great Lakes region: to create a counterpole, "life squads" with the training and technology to rebuild, "a cause that will benefit humanity as a whole."

ning in November 1993, of the 31,000 soldiers who would not be in the new army, and their integration into civilian life (with payment of subsidies totalling 3 to 6 billion Rwandan francs).

Reconstruction of economic and social infrastructure destroyed by the war, as well as the resettlement of 900,000 displaced people and close to 600,000 former refugees.

We know what has become of that agreement since April 1994. A tragedy such as, relative to the population and the geographic extent of our region, humanity has never before experienced.

In a document which has become famous: "Goma/Bukavu: Eyewitness, January 1997," we read, with emotion, that grave violations of human rights, including genocide, continue to be committed in Zaire against Burundian and Rwandan refugees, and against Zaireans displaced by the war, most of whom are Hutus. Some 450,000 alone, out of the 1,450,000 Burundian and Rwandan refugees in Goma, Bukavu, and Uvira have been forcibly repatriated. We have still not been told where, exactly, the rest are, except for the 100,000 refugees presently being hunted down near Kisingani. You can imagine what that does to us psychologically, because these are our relatives. Personally, I have two sisters who died, and when my aunt heard that, she had a

heart attack and died. The young men went there to mount the guard, as is traditional, for one week, and the army came and exterminated 20 youths from the village, saying they were preparing to attack the government. This is the kind of thing that is happening.

International and Zairean human rights organizations reportedly have proof of systematic massacres of Burundian and Rwandan refugees, and of several thousand Zaireans displaced by war. Unfortunately, the UN special envoy Mr. Garretton could not deny the overwhelming evidence of the genocide being perpetrated by the soldiers of the butcher's army,¹ which threatens over 150 million inhabitants within a 5,863,000 square kilometer area in Central and East Africa . . . i.e., more than half of the area of the United States (9,363,123 square kilometers). This is 85 million people in eastern Africa, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, and Kenya. Zaire is now hit, but also the Congo, Gabon, Equato-

1. The account says that these soldiers "speak Kinyarwanda among themselves, and either speak Swahili very poorly (then, they come from Rwanda) or speak it too well for Zaire, with sophisticated words that people do not understand (then, they come from Tanzania and Uganda). . . . At Goma and Bukavu, the troops come from Rwanda; farther to the south, they come from Burundi; farther to the north, they come from Uganda."

rial Guinea, Cameroon, and the Central African Republic are threatened, which adds up to 59 million more people.

2. Economic causes of the tragedy: in the beginning was poverty

In order to understand the development of this tragedy, it is important not to lose sight of the socio-economic context in Rwanda, which was the spearhead of regional destabilization. Rwanda, a landlocked country of 26,338 square kilometers, is dependent on agriculture, which represents about 40% of its GDP and 90% of its exports.

In the course of the 1960s and '70s, the Rwandan government was able to manage its resources well, thanks, on the one hand, to sustained growth of agricultural production and, on the other, to a favorable economic situation for exporting coffee and tea, our main cash crops. That favorable situation allowed continuous growth of per-capita income (4.7% average per year), at a time when indebtedness of the national economy was still relatively low. Rwanda, which was one of the rare African countries whose agricultural production increased more rapidly than its population (3.5% per year from 1966 to 1982), was not able to maintain that rate after 1983.

The collapse of coffee prices meant a decline of more than 40% of Rwanda's annual export income, so that the authorities had to begin rationing foreign currency and adopting restrictive budgetary measures. That led, of course, to the decline of almost all economic activity. Thus, the GDP decreased by an average 0.5% per year between 1985 and 1990. In real terms, the population became poorer, as the GDP per capita dropped from \$280 to \$245 between 1986 and 1990. Some figures will give you a more concrete idea of that tragedy: Forty percent of family farms were less than three-quarters of a hectare, and were neither technologically nor economically viable. An annual deficit of 4 million cubic meters of firewood led to the deforestation of more than 8,000 hectares per year and, with it, the erosion of more than 12 tons per hectare of arable land. . . . Only 50% of the land is arable in Rwanda. Population density is said to be 350 people per square kilometer, but if you only count usable land, it is about 800. The neo-Malthusians have exploited this fact to spread scare stories about the dense population that must be reduced. I was the Rwandan government's representative in New York during preparations for the [1994 UN] Cairo population conference. I felt so awful! I could make a list of all those NGOs at the UN who terrorized me, treating me like a wild animal, because I could not understand why we should accept the genocide program that was being imposed.

In this context, the Rwandan government was obliged to accept having family planning dictated to it, as well as the famous "Structural Adjustment Program" (SAP) concluded in September 1990 with the Bretton Woods institutions. Is it by chance that this was just on the eve of October 1990 war? I should hardly think so! The combined effects of the shocks

from abroad because of the SAP and the war launched from Uganda, had dramatic results:

A decline of over 8% per year of per-capita GDP after 1991.

An increase in consumer prices, hitting farmers, farm workers, and the urban wage-earners.

Cuts in social spending to below average levels.

Rise in security and defense spending to above average because of the war.

Thus, in 1991, eighty percent of the citizens were living below the acceptable poverty threshold of 10,650 Rwandan francs, as established by the FIDA (International Agricultural Development Fund). Among the most dramatic facts, we should note :

"The feminization of poverty": Families headed by women are poorer than those headed by men. The number of these was increasing because so many men had to migrate to find a job; and, at the same time

The deterioration of food rations, in a situation of chronic food scarcity.

In this context, and parallel to the SAP, Rwanda implemented a National Program to Fight Poverty in 1993, with support from the United Nations Development Program. I was part of the staff of this program, since I was director general of the Ministry for the Family and Promotion of Women. As an economist, that is where I learned the strategic nature of social factors that are crucial for the development of a nation. This program was meant to be long-term. We were aware of the fact that the consolidation and income-generating strategy that this program favored would take a long time to produce significant effects in terms of covering the costs of basic social services, such as access to primary health care, family planning, reducing the impact of HIV/AIDS, help for food centers and orphanages, aid for those displaced by war, increasing the number of students and improving the quality of education. The Bretton Woods institutions did not support this long-term program.

It is also true that part of Rwanda's political elite was not aware of what was happening. The deteriorating economic situation had created a certain despair, especially among the youth (more than 50% of the population). They were better educated, but reduced to observing the growing gap between their very difficult living conditions, and the wealth stored up by a small minority close to political power. They became frustrated and easily vulnerable to all kinds of extremist youth movements, like the famous "Interahamwe."

What then occurred, as you already know, is where I began: violence and chaos.

3. 'Entschlossenheit' is needed to break the vicious cycle of poverty!

Jacques Cheminade stated it very clearly: It is after empires and myths undergo crises, that humanity progresses.

Under the shock of such crises, humanity can question the false hypotheses which up to then have served as the basis of their ideology.² One of these diabolical hypotheses is the materialist conception of man! We are in a situation where, having been taught the Gospel of Christ by the West, we are beginning to doubt the sincerity of the western “missionary.” Was man created in the image of God, and is the individual sacred, yes or no? What has become of the song of love found in I Corinthians 13, or the prohibition of revenge found in Romans 12:19?

Mr. LaRouche, who finds in these verses a deep source of motivation, has made major economic revelations about what is happening in our African homeland. I will state it as simply as he does, on the basis on his now famous “Triple Curve Function.” He has said many times that the monetary system, will, from one moment to the next, cease to exist. In that case, as our region of the great African Graben is the leading producer worldwide of cobalt, the second-largest producer of diamonds, and the fifth-largest of copper, and since we are very rich in tin, zinc, boron, gold, manganese, methane, petroleum, tantalum, nickel, iron, and other strategic and precious metals, that means it must be taken over! Operational fronts are set up with recruits coming from the world of the warlords: Kaguta, Kagame, Kabila, Buyoya, without forgetting their allies, Executive Outcomes, other mercenaries—I won’t go on.³

The wars that these forces are waging are mainly supported by a mafia of political and corporate men (and women!), organized from Washington and London, into interest groups that are federated into the famous transnational criminal organizations (TCOs). They include narco-traffickers, illegal arms dealers, gem smugglers, etc.⁴ The political watchword used as a cover by the warlords in our sub-region, has a persuasive façade: “Africans must find solutions to African problems themselves.” But the deeper motivation behind this is evil, genocidal, and destructive for our young nations in the sub-region.

The investment of “dirty money” into the mining wealth of the region is one of the major reasons for the support given to these military-political lords who have made their ties of allegiance. The truth is that the genocide and counter-genocide in the Great Lakes region is a blatant example of an newly opened beachhead by that “brotherhood of corporations” which is criminalizing political and economic life worldwide (Anglo American Corp., De Beers, Barrick Gold,

Christian Solidarity International, National Christian Breakfast, etc.).

4. What to do: economic development and regional integration equals peace

According to Mr. and Mrs. LaRouche, strength can only come from ideas. That is what we have been doing this weekend. We have to have ideas to motivate us, and strength enough to resist these transnational criminal organizations. In our small association, Forum for Freedom and Democracy in Rwanda, based in Bonn, we are aware of what is at stake, and we have decided to fight against the evil operations taking place in our country. In the early phase of our work, committed to peace and striving to meet those qualities of a good combatant that Clausewitz describes as *Beharrlichkeit* (steadfastness), *Ausdauer* (stamina), or *Entschlossenheit* (determination),⁵ we have already developed certain theses, some of which are the following:

The deeper causes of our catastrophe, of the genocide and counter-genocide, are essentially of a socio-economic nature, and the basis for a lasting solution is to be sought in human development.

It is not surprising that Kabila has already recruited more than 100,000 fighters. Society, and, above all, the youth, will always easily become won over to violence, as long they have no education or training, and are frustrated by the failure to meet (qualitatively and quantitatively) certain basic essential needs, both material and immaterial, such as clothing, food, housing, medicine, clean drinking water, communications, infrastructure, and the technology to produce these material goods, but also, individual and family security, and other human rights (non-material needs), as those are defined by the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man of Dec. 10, 1948.⁶

A proposal for new shared prospects, in an approach of regional political and economic integration, especially as concerns individual and collective economic survival, can serve as a means of overcoming present antagonisms.

Our action, which has already started, aims at finalization of what we call the ZIS-Strategie (a Plan for Integrated Restructuring in Central Africa).⁷ This is a structured and integrated strategy to be introduced in phases. We propose a *Gestaltungspolitik*, a policy of organizing sectors, rather than just an adjustment of economic structures in our sub-region, taking into account certain major, multi-dimensional variables (time, space, different economic sectors, con-

2. Jacques Cheminade, “Time To Destroy the Mythology of Bonapartism,” *EIR*, Oct. 18, 1996.

3. cf. Lyndon LaRouche, “Sir George Bush: On Her Majesty’s Service,” *EIR*, Jan. 10, 1997, p. 10; and “FDR-PAC Holds Forum on U.S. Africa Policy,” *EIR*, Jan. 24, 1997.

4. For more information, consult Prof. Michel Chossudovsky of the University of Ottawa, for example, his article: “How the Mafia Took Over the World Economy,” in *Le Monde Diplomatique*, no. 513, December 1996.

5. cf. Carl von Clausewitz, *On War*, New York: Knopf, 1993.

6. cf. Jean N. Gahururu, “Möglichkeit von Direktinvestitionen in einem Entwicklungsland, dargestellt am Beispiel von Ruanda und der Bundesrepublik Deutschland,” Fachhochschule Köln, 1985.

7. cf. Ignace Murwanashyaka, “Bedeutung der Strukturpolitik für die regionale Wirtschaftsintegration in zentralafrikanischen Ländern,” University of Bonn, 1995.

straints to globalization, etc.). Our objective is, precisely, human development through economic growth, just distribution of profits, and stability in our region.

5. Some concrete prospects, modeled on the 'Trans-African railways' network

5.1. Brief report

If we take the most concrete, strategic example of transportation in Africa, we find the following:

The lack of existence of interconnected road systems is one of the essential causes of the low level of inter-African trade, which only represents 5% of all transactions.

Africa has not been able to further build the network inherited from colonization: Ninety percent of the present network dates from before independence; it is very old and obsolete, the gauges are those of the imperial era; only 40% of the network is the standard gauge (1,435 mm).

For every one million inhabitants, Africa has 150 kilometers of railways, as against 700 kilometers in Europe.

5.2 What to do, for example

If Africa were to set an objective of building 320,000 kilometers of railroad, with double tracks, over the next 20 years, our rural areas would suddenly be opened up, and we would have a far more modern urban network, and, above all, a regional African economy open to the world. A group of

scientists has proposed a four-phase plan to this effect:

1. Conversion of the old system and construction of large national systems (Trans-Gabon, Trans-Cameroon, etc.);

2. Construction of regional networks, opening onto the ports (for example Kigali-Bujumbura-Kigoma-Dar Es Salam, or Kigali-Kasese-Kampala-Mombasa);

3. Strengthening the regional and international network, doubling tracks;

4. Expanding the international network, improving the network between the satellite towns.

To build 320,000 kilometers of railways over 20 years, local industries will have to learn to produce the materials needed; for each kilometer of rail, the program will need 120 tons of steel, 180 cubic meters of wood, 400 cubic meters of reinforced concrete. This represents more or less \$1 million per kilometer of rail, for a total investment of about \$600 billion.

Beyond that, Africa will gain more than 20 million jobs per year (counting 70 man-years per kilometer) and, in the same conditions that the Chinese did in constructing the TAN-ZAM, more than 60 million jobs per year!

Could the international community not help us, and, as opposed to the death squads of Kabila, to mobilize and create "golden souls," a cadre force and manpower, "life squads," for a cause which will benefit humanity as a whole?

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Choose development, not IMF genocide

Uwe Friesecke, from Germany, is a leader of the Schiller Institute who has frequently covered news developments in Africa for EIR. He spoke on April 27.

I think it is quite obvious that one of the next projects which we will have to undertake, is to have a similar type of seminar, organized with more emphasis on all the details and history of Zaire as such. As part of what will be discussed later, I would already invite you to help us accomplish exactly that. Now, thank you very much for your contributions.

I would now like to address two problems, very briefly, to somehow situate this question of peace through development in Africa's Great Lakes Region. Again, from the standpoint of what Lyndon LaRouche referenced yesterday: the need for a just new world economic order. The two points are, first, the International Monetary Fund's structural adjustment programs, and second, how such a new world economic order would look concretely.

Without going into many details, what we have to state clearly, loudly, is simply this: The IMF/World Bank system

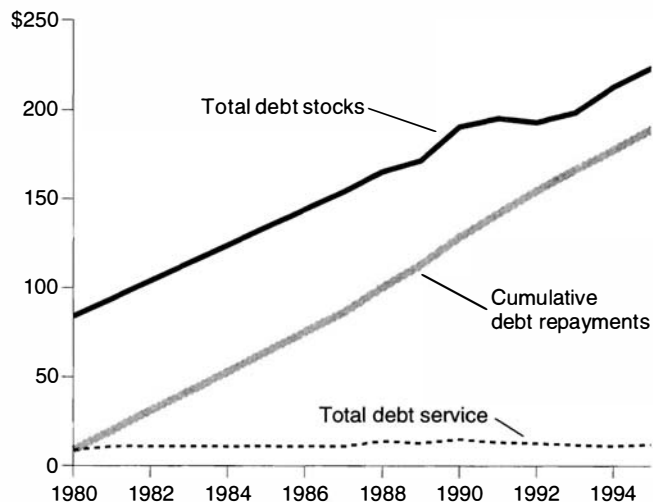
has been a system of looting, and it has destroyed Africa at least as much as the old colonial system of the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth century. We take the indicator, the debt problem, which just makes this point very clear. In 1980, sub-Saharan Africa started out with approximately \$80 billion worth of debt (**Figure 1**). Today, sub-Saharan Africa has close to \$250 billion in debt. Cumulatively, between 1980 and 1985, sub-Saharan Africa paid close to \$200 billion to international banking institutions. That is, it paid two and a half times more than it owed in 1980; and yet, it now owes three times more than it owed in 1980. We can go through this, country, by country, by country (**Figures 2-7**). We have all the figures; these are World Bank figures.

All in all, our estimation is that in those 15 years, probably the equivalent of something on the order of half a trillion dollars in real loot left African countries. And this probably doesn't count the illegal trade in gold, diamonds, and so forth.

Figure 8 shows the debt of all six countries around the Great Lakes: Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, and Zaire. Those countries have close to \$35 billion in foreign debt right now. They have paid, in those 15 years, approximately \$20 billion. So, again, this shows you that unless this structure is removed, there is just no perspective whatsoever, for any serious development. Therefore, there is no perspective whatsoever, for any program of reconciliation in the area. Because what has simply happened is, that the process of looting enforced by the injustice of the IMF system, has ripped apart the material preconditions for human society to exist. And the population density in the area is greater than the population that can be sustained. Not

FIGURE 1
Sub-saharan Africa debt

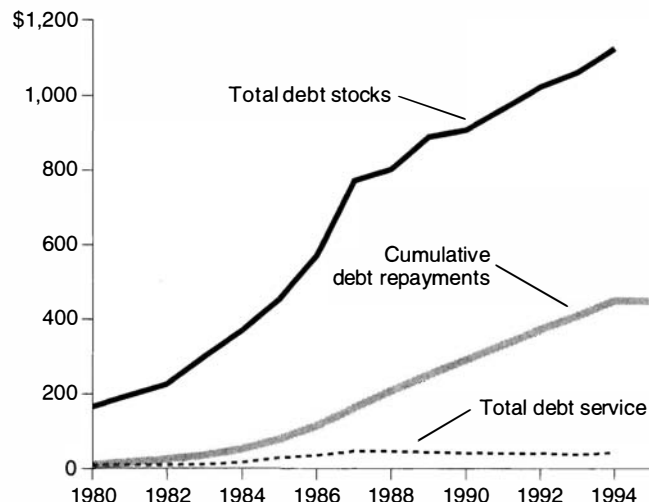
(billions \$)



Source: World Bank, 1996.

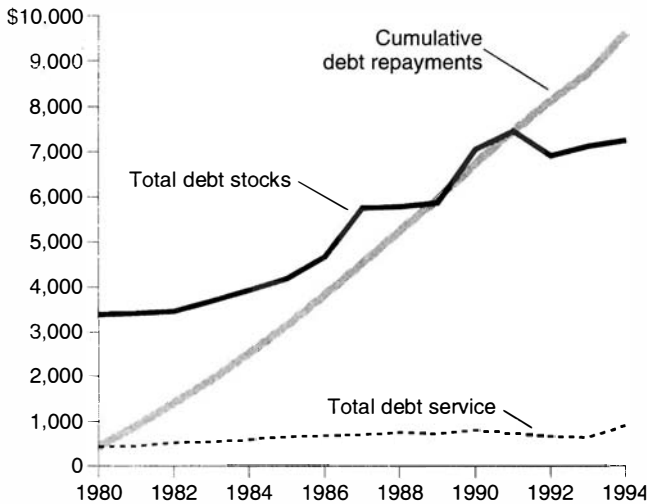
FIGURE 2
Burundi debt

(millions \$)



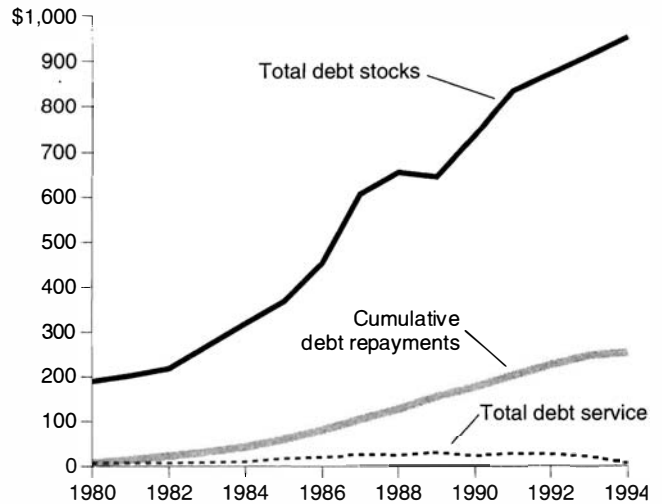
Source: World Bank, 1996.

FIGURE 3
Kenya debt
(millions \$)



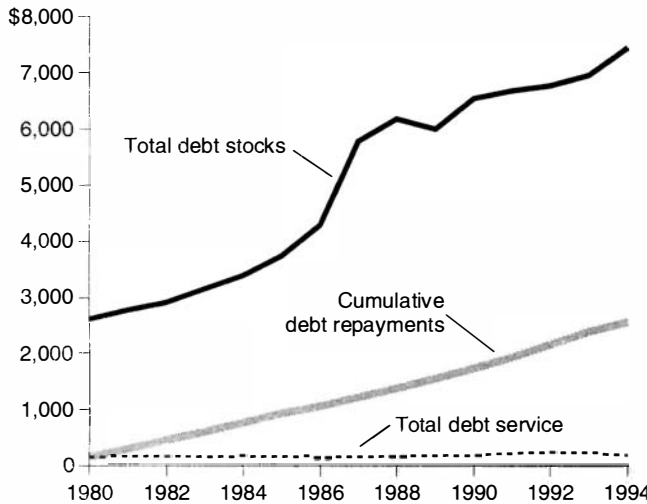
Source: World Bank, 1996.

FIGURE 4
Rwanda debt
(millions \$)



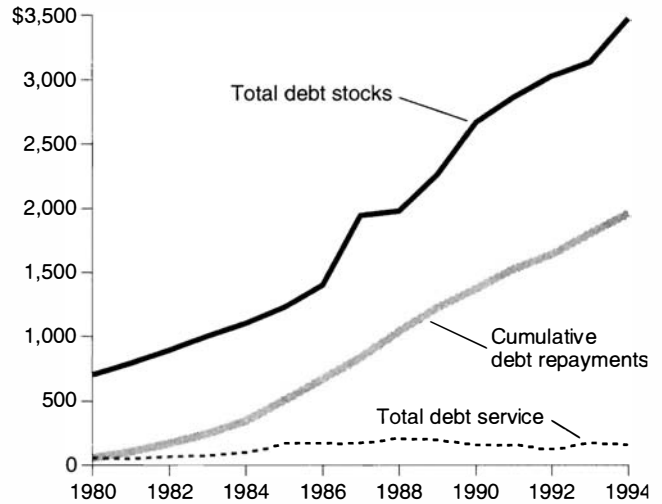
Source: World Bank, 1996.

FIGURE 5
Tanzania debt
(millions \$)



Source: World Bank, 1996.

FIGURE 6
Uganda debt
(millions \$)



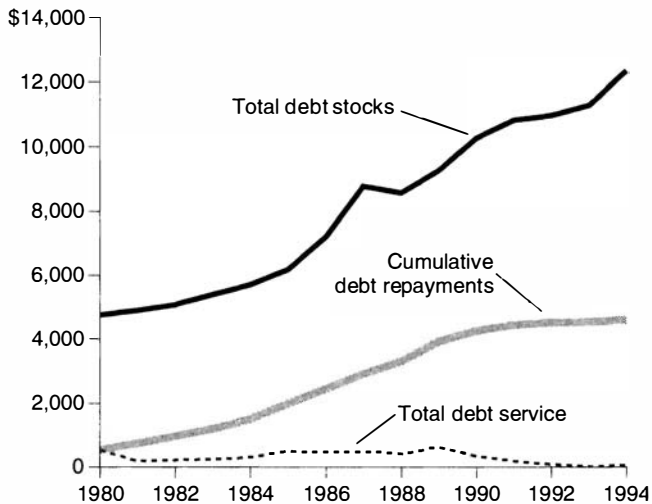
Source: World Bank, 1996.

because the population density is in any way large. Rwanda's and Burundi's population density is lower than [the German states of] Hessen or North-Rhine Westfalia. But, if you force 80-90% of the population to live off subsistence farming, and then introduce a system of systematic looting, wholesale looting, it will create economic and social chaos, political tensions, and military conflicts, because everybody is thrown

back into a situation where everybody is fighting for survival. This is an impossible condition for anything that is worth calling reconciliation and peace.

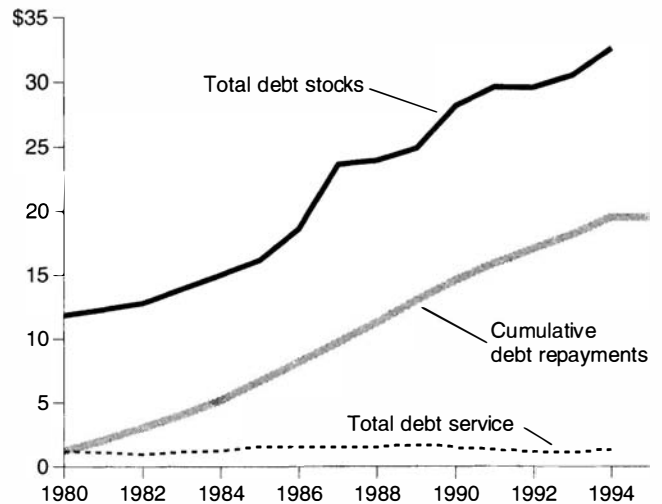
So, the first point I want to make is, unless this system of injustice of the economy—which is a continuation of the old colonial system under a new name, called IMF-World Bank—is removed, there will not be any peace.

FIGURE 7
Zaire debt
(millions \$)



Source: World Bank, 1996.

FIGURE 8
Combined debt of all six countries studied*
(billions \$)



* Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zaire.

Source: World Bank, 1996.

What must be done?

Second, what would be the alternative of a new world economic order? It would have to have the following elements. This is strategically defined, under which, then, the growth of national economies would be possible again:

1. Immediately, all debt payments should be frozen. We then should draw a distinction between legitimate and illegitimate debt. The first should be paid over a very long time: not now, but only after payments are possible; and the illegitimate debt should be cancelled altogether. How the relations are, will have to be figured out. But there should be no illusion: Everybody knows the African debt will never be paid. It is a political blackmail of looting and political control for destruction. It has nothing to do with any financial considerations anymore, because the debt is simply unpayable.

2. The creation of a new monetary system with fixed parities, which is called a New Bretton Woods system, which we are asking President Clinton to implement, whose elements are the reregulation of the world trading system, based on the principle of a parity price for raw materials and agricultural goods. To stop that process of looting by which African goods are paid for below the cost of production, and therefore, even if African countries export some of their raw materials and get paid for it, it's always a losing arrangement. Because, what they get paid for it never covers the real cost of production, at the point of production.

This is the first, and most important aspect: that the trading system has to be reregulated, so that African countries earn real wealth from the trade they are engaged in and can take those earnings for their internal development.

3. We need to issue long-term, low-interest-rate loans, for rapid development of hard infrastructure, such as railways, as has been discussed in this conference; highways; waterways; energy production systems; water regulation—the obvious.

4. Transfer of modern technology from the industrial countries to African countries, including peaceful nuclear technology, and the establishment of science and technology centers in Africa.

5. The development of the internal markets of African economies: exactly the opposite of globalization. We have to defend, including with regional arrangements, the internal markets, so that local industries and agriculture can prosper, and then, Africa could become an equal partner in the world economy. But without protection, that's impossible. The elements are a Hamiltonian national bank; development of industry; development of modern agriculture, instead of subsistence farming; and development of qualified health care and education.

6. Regional integration of economies, and opening up of entire new areas for settlement.

The whole point here, is that a new, just world economic order means that this whole notion of "development aid" has to be thrown out of the window. We have to get rid of the difference between the so-called First World, Second World, Third World, and Fourth World! If we have a just trading system, we don't need development aid. If Africa can claim the right of equality with all other nations in the world, as far as trading and economic activity is concerned, then the earnings from that honest trading will be enough to finance

everything that is needed internally, and we can close down the ministries of development aid, because these guys have all the wrong ideas, in any case!

You take somebody like Professor Molle in Germany, who, in terms of the political problems in the region, is a relatively reasonable man; but if it comes to a fundamental understanding of development policy, then he says, well the new thing in development policy is, we have to manage the poverty: We have to have a more humanitarian approach to poverty, to arrange that poverty is somehow democratically controlled and arranged.

This is the cynicism which is there throughout the Western institutions.

As I said at the beginning of this seminar, in the 1960s, the idea that Africa would become the equal partners of the advanced industrial sectors, was an obvious idea for everybody. And, I will end by quoting an African for this, which today, reads like it comes from a different century altogether. But, that is exactly the spirit that we have to regain, and for which we have to fight, and what the new world economic order should enable us to do.

This is Cheikh Anta Diop, who wrote, in 1972, his treatise, *The Economic and Cultural Basis for a Federated State*. At the end, he describes different regions in Africa, and what he thinks the future for them, economically, will be. The first region he discusses is the Zaire River Basin:

“With its 650 billion kilowatt hours of annual reserves of hydraulic energy, the Zaire River Basin is destined to become the leading industrial region of Africa, the principal center of our heavy industry. In the final stage, hydraulic energy will supply all the electricity needed for the various branches of industry, using the resources of raw materials in neighboring territories.”

Then he goes through a list of all these strategic minerals and so forth.

“The simultaneous abundance of hydraulically created electricity and nonferrous metals makes this region especially suited to the fabrication of specialized steels for strategic or domestic uses, having numerous industrial applications: chromium steels . . . cobalt steel . . . tantalium steels . . . magnesium steels.

“Only regions privileged in electrical power can specialize in the production of such electrosteels. . . . The same is true of electrometallurgical industry in general, for the handling of by-products of copper ores, [etc.] . . .

“The region is as privileged as Canada for the handling of bauxite from other countries and the creation of an aluminothermal industry. Eventual discovery of iron ores with a yield of above 25%, and bauxite, would give this country an indispensable primacy for the location of heavy industry. . . .

“Zaire might create a significant chemical industry . . . a synthetic chemistry industry and cement works. The latter could call upon local clays and chalks and the noncoking coals of other regions. . . .

“Systematic development of rice-growing in Zaire . . . must be carried out in such a way as totally to change eating habits on the continent, replacing millet with rice as the basic dietary staple. In a near future, in three vital areas—food (rice), clothing (cottongoods), housing (cement and concrete)—Africa will be able to forego its dependence on the outside by ceasing imports from either Asia or Europe. . . .

“In an almost dramatic contradiction, the Zaire River Basin today holds almost all of our continental wealth while being the least populous area of the continent. It has 19 million people against 14 million in the Sahara, with a density of only two to three per square kilometer. This makes the region as rich as it is deserted—virtually as deserted as the desert itself.

“This internal weakness will have to be remedied in the future by a policy of hygiene and systematic birth encouragement. . . .

“The importance of the Zaire Basin is undeniable for all of Africa, and especially for us French-speaking Africans. . . .”

He goes through how heavy industries, and especially aeronautics, should be located on the coast of Zaire, and Zaire essentially should become a big industrial power, driving the entire development of the African continent.

Now, that was a vision from 1972. It is that vision, that we have to fight for again.

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'Silk Road Lady' rallies Europe around Land-Bridge

by Ortrun Cramer

Two high-level meetings in Europe—one in Prague, and one in Paris—have brought Europe a step closer to breaking with its current, suicidal climate of pessimism, and getting on board with the Eurasian Land-Bridge project, as the alternative to the looming financial crash and economic disintegration. Both events featured Helga Zepp LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute, who, along with her husband, Lyndon LaRouche, developed the land-bridge concept in 1989, and who has recently come to be known as the “Silk Road Lady.” Helga Zepp LaRouche has announced that she will run for the post of German chancellor in the upcoming elections on the Civil Rights Movement Solidarity slate.

The May 6 seminar in Prague was the first public intervention by *EIR* into the Czech Republic in four years. The much-celebrated “Czech model” has now begun to crumble, and the negative effects of “shock therapy” and massive financial speculation can no longer be overlooked. There are growing strikes and demonstrations against the economic austerity policy of the government of President Vaclav Klaus. Consumer prices are rising steadily: For example, the price of beef has risen by 45.6% since 1993. Industrial production fell 7% in the first quarter of 1997, as compared to the first quarter in 1996. None of the plans currently on the books for infrastructure development have materialized, such as building superhighways connecting Germany and Prague, or high-speed rail connections from the northern part of the Czech Republic, through Prague, into the south of the country, with connections to Berlin in the north, and Vienna in the south. The social fabric is also eroding: Visitors from abroad are shocked by the increase in prostitution, with brothels even in small villages, and street prostitution all over the country.

In this climate, it is not surprising that the event organized by *EIR* attracted wide attention. Mrs. LaRouche addressed an audience of high-level representatives from several Czech ministries, from economic associations, political parties, church organizations, and intellectuals. Various trade union organizations also sent high-level representatives to the seminar, and several industrialists attended. Press representatives from Czech economic magazines, and correspondents from international press agencies were also there. Guests travelled from all over Czechia, including Plzen, Hradec Kralove, and Ostrava.

In her presentation, Mrs. LaRouche discussed developments in eastern Europe since 1989, when the hopes for real economic growth and infrastructure development were betrayed, while “shock therapy” policies and the quest for “quick money,” increasingly known as “casino economy,” were adopted instead. This has led to economic decline not only throughout eastern Europe—Russian industrial capacity today stands at only 20% of what it was in 1990—but in western Europe as well. Mrs. LaRouche stressed that unemployment in Germany today is at its highest level since 1933, the year when Hitler seized power. She presented the Eurasian Land-Bridge development plan, the “New Silk Road,” and the associated Great Projects that are already under way in China and other countries along the Land-Bridge route.

Many seminar participants had vivid recollections of how Lyndon LaRouche had proposed his “Productive Triangle” program in 1989, a program that included the highly developed industrial regions of Czechoslovakia (which has subsequently split into two separate countries). Questions posed to Mrs. LaRouche following her presentation, revealed an unusual depth of understanding, not only about the implica-

tions of the development projects as such, but also of the policies and strategic aims of the enemies of such development: first and foremost, the forces of the British Empire, whose elites are already preparing to save their hides after the anticipated financial collapse, by grabbing and hoarding raw materials in eastern Europe, as well as in the developing sector.

Europe's leaders paralyzed

The main point to understand, Mrs. LaRouche stressed, is that in the present political framework, where "fulfillment of the Maastricht criteria," through austerity and cuts in social programs in western Europe, precludes any longer-term political or economic vision, no political initiative can be expected from statesmen in western Europe. The initiative must therefore come from U.S. President Clinton, who must adopt an economic policy in the tradition of Alexander Hamilton, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, which means support for production and productive full employment.

In this spirit, several members of the audience signed the "Urgent Appeal to President Clinton to Convoke a New Bretton Woods Conference," which had been jointly framed in February by Mrs. LaRouche and Ukrainian parliamentarian Natalya Vitrenko (see *EIR*, April 18, 1997, p. 14). This call is presently being widely circulated in the Czech Republic. Seminar participants expressed the need for a change in American economic initiatives in the Czech Republic, which, so far, have differed little from British and German free-market initiatives.

There was also much discussion about problems of shaping a post-communist society. The difficulty of filling the vacuum after the collapse of communist ideology, is a problem that directly confronts all former East bloc countries.

France: the Land-Bridge as a vision

On May 13, the Schiller Institute sponsored a Paris conference on "Building a Bridge from the Atlantic to the Sea of China," a title chosen in the tradition of President Charles de Gaulle's vision of building a Europe "from the Atlantic to the Urals." More than 100 guests attended this conference, which was addressed by Helga Zepp LaRouche, along with Jacques Cheminade, former French Presidential candidate and long-time associate of Lyndon LaRouche; and by Emmanuel Rwirangira, president of the Rwandan Solidarity Circle of France, who spoke on the necessity of bringing Africa into the New Silk Road project.

The special significance of the Paris conference, lies in the fact that it occurred in the middle of the campaign for the National Assembly elections, the first round of which will take place on May 25. It also took place on the eve of President Jacques Chirac's state visit to China.

Chirac called early elections, out of fear that holding the elections at the regular time in 1998, would diminish the

chances that his government will be re-elected, given the fact that for France to "fulfill the Maastricht criteria," he must impose massive economic austerity. The Chirac government is also well aware of the ongoing financial collapse, which will soon bring down France's badly declining economy. Official unemployment currently stands at 12%, but in reality, one out of four working-age Frenchmen is either unemployed, or is employed in some form of make-work program.

None of France's institutional parties is offering any real alternative to Maastricht. Rather, for the conservative parties, Chirac's RPR and the UDF, the "modern world" means "global economy," and "France cannot shy away" from this challenge, or even return to the traditional state-directed economy, which is being denounced as a "thing of the past." But the Socialist Party of the late President François Mitterrand has also accepted "globalization," and is merely demanding that the worst consequences for the workforce be alleviated. Worse still, the Socialist Party has entered into a de facto alliance with the Green Party, according to which each party's candidates have agreed not to run against each other in any given district.

Schiller Institute spokeswoman Christine Bierre stressed, in her opening remarks at the May 13 conference, that "it is not by chance that this conference is taking place in the middle of the election campaign. Here, the real issues of France will be addressed; a real alternative, a long-term, worldwide vision will be presented."

Jacques Cheminade, well known in France for his warnings of "financial cancer" during his Presidential campaign in 1995, spoke about the causes of the present crisis, and about what is required to create a new world economic order. Mrs. LaRouche then outlined the full potential of the New Silk Road project, describing the Great Projects, and showing the enormous possibilities for real growth and progress, economically as well as scientifically. In conclusion, she stressed that the realization of the Land-Bridge vision also requires a new cultural Renaissance, which must include all the positive elements of the different cultures and histories represented in the vast area along the New Silk Road.

Jean Royer, former mayor of Tours, a deputy in the National Assembly, and one of the last true Gaullists in France, took the floor, praising Mrs. LaRouche for her vision. He described some aspects of the legislation he himself had introduced in the National Assembly, to try to get a French infrastructure project off the ground. He indicated how he had been able, as mayor of Tours, to finance several projects which would be impossible to finance today, with current high interest rates and the short maturity of credits. Royer, who has not been chosen by the RPR/UDF to run as a candidate again in the current elections, has decided to leave parliament and dedicate the rest of his life to the education of real politicians, who will act in the interest of their country, instead of appeasing the prevailing ideologies.

Brits move against Sudan peace treaty

by Muriel Mirak Weissbach

No sooner had the ink dried on the historic peace treaty signed on April 21, between the majority of rebel factions and the Sudanese government, than the British deployed their tools to denounce, slander, and wreck the effort. The peace treaty (see *EIR*, May 9) represents the first viable act taken by any Sudanese government to put an end to the bloody civil strife which has ravaged the country intermittently for 40 years.

The inclusion in the treaty of provisions for a referendum on unity or secession, following a four-year interim reconstruction period, satisfies the demand that the remaining rebel faction, the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) of John Garang, has always claimed was the precondition for his ceasing hostilities. Parts of the political opposition grouping, known as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), which includes the Umma party of Sadiq al Mahdi and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) of Othman Al Mirghani, have also campaigned for the right to self-determination for southern Sudan; yet they, like Garang, have rejected the treaty. The fact is, the signing of the treaty has exposed the fraud of both the military and political wings of the so-called rebels: Theirs never was a fight for any of the aims they claimed, but has always been a strategy to overthrow the current government and break the nation up into as many as six micro-states.

Both the political opposition and the military forces of the Garang faction, are British assets. It has been documented that through 1995 and 1996, the deputy speaker of the British House of Lords, Baroness Caroline Cox, who is also head of Christian Solidarity International (CSI), literally brought Sadiq al Mahdi and Mirghani together, and forced them, as ersatz allies, to acknowledge Garang as their military leader. The ungainly alliance was glued together by Cox personally in Asmara, Eritrea, and has held—albeit with the stability of a three-legged stool—ever since.

Intense diplomacy on both sides

Now, in the wake of the peace treaty, the British Privy Council has mobilized the NDA and Cox herself, to whip up public support for their war strategy. Barely a week after the Khartoum signing ceremony, Cox popped up in Washington, D.C., and presented a Congressional hearing with a briefing on “The Persecution of Christians around the World: Focus

on Sudan,” a rehashed version of the same fraudulent testimony she has presented over the years. Only the date has been changed. In early May, Cox reportedly travelled to the Nuba Mountains—as always, entering the country illegally—and met with the few remaining rebel forces there. After her visit, those forces, under Jusef Kuwa, who refused to sign the peace treaty, received massive arms supplies.

Also in May, serious diplomatic efforts were launched to bring Garang into the peace process. The SPLA minority faction leader had been invited by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, to take part in a meeting between Sudanese President Gen. Omar al Bashir and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, in Nairobi on May 10. Riak Machar, the leader of the South Sudanese Independence Movement (SSIM), which has signed for peace with Khartoum, also urged mediators to arrange a tête-à-tête with Garang for him. Garang bowed out of the Nairobi meeting, saying he needed two weeks to reflect. Another date has been set for him to meet President al Bashir, at the end of May, but there is no guarantee he will appear. In that time frame, he has made his way to London, en route to the United States, together with Sadiq al Mahdi and Mansur Khalid, the “spokesman” of the NDA.

The stopover in London provided the opportunity for the NDA people to receive fresh briefings from their political controllers in the British establishment. With the change of guard at 10 Downing Street, it may be that there will be cosmetic changes made in the packaging of the Sudanese opposition's operations. In fact, Sadiq al Mahdi was not accorded the usual red carpet treatment, on arrival in London this time. One might say, in fact, that the diplomatic weather in London was a bit chilly. Reportedly, he had applied to the Westminster University to deliver a lecture, but was turned down. Instead, he had to rely on the apparatus of the Egyptian Journalists' Association, a front for Egyptian intelligence networks there, to find a speaking forum. Although Sadiq al Mahdi called a press conference in a large room in the Hilton Hotel, only three journalists showed up, freelancer Eric Walters, Eva Dardrian (a freelance intelligence gatherer), and the *Guardian's* Sudan watcher, Kathy Evans. Following his scheduled lecture on May 17, under the Egyptian press auspices, Mahdi was slated to leave for Washington.

In Washington, the trio of Mahdi, Garang, and Khalid is expected to take their case to the U.S. Institute for Peace, the members of the U.S. Congress, representatives of the State Department, and the Pentagon. The reason is clear: Following the Khartoum peace treaty signing, the U.S. ambassador to Sudan greeted the event positively, as did the Clinton administration's spokesmen, in briefings in the capital. Sudanese Ambassador to the United States Mahdi Ibrahim Mohamed, who had presided over the Khartoum ceremonies, reported in a press conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. on May 5, that his government hoped for supportive action by the United States, for peace. He said his government

was “eager to write the last chapter on the war in the South by obtaining John Garang’s heart and mind and signature to the Peace Agreement and integration into the political process, where disputes are settled by free and fair elections, not by guns and violence.” The ambassador went on to say that his government “would *welcome mediation towards that end by the United States, and has broached that idea at the highest levels of the United States administration*” (emphasis added).

If the Clinton administration seizes this opportunity to support the peace process, and broaden it to include the recalcitrant Garang, this can change the course of history in the African continent, contributing to reversing the process of destruction and death now rampant in the Great Lakes region. Defeating the British ploy in Sudan is a first step to defeating the British in the region, where the ongoing genocide and destruction of nations is being perpetrated. Cognizant of the strategic implications, London will do everything possible to prevent effective action from Washington. Thus, the trip of Sadiq al Mahdi, Garang, and Mansur Khalid to the United States.

Although not so decisive as American support, strong backing by Germany for the peace process would be important, and is feasible. The German ambassador in Khartoum reportedly also welcomed the peace treaty. Furthermore, a resolution was passed in the German Bundestag (Parliament) prior to the treaty signing, which endorsed the peace process in Sudan, and called on the Bonn government to intervene to facilitate further progress. It is, therefore, no coincidence that Baroness Cox herself would deploy to Germany, to carry on her propaganda war against peace. She will be there on June 20-22 for a conference sponsored by the Evangelical Academy, on the topic “Sudan: Between Human Rights Violations and the Search for Peace.”

A unique opportunity

There has never been a more propitious moment for peace in Sudan, nor has there been a greater opportunity, to defeat the historical ambitions of the British, to decimate the continent and rape it of its resources.

Those in Washington, D.C., in the Congress and the administration, who are morally committed to pursue the cause of peace for Africa, must exploit the opportunity provided by the visit of Garang, al Mahdi, and Khalid. They must be confronted with the hard facts of the peace treaty, which has been signed by political and military leaders of the rebel forces, representing the vast majority of the population of southern Sudan. The demands of Garang et al. for self-determination have been met in the treaty. In addition, an in-depth strategy for winning the peace has been mapped out and agreed upon, to satisfy the just demands of the Sudanese people, for economic progress, social repacification, wealth and power sharing, and representative democracy. There is no reason for any honest, peace-loving Sudanese to reject this treaty.

Promise of harmony on Indian subcontinent

by Susan B. Maitra and Ramtanu Maitra

With three months left before the 50th anniversary independence celebrations, India and Pakistan took an historic step in Male, in the Maldives archipelago located in the Indian Ocean, by agreeing to set up working groups to study problems that bedevil their bilateral relations. Prime Ministers I.K. Gujral of India and Mian Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan, both of whom hail from the Punjab of pre-partition days, announced their intent to institutionalize bilateral discussions, following their luncheon meeting at the Kurumba resort, where the heads of government of the South Asian nations met on May 12-14 to strengthen their relations.

Both prime ministers made clear that it is their personal trust and respect for each other that enabled them to come to an agreement. Without identifying specific characteristics of the working groups, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said that working groups will be set up on various subjects and would be identified by the foreign secretaries of the two countries when they meet, “perhaps by the end of this month.”

For a better future

The decision to improve relations between the two countries and move toward bringing unity and harmony to the subcontinent, is in line with recent developments which saw an improvement in India-Bangladesh relations. Since coming to terms on sharing the water of the Ganges River, India and Bangladesh have moved further toward developing transportation and electrical power distribution grids. If and when the India-Pakistan relations improve further, the southern tier of the India section of the Eurasian Land-Bridge will get a boost, and connecting Southeast Asia with Iran via the Indian subcontinent will become a reality.

The southern flank of the Eurasian Land-Bridge connects India through Pakistan and Iran and the Central Asian nations to Europe in the west. In the east—India’s linkage to Myanmar, and then southward to connect Singapore by land, through Bangladesh—a stretch of railroad linking Calcutta to Yangon is necessary to enhance the potential of the southern flank. Recent developments in bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh, and the prospect of Myanmar becoming a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

(ASEAN) in the near future, have given a boost to the southern tier of the Eurasian Land-Bridge. However, it is the improvement in Indo-Pakistan relations which can make the southern flank of the Land-Bridge a reality.

Both India and Pakistan, victims of isolation and super-power machinations during the Cold War days, are desperately looking for a way out of the low-growth economy and poverty that overwhelm both nations. The International Monetary Fund- and World Bank-led monetarist economic policies have also kept these two large nations in shackles, by not allowing them to spend adequate amounts of money in developing infrastructure with the help of borrowed cash. Bilateral hostility, a legacy of the partition of the subcontinent and the Cold War, has prevented these nations from trading with each other and jointly exploiting each other's potentials. It is these economic exigencies which are now propelling the two nations to seek better relations with each other.

Economic realities

A leading Indian academic, Prof. S.D. Muni, in his analysis in the daily *Times of India*, pointed out that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, a leading industrialist in Pakistan, is fully aware of the "fast-growing demands of the Pakistani business community to normalize economic relations with India." A few weeks ago, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), the largest Indian chamber of commerce, and its sister organization in Pakistan reached an understanding to accord mutual accommodation to each other's goods and services.


Independent studies carried out by the Industry and Commerce ministries in Pakistan have shown that opening up bilateral trade will benefit Pakistan immensely. Official trade between the two countries is valued at just \$500 million, as against the unofficial figure of \$1.5-2 billion. According to some experts, if the tariff barriers between the two countries are lowered to an acceptable level, trade can soar to as high as \$4-5 billion within a short span of time. Experts claim that investment from within the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) may touch \$15 billion if the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) is set up within three years, as suggested.

Political machinations

However, it is also evident that economic compulsions alone cannot clear up the political fog and mist that envelop the two countries' bitter relations of the past. For instance, the Kashmir dispute, which is as old as independent India and Pakistan, has long been an international issue and a subject of three wars. All major powers, at one time or another, and some of them even today, find it convenient to take sides on the Kashmir dispute to evoke hostility between the two nations. Britain's Labour Party, which has just come to power, is notorious for its unsolicited promotion of independent

Kashmir, separated from both India and Pakistan. However, in recent days, Beijing's advice to Pakistan to put the Kashmir issue on the back burner, and Washington's pressure on both New Delhi and Islamabad toward a diplomatic engagement, created a stable ground on which the two prime ministers could act.

At the same time, there is a general realization within the South Asian community, bound together by the SAARC, a yet-to-be-effective organization, that the harmony of relations between India and Pakistan would serve all of them well. Speaking at the SAARC summit in Male on the same day India and Pakistan decided to set up working groups, Sri Lankan President Chandrika Kumaratunga said: "The principal reality of our region is the significant asymmetry in size, resources, development, and power amongst us. Another reality is the uniquely central and pivotal position within our region of the largest member, India." Calling for "frequent, informal and confidential [as well as] free and frank interlocution amongst ourselves . . . with a view to clarifying doubts, dispelling suspicions," President Kumaratunga proposed informal and unrecorded exchange of views among all SAARC states. A similar view, which focussed on the relevance of a harmonious India-Pakistan equation to make the SAARC a success, was expressed by Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed, among others.



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Cinderella kissed a toad

Pauline Hanson's new political party has recently emerged, and it has some peculiar fairy godmothers.

Over the past weeks, a new political party has burst into prominence in Australia, registering from 8 to 25% voter support in opinion polls. Known as "Pauline Hanson's One Nation," the party draws its name from a formerly unknown fish-and-chips shop-owner from Ipswich, Queensland, who was elected to federal parliament in a landslide in March 1996. Many of her followers, as well as Hanson herself, speak of her as a future prime minister. And, because of her stand against Asian immigration, she has raised alarms throughout Southeast Asia, and even in China.

Hanson has risen to prominence on a wave of anger in rural and working-class Australia, against three things: the Mont Pelerin Society's free trade and globalization policies (endorsed by both the ruling Liberal-National coalition, as well as the Labor opposition), which have savaged the economy; recent High Court decisions in favor of "Aboriginal land rights," which potentially put up for grabs the ownership of all land in the country; and the policy of "multiculturalism," a grab-bag of affirmative action-type measures premised upon the notion that Australia is composed of different "races," which need to be favored in various ways—a policy which fosters the very antagonisms it is ostensibly designed to alleviate.

The anger, and the unrest are genuine. But, there are more than a few evil stepmothers in this story.

The fairy godmother waved her wand, and Cinderella went from rags to riches; in this story, we have two fairy godmothers: Kerry Packer and Rupert Murdoch, who between them

dominate Australia's media, and whose endless stream of articles on the "Hanson phenomenon" in fact created it.

Cast in the role of an aging, overweight Prince Charming, we have Graeme Campbell, a controversial parliamentarian from Western Australia, to whom Hanson frequently turns for advice on how to vote in parliament and similar matters. Campbell was kicked out of the Labor Party a couple of years ago, in part because of his flirtation with the League of Rights, a British Israelite gnostic cult with a following in rural Australia. The British-born Campbell then joined up with a racist outfit called Australians Against Further Immigration, and at one point stated that he was going to England to meet with the billionaire-populist Sir James Goldsmith, to raise funds.

The man who is widely credited with "discovering" Hanson, John Pasquarelli, is a former longtime staffer of Campbell's, who left him to work for Hanson.

Pasquarelli was the first of a string of spooks and Mont Pelerin assets who have been associated with Hanson during her brief career; to Hanson's credit, she has sacked at least some of them. First, was Pasquarelli himself, who, before his stint with Campbell, had worked for Sen. John Stone, a board member of the Institute for Public Affairs (IPA), a notorious Mont Pelerin front. Pasquarelli advised Hanson, who made her name attacking free trade, to hire IPA member Jeff Babb, a member of the Adam Smith Club, as a "researcher" (in fact, a controller). After dumping Pasquarelli and Babb, Hanson hired David

Thomas, a former member of the Australian Security Intelligence Service, an outfit notorious for its services to British SIS, which set it up in the first place. Most recently, Hanson has hired David Ettridge, a former fundraiser for World Vision, a non-governmental organization which is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development, and which has been involved in shady doings under cover of "aid," including having been caught twice flying guns into British intelligence's pet southern Sudanese rebel, John Garang.

Whatever her intentions may have been, Hanson has been created as a "countergang," a synthetic organization designed to siphon off political dissent into a dead-end. And, with her racist "anti-Asian" stand, she is a convenient straw man to be attacked by the Australian establishment's "multicultural" apparatus, as in precedent-setting moves now under way to forbid Hanson to register her political party. The real target of this apparatus is not Hanson, but Lyndon LaRouche, and his Australian associates in the Citizens Electoral Council, whose influence has been spreading rapidly.

This was made clear in Murdoch's *Weekend Australian* of May 3-4. Pro-drug multiculturalist columnist Philip Adams, who, notwithstanding his Murdoch employment, is also a longtime bosom buddy of Packer, stated: "It's been noted that Pauline Hanson's memorable maiden speech was chocker with policies that bore an eerie resemblance to those of Lyndon LaRouche and his lunar-right organization. Hanson is, of course, entitled to draw her ideas, such as they are, from any source she chooses. But if she were a member of the LaRouche organization (run out of the U.S., but with powerful tentacles in Queensland), then the voters . . . are entitled to know."

International Intelligence

Soros in hot water in former East bloc

Charging that the Soros Foundation in Belarus has "made big profits through sales on the currency exchange, due to inflation and changes in exchange rates," the State Tax Committee of Belarus slapped the organization with \$2.9 million in fines earlier this month. The Soros Foundation has operated as a tax-exempt entity in Belarus since 1995, and says that it has spent \$13 million on "educational, ecological, and cultural programs" during the past four years. (See *EIR's Special Report*, "The True Story of Soros the Golem," for the content of such programs.) In March, Belarus barred the director of the Soros Foundation, a U.S. citizen, from the country.

The extensive activity of the Soros foundations in Central Asia has also drawn fire. In late April, George Soros, the arch-speculator and drug-legalization sugar-daddy himself, wrote to Kyrgyzstan's President Askar Akayev to complain about press criticism of the Soros Foundation there. In the letter, leaked to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Soros touted his "activities in education, culture, pluralistic mass media, civil society, and economic reform," and objected to published articles that alleged a misuse of funds by his hand-picked local director, Chinara Jakipova. On April 30, President Akayev issued a statement that he will not get involved in "an internal affair of the Kyrgyz media"—i.e., its conflict with the Soros Foundation.

London's Osama Bin Laden threatens to kill Clinton

British terrorist financier Osama Bin Laden threatened to have U.S. President Bill Clinton assassinated, and also threatened further actions against U.S. soldiers and civilians, in an interview with Ted Turner's Cable News Network, broadcast May 11. Bin Laden spoke from his headquarters in Afghanistan, where, in his first interview broadcast in the United States, he again took credit for the terrorist acts against U.S. citizens in Saudi

Arabia. "The hearts of Muslims are filled with hatred towards the American President," he growled. "The President has a heart that knows no words. A heart that kills hundreds of children definitely knows no words. Our people in the Arabian Peninsula will send him messages with no words."

Bin Laden continued: "We declared *ji-had* against the U.S. government. We have focused our declaration on striking at the soldiers in the country of the Two Holy Places," referring to Saudi Arabia. The two bombings in 1995 and 1996 at U.S. military installations in Riyadh and Khobar, Saudi Arabia, left 21 U.S. servicemen dead. He also threatened blind terrorism against U.S. civilians, "because they chose this government and voted for it, despite their knowledge of its crimes."

Meanwhile, another London-based gang of cutthroats, Al-Jamma Al-Islamia, vowed in a communiqué published on May 5, to kill any Americans, including the President, it deems responsible for jailing Sheikh Omar Rahman, should he die in prison. The elderly sheikh's health is said to be deteriorating.

Tamil Tigers, JKL hail Blair's election

The Sri Lankan Tamil Tiger separatists and their confreres in India's Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front are reportedly jubilant over the victory of Prime Minister Tony Blair in Britain. Both terrorist groups, which are responsible for tens of thousands of deaths, are headquartered in London. According to India's semi-official *Hindu* on May 6, Velupillai Prabhakaran, the leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, sent congratulations to Blair. He called for "an activist British role" in the current Tamil Tiger war in Sri Lanka, which has killed thousands.

Meanwhile, "Kashmiri separatist circles are jubilant over the Labour Party's stupendous victory in the British elections," according to India's *Pioneer* on May 3. The separatists praised the statements of two Labour MPs, Max Madden and Claire Short, before the House of Commons in July 1996, in which they voiced their concern over the situation in Kashmir. Short has just been

named to replace the bloodthirsty Baroness Lynda Chalker at the Overseas Development Administration (which Blair has re-named as the Department for International Development).

It is noteworthy that Cook, Short, and Labour Party foreign policy guru Alistair Lamb, are all considered experts on Kashmir. The detonation of Kashmir remains the optimal way to provoke Indo-Pakistani conflict.

Iranians launch May election campaign

The official campaign for the May 23 national election that will replace Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani started on May 10. The leading candidates are Nateq Nouri, currently Speaker of the Majlis (parliament); Hojjatoleslam Seyed Mohammad Khatami, an independent who reportedly has the support of the Rafsanjani Combatants of Reconstruction group; Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Mohahhadi-Reyshahri; and, Seyed Reza Zavarei, a lawyer, former parliamentarian, deputy head of the judiciary, and head of the Real Estate and Document Registration Organization. The results of the May 23 vote will be made public two weeks after the vote, and, if necessary, there will be a run-off within a month after that. By July 23, Iran will announce who its fifth Iranian President will be.

Seyed Mohammed Khatami told a group of teachers "that one of the principles he upheld was that a system should tolerate differing views, thoughts, and ideas, and should provide a suitable atmosphere where people are free to air their opinions and views and which are treated with respect as means to arrive at sound decisions."

Seyed Reza Zavarei, speaking to the *Teheran Times*, appeared to be more cautious about the ambitious development projects which have characterized the Rafsanjani Presidency, and pointed to their cost. To combat inflation, wrote the *Times*, Zavarei proposed measures "including the increase of economic security which paves the way for further investments in the production sector, directing the cash-flow into produc-

tion and greater privatization. He called for well-formulated programs, particularly in the industrial, agricultural, and mining sectors."

Book blames Kissinger in Aldo Moro kidnap-murder

Sergio Flamigni, an expert on the 1978 kidnapping and murder of former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro, has written a second book on the subject, overtly pointing the finger of responsibility at Henry Kissinger, who, as Nixon's secretary of state, had threatened Moro because of his plan for a unity government of the Communists (PCI) and Christian Democrats (DC).

Reviewed in *Corriere della Sera* on May 9, Flamigni's book, *My Blood Will Be on Their Hands*, charges that the Red Brigades kidnapping of Moro was "a plot that began with the U.S. Secretary of State opposed to the government of national solidarity. . . . According to Flamigni, the 'Grand Old Man' in the Moro case has a first name and a family name: Henry Kissinger, at that time American Secretary of State. . . . The conflict between Moro and Kissinger is an old story. But in his book, the former MP [Flamigni] reports Giovanni Moro's version of a discussion with his father, soon after a Red Brigades action: 'He told me that in his opinion, the unity process which was ongoing in Italy among very different political forces, such as the DC and the PCI, and among the popular blocs which were represented by such forces . . . was disliked by the two superpowers which had split the world and kept it divided—as if to say, that there was a political connection between . . . the superpowers' desire [to keep the world divided] and terrorism, which aimed at stopping the process of renewal of political life, at that time taking place in Italy.'"

Flamigni, a former partisan leader and leading member the PCI, has been a member of all Parliamentary investigating committees on the Moro case and on the P-2 masonic lodge. The title from this, his second book on the Moro case, is taken from a charge that Moro made while imprisoned by the Red Brigade front men. Flamigni's work was in-

spired by the first-ever dossier on the Moro case, published in 1978 by the European Labor Party, co-thinkers of Lyndon LaRouche, which broke the controlled environment around the "terrorist action," and pointed to the higher level intellectual authors and political interests that wanted Moro—and his program for Italy—dead. Flamigni has given an interview to *EIR*, which will appear in a future issue.

Pope makes historic first visit to Lebanon

"*Salaam aleikum!* Peace be with you!" Pope John Paul II called out the traditional Arabic greeting on May 11 to over 500,000 Lebanese who attended the Mass he celebrated in Lebanon's capital Beirut, at a seaside landfill of levelled garbage and debris from the 1975-90 war.

It was the last event of the historic 32-hour trip to Lebanon by the Pope, the first visit he has ever paid to the Middle East. The Pope's arrival at Beirut Airport on May 10 was marked by a positive outpouring all over the country. At the moment his plane landed, church bells rang out across the country.

The Pope drove past the Shiite Muslim suburbs controlled by the Hezbollah, whose spiritual leader, Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, had warmly welcomed the visit. "Lebanon's Shiites are waiting for the Pope with hearts filled with love. . . . We have been waiting for the Holy Father for a long time . . . [the visit] will help us to find here in Lebanon a better way for Muslims and Christians to live side by side," the Sheikh said.

The Pope also presented his Apostolic Exhortation, a 200-page document calling for the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon (the south is occupied by Israel, and 35,000 Syrian soldiers are deployed throughout the rest of the country). The papal document is an elaboration of the 1995 Special Synod of Lebanon, which called for the withdrawal of Syrian and Israeli troops alike. "I came to Lebanon," the Pope said, to encourage "its sons and daughters so desirous of independence and freedom," whose territory is "recognized and respected by all."

Briefly

GERMANY should call early elections, Christian Democratic member of parliament Herbert Lattmann told the *Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung* on May 7. Crucial legislation is deadlocked between the government-dominated lower house and the opposition-dominated upper house, he said. It would be disastrous for Germany to wait for the October 1998 elections, to break this logjam.

NORTH KOREA'S deteriorating situation was described late last month by Dean Hirsch of World Vision International, who reported that the country may be only 90 days away from starvation. The catastrophe is exemplified by the fact that some peasants burying their dead until the corpses have putrefied, so as to the bodies from being disinterred and cannibalized.

TAJIKISTAN'S President Imomali Rakhmonov was wounded in an assassination attempt on April 30. A grenade was thrown at him as he was visiting a university in Khujand, killing two and injuring another 20. Russian television reported that suspects were detained immediately. Rakhmonov has been attempting to broker peaceful relations among the ethnic clans in the country.

TARIQ AZIZ, Iraq's deputy prime minister and foreign minister called for UN sanctions against his country to be lifted on May 9, after meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov. Aziz stopped off in Moscow on his way back from China. One week earlier, the UN Security Council voted to renew the murderous sanctions, on the recommendation of UN disarmament strongman Rolf Ekeus.

TONY BLAIR'S Northern Ireland Secretary Dr. Mo Mowlam will not finalize her "mission statement" regarding the Northern Ireland peace process, until after the May 14 "Queen's Speech . . . [which] will set out the program for Britain's new Labour government."

London fumes over latest Clinton anti-drug moves

by Jeffrey Steinberg

With little fanfare, the Clinton administration has escalated its attacks against several of the international drug cartels' most vulnerable flanks, including their drug-money-laundering infrastructure. And, not surprisingly, the loudest howls of protest are coming from London.

On April 27, the British weekly *Sunday Business* reported that British government officials are furious that U.S. Treasury agents have been visiting City of London banks, attempting to interrogate bank officials about suspected money laundering, without even checking in with their British Treasury counterparts. "The British banking industry is in an uproar as the U.S. steps up efforts to impose and enforce American financial regulations in London," Tony Hunt reported. According to Hunt, the United States is asserting the authority to probe money-laundering operations that pass from overseas banks into the United States, especially into the New York clearinghouse banks. "Almost all of the world's dollar transactions have to be settled in New York," *Sunday Business* noted.

The most hysterical protests have come from such City of London giants as Lloyds, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp., and Midland Bank. According to Hunt, U.S. Treasury agents have been squeezing the Channel Island of Jersey to revamp their banking laws, to conform with U.S. bank transparency and stricter anti-money-laundering provisions. One Jersey bank regulator, interviewed by Hunt, lamented: "Half the Jersey banking system is now regulated by the U.S. But they have not eased off at all. The message for London is simple: You are next."

Sir Leon Brittan jumps into the act

On May 4, Hunt reported that "Sir Leon Brittan, the European Commission vice president for relations with the United States, is facing pressure to react as critical reports of U.S.

efforts to impose U.S. laws on European and U.K. banking transactions pile up on his desk. . . . A Commission insider told *Sunday Business* that the main danger is that the U.S. will pick on a small, probably foreign bank in the U.K. and cut that bank off from dollar transactions. . . . The U.K. will be reluctant to mount a full-scale defense for such an institution and the U.S. position will be established by default."

Hunt reported that a number of British clearing banks, including Lloyds, Barclays, and NatWest, went to Bank of England director Eddie George, to protest the U.S. efforts to assert "extraterritorial" banking authority. George reportedly took their protests to the British Foreign Ministry, prior to the Labour takeover, and the protests were forwarded to Brittan, a Thatcherite free-market fanatic. Brittan attempted to disrupt a May 1996 Beijing conference on the Eurasian Land-Bridge, by threatening action against the Chinese, should they stray from the diktats of the "global financial market."

The current U.S. crackdown on British drug-money laundering should not come as a surprise to Britain's Dope, Inc. financiers. On Oct. 22, 1995, President Clinton signed Executive Order 12978 and Presidential Decision Directive 42; the former declared that the "actions of significant foreign narcotics traffickers" constituted a "national emergency." EO 12978 singled out 100 Colombian companies and individuals, who were identified as fronts for the cocaine cartels, and banned any American companies from doing business with them. The still-classified PDD-42 reportedly went much further.

On Nov. 12, 1995, the Washington bureau chief of the London *Sunday Times*, James Adams, reported that the Clinton administration "has grown increasingly frustrated by the feeble international response to the huge growth in organized crime and money laundering. After months of secret talks with its allies, America decided to go it alone; among actions

ordered by Clinton are negotiations to close about 50 money-laundering centers around the world. If these negotiations are unsuccessful, the centers will be denied access to American financial markets." Adams freely admitted that, with the Clinton crackdown on Colombian cartel money laundering, Britain was "about to become the money-laundering capital of the world, because huge amounts of cash from the drug trade are heading for London."

Operation Oro Verde

The crackdown on London and offshore Channel Islands banks is not an isolated development. On April 19, the *Dallas Morning News* revealed that the Clinton administration was "launching what could be the largest crackdown in history on Colombian money-laundering operations in the United States." Under the code-name "Operation Oro Verde" (Green Gold), federal agents, the *Morning News* reported, were about to seize \$1.5 billion in illicit drug profits, parked in an estimated 100 south Florida banks. Sources told the paper that 300-400 suspected cartel money-managers are under federal investigation, and that the bank crackdown is expected to go on for two years. Operation Oro Verde has been reportedly going on for two years.

During President Clinton's recent state visit to Mexico, anti-drug cooperation was on the top of the agenda. A number of bilateral agreements were signed, including one that will greatly increase cooperation between the United States and Mexico, against money laundering. While the President was in Mexico City, White House anti-drug official Gen. Barry McCaffrey, Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations Angel Gurría, and Mexican Attorney General Jorge Madrazo released a "U.S./Mexico Bi-National Drug Threat Assessment," a 97-page report prepared by the High Level Contact Group on Drug Control (HLCG), a bilateral task force created in March 1996 to devise a joint intelligence assessment and strategy for combatting the drug epidemic. The report placed a priority on shutting down the drug-money pipeline between the United States and Mexico, through cross-border cooperation. Already, teams of specialists from the U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCen) have been in Mexico, working closely with the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit and the Mexican Attorney General.

Soros set back in Arizona

The Clinton administration, in league with some leading Republicans, has also set its sites on the Queen's personal banker, international speculator George Soros. In recent years, Soros has emerged as the new "daddy warbucks" of the drug-legalization movement, pouring an estimated \$20 million into a slick propaganda and disinformation drive to legalize deadly drugs. Last November, a Soros-bankrolled ballot initiative, Proposition 200, passed in Arizona, allowing physicians to prescribe Schedule I dangerous drugs, includ-

ing heroin, cocaine, LSD, marijuana, and PCP. The ballot initiative passed through a deceptive campaign of public advertisements that portrayed the measure as a "medical reform," couched in tough-on-drugs language. The Clinton administration, as well as state officials, were caught flat-footed.

But in April, a bipartisan group of Arizona state legislators, with the active support of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and Republicans such as William Bennett, introduced a bill that would forbid Arizona doctors from prescribing the dangerous drugs, until the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) had completed its own studies of the medical uses of these drugs, and cleared them for use.

On April 10, the Arizona House of Representatives passed the measure by a 32-24 vote. Five days later, the state Senate passed it by a 17-13 majority. On April 9, the Arizona *Republic* interviewed Sen. John Kaites, a Republican co-sponsor of the bill, who confirmed the White House cooperation. Asked if President Clinton would be asked to phone Democratic senators if their votes were necessary, Kaites said, "It depends where the votes are. If the votes are with Democrats, clearly the administration cares about this issue, and clearly they have expressed a desire to help in any way that we think may be helpful."

On April 21, Arizona Gov. Fife Symington signed the bill into law. A Soros-funded front group, originally called Arizonans for Drug Policy Reform, now called The People Have Spoken, is trying to gather signatures on a new ballot initiative petition, that would postpone implementation of the law until a popular vote in November.

Despite these last-minute efforts to salvage the Arizona de facto drug legalization scam, the situation remains, that the Clinton administration, particularly the office of General McCaffrey, is on the alert for Soros drug legalization initiatives. After the Arizona vote last November, and a similar ballot initiative in California, the Soros forces vowed that they would pass similar ballot initiatives in 24 other states, plus the District of Columbia, during 1997. Their prospects of success now look slim. Recently, a Soros-linked effort to pass a law legalizing hemp production in the state of Michigan was defeated; and sources close to the administration report that several other victories are soon to be logged in the Clinton administration's escalating battle against Soros.

A recent query into Soros's New York City Lindesmith Center, a project of the Open Society Foundation which peddles drug legalization under the guise of "drug policy reform," revealed that the Soros crew is beginning to feel the heat of the public exposure of their pro-dope efforts. Asked to confirm that Soros is behind a planned autumn 1997 conference in Medellín, Colombia on the subject of "drug reform," Soros operator Dr. Ethan Nadelman denied any ties to the effort. He referred the caller to Dr. Arnold Trebach, head of the Drug Policy Foundation. DPF has been granted \$20 million by Soros.

Caution urged against bashing Indonesia

On May 7, in hearings to review Clinton administration policy toward Indonesia, House Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific Chairman Doug Bereuter (R-Neb.) cautioned against judging Indonesia's relationship with the United States on the basis of news reports about what some Indonesians may or may not have done with respect to the 1996 U.S. election. It is "essential that we not demonize Indonesia in spite of the activities of the Lippo group. We should not attack the government for illegal acts by some of its citizens," he said.

The Republican membership of the subcommittee is dominated by Conservative Revolution proponents, but none of them were present.

The testimony of the principal witness, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific Aurelia Brazeal, and the discussion that followed, were dominated by human rights issues, including East Timor, and the upcoming parliamentary elections in Indonesia. Bereuter usefully pointed out that Portugal "was a very neglectful colonial power when it came to its colonies, and the most neglected of all was, of course, East Timor. And when they left, they left it with no infrastructure, they left it in worse condition than any other colony throughout the world." Bereuter then asked Brazeal if the Portuguese were trying to use their influence in the European Union to force the issue of East Timor. Brazeal refused to commit herself, saying only that "it's difficult to characterize what the Portuguese have in mind."

Another note of caution was sounded by Matthew G. Martinez (D-Calif.), who said that reading the reports about riots in Indonesia last year, reminded him of what happened in Los

Angeles a few years ago. "It's not so unlike what happens in the United States, what happens in that country," he said. He pointed out that even in the United States, which is supposedly a mature democracy, there are problems with people being denied voting rights because of their ethnicity and so forth. He concluded, "I wish we were more tolerant of slower developing democracies than our own, and understood the problems that they have in those countries and base our foreign policy on that."

Louisiana election under Senate probe

On May 8, Senate Rules and Administration Committee Chairman John Warner (R-Va.) announced that his committee's investigation of the contested Louisiana election, in which Democrat May Landrieu beat Republican Woody Jenkins by 5,788 votes, was about to begin. This follows a process of evaluation of charges and hearings that has often been accompanied by partisan fireworks.

Warner reviewed that process in his remarks on the Senate floor, briefly describing the basis for, and the bipartisan nature of, the investigation. He said that his one goal is "to see that my work is performed in keeping with the tradition of the Senate in past cases, and to give the full committee my honest judgment of these facts . . . respecting the Senate's duty" under the Constitution. He promised that his committee's investigation will "determine the existence or absence of that body of credible fact that would justify the Senate in making a determination that fraud or irregularities or other errors did or did not affect the outcome" of the 1996

Senate election in Louisiana.

Meanwhile, on the House side, the House Oversight Committee's investigation of the election in California's 46th district, in which Democrat Loretta Sanchez defeated nine-term Republican Bob Dornan by less than 1,000 votes, is bogged down over whether Dornan has subpoena power in his quest to overturn the election results.

Juvenile crime bill would bring in the feds

On May 8, the House passed a juvenile crime bill by a vote of 286-132. The bill, part of the "Contract on America," and sponsored by Bill McCollum (R-Fla.), requires the Department of Justice to become involved in juvenile justice, heretofore a function handled at the state level.

McCollum argued that an epidemic of violent crime committed by teenagers under 18 is just around the corner, and that "the juvenile justice system is unprepared for this coming storm." He said that "Congress needs to provide incentives to the states to stimulate a core of critically and urgently needed repairs of the juvenile justice system."

The bill provides \$1.5 billion in Federal grants to states to expand their juvenile justice systems, but on condition that they meet four requirements, which involve sanctions for delinquent acts, trying juveniles as adults for certain violent crimes, establishing record-keeping systems, and holding parents accountable for their responsibilities under court-ordered sanctions of their children. The bill also establishes a Federal system of juvenile justice.

Opponents of the bill argued that

it didn't deal with the issue of prevention. Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-Tex.) said, "This legislation will not make us safer, but only divert attention from real and more difficult solutions." Mel Watt (D-N.C.) said, "Throughout our history, juvenile justice has been a matter of state and local law. Yet, my conservative Republican colleagues all of a sudden have decided that we are going to federalize juvenile justice in this country. We do not even do a good job of criminal justice for adults, yet we are going to federalize and tell the states what they are going to do in the arena of juvenile justice."

Gingrich, McCain back MFN for China

Despite the negative press against China these days, Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) have come out for renewing Most Favored Nation (MFN) trading status with China.

In a speech on May 8 before the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, McCain stated that the "allegations of money from China into the U.S. elections will make up an unfortunate part of our discussions of MFN in the Senate soon." He said that he did "not think U.S. policy was affected by these contributions," and that he is worried about how we treat "this emerging world power." He argued against isolating China by pointing to the U.S. policy of isolating Germany and Japan when they were emerging world powers earlier in this century. That, he said, led to World Wars I and II. "There is nothing that I have seen that indicates us getting into some kind of confrontation" with China, he said.

Appearing on NBC's Meet the

Press on May 11, Gingrich listed a number of proposals before the Congress to deal with the China MFN issue in the context of the July 1 reversion of Hongkong to China. He said that he was disappointed that President Clinton has threatened to veto any proposal that would delay MFN on the basis of what happens in Hongkong. "I think that's the wrong signal to China," he said.

However, Gingrich added that he was in favor of renewing MFN. "We want China to be able to trade with the United States," he said. "I believe American companies in China are a step for democracy." He said he didn't think that the charges of Chinese attempts to influence the U.S. election would affect the vote on MFN; however, "it is certainly a weaker vote today than it was a year ago, and people are very concerned about the early indications in Hongkong."

Budget deal comes under pressure

The much-touted budget agreement reached on May 2 between the Clinton administration and Congressional Republicans looked increasingly iffy, as details began to be discussed. The challenges to the agreement came from all parts of the political spectrum.

On May 5, Paul Wellstone (D-Minn.), in remarks on the Senate floor, pointed to the benefits of the tax cuts for the wealthiest segment of the population and asked, "Where is the soul of our party that has a reputation for being willing to fight for the ordinary people, being willing to fight for working people and working families?"

On May 8, House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) accused Republicans of trying to change the

agreement with respect to the consumer price index and restoring funds to education and other areas.

At the same time, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bud Shuster (R-Penn.), in a letter to the House Republican leadership, blasted the agreement for not allowing sufficient funding for highway construction. Shuster charged that the agreement provides for \$15 billion less in highway spending than will be available in the transportation trust funds, "thereby continuing the *dishonest* practice" of using the trust funds as a bookkeeping trick to help bring the Federal budget into balance, a practice that Shuster has been arguing against for years.

On May 9, Sen. Phil Gramm (R-Tex.), in an op-ed in the *Washington Post*, attacked the economic assumptions on which the agreement was based, and complained that the Conservative Revolution had sold out because the agreement spends \$216 billion more on domestic programs than was contained in the Contract with America.

The leadership of both parties claimed that there is plenty of support for the agreement. Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.), on May 7, acknowledged that there were some within the Democratic caucus opposed to the agreement, but he insisted that "the level of support in the caucus is very, very significant." Two days later, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) acknowledged that "some areas of uncertainty or confusion" exist within the Republican caucus on the budget deal, but when he was asked if it was "blowing up," he said, "There have been problems on both sides with misunderstandings," but "it makes no sense at all, at the beginning of the process, to say, 'Jeez, it's off.'"

National News

Citibank, Gramm rush to defend derivatives

Citibank and Texas Sen. Phil Gramm (R) are throwing up blockades to rules that would require corporations to disclose their exposure to derivatives. The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), the committee of accountants which writes the rules for U.S. corporate financial statements, has been trying for five years to agree on rules that would make corporations disclose their exposure to off-balance-sheet derivatives, in their financial statements. But, because of powerful opposition from some corporations and Washington bigwigs, the FASB will be unable to meet its June 30 deadline, and will not be able to announce new rules until October at the earliest. Opposition has already watered down the rules initially proposed.

Citibank comptroller Roger Trupin said in a letter to FASB chairman Dennis Beresford, "It is clear that the board's approach is not what the marketplace wants or needs, and the FASB is unable to demonstrate otherwise." Senator Gramm, a former economic professor whose wife, Wendy, is the former chairman of the Commodities Futures and Trade Commission, wrote to Beresford saying, "The FASB would be making a mistake with serious consequences for the financial markets." Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.) wrote to Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, asking whether there really is a "need for improved derivatives accounting and disclosure," despite an earlier General Accounting Office study arguing for such changes.

New Bretton Woods call hits Capitol Hill

The Appeal to President Clinton to Convoke a New Bretton Woods Conference, which has been circulating internationally since late February, was printed as an advertisement in the Capitol Hill semi-weekly newspaper *Roll Call* on May 15. The paper satu-

rates the government, with 11,000 copies of its 15,000 copies circulated in Congress.

Only a representative sampling of the call's signers could be included in the full-page ad, which was sponsored by the Schiller Institute. The appeal, initiated by Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp LaRouche and Ukrainian parliamentarian Natalya Vitrenko, has been endorsed by hundreds of world leaders, including two former Presidents, nine former U.S. congressmen, and representatives from 37 state legislatures. The appeal was published in *EIR* on April 18.

Many civil rights, labor, and religious leaders have also signed the appeal, which calls for reorganizing the world financial system, in order to restart trade and production worldwide; endorsing the Eurasian Land-Bridge, as a key project in generating a worldwide economic recovery; and re-adopting the Machine-Tool Principle of scientific and technological progress.

During President Clinton's recent tour of Central America and the Caribbean, he was greeted by editorials and columns in leading newspapers in Mexico and Barbados, calling on him to convene the New Bretton Woods conference. The advertisement was also published in two Mexican newspapers.

Labor mobilizes for infrastructure bill

Labor leaders from around the country are mobilizing in support of H.R. 950, the "Jobs Creation and Infrastructure Restoration Act of 1997," which was introduced into the 105th Congress on March 5 by Rep. Matthew Martinez, a Democrat from California. The bill now has 46 co-sponsors, and has picked up the endorsement of the Los Angeles City Council.

Martinez's bill would authorize \$250 billion for jobs and restoring infrastructure, including emergency grants to local governments of \$25 billion over three years for construction, repair, and renovation of public works projects; and \$225 billion over five years for jobs in community improvement projects, including schools, housing, hospi-

tals, parks, bridges, highways and transportation facilities, and environmental improvements.

Under the bill, the hundreds of thousands of jobs created would be mandated to pay union-scale wages, and would also feature apprentice training programs.

In its motivational section, the bill underscores the importance of maintaining and building infrastructure, for the health of the economy, and notes the decline in investment in infrastructure over the past three decades. A proposal on this scale has not been seen in recent years, outside those made by leading Democratic Party figure and economist Lyndon LaRouche.

LaRouche invokes FDR model for current crisis

We must learn from the achievements of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and ensure that President Clinton acts with FDR's "passion for the Good," Lyndon LaRouche told a May 10 FDR-PAC policy forum in Washington, D.C. LaRouche was speaking on "The Significance of Franklin Roosevelt for Today," on a panel with historian Anton Chaitkin, who reviewed the activity of the 19th-century American nationalist party formation around Henry Carey, as the precursor for the fight which has to be taken up today.

"What is the problem we face which puts every other issue of life into the shadow?" LaRouche asked. "Now, this President of ours, Bill Clinton, who will within his term of office in the coming months, or perhaps not much longer, while he is still President, if he's not shot, will have to make certain decisions upon which the fate of all humanity depends. If he can approach those questions the way that Roosevelt expressed his commitment in that first Inaugural Address, and the way that Roosevelt carried out that pledged commitment, at a number of points in his career as President, then we shall survive. If President Clinton is not capable of doing that, then this civilization has run out of the options to survive."

LaRouche then reviewed his Triple Curve Function, which describes the con-

junctural crisis economically, and summarized the solutions at hand, with the Great Project of the Eurasian Land-Bridge, which has been taken up by the Chinese government. If we don't ensure that President Clinton takes these actions, he argued, then the entire world will descend into the hell we now see in Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi, and the like.

Chaitkin's presentation concentrated on the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial celebration and World's Fair, which played an important role in permitting the U.S. republican leadership to advance a worldwide agenda for anti-British economic development. (See *EIR*, May 2, 1997, for a full report.)

Ask 'food for peace' deal with North Korea

The Woodrow Wilson School's Dr. Selig Harrison, who has often traveled to North Korea on behalf of President Clinton, wrote in the May 14 *International Herald Tribune* that the United States should sign a "Food for Peace Deal" with North Korea. The United States, Japan, and South Korea should immediately "provide the North with 3 million tons of grain, in exchange for significant pullbacks of North Korean offensive weaponry now deployed" outside of Seoul.

The choice of his title, "Food for Peace," echoes that which Lyndon LaRouche famously offered the Soviet bloc in his October 1988 Bristol Kempinski Hotel address in Berlin, when the Warsaw Pact was on the edge of collapse.

"The Clinton administration should urgently seize the opportunity," Harrison wrote, "before an uncontrollable cycle of hunger and political unrest in the North triggers a large-scale refugee exodus, 'boat people' attempting to enter Japan, and possible North-South military clashes that could embroil American forces."

Harrison, who has, in the past, carried proposals from Pyongyang, such as the one to provide North Korea with safe nuclear power reactors, stated that he "was told" by contacts in Pyongyang, that North Korea is now, in fact, prepared to pull back "large

numbers of forward-deployed" troops and weapons from the demilitarized zone, which is only 30 miles from Seoul, "to overcome U.S., South Korean, and Japanese reluctance to large-scale food aid." North Korea, he reports, is suggesting a concrete schedule of delivery of 1.5 million tons of food during 1997 and another 1.5 million in 1998.

Susan McDougal: 'I just want to tell the truth'

Interviewed from jail by NBC-TV's Tim Russert for the "Meet the Press" program of May 11, witness Susan McDougal said that she had talked to Whitewater special prosecutor Kenneth Starr's office several times and asked them to let her tell what she knew.

"Their response to me was to give them a proffer," McDougal said. "And the proffer, so they tell me, is something on the people they are investigating. In this case, it was the Clintons. They wanted me to tell them something, and I told them early in this investigation that I knew nothing that the Clintons had done that was against the law, so I could not give them a proffer. It would have to be a lie. And, as the negotiations progressed and we talked further, it was clear to me that they wanted me to lie and give them something that was not the truth."

When Russert asked McDougal if she would be willing to go before Congress or a court of law and, under oath, answer questions about the President and Mrs. Clinton, she answered: "I am so much more than willing. I would be so happy, if I could ever be questioned under oath in an open forum in a place where I could tell the truth and just tell everything I know. I would be so glad. It has never been a problem with telling the truth."

When Russert asked if she would stay in jail forever, rather than testify before the Starr grand jury, McDougal responded: "I will not ever give information to this investigation, never. I have invested a lot of my life for what I believe about this, and my family's pain and suffering through this, and I am not about to quit now. I am more determined today, than I have ever been before."

Briefly

THE TERRORISM and Violent Crimes Section of the U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division is actively investigating Osama Bin Laden, the British-sponsored Saudi terrorist financier, for his threatened actions against U.S. military personnel in Saudi Arabia. "Any action that can be taken is being taken," said a spokesman for the department, in response to a query from *EIR* on May 15.

REP. JOHN MICA (R-Fla.), in a speech reported in the May 8 *Congressional Record*, likened the holocaust ongoing in Zaire to that carried out against the Jews. "In Africa, those responsible for murder, genocide, and slaughter must be brought to justice. This Congress, our Nation, and the United Nations should not rest while this slaughter in Africa continues. If not, the words of yesterday's Holocaust remembrance will ... have a hollow ring," he said.

GEN. JOHN SHALIKASHVILI, the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, spoke to China's Defense University on May 13, and underscored the Clinton administration's support for China's development. "China is a Great Power, and it is rapidly becoming a Greater Power. And believe me, we see your development, as being in our interest," he said.

THE DEMAND to investigate George Bush, for his role in dealing with drugs, diamonds, and death, is alive and well in Mississippi. A meeting in Jackson on May 4 featured calls for exposing Bush's role in activities at Hawkins Field, the old Jackson municipal airport.

A SIGNED EDITORIAL in the *San Jose Mercury News*, by Executive Editor Jerry Ceppos, in which he claims the series on CIA involvement in running crack cocaine into Los Angeles "fell short," has led to a new round of controversy over who ran the dope.

Feed North Korea now!

EIR learned in mid-May that it is Britain's Lady Margaret Thatcher, her protégé Sir George Bush, the Anglo-American NATO military bureaucracy, and the "old guard" of the Republican Party, who are exerting pressure on Seoul's Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA), to prevent the necessary food shipments to North Korea. Yet, as Helga Zepp LaRouche said on May 9, unless at least *1 million tons* of grain are moved in quickly, over 20 million of North Korea's 24 million people, could die within months.

North Korea faces "a famine ticking away like a time bomb," Tun Myat, head of the transport division of the UN's World Food Program, told a news conference in Beijing on May 12, after a two-week visit to North Korea. Myat said that the famine appeared to be "in slow motion," because the entire population, including the military, is sharing what small amounts of food they have. Unlike in most famines, he said, where the poor die rapidly—setting off alarm bells—the entire population is jointly growing weaker and weaker. When the dying begins, it will be too late, and on a scale perhaps never before seen.

Minute food rations are being mixed with "tree barks and leaves," Myat said. "But not in the way that we would imagine anybody eating barks and leaves. It is done in a fairly . . . systematic way, fairly sophisticated way. Stalks of corn, cobs of corn, empty pea and bean pods, mushroom stems and whatever would have at best been used for animal feed, are now being milled into powder."

The nutritional value of the alternative food is not known, and Myat said it was difficult to say when the "point of no return" would come.

Chinese sources on the North Korean border are already reporting instances of the robbing of fresh graves for cannibalism.

Other recent eyewitnesses have described the situation as "one of the biggest humanitarian disasters of our lifetime," as Catherine Bertini, executive director of the World Food Program (WFP), put it April 28; or, as "a rapid descent into hell," as U.S. Rep. Tony Hall (D-Ohio) said on April 8; and, as a "catastrophe," as Yasuo

Tanaka of the International Red Cross said on April 4.

The WFP estimates that North Korea needs 1.3 million tons of imported food aid urgently. The WFP has appealed for 200,000 tons, worth \$96 million, but has received only \$38 million to date, of which the United States is contributing 60,000 tons of corn valued at \$25 million. Speaking for the Anglophile point of view at the U.S. State Department on May 8, spokesman Nicholas Burns repeated his insistence that the United States will not "tie" food aid to political demands. Pressed, however, by reporters as to why America is sending 60,000 tons, when 600,000 or more is the appropriate response, Burns clarified that only such token amounts will be given. Regarding substantive amounts of food needed, he said, "No way . . . are we going to put into North Korea billions of dollars of American or Western or Asian money, either bilaterally or multilaterally, to subsidize a communist economic system."

Leading Korean-American religious figures insist that President Clinton "personally, as a Christian," wishes to send massive food aid, but Republican Congressional opposition, and that of the State Department and the Pentagon, make it impossible. This is also part of the Bush crowd's "anti-China card" to harm U.S.-China relations.

Japan's 2-million-ton rice reserve, and that of South Korea, must provide for immediate needs, because there is no time to ship from distant America; Washington could then reimburse its allies. A constant stream of anti-Pyongyang vitriol from Seoul's KCIA is said to be the reason for the South Korean and Japanese governments' refusal to act. Yet, an analyst at *Jane's Intelligence Review*, Britain's military journal, revealed in mid-May that the KCIA is being manipulated by Thatcher, Bush, and allies such as Brent Scowcroft and Lawrence Eagleburger, who sought to have North Korea bombed in 1994.

These same moral imbeciles are trying to bring down President Clinton's administration. A catastrophe of such immense proportions would certainly help them. The appropriate response is for the United States to tell its allies immediately: Let us ship that food.

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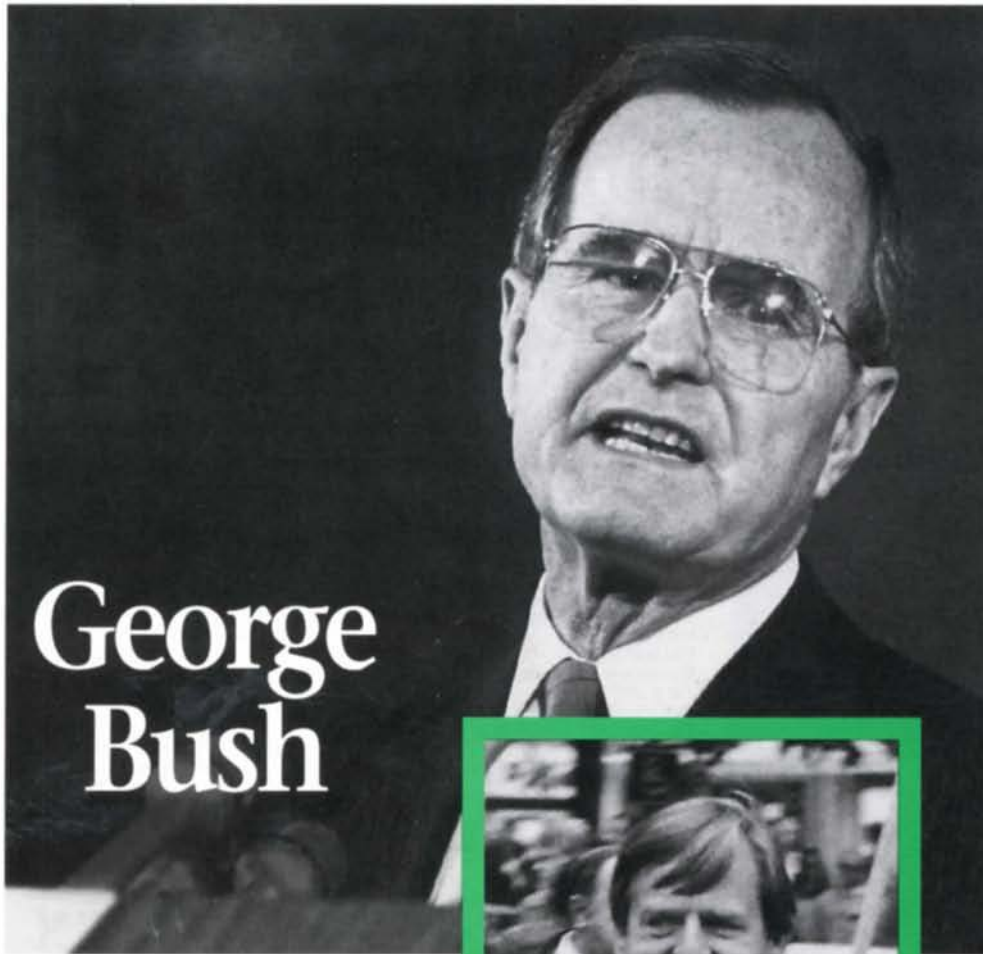
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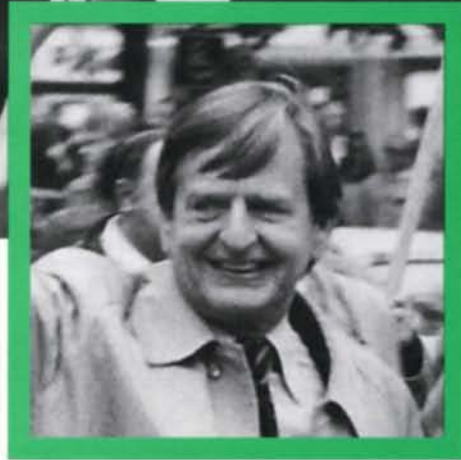
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