Editorial

Economic summit is urgent!

The inauguration of Ronald Reagan for a second term as President of the United States holds great potential for opening a new era in relations with the countries of the developing sector. If the President acts with vision and great resolution, it is still not too late to repair the damage done by decades of bungling and worse by cynical State Department bureaucrats, Treasury Department hatchet-murderers, and that supranational conspiracy known as David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission.

For this, a thorough-going economic reform is required—and there is not a moment to lose.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the chairman of the Schiller Institute, has called for the convening of an "Indira Gandhi Memorial Summit" of world leaders within the first 100 days of the new Reagan administration, to work out the contours of a new world economic order to replace the murderous regime of the Trilateral Commission and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The recent inauguration of Rajiv Gandhi as prime minister of India underlines the potential that such a historic initiative holds. Despite massive Soviet and domestic pressures aimed at turning his government against the United States, he has expressed the desire for cooperation with President Reagan, and will visit Washington in June.

But what is in store should Reagan fail to rise to act can be seen in the renewed separatist terrorism in India's Punjab, and in the rioting in Jamaica that has left four people dead as we go to press. Jamaica's crisis began Jan. 15, when the government hiked the price of fuel by 21%. Gasoline and electricity prices had already doubled in 1984, and the cost of many food products doubled or tripled in the past two years. With unemployment officially topping 25%, the real rate is closer to 40%.

This is the result of Prime Minister Edward Seaga's subservience to the austerity demands of Rockefeller and the IMF. Seaga, described by the *New York Times* Jan. 17 as "perhaps the Reagan Administration's strongest ally in the Caribbean," is boosted in Washington as an anti-communist free-enterpriser.

What a fraud! Since Seaga came to power, Jamaica has become a drug economy. Income from the production of ganja (marijuana) has increased seven-fold, to at least \$3.5 billion a year—larger than the country's official gross national product. This was the result of a conscious policy, dictated by the IMF and promoted by Rockefeller, who set up a businessmen's group in 1981 to lobby for President Reagan to make Jamaica the model for U.S. Latin American policy.

At a July 2, 1981 press conference at the White House, Rockefeller defend Seaga's promotion of the marijuana "industry" as the inevitable result of "a period when all other industries have declined very rapidly. . . . I think that it probably will be awhile before it is completely eliminated."

Seaga turned the screws ever more tightly on what remained of the regular economy. In September 1984, he dropped all pretenses and announced measures to legalize the drug trade—by officially taxing the dope traffickers. In October, he ordered drastic cuts in the import of industrial raw materials, and announced new mass layoffs. In November, Rockefeller arrived in Kingston to demand that Jamaicans continue making "painful but necessary adjustments."

This policy was imposed upon the White House by Rockefeller, Henry Kissinger, and their cohorts in the Trilateral Commission—the very people who had installed Jimmy Carter in office and who tried to install Walter Mondale there! The free enterprisers talk about "the invisible hand," the market forces that will supposedly bring economic recovery. But, said Helga Zepp-LaRouche in her speech at the Schiller Institute's conference, "the invisible hand is not invisible at all: It hangs out of the coat-sleeve of David Rockefeller; it reaches deep into the pockets of the developing countries and of the American population, and simply steals."

President Reagan now has the chance to break with these gangsters and back the Schiller Institute's call for a new world economic order. The Institute's demonstration of 10,000 people in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 15 proved that the American population will support him if he does.

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