Editorial

Europe's triangle of development

While the world has been fixated on the horrifying bloodbaths in Romania and Panama, and in some ways rightly so, it is important not to overlook developments which are leading to a viable alternative world direction. Today the leading role in building new structures that can move us toward world peace, is being played by the European Community, led by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The motor which can take the world in a positive direction is what Lyndon LaRouche has called the "triangle of development" which spans Western and Eastern Europe. The plans are still on the drawing board for this triangle, whose pivot is the construction of high-speed passenger and freight rail lines between Paris, Berlin, Warsaw, and Vienna. Those rail lines represent the crucial infrastructural link that will make out of Western and Eastern Europe one huge, unified economic superpower.

Chancellor Kohl and French President Mitterrand are not blowing trumpets about their plans for this development, but, step by step, the agreements are being put into place. What's crucial is that these individuals have pushed through a perspective in the European Community by which central Europe will become a powerful, rich, magnificient 400-million person market. The creation of such a market will not only solve the immediate problems facing countries like Poland and East Germany, but will provide the center of gravity for economic recovery for the whole world.

In the world of International Monetary Fund freemarket assumptions, of course, such a process is impossible. Axiomatically, the IMF argues that the gain of any one country, or group of countries, means a loss for others. A world based on such axioms looks a lot like the one we have today, in which each nation looks to steal the most resources at the lowest price from the other—and screams bloody murder if someone else, like Japan, successfully enriches themselves. Objectively, in terms of population potential, the entire world gets poorer.

Real economics, as developed from the work of Leibniz through LaRouche, works to the contrary. Prosperity for one nation, if based on the development of infrastructure, technology, and human labor power, implicitly enriches the world as a whole. Nations in the process of development are stimulants to trade and eager markets for exports of high technology.

Thus the assistance which France, Italy, and West Germany give to the East bloc nations in infrastructural development, will in fact open up those nations as importers of other goods. All nations, even the United States, will benefit. While wiping out the hideous conditions that spawn civil wars, this approach will simultaneously create the basis for long-term peace.

The same means, of course, should be applied to other areas of the world. Africa and Asia are literally dying for lack of a motor for economic development. The same can be said for Ibero-America.

What LaRouche has proposed, most concretely in his Operation Juárez proposal of 1982, is that the United States approach Central and South America in the same fashion that West Germany is now approaching East Germany and the other East bloc nations. Dump the IMF. Provide credit for high-technology infrastructure. Build a powerful, rich common market of more than 300 million people, that will prosper not only themselves, but the rest of the world.

The reality is that the horrors into which the postwar world is devolving, are unsolvable without a shift in economic policy approach, toward that implicit in the European "triangle of development." The immoral axioms of the International Monetary Fund and its theory of malthusian usury, necessarily lead to total economic and political breakdown. Such a breakdown in morality eventually extends to all areas—as shown by President Bush's total scoffing at all norms of law.

Fortunately, morality and real economic development are not only coherent, but inextricably linked. Out of the desire to nurture the freedom movement in Eastern Europe, the Europeans have launched their "triangle of development." Out of the desire to reverse a hideously genocidal depression, the United States must adopt a development perspective toward Ibero-America. The benefits will be beyond measure.