ERFeature

LaRouche's role soars: History has changed in 1996

by Susan Welsh

A Polish guest, attending the Dec. 14-15, 1996 conference of the Schiller Institute and International Caucus of Labor Committees in Kiedrich, Germany, remarked that, while the world situation has gotten much worse during the past year, yet the spirit of optimism pervading the conference was greater than at any previous such gathering. This paradox reflects the way world history was made by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. and the international movement associated with him, even as we edge closer to the abyss of financial-economic collapse and a cultural Dark Age. In the battle against those oligarchical forces who are driving the world toward that collapse—the British-run "Entente Bestiale" and its local satraps—important victories were achieved in 1996.

In his keynote speech to the conference, published in this issue, LaRouche emphasized the need for an *ecumenical* approach, a commitment of all nations and peoples to transform the planet with economic development, and to begin the colonization of nearby space. The world's people are of many religious and cultural backgrounds; so, we must emphasize that which we have in common, as human beings made in the image of God—not that which divides us.

The outreach of such an ecumenical policy can be seen in an extraordinary array of activities worldwide, as we chronicle in the *Feature* report that follows.

In the *United States*, LaRouche's campaign for the Democratic Party Presidential nomination resulted in a grand total of 588,937 votes, or 6.4% of the votes cast in the primaries that LaRouche entered. This strong showing—despite an almost total media blackout—reflected the emergence of a political mass strike movement, particularly on the part of labor, senior citizens, and African-Americans—groups that are hardest hit by the murderous budget cuts of the Conservative Revolutionists. The LaRouche campaign insisted that budget cuts in vital services, such as health care, are crimes against humanity, punishable under the Nuremberg Code established in the post-war Nuremberg military tribunals. Under LaRouche's leadership, a coalition came together to demand the impeachment of Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge,

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Dr. Jozef Miklosko, Helga Zepp LaRouche, and Lyndon LaRouche (front, left to right) in Slovakia, with youth from orphanages and children's shelters, during a visit by the LaRouches on July 31-Aug. 3, 1996. Dr. Miklosko, the former vice-premier of Czechoslovakia, is chairman of the Slovak Friedrich Schiller Foundation for the Protection of Life, Culture, Education, and Human Rights.

and to defeat the Congressional election bids of such criminals as Gov. William Weld of Massachusetts. After the elections, the coalition is continuing, through the vehicle of the FDR-PAC's forums on the key policy issues. It is also campaigning against "drug super-kingpin George Bush," and his corrupt friends in the parallel government apparatus he directs.

Most significant in 1996, was the substantial progress made toward implementing the *Eurasian land-bridge* program, and the growing positive role that China is playing in that process. The Schiller Institute, and its founder, Helga Zepp LaRouche, have been instrumental in bringing that conception to fruition, including through their participation in international symposia in Beijing, Islamabad, and other locations. Beginning with LaRouche's 1983 call for a 50-year development program for the Indian-Pacific Oceans' basin, and continuing with his 1989 elaboration of the "Productive Triangle" policy for Europe, LaRouche has emphasized the importance of a Eurasian development perspective.

Vital to the success of the Eurasian land-bridge, and to the peace and stability of the world, is the situation in *Russia*. LaRouche devoted intensive efforts during 1996 to building support in that country for an economic program based on infrastructure development, and utilizing the best heritage of the Soviet period: the skilled scientific and technological workforce. LaRouche's interventions included a trip to Moscow in April, and a major theoretical piece, published in *EIR* on Nov. 29, titled "Russia's Relation to Universal History." Unfortunately, under the jackboot of the International Mone-

tary Fund's austerity regime, the situation in Russia has continued to deteriorate. Yet LaRouche's ideas are widely known among the intelligentsia, and several of his works on physical economy are circulating in Russian translation.

In Europe, the insane commitment of governments to the Maastricht austerity program has created an explosive political situation, in which there is growing openness to LaRouche's ideas. In western Europe, this can be seen most clearly in Italy, which Lyndon and Helga LaRouche visited in December. In eastern Europe, Helga LaRouche organized the Committee to Save the Children of Bosnia-Hercegovina, demanding a Marshall Plan for development of that country, and repudiating the British assault on Bosnian national sovereignty. The LaRouches engaged in a dialogue with activists from several countries of eastern Europe, where the impact of IMF shock therapy has been devastating.

In *Ibero-America*, lawmakers and other political figures are mobilizing to support the "LaRouche Plan"—draft legislation for a bankruptcy reorganization of the economy, and for relaunching industry, agriculture, and infrastructure.

In *Africa*, the LaRouches have played a unique role, exposing the genocidal actions of the Entente Cordiale to destroy nation-states, notably Zaire, Sudan, Nigeria, and the Republic of South Africa. There is no reason why Africa, rich in natural and human resources, should be poor and backward. With investment in infrastructure, food production, and education, in the context of a new world economic order, Africa's problems can be rapidly overcome.

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