

For Schiller's ideal of freedom and the inalienable rights of all people

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

We publish here a précis with selected quotations from the speech delivered by Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche to the Schiller Institute conference on Nov. 24. The full text is available from the Institute.

"The fact that so many representatives of so many different nations have responded to the call to participate in the third international conference of the Schiller Institute, can awaken in us a joyful feeling for the potential of mankind to overcome even this horrible crisis. Is it not a great and beautiful thought that people from 4 continents and 50 nations do not shirk from the effort or the danger, to cause a change in the destiny of humanity through their own intervention at this late moment?"

"And indeed, this moment is late. We confront an unprecedented crisis in history, a potential total catastrophe of human civilization, in which a strategic, economic, financial, and moral crisis and a crisis of starvation collide together, and it is possible that our Sarajevo has also already taken place, with the base assassination of Indira Gandhi. The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse threaten the lives of the greatest portion of human society, and the aspirations and hopes of many millions, who would not have a chance without our success. . . .

"In order to rescue the world from disaster, it is all the more urgent that all republican forces, all of those committed to the principle of progress and the idea of freedom, gather worldwide, like the dispersed beams of light that become focused into a laser, collected at one point. And this one point, at which to gather all forces, is the formulation and shaping of the policy of the second Reagan administration, for which this conference is the beginning.

"For one thing is certain: If we do not succeed in changing the economic policy of the United States of America, and immediately, the world has but a slight chance to survive the next four years. This is not only true for Ethiopia, for 300 million people in Africa, and many millions more in the Southern Hemisphere. In fact, the continued economic disintegration of many nations, caused by the International

Monetary Fund (IMF), which already represents the gravest threat to the security of the West, will ultimately lead to the West's certain defeat.

"The thin thread upon which the fate of humanity hangs is the person of President Reagan and the potential that he will swing the rudder of the world economy around, and base the economic policy of the administration on the principles of the American Revolution, of the 'American System,' in the way that Alexander Hamilton, Friedrich List, or the Carneys defined the 'American System.'

"Moscow's ability to now assume, not entirely without reason, that the West is in its final breakdown crisis, is due to the fact that the United States has turned away from these principles of technological progress and industrial development, in its domestic economy as well as in its economic policies toward the rest of the world, and has instead adopted the economic principles of Adam Smith and Ricardo."

The threat to the Western alliance comes from three principal forces: the Soviet Union itself, the international oligarchy, for whom Kissinger is the symbol, and the Socialist International. The Soviet Union sees in the prospect of a U.S. military engagement in Nicaragua the opportunity for a new Cuban Missile Crisis, which would allow "the most violent rearrangement of spheres of influence since the Second World War." An American military action would turn all of Ibero-America against the United States; but even graver would be the effects of such a crisis on European-American relations. Western Europe would fall into "an anti-American fit," sealing the beginning of the end of NATO.

But a bloodless collapse of Western Europe into "neutrality" is only one of the possible options. If a U.S. military engagement in Central America leads to a withdrawal of troops from Western Europe, that would shatter the last barrier that has prevented the Warsaw Pact from launching a military move against Western Europe.

The economic breakdown crisis

"Now, the fact that things have gone so far that the situation is potentially far more dangerous than just before World

War I—after all, in Sarajevo, only Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated—and far more dangerous than just before World War II broke out, is the consequence of the wrong economic policy. This wrong policy has not only destabilized every region of the world, inflamed every hot-spot, every crisis area, and fed the Soviets' salivating after world power, but it has hurled the world into an economic breakdown crisis, such as history has never seen before."

This horror can be seen most starkly in the pictures of dying children and adults in Ethiopia and the rest of Africa. But the catastrophe there is just a taste of what will descend upon us if the policy of the IMF is continued. Parts of Asia are disintegrating just as fast as Ethiopia, and millions face death also in Ibero-America.

This is the result of a conscious policy on the part of the IMF and similar institutions, which are perpetrating "a genocide a hundred times worse than the genocide Hitler was guilty of." And behind this policy is the racism of today's oligarchical families, who want to depopulate Black Africa, to create room for the supposedly superior White race.

"And now we come to the crux of the matter. The average American or European citizen, who thinks he is quite moral and believes in God, may not know it, but without the total support of the government of the United States, the IMF would be nothing. It is only the power of the superpower America that gives the IMF the power to plunder entire continents all the way to total annihilation."

The fact that the wrong economic policy is tolerated by the citizenry is the result of the profound moral crisis into which humanity has fallen. We have turned away from the high ideal of humanity embodied in the European-Christian tradition of the last 2,500 years, and reflected in the highest forms of other civilizations. This tradition is based on the knowledge that every human life carries a divine spark in itself, and that, since he therefore participates in the divine, he is endowed with natural and inalienable rights. This was the morality of a St. Augustine, a Nicolaus of Cusa, of the Italian Renaissance, of the American Revolution, and of the German classical period.

With the American War of Independence, for the first time an economic system was victorious which can guarantee the inalienable rights of all human beings. The War was waged against the British oligarchy, which intended to deny its American colonies the right to their own manufactures and economic development. In the vision of the Founding Fathers, America was to become the "beacon of hope" for the oppressed all over the world.

But the oligarchical faction immediately attempted to reverse the achievements of the American Revolution, and succeeded in 1815 in crushing the republicans in Europe. After President Lincoln was assassinated, there was a large-scale subversion of republican principles in the United States also.

"The great paradox confronting many nations of the world today, who want to be the friends and allies of the United States, lies in this subversion. On the one hand, these nations, who have heeded the call of this conference for that very reason, do not want to be swallowed by Soviet hegemony, but instead still see in America the potential promise of hope for improvement in their otherwise hopeless condition. But when they are confronted with America in its foreign policy, determined by the State Department, by Henry Kissinger, or by the IMF, then they realize that they seem to have no worse enemy, not even the Soviet Union."

Who will steer the Reagan presidency?

The problem is that the Anglophile traitors of the American Revolution, who became the Eastern Establishment, have had the foreign policy of the United States under their almost complete control in the 20th century. Will they also control the second Reagan administration? They are already planning to force the President to make drastic cuts in the 1985 budget, treating the United States just the way they do debtor countries from the developing sector.

"So we have reached the point where the achievements of the American Revolution, which exist at the moment only as memories and promises for their revival, threaten to be lost forever. The hope to regain them depends upon President Reagan, who instinctively understands himself as a patriot, and upon this international movement for the inalienable rights of man, which is being launched with this conference."

But the oligarchical families are holding onto their power with deadly tenacity, and see political assassination and terrorism as the appropriate means for getting rid of persons who fight for technological and industrial progress, as well as the sovereignty of nation-state republics, or who, in their persons, simply symbolize the principle of the dignity of man. That was why they brutally murdered Indira Gandhi, this great woman and extraordinary statesman. "And if humanity still deserves the name at all, her death will not go unavenged!"

If America once again returns to its American economic system, and permits other nations to apply the same proven principles, if we establish a just world economic order, and create peace through development, then we will have given today's world a magnificent vision, which we need as creators, if we want to overcome the catastrophe facing us.

Armed with the Declaration of the Inalienable Rights of Man and the programs developed in the policy papers submitted to this conference, we will, especially before the inauguration speech of President Reagan, carry this new movement out into the world.

"I am firmly convinced that in this way we can realize Schiller's ideal of freedom, his image of a more beautiful humanity and the Age of Reason, as the only ideal that corresponds to human dignity, within our own lifetimes."