
Dennis Speed

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.”

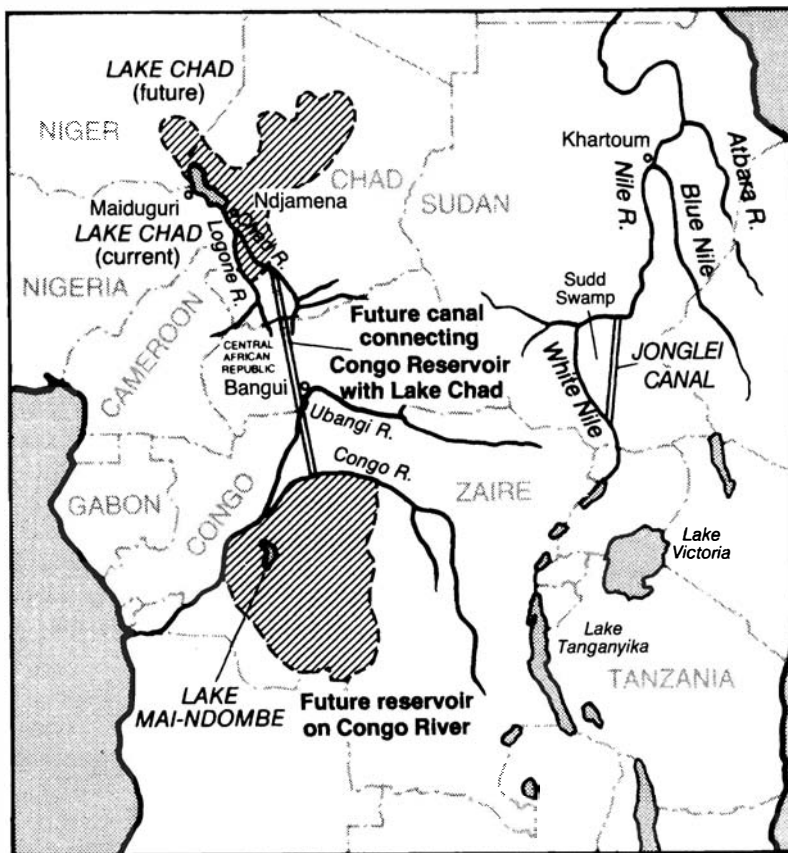
And, I say, that mark will go down in infamy, along with the forms of pro-Nazi propaganda that were preached by people like Ezra Pound in the United States in favor of Mussolini, and, in a different way, of Adolf Hitler.

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



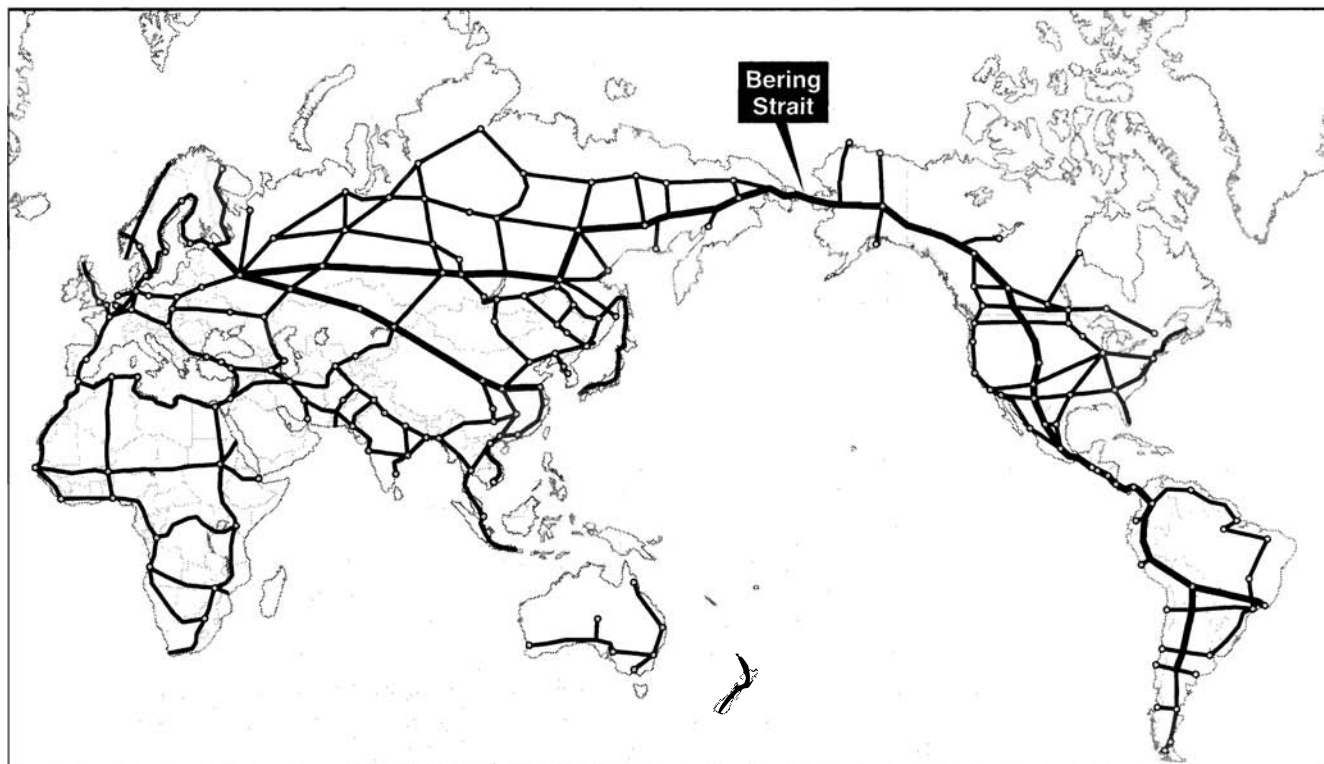
Angela Davis, he ran her whole deployment, and her whole radicalization in the United States.

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?”