

Schiller Institute's Zepp LaRouche returns to Beijing

by Mary Burdman

Helga Zepp LaRouche, founder of the international Schiller Institutes, led a delegation to Beijing, for a full week of meetings and discussions in late September. This visit was Mrs. LaRouche's first return to China, since she was an invited speaker at the State Science and Technology Commission's Symposium on the Euro-Asian Continental Bridge, in May 1996. Mrs. LaRouche had first visited China in 1971.

In meetings, including at policy institutes, Mrs. LaRouche presented *EIR*'s uniquely competent analysis of the ongoing collapse of the world financial system. This issue is certainly of concern in China, where the disasters in Mexico and Barings Bank in 1994-95 have become bywords for financial debacle.

Another critical issue of discussion, was the great strategic and political importance of the coming state visit of Chinese President Jiang Zemin to the United States this month, the most important visit of a Chinese leader to the United States since Deng Xiaoping in 1979.

The inherent theme of these meetings, was the fundamental question of statecraft today: How these two great nations—the United States, the most powerful developed nation, and with its unique history, and China, with the world's largest population, oldest continuous culture, and greatest potential among developing nations—can develop the state-to-state relations, based on their own and other nations' community of interests, which will enable them to meet the challenge of the deepening economic, political, and social crises.

While at this time, for many historic and cultural reasons, China's policy respecting solutions to these crises remains largely a defensive one, certain critical issues presented by the Schiller Institute have found a resonance there. Lyndon LaRouche's famous "Typical Collapse Function" analysis of the world financial system, and the disease of "financial AIDS," are widely recognized among many Chinese thinkers and policymakers. The conception of the Eurasian Land-Bridge presented by Mrs. LaRouche and her colleague Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum at the Symposium in May 1996, is also striking a chord, as taking China's national policy to the level of a cornerstone for global economic reconstruction, in the wake of the creation of a new international financial and monetary system.

Many of Mrs. LaRouche's discussions were with those known as "scholars" in China—a concept the West would do well to revive. These are respected thinkers, in economics, politics, and culture. But in modern China, no one can earn the title of a true scholar, without making fundamental contributions to building the nation: its industry, infrastructure, educational system, and so on. Thus, particularly among the older generations of these Chinese, the work of both Lyndon and Helga LaRouche, in not only proposing the policies which can bring the world out of its current pass, but also in working in so many nations to realize these policies, generates real sympathy.

The breakdown crisis

Mrs. LaRouche's stark presentation of the final stages of the breakdown crisis of the world financial system, provoked much discussion. The current financial disasters in Southeast Asia, and in Japan's banking system, are very close to China, and the confirmation of LaRouche's lone warnings about the fate of the "Asian Tigers," if they continued on their International Monetary Fund-dictated "free-market" course, have brought many Chinese thinkers to a much greater appreciation of LaRouche's views. China is in a unique situation: This nation has suffered terrible conditions of war, political upheavals, and poverty for most of the twentieth century, but it is now striving, and in many ways succeeding, to create both a national and international policy which can ensure development for its vast population of 1.2 billion people. Chinese know that their nation's very survival depends on having a period for peaceful economic growth. How to achieve that space of time, in the face of this current world situation, remains the great question.

Mrs. LaRouche described the reality, that all leading financial circles in the West know, that the current world financial system is finished. In particular, her emphasis that the crisis in Southeast Asia is not limited to that region, but is only an expression of the global process of financial collapse, had the effect of a good, strong—and welcome—dose of reality among her discussion partners, especially after the flood of cover-ups, lies, and incompetence the "standard" Western media and analysts have been inflicting on China.

Mrs. LaRouche presented her husband's call for a new Bretton Woods agreement, and his proposal of the actions that the U.S. President must take to reorganize the current financial system. She described the division on this planet between, first, those who want to defend the interests of nations, and second, those, typified by those running the current, British Commonwealth-centered international financial system, who are determined to come out "on top" at the outcome of this crisis, at the expense of the suffering of human beings and of nations. She described how it is this London and Wall Street financial oligarchy, which is behind the vicious international attacks against China—and behind the attacks and scandals against President Clinton. While President Clinton

belongs to the first group, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan belongs to the second. It is extremely important, she emphasized, to situate the coming summit between Jiang Zemin and Clinton in this context.

The already-breaking “reality shocks”—the visibly trembling stock markets, and the death of Princess Diana—are affecting the Western populations, Mrs. LaRouche said. But, Lyndon LaRouche’s view, that the coming financial earthquake will create a deep psychological shock—even bigger than the Pearl Harbor attack of the Japanese in World War II on the United States—is most important to understand.

While no single national government is prepared for the coming crisis, the potential remains that, at the moment when the crunch occurs, President Clinton could lead a population, shocked into reality, in carrying out the emergency reorganization necessary.

Two things are essential: the immediate support and collaboration of the government of China, and of other governments, with the U.S. President in this task; and, the influence of LaRouche’s policies, especially on Washington, to get the work accomplished.

The idea which generated perhaps the strongest agreement in Mrs. LaRouche’s Beijing discussions, was how important it would be for Presidents Jiang Zemin and Clinton, to not only discuss the fundamental problems of the world, but also present a vision for mankind to enter the twenty-first century. In Moscow, Jiang Zemin and Russian President Boris Yeltsin declared the importance of relations based upon a new, just, and rational world economic and political order; if such a statement were the result of the Washington summit, it would be a great success.

Zepp LaRouche in ‘People’s Daily’

While she was in Beijing, Mrs. LaRouche was interviewed by the *People’s Daily*, China’s leading daily newspaper. An article based on this interview, titled “China Trip Changed Me,” by staff journalist Luo Chunhua, which appeared on Oct. 5 on p. 7, emphasized Mrs. LaRouche’s 25 years of friendship for China, its people, its culture, and its national welfare. Excerpts follow:

“I got to know Mrs. LaRouche through the American magazine *EIR*. . . . I knew that she and her institute were engaged in the Eurasian Land-Bridge organizing (and called it the ‘New Silk Road’); reading her own article, I was deeply moved by her feeling of respect and admiration for China’s culture.”

The article describes the “Silk Road Lady’s” views on the Eurasian Land-Bridge, “an infrastructure network of great projects for transport, communications, energy, and water, etc., [which] will provide cooperation among all the nations along the corridor. This is not only a road to rapid global industrialization and progress, but it is also a pathway to promote the cultural exchange and meeting-together of every country and every people.

“The Schiller Institute was founded in 1984, and from then . . . Mrs. LaRouche has been diligently working for the realization of this project. She has shuttled back and forth across every part of the world; in Milan, Munich, Budapest, Paris, Los Angeles, and other places, she held a series of seminars and press conferences, hoping to get everyone in the world to understand this project, and to comprehend its significance. When, in January 1997, she held a series of seminars and press conferences in New York, New York’s Chinatown greeted her with the banner ‘Greetings to the Silk Road Lady.’ China’s ancient Silk Road meant huge commercial trade, cultural exchanges, and favorable contacts. Mrs. LaRouche says, she is very proud of the title she was given.

“Mrs. LaRouche’s visit in Beijing, came exactly at the time of the opening of the 15th Congress of the Communist Party of China. She said, this 15th Congress is a big event for China, and the whole world is focussed on it. The approach raised by Chairman Jiang Zemin for a joint cooperative stock system is extremely important, it will have major, far-reaching importance for China’s state-owned industry and economic reform. Speaking of the upcoming visit by Chairman Jiang Zemin [to the United States] in October, Mrs. LaRouche says, this meeting is a historic and most important event at this stage. China and the United States are two of the largest countries in the world; they have a decisively powerful influence on the entire global political and economic situation of the world. At the turn of the century, the meeting between the leaders of China and the United States should promote and deepen cooperation, should establish a cooperative relationship going beyond this century, and in this way will be able to guarantee the normal and orderly development of the world economy. There is no doubt, that this visit by Chairman Jiang Zemin will have an extremely important effect on improving relations between China and the United States. She says, she wishes this meeting all success.”

The article describes Mrs. LaRouche’s birth in the German city of Trier (Karl Marx’s hometown), and visit to China in 1971, at the age of 23. Mrs. LaRouche said, “‘That visit changed me.’ The beautiful and wonderful cultural relics of this old country aroused enormous interest in her mind, and this changed the course of her life. From that time on, she was very enthusiastic about Chinese culture. . . . In 1996, twenty-five years later, she once again visited China. . . . At that time she felt like she was a visitor in a time machine; she could barely recognize Beijing because of the tremendous changes. In an article she wrote, she said, ‘In the whole world there is no country which in the course of 25 years has undergone such a huge change. Visiting China again was one of the most fruitful events in my life.’ During her talk with this reporter, she never stopped speaking about her admiration of our country’s ancient culture. She sincerely wishes China to develop and grow strong.”



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