Editorial

Toward a revived Non-Aligned Movement

Contrary to the "virtual reality," which for the moment still dominates the U.S. and European financial markets, in the last year the world has plunged into what threatens to be the worst depression in 500 years. Stock markets and currencies have plummetted throughout Asia, Russia, eastern Europe, and Ibero-America. The real, productive economy is being hit and unemployment is rising. The derivatives bubble is about to burst and the International Monetary Fund is de facto bankrupt. Even IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus is warning that if the world's governments do not come up with more money for the IMF, a global crisis of confidence could lead to the collapse of the entire international monetary and financial system.

Such a bailout of the IMF, the banks, and the speculators is the last thing we need.

Rather, Lyndon LaRouche has stressed that only a return to the policy of Franklin Delano Roosevelt of an alliance among the United States, Russia, and China could reorganize the bankrupt world financial system into a New Bretton Woods system. Unfortunately, since October 1997, President Clinton has not actively considered the necessary reorganization of the world monetary and financial system, and instead his administration has defended the IMF, the World Bank, and currency speculator George Soros—the very forces who are behind the efforts of Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr and House Speaker Newt Gingrich to destroy the Presidency. As long as President Clinton clings to the policies of the IMF, an uncontrolled disintegration of the international monetary and financial system will ensue with 100%certainty. Thus, ironically, the greatest threat to the President is not the actions of Starr and Gingrich, but his own financial policy.

Under these conditions, if we are to free President Clinton to act as FDR would have done at this moment of crisis, an intervention "from the side," by some of the world's most populous nations, would be most beneficial.

It is for that reason that Schiller Institute Chairman Helga Zepp-LaRouche has called for a revival of the Non-Aligned Movement to resist globalization. China and India, which alone represent 40% of the world's population, must constitute the kernel of such an alliance. Other threatened nations from Asia, Ibero-America, and Africa must join them to demand a "new, just world economic order." Such a political force, combined with the efforts of the LaRouche movement in the industrialized nations, can change the indefensible political direction of the United States, western Europe, and Japan.

During the 1970s and early 1980s, the Non-Aligned Movement came very close to bringing about a revolutionary transformation of the global financial system, thanks to Lyndon LaRouche's policy interventions. The demands for an International Development Bank, a debt moratorium, and LaRouche's "Operation Juárez" alliance of Ibero-American nations, had widespread support, but were defeated by acts of IMF thuggery, including assassinations of key leaders such as India's Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

Today, as can be seen from the UAW strike against General Motors, globalization and free trade are destroying the economy of the United States. Nor is this to the advantage of the Third World countries, to which GM and other U.S. companies are relocating. Workers in such countries are being exploited by such companies, which are themselves being driven by the insanity of globalization into seeking cheap, or even slave labor. Third World nations are thus being recolonized, even as the United States and other Western countries are being deindustrialized.

The only way to defeat globalization is to organize globally for the principles of national economy, which underlie LaRouche's New Bretton Woods proposal. Instead of pushing British free-trade policies down the throats of America's natural allies throughout the world, we need to return to American System methods. We need Hamiltonian national banking, fixed exchange rates, and capital controls, to stop speculation and to channel resources into great infrastructural projects like the Eurasian Land-Bridge and into machine-tool-driven manufacturing jobs. That is a program as much to the benefit of the United States, as it is to the people of the developing sector.

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