

# LaRouche tells Americans: Rebuild the nation on principles of FDR

by EIR Staff

The strategy for restoring the United States to the principles of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, so that the U.S. President can carry out the indispensable job of establishing a new world monetary system based on technological progress, was the subject of the keynote presentation by statesman and Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche to the Labor Day conference of the Schiller Institute and International Caucus of Labor Committees (ICLC). From Sept. 4-6, about 1,000 political leaders, including numerous guests from Asia, Ibero-America, and Europe, gathered in Northern Virginia to hear LaRouche's address and other presentations on the strategic dangers the world faces, and the principles of Classical thinking which will allow them, as organizers, to save civilization.

"You have no right to be stupid," LaRouche told his audience in a videotaped presentation (see p. 18). You must rise to the level of strategy, in order to return the United States to a political commitment to the principle of the general welfare which Roosevelt represented, as opposed to Winston Churchill. You must develop your mind in the interest of winning a "system of sovereign nation-states, each governed by a fundamental constitutional principle of the general welfare, and all sharing and understanding that the survival and security of one, depends upon the general welfare provided by all to each."

Those attending, many of whom have been organizing with the LaRouche movement and LaRouche's Presidential campaign, took the challenge more seriously than at previous conferences. There was a clear sense that the future of the United States, and the world, depends upon their activity, which in turn must be based on a level of cognition commensurate with that of the great poets and artists who created Western civilization. As the conference banner summarized it, they had to prepare themselves to "Seize the Moment of Crisis, and Opportunity."

## Saving the nation-state

LaRouche's presentation on waging political war to reassert the principles of a sovereign nation-state, was complemented in electrifying fashion by Gen. Harold Bedoya (ret.), the former Defense Minister of Colombia, former Com-

mander of the Armed Forces, and former Army Commander, who addressed the conference soon after LaRouche had answered some questions by phone. General Bedoya received several standing ovations in recognition of his courageous battle against the international narco-terrorist forces who are strangling Colombia.

Bedoya announced that he had come to the United States to win political support from America for Colombia's war against the drug traffic. But this is not just a matter for Colombia, he stressed. Colombia has been chosen by the international narco-terrorists because of its strategic position, and, if Colombia, which is already being devoured by the terrorists, is destroyed, that fact will represent a strategic threat, not only to the rest of Ibero-America, but also to the United States itself.

The General stunned the audience with video footage showing the areas of Colombia under narco-guerrilla control, where young children of 10 and up are being trained as killers. The youth are being destroyed. The International Monetary Fund and American businessmen, such as the president of the New York Stock Exchange, have weighed in on the side of the drug traffickers. The situation is dire.

Bedoya urged the adoption of a Marshall Plan with two tracks: first, an alliance between Colombia and the United States to defeat the criminal threat, and second, an association for economic development, to begin to rebuild the nation. He met with wildly enthusiastic support. (A report on General Bedoya's Washington press conference appears on p. 29.)

## The necessity of cognition

The second panel of the conference took off from LaRouche's polemic against populism and willful stupidity, by addressing the question of "Classical thinking." As elaborated throughout the conference, such thinking means an absolute rejection of "bite-sized" (or byte-sized) slogans and organizing, in favor of exercising the mind to generate and communicate ideas. Ideas, as ICLC executive members Gerald Rose and William Wertz stressed, cannot be reduced to "information" or "facts," but demand constant confrontation and resolution of paradoxes, and the supersession of old



*The Schiller Institute chorus performs sections of Ludwig van Beethoven's Mass in C. One of the leading themes of the Schiller Institute-ICLC conference, was the need to revive Classical culture, especially in America, where it is so sorely needed.*

hypotheses with new ones.

This panel began and ended with musical presentations, as exemplary of the Classical principle. The Schiller Institute chorus sang three sections of Ludwig van Beethoven's Mass in C; at the conclusion, Sheila Jones and Mindy Pechenuk of Chicago gave a provocative demonstration of how musical instruments must be governed by the principles of the human singing voice.

Gerald Rose spoke after the first musical performance, on the theme of "Beauty Is Truth, Truth Beauty." Rigorously defining the criteria for beautiful ideas in terms of their effectiveness in promoting human civilization, Rose used examples from Greek Classical sculpture, and from the poetry of John Keats, to demonstrate the Classical principle. Wertz took up the same question from the standpoint of the polemic that LaRouche developed in his "Prometheus in Europe" (*EIR*, July 23, 1999), emphasizing the crucial role of *agapē* in determining the ability to think. He interspersed his presentation with a number of recitations, and concluded with the discussion of a number of Classical paintings which demonstrated how ideas can be conveyed on canvas—much as Rose had shown they can be conveyed in stone.

### **A Renaissance or a Dark Age?**

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute, opened the second day of the conference with a keynote on "The Eurasian Land-Bridge as a Global Strategy Today." Her presentation, which is reproduced in full in the Sept.

20 issue of the *New Federalist* weekly newspaper (see also p. 64, below), flowed from a polemic on the ignorance (often willful) of the American people about the role of the United States in the world, and about strategic realities internationally. This ignorance, she said, is comparable to that of the residents of a particular river valley in former communist East Germany: Although most East Germans could get at least some news by tuning in to television and radio broadcasts from the other side of the Wall, the geography of this particular valley made that impossible. "So, these people did not know what was going on, and they were called 'The People from the Valley of Those Who Have Not the Slightest Inkling'—'The Valley of the Clueless.' And I came to the conclusion that America is the 'Continent of the Clueless!'"

Zepp-LaRouche went through a painstaking discussion of the development of the strategic dangers facing the world today, from the period of 1986, when her husband, the intellectual author of the Strategic Defense Initiative, came under deadly assault, to the current time. As a result of the domination of the Brzezinski-style geopolitical crowd during this period, the world now faces certain crises which could lead into world war, especially in the context of the collapse of the world financial system.

The conflicts in the Transcaucasus, the Indian subcontinent, and the Taiwan Strait constitute the three most dangerous hot spots, Zepp-LaRouche said. After elaborating how they had been heated up, she reviewed the way in which the Eurasian Land-Bridge development perspective provides the unique alternative to war.

The principles upon which a *just* new world order must be based, were taken up next by *EIR* Ibero-America Editor Dennis Small, in a presentation on “Justice vs. Jacobinism: The Case of Ibero-America.” Taking the example of the usurpation of power in Venezuela by its Jacobin President Hugo Chávez, Small pointed to a remark made in 1702 by the universal thinker Gottfried Leibniz, concerning the true nature of justice. Leibniz maintained that while it is indisputable that whatever God wills, is good and just, the much more crucial question is: Is it good and just *because* God wills it, or, does God will it because it is good and just? This, Small said, is no mere play on words, but gets to the heart of the question of whether human beings can use their own cognitive powers to *know* what is good and just—or whether, as Thomas Hobbes and the British oligarchs insist—concepts of goodness and justice can be arbitrarily defined and re-defined at the whim of a ruling elite. But, if one takes the latter view, Leibniz argued, it is impossible to make any distinction between God and the Devil!

*EIR*'s Africa Editor Linda de Hoyos then gave the audience an even clearer picture of the Devil's face, in her presentation on “Africa: Renaissance, or Dark Age?” She traced the destruction of Africa's emerging nations back to the early 1970s, when the British arranged the installation of the bloody dictator Idi Amin in Uganda, and when Henry Kissinger wrote National Security Study Memorandum 200, which was a declaration of war against the “overpopulated” countries of the Third World. She graphically described how large sections of Africa are now in a true Dark Age, where the only choice families have, is to either be victimized by lawless armed gangs, or else to join them. However, she also pointed out that a number of new African leaders are now realizing that if they are to emerge from this horror, they will have to entirely reject and oppose the policies which have been forced upon them by Prince Philip and by the International Monetary Fund.

## Combatting psychosis

The final two panels of the two-day conference dealt with organizing questions, and with a polemical presentation of economic reality, versus the psychosis of the current phase of the financial system. With incisive humor, *EIR* financial writer John Hoefle demolished Wall Street's disconnected argument that “in a free market, the true value of assets is accurately established by the actions of investors.” For one thing, the market is not “free”: Small circles of oligarchs routinely organize raids on entire nations, as a way of bailing out their banks. And as for the “true value of assets,” he showed that the physical inputs and outputs per capita of the United States economy, has *fallen* by some 50% since the late 1960s, as opposed to the dysfunctional flailing of the Internet-driven paper markets, where Microsoft is worth more than the top five U.S. banks combined.

*EIR* Agricultural Editor Marcia Merry Baker presented a compelling series of vignettes of the collapse of both farming and industry in the American heartland, while *EIR* economics writer Richard Freeman discussed the significance of the staggering collapse of machine-tool production in all of the industrialized nations—a collapse on a scale that one would expect to see in Russia or Africa.

Referring to Lyndon LaRouche's article “Return to the Machine-Tool Principle” (*EIR*, Feb. 7, 1997), Freeman emphasized that this industrial sector—which produces the machines that make other machines—is of central importance for a healthy economy, because it represents the realization and validation of man's creative discoveries in mastering the laws of the universe. “Though it concerns the physical realm,” Freeman said, “it occurs in the mind, just like a discovery in art or music, as a new metaphorical idea. . . . In this way, each machine-tool design represents the transmission from the past of all the advanced ideas of Leonardo, Carnot. . . . It represents the transmission of all the important ideas of civilization, which are still alive, but now improved upon.” Returning to the main theme of Helga Zepp-LaRouche's presentation, he showed how the realization of the Eurasian Land-Bridge can become the vehicle for building up the machine-tool capacity of many nations which currently do not have any capacity at all.

## The poetry of organizing

Important to setting the level of discussion throughout, was the contribution of Schiller Institute Board member William Warfield, a world-renowned bass-baritone. Warfield, accompanied by pianist Sylvia Olden Lee, opened both keynote sessions, combining performance of Classic German *lieder* and of profoundly moving Negro Spirituals. At the session devoted to organizing, Zepp-LaRouche announced that she had determined that Classical music would play an integral part in her husband's election campaign, and she introduced Warfield again; he first recited a poem by Goethe, and then sang a Classical musical setting of that poem.

Throughout all the organizing discussion, Lyndon LaRouche emphasized three points. First, that conditions must be created to get President Clinton himself to act correctly in the onrushing financial crisis. Second, that citizens must support him, LaRouche, both in order to make possible such an impact on Clinton, and to prepare to elect LaRouche, as the only qualified candidate for President in the year 2000. And third, LaRouche stressed that there is every reason to be optimistic, as long as people turn to the method of cognition which is uniquely human, and reject the stupidity that has come to dominate culture over the past decades.

As the organizers, activists, and guests streamed out of this conference, there was a sense that they really were ready to unleash the political explosion needed to accomplish the task.