

Conference honors space pioneer with drive for SDI

by Nancy Spannaus

"Let us proceed to colonize the Moon and Mars, as Krafft Ehrlicke committed himself to implementation of this process. Along the way, we have a military problem to solve, which the technologies of space colonization are best suited to solve. Being patriots and world-citizens, we shall solve that intervening task, but we shall solve it best by never taking our eyes away from our primary mission-assignment. Once civilization is secured, and the productivity of labor throughout this planet increased greatly by the technological revolution flowing through our SDI task, we shall have established the more powerful economy we require to begin actually the colonization, first of the Moon, and then of Mars. All this we shall do best, if we view the practical task of colonization of Mars as a necessary way of bringing to all of mankind a vision of man as man in the universe, and thus fostering the opening of the long-awaited Age of Reason."

With this statement, keynote speaker Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. summed up the theme of the Krafft Ehrlicke Memorial Conference held in Reston, Va. June 15 and 16. LaRouche was addressing 450 individuals brought from four continents, including leading military men from Western Europe, Asia, and Ibero-America, and constituency leaders from throughout the United States.

Indeed, as LaRouche pointed out, the individuals or groups represented at this conference represented a body of knowledge and experience best equipped to devise, and fight for, the necessary policy for the SDI. Faced with a direct war threat by the Soviet Union, the Western alliance must put its resources behind a broad scientific program, which was developed in all essentials nearly 50 years ago by the great German scientists at Peenemünde, and which holds the unique promise of saving civilization today.

An extraordinary set of greetings read to the Ehrlicke

conference demonstrated the degree to which international forces are looking to the Schiller Institute for a way out of the current crisis. As Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche stressed in her opening remarks, this conference is unique in proceeding from the culturally optimistic standpoint of Krafft Ehrlicke, from the absolute belief that man has the capacity to reach the Age of Reason.

Most moving was the message read from Dr. Hermann Oberth, the German scientist who inspired the pursuit of space travel in the 1920s, and built the team of scientists who were eventually to realize that dream after they had come to the United States following the Second World War.

Also sending a greeting was prominent pro-SDI spokesman Dr. Jürgen Todenhöfer, the spokesman for the Christian Democratic faction of the Foreign Policy Committee of the German Bundestag, or Parliament, and chairman of the Bundestag committee on disarmament (see *Documentation*).

Greetings were also read from Ehrlicke colleague Rolf Engel, and Kiyoshi Yazawa of Tokyo, science journalist and translator of the Fusion Energy Foundation's *Beam Defense* book into Japanese.

Beyond the keynote, the discussions at the first day of the conference focused on two subjects: 1) the European view on the necessity for the SDI, and 2) the lessons of the German space program at Peenemünde, and how it led to the U.S. landing on the Moon.

Speaking from Europe were Admiral Zenker of West Germany, Gen. Wilhelm Kuntner of Austria, and Christian Democratic Senator Vincenzo Carollo of Italy. The first two speakers stressed the danger hanging over the Western alliance in the face of the current Soviet drive for world domination, especially the danger of the decoupling of Western Europe and the United States.

Senator Carollo's theme was the relationship of economic policy to the policy of the SDI. The destructive U.S. economic policies since 1979 must be changed, he argued, because we cannot afford to have Western European nations turned into Third World countries. U.S. economic policies are in fact helping the Russians to implement their policy of subversion, and they must be changed now.

Three speeches in the afternoon focused on the lessons of the Peenemünde scientists. Two of the presentations were from associates of Ehricke, now or previously working at the space center at Huntsville, Alabama. Dr. Konrad Dannenberg, and Dr. Arnold Ritter, both paid tribute to Ehricke's unique contribution to the U.S. space program—in particular, the development of liquid-hydrogen fuel for space travel.

The concluding speaker in the afternoon, Dr. Uwe von Parpart, concentrated on the roots of the Peenemünde tradition in the Göttingen school of science. He shocked the audience by contrasting the U.S. program *before* individuals such as Ehricke and von Braun were recruited here, with its accomplishments afterwards. If the Peenemünde group had not been brought to the United States, no one would yet be able to develop the theory to advance space flight!

Under the gun

The Krafft Ehricke conference, jointly sponsored by the Schiller Institute and the Fusion Energy Foundation, was conceived as a direct challenge to the current KGB-run witch-hunt against German scientists in the United States. This witchhunt, LaRouche pointed out in his keynote, can only be described as *treason* to the United States, under conditions of an undeclared, but actual Soviet war against the United States.

Thus it was fitting that the second day of the conference featured a twenty-minute tape by Maj.-Gen. John Bruce Medaris (U.S.A.-ret.), who has waged a vigorous fight against the unconstitutional activities of the Office of Special Investigation (OSI), especially in the case of Arthur Rudolph, developer of the Pershing missile.

Also addressing the conference with explosive revelations about the OSI was Dr. Friedwardt Winterberg, a nuclear fusion scientist at the University of Nevada Desert Research Institute. Dr. Winterberg told the audience that he had personally tracked down the "evidence" against Dr. Rudolph, only to discover that it had come from East Germany!

Why the Soviets are so anxious to eliminate the Peenemünde tradition was underlined in the presentation of Rolf Engel, who documented date by date, from official Soviet commentary, Soviet development of its SDI.

The latter portion of the conference was devoted to discussion of the contributions which U.S. allies, in Europe and Japan, can, and must, make to the SDI, as well as a panel discussion on the scientific frontiers opened by this work.

EIR will continue its coverage of this important event in coming issues.

The SDI together with the Europeans

by Dr. Jürgen Todenhöfer

The following is the policy paper, translated from the German, submitted to the Krafft Ehricke Memorial Conference by Dr. Jürgen Todenhöfer, Member of the German Bundestag, chairman of the Bundestag Committee on Disarmament, and Christian Democratic Spokesman on the Foreign Policy Committee of the Bundestag.

1) The Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Helmut Kohl, has the full backing of the Christian Democratic Caucus of the German Bundestag for his fundamental affirmation of the goals of the American Strategic Defense Initiative, and his declared policy that the Federal Republic of Germany should participate in SDI research.

2) SDI is a research program for laser- and particle-beam weapons, which is to demonstrate to what extent the utilization of these new technologies can alter the previous "offensive deterrence" into a "defensive deterrence." If the research succeeds in making such a breakthrough, it would have far-reaching effects upon the strategy of the Alliance. The question is thus posed, whether the European NATO-partners, and particularly we Germans, can stand aside from these changes?

3) The Soviet Union is the only country in the world, that possesses a ground-based, nuclear-missile defense system against ICBMs, located in the area around Moscow. Moreover, the Soviet Union is improving this defense technology, and expanding its production capacities for new developments in these technologies rapidly. There is evidence, that Moscow intends to defend its most important military installations with ground-based missile defense systems within a few years. One part of these systems will be mobile-stationed, and thus difficult to discover by means of Western reconnaissance satellites. Furthermore, the Soviet Union has been working intensively for a number of years on a space-

based missile defense system, based on laser and particle-beam weapons. The Soviet Union has expended several times more financing in this area than the corresponding American program, and leads the United States in its research results.

4) Parallel to these efforts to construct a missile defense, the Soviet Union is engaged in a massive program of modernizing its offensive weapons. The Soviet Union currently produces 350 nuclear ICBMs per annum, 150 of which are ground-based, while the United States has had considerable difficulty in obtaining at least 100 new MX-ICBMs. This discrepancy in both the offensive and the defensive areas makes an American reply imperative.

5) The prerequisite to a decision in favor of constructing a space-based defense system of the United States against ballistic nuclear missiles must, of course, be that the conclusion of the initial five-year phase of SDI research demonstrates that:

- a. SDI is technologically feasible with reasonable financial allocations;
- b. Europe must be just as securely protected from ballistic nuclear missiles as the United States; and
- c. military stability between West and East must be increased, and not reduced, by SDI.

If even one of these conditions is not fulfilled, the Alliance partners of the United States will hardly be able to agree to American SDI plans. But it is hardly to be expected, in any case, that the United States would continue to pursue realization of SDI were these conditions not met.

6) Objections raised to West European participation in SDI, based on the concern that we might receive too many contracts and too much work, are totally new to me! I have confidence in the energies and ingenuity of German firms.

7) We have sympathies for the idea of the French President, Eureka; but Eureka is not an alternative to SDI. Eureka cannot replace participation in SDI. We will therefore do our utmost to achieve a participation of the most important industrial nations of Europe in the SDI research program. We will seek the broadest unified standpoint of Europe possible, in order to give SDI research the broadest possible European support.

8) The West, however, should entertain no illusions. The Soviet Union will initiate the grandest propaganda campaign of the postwar period, in the attempt to destroy the American SDI plans, without giving up or restraining their own missile-defense plans. The campaigns against the neutron bomb and the Pershing II/cruise missile modernization of nuclear forces in Europe were but a harmless foretaste of the Soviet propaganda campaign we will now face. The only means to use against this propaganda offensive is a broad-scale offensive information policy on the part of the West. One who has a strategy for defense, as the West does, must wage an offensive information policy.

9) The West must also refrain from belittling the successes which SDI has already achieved. However one might wish to judge the SDI, and the transition from a strategy of "offensive deterrence" to one of "defensive deterrence" in the context of Flexible Response, it has already achieved one thing: In addition to the unanimity and steadfastness of the West, and especially the Federal Republic of Germany, on the issue of the modernization of NATO's nuclear forces in Europe, the SDI has brought the Soviets back to the negotiating table at Geneva. I am convinced that this will not remain the last of the successes of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative.

10) If it is possible, by means of a purely defensive screen in space, to reliably destroy missiles flying through space, we will have achieved two of the central aims of our policy for security and peace. First, neither the West nor the East would then have the capability of conducting so-called first strikes and decapitating strikes. Second, nuclear missiles would then only be worth their value in scrap metal, from a strategic standpoint. This would be, de facto, the grandest disarmament since the Second World War.

Dr. Hermann Oberth: 'Selenopolis?'

The following greetings were submitted to the Krafft Ehrlicke Memorial Conference by Dr. Hermann Oberth, the man widely considered "the father of space flight."

I have a great interest in the conceptions of my very dear and esteemed colleague Krafft Ehrlicke for the exploitation and settlement of the Moon by men.

I have myself devoted considerable thought, earlier, to the exploitation of the Moon for industrial and astronomical purposes. The Sun ought to be used during the 354 Moon-day phase for continuous operation of electrical-power installations. Shots into space should be effected with electromagnetic accelerators, or slings, and the energies required for the long Moon-nights and the peak-use periods of accelerating payloads, should be charged as follows: A series of strong-wall metal containers, filled at the bottom with fluid, and at the top with compressible gas (materials for this purpose depend upon those found on site on the Moon), are to press the fluid through appropriate turbines, into similarly formed empty containers.

My conception of the Moon accelerator, or Moon sling, is that of a sufficiently long horizontal accelerator-rail, which drives a magnetic car, which is open at the front or can be

easily opened.

possible, by dynamos, and used to drive the fluid back into the containers which have become empty. The velocity by which the freight leaves the magnetic car ought to be approximately 2,320 m/sec. If the velocity is 2,540 m/sec., the freight would fall to Earth.

The distance required for braking, decelerating the freight, ought to be as short as possible. The end of the sling ought to be so positioned, that the freight stops at the rear end 60° *Libration point* of the Earth/Moon system, where the freight is caught and transported to its final destination. Structures in space can then be assembled out of their components at the appropriate places in space. Krafft Ehricke's idea is very good, to decelerate vehicles that are to land on the Moon on a skid-track of Moon-sand. I had never thought of this method of braking the freight velocity. Hopefully, it will work.

The more I think about the settlement of the Moon and the future of mankind in space, the more I discover, that it is improbable that we still have the time to undertake such things. Mankind would have to learn to think anew philosophically and psychologically. It is paradoxical, for example, that the expenditure of \$25 billion for the Moon-landing is considered a waste of money, because people still go hungry, but we spend \$4,600 billion for arms each year.

I am of the same opinion as my colleague, Krafft Ehricke, that space-flight technologies can overcome all of the apparent limits of our present existence on Earth—lack of energy, scarcity of resources, environmental pollution, scarcity of food, and provide for an expansion of human population. This would presuppose, of course, that the willingness to conduct war in our democratic era immediately ceases, and it becomes possible to create the conditions of justice, which alone are guarantees of peace. To stop the willingness to conduct war, knowledge and the correction of psychological and sociological aberrations are necessary.

Were I to report from my own experience, why the first and second world wars happened, the chief cause that crystallizes is the *political lie*. Claims were made which did not correspond to truth, but remained uncontested, or that these claims had been refuted was unknown to humanity in large part. I am, after all, 91 years old, and have often held positions, which gave me deep insights into political events. The psychological preparation for war is once again to be seen everywhere. The two power blocs in the East and West mistrust each other fundamentally, for the media-bosses only let that news through which proves the degeneration and evil of the adversary. The only common bond is that of hate they both bear against their former adversary, Germany. This hate is cultivated by both sides. Recent events provide impressive material for study in this regard.

Although they were encouraged by some reasonable foreign commentators, official representatives of the German people did not dare to insist upon highlighting historical

events in their true relationships, at least to take the burden from the shoulders of postwar generations.

If the human being is continuously harassed, his intelligence alone cannot yield an objective view of his situation. I learned this, when I visited the well-known Swiss scientist, Professor Bluntschli. I wanted to take the side of a former student in an argument, and we set a discussion date. When I arrived, he greeted me with a flood of lying accusations that had been spread during the world war, and which he had collected—and he told me he would never even consider doing anything on behalf of my student, and that he had invited me to see him to have the opportunity to unload everything he wanted to say upon a German. I knew that most of what he said was wrong, but when I told him that, he screamed: "Surely, you do not want to insinuate that Swiss journalists lie." "Anyone who says such things," I told him, "is wrong—even if he is a Swiss journalist."

Finally, I asked him: "Let's assume a researcher on Africa comes to a tribe, and the chief of the tribe tells him, the Swiss live in caves, eat human flesh, and clothe themselves with animal skins." As the researcher wants to refute him, the chief says: "Our medicine men here said so, and Mr. Researcher surely will not insinuate that they lie." At this Professor Bluntschli escorted me out the door.

The case of Lloyd George demonstrates that this is not an exceptional example. He wanted to create a just world at the end of the First World War. But it turned out he could not reach his goal, because incitement was stronger than the commands of reason.

I think such false insinuations and claims are especially dangerous, when German statesmen have nothing to say against them. Since, aside from the Germans, practically every people has a sense has to come to the conclusion, "There must be something to it." Those who do not combat lies are more dangerous to world peace than the enemies of Germany, of whom one knows at least that they are such.

This German attitude will lead people in East and West to let the nuclear bombs fall on Germany, because "it doesn't matter much if this bunch dies."

That, however, the Third World War—and the probable end of humanity will be the result—is unfortunately not acknowledged by public opinion makers.

I conclude:

The indispensable prerequisite for the further cultural development of mankind is the yearning for historical truth.

In war, both sides commit injustices, but it needs to be said finally that one cannot make one side solely guilty.

I only hope that we shall have enough time to raise the sails to realize Ehricke's vision of "Homo Sapiens Extraterrestris," so that man may leave his berth in the flaming harbors of the Earth, and steer a new course into the world of unlimited growth.