
Interview: Helga Zepp-LaRouche

A plea to citizens to support new Nuremberg Commission



On Nov. 20, 1985, in Nuremberg, West Germany, a group of prominent individuals and constituency leaders from around the world convened a press conference to issue a call for the convening of a new Nuremberg Tribunal, and to announce the formation of a Commission to Investigate Crimes Against Humanity. More than 300 persons from 19 nations, including such diverse figures as West German Vice-Admiral (ret.) Karl Adolf Zenker, Israeli Col. Meir Pa'il, former New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison, and NAACP President Enolia MacMillan, signed the statement. Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the founder of the Club of Life and the Schiller Institute, whose husband is EIR founder Lyndon LaRouche, was among the commission's initiators, and subsequently released an open letter to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl requesting that Germany again be the host of such a tribunal. Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche granted the following interview on Nov. 20.

Q: Mrs. LaRouche, can you tell us the purpose of this Commission?

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: The purpose is to have at the earliest possible time a government or several governments conduct a tribunal in the tradition of the Nuremberg Tribunal of 40 years ago, which would bring to court in an orderly procedure those people who are committing crimes against humanity today.

Q: As a German citizen, why did you feel the need to call for a new tribunal today?

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: Being a German patriot, obviously the Nuremberg issue is a very emotional one for me. On the one side, there is no question that especially what Judge Jackson established as a code of international law was absolutely correct. But on the other side, in a certain sense from my point of view, Nuremberg is unfinished business. Permit me to give you a little bit of the historical background as I see it.

There is no doubt among serious historians anymore that Germany by far was not the only force responsible for World War I. So, on account of that, naturally the Versailles Treaty and the incredible austerity conditions which were imposed on Germany also were not just. However, they created the economic breakdown condition which never permitted the Weimar Republic to recover, and created the social causes and unemployment which made Hitler possible. Also, what was never taken into account in the Nuremberg Trial was that there were many international supporters of Hitler, including in the United States, as well as in London, certain financial circles who *wanted* Hitler in power. Thirdly, there were—and this is now published documentation from the OSS files—many, many, 20, 30, 40 attempts by the German Resistance to topple Hitler from within, and each of these efforts was frustrated because the international forces did *not* help the German Resistance, because they had the Yalta and Teheran process among Stalin, Churchill, and Roosevelt going on. So, these questions were never taken into account, and therefore, Nuremberg-1, the Nuremberg Trial 40 years ago, was uncompleted, because some of the real criminals, namely [Nazi Economics Minister] Hjalmar Schacht, got away unpunished, as did other Nazis.

But despite these shortcomings, it is my profound conviction that the ethical code, the law among peoples, of crimes against humanity which was established in the Nuremberg Trial still holds today, and therefore, since I see such crimes, actually crimes which are 100 times worse than those committed by Hitler and the Nazis, going on today in many places in the world, I felt that, especially because I am a German patriot, it is my obligation and my duty to call for such a new tribunal.

Q: I understand that in the Commission call, there have been six areas of investigation outlined, which will be taken up by the Commission members. Can you tell us more about these?

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: Let me go through it one by one. I don't know which one is really the worst, and that obviously

remains to be seen from the results of the work of the Commission, which is in full process right now. But let me just go through some of the points.

It is the common belief of all the signators, which by now are more than 300, that the austerity policy of the International Monetary Fund and the international banking system imposed especially on the developing countries in the last 10 to 15 years, have created poverty conditions which can be compared to those the Versailles Treaty imposed on Germany after World War I, that have led to increasing hunger, famine, starvation, and epidemics. The AIDS pandemic is due to these conditions, which is now coming back to us like the punishment of God, if you want to talk about it from the standpoint of theological arguments; or, if you do not develop these countries, then the conditions you are creating are reaching back to you, and that is now happening with the AIDS situation.

In the last 10 years, the IMF, through forcing these countries to devalue their currencies, to make import restrictions, to use all their export income for debt payment, has created conditions where literally hundreds of millions have died in Africa, Asia, and in Ibero-America. I think this constitutes, according to Nuremberg, a crime against humanity.

Q: You've also named the international financial networks who run drugs, I understand.

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: It is an established fact, and we have fortunately already compiled a lot of documentation, that it was the IMF, the Bank for International Settlements of Switzerland, and the World Bank and similar institutions, which went to these countries and encouraged governments—and we have proof of this—to stop their population from producing agricultural products, and rather have them produce different kinds of drugs, cocaine, marijuana, and so forth, and by that income to pay the debt to these international financial institutions. So, there is no question that these international financial institutions are responsible for a volume of narcotics traffic which some people say right now is \$600 billion per year. There are 20 million cocaine users in the United States alone.

In many Ibero-American countries, the dope mafia and the Soviets, the Cubans, the East German advisers, and the guerrilla forces are one and the same thing. We have documented that. In many places, especially in Ibero-America, these countries are confronted by a dope mafia with a big, big Soviet input, which has created private guerrilla armies which are threatening the national sovereignty of these governments. It is a fortunate thing that there are two courageous Presidents, namely President García from Peru and President Betancur from Colombia, who have declared war on drugs, and who have moved with military means into the jungle, and have closed down some of the largest cocaine-producing laboratories. But, on the other side, the drug mafia, as I said, with a very, very heavy Cuban and Soviet angle in it, has escalated the war as well, and the brutality with which they

are proceeding you saw when, in Colombia, the M-19 basically blew up the entire Justice Palace in Bogota, or when you saw the massacre in Veracruz, in Mexico.

In Peru, the Sendero Luminoso, which is a terrorist organization, has basically committed itself to kill President García at the first possible time, and destroy his government. So, there is a complete war on drugs *and* a counter-war by the dope mafia. But since we are of the opinion that, if your child is on drugs, his mind is being destroyed, dope is as bad as if you kill somebody. The Cartagena Group, that is, the economic organization of countries of Ibero-America, defined dope traffic as a crime against humanity. And we are of the opinion that it is a crime against humanity because millions and millions of children, youths, and other people are being killed mentally, and that is as good as physically. So, therefore, we put that on the list of crimes against humanity as well.

Q: So, you're targeting two supra-national forces, the International Monetary Fund and associated financial institutions, and the drug mafia that you describe as linked to the International Monetary Fund in policy. But I understand you're also naming heads of government for crimes against humanity.

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: We have named the Soviet Union, for two reasons. First of all, we are working especially with conservative parliamentarians in Western Europe who have compiled massive evidence that the Soviet Union, since they moved into Afghanistan, have killed 1.5 million people there. Nobody talks about that, especially not the liberal press in the United States. But the Soviets have used biological warfare in Afghanistan, chemical warfare, and they are using Afghanistan as a permanent training ground for the entire Warsaw Pact armed forces, whom they are recycling through, just to give them combat experience. The evidence is absolutely incredible.

At the same time, you have to look at the internal violation of human rights on the side of the Soviet Union, the purges which are going on, which can only be compared to those of the '30s right now, despite this summit charade, which in my view has no more significance than the meeting in 1938 between Chamberlain and Hitler, and where "peace in our time" was also the slogan—but you know what happened one year later. I am afraid we are in the same situation.

A derivative of Soviet crimes definitely could be put under the category of state terrorism. We have, therefore, in naming individual heads of state, put Qaddafi on this list, because there is no question that Qaddafi has tried to destroy the national sovereignty of nearly all countries in northern Africa, that he has committed acts of war, and nobody has said a word, especially not the U.S. State Department, which seems to somehow like this person. We have put Khomeini on it, and we have documentation which, if it ever meets the eye of the public, will just make people absolutely collapse in horror. We have documentation from totally reliable

sources, especially from European and Arab journalists and politicians, that the Khomeini regime has not only brainwashed its so-called kamikaze terrorists, the ones who were responsible for the various bombings of the U.S. embassy in Beirut and other atrocities like that, but that they have tortured children, that there is actually a systematic raping of young boys going on by the mullahs on the border. We have documentation of things that are just so horrible that I think that most people could not face it if they were confronted with it.

Q: I understand that you're naming theoreticians of policies which are leading to mass death.

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: Basically, let's face it, the Trilateral Commission, which is the instrument of a group of people who believe in a one-world government, the Club of Rome, the Aspen Institute, the Council on Foreign Relations, and so forth, are all institutions which do not believe in industrial progress, do not believe in the sovereignty of the nation-state, and are pursuing policies of population reduction. They are behind policies like the so-called Right-to-Die movement, which is nothing else than Nazi euthanasia, and don't let yourself be fooled by a different formulation. To kill people just because it becomes too costly to maintain an adequate health system is what the Nazis did—there is not one inch of difference. The same thing is true for the forced sterilization programs which these people are pushing for the Third World, and I simply believe that these people are morally not one inch different than the SS and the Nazis were.

Q: Can you tell us more about some of the 300 people who have signed the commission call, and why the overwhelming response?

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: The list of signators is so powerful that I think that never in recent history has something like this come together, because we not only have former prime ministers, like the prime minister of Libya who was overthrown by Qaddafi, Abdel Hamid el-Bakoush; not only do we have one of the key parliamentarians and publishers of Tunisia, Ahmed Kedidi; the leading, great lady of the French Résistance, Marie Madeleine Fourcade; several generals, and admirals from Germany—we have, for example, the former leader of the NATO Northern Command, who served until 1983 in Oslo; we have several, I would say about 20 leaders of trade unions in Ibero-America; we have several professors; we have several heads of Catholic orders. We have, for example, the head of the NAACP—civil rights leaders, of extraordinary stature. The combination of all these people is powerful, especially because in this call, people are coming together from all over the world, people who are waking up to the fact that mankind is now facing a crisis in which, either we mobilize every moral force in the world and act together, or we will be hit with a catastrophe which will be far, far worse than that of the Second World War.

Q: Can you say something about why you have proposed that the new Nuremberg Tribunal be convened in West Germany?

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: First of all, because I think that it would be a very good point to do the trial in Nuremberg, for historic reasons. Second, being a German, as I said, I wanted to give my chancellor, Chancellor Kohl, the possibility of being the first to take this historic opportunity, because it would definitely give Germany the possibility to redefine its role in the community of nations in a new and positive way, so that there would be no stain left of anything of the past, and that we actually would fulfill our responsibility of proving to the world that we have learned from history, and that we are not too cowardly to address those issues which are burning today.

Q: Do you anticipate that it will take weeks or months to convene the actual tribunal proceedings?

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche: Absolutely not! The signators we have so far are all active individuals who have been concerned with these crimes in whatever area they were working in, for a long time. So, we are right now determined to pull together in one week a preliminary documentation in the six areas defined, and present it to the international press as evidence that these crimes are going on. We will demand from the German government that it respond. But we also do not exclude that one or two or many other governments will feel the moral obligation to conduct such a trial. We will make a tremendous international campaign around it.

I think that it may work for one reason. On Nov. 1 in Rome, we had a conference of the Schiller Institute on the 1,600th anniversary of St. Augustine. You remember, St. Augustine was the founder of Western civilization, in the sense that when the Roman Empire collapsed in 410 A.D., he, through his book, *The City of God*, reestablished the principles on which Christianity and Western civilization were based. What he wrote in this book and other writings, was that the reason why the individual life of every man on this planet, of every human being on this Earth, is sacred, is because each individual is created in the image of God, and therefore participates in the Divine, and therefore, basically, his inalienable rights are established.

This conference was so inspiring, that out of it came a lot of support for this Nuremberg Tribunal, because people recognized that you cannot be a Christian, or whatever other religion you belong to, or just a moral individual, and see what is happening to this world without taking action.

Therefore, I am absolutely convinced that this Nuremberg Trial will not take weeks, but it has to occur in a very short period of time. Mankind has not much time left, and whoever has been reading this interview, all I can say is, if you have been touched by any one of the issues, please call in and join in this effort, because it may make the difference, if mankind can be saved.