

Africa needs economic development as the precondition for lasting peace

by Jerome Ndiho

Mr. Ndiho, from Burundi, is a representative of the National Council for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD). This speech was given to a conference in Walluf, Germany on April 26-27, sponsored by EIR, the Schiller Institute, and the Forum for Peace and Democracy (based in Bonn). Titled "Peace Through Development in Africa's Great Lakes Region," the conference included some 40 exiled leaders from that region, as well as representatives of the Schiller Institute from Europe and the United States.

For a lengthy report, including the speeches of Lyndon and Helga LaRouche, former Ugandan President Godfrey Binaisa, and others, see EIR, May 23. The full proceedings of the conference will be published as a forthcoming special report.

Mrs. Helga Zepp-LaRouche and Mr. Lyndon LaRouche, Your Excellency, former President Binaisa, distinguished members of the Schiller Institute, brothers and sisters from the Great Lakes region, ladies and gentlemen: It's an honor and a privilege for me, indeed, to present to you the message of our chairman, Myango Malione, the leader of the CNDD, the National Council for the Defense of Democracy in Burundi.

His message is to congratulate and to say thanks to the sponsors of this conference, especially the chairperson of the Schiller Institute, Mme. Helga Zepp LaRouche, and the eminent American statesman and physical economist, Mr. Lyndon LaRouche.

We congratulate also and thank Mr. Uwe Friesecke, in charge of Africa Desk for the *Executive Intelligence Review*, and, of course, also the president of the Schiller Institute in Germany.

We congratulate all the sponsors of this seminar, and, of course, also the Forum For Freedom and Democracy here in Germany.

The situation facing Burundi today

The tactic of the CNDD is to bring back democracy to Burundi, and to hand over power to the electoral-winning political party, the FDBU, the Front for Democracy in Burundi. It is impossible to ensure the welfare of our population,

without the only political framework which can guarantee civil rights and political freedom, as well as the survival and, of course, the interests of the population.

The only way to protect the institutions in which we think the context of the nation-state can be guaranteed, is democracy. This is the only way to ensure social justice, one of the two social conditions for lasting peace. [It comes] more quickly, when sharing national incomes.

The second condition is, of course, development. It's written there [referring to the title of the conference], about the Great Lakes region. Of course, sharing poverty cannot bring peace in the total absence of development. So, development is the second condition of peace, lasting peace.

Given that we agree with the analysis of the Schiller Institute about this talk of development, I would like to express myself about the exhaustion of political and peaceful ways to ensure the welfare of the Burundian people.

The Burundian people has exhausted the last political and peaceful way to ensure the welfare of the Burundian people. The ethnic Tutsi enemy assassinated, once again, democracy, on Oct. 21, 1993, when they assassinated the first elected President, Melchior Ndayaye.

At the same time, they slaughtered members of parliament, and many of the intelligentsia. As Mr. LaRouche said, that on our continent, many intellectuals are *killed*.

In the last slaughter of leaders of the people, the Speaker [of parliament] was also assassinated; the Deputy Speaker, also. May I recall that the Speaker was a Hutu, and the Deputy Speaker was a Tutsi. Why is the international press insisting that Tutsis and Hutus are fighting in Burundi, when, as democrats, they are together, Hutus and Tutsis, in the same group, in the same parties for democracy.

After these mass killings of democratic leaders, the assassinations went on, with the killing of Presidents Cyprien Ntaryamira and Juvenal Habyarimana in 1994. Three Hutu chiefs of state were assassinated, in a period of only six months. We have to remember it.

LaRouche was right

As you see, the Burundian and Rwandese situations are connected, as it has been so well elaborated by Mme. Linda

de Hoyos. I remember when I was in Bukavu, Zaire, in 1994. I was invited by the governor of Kivu, and I took the opportunity to offer him a feature article written by Madame de Hoyos from *EIR*. And I told him, "Mr. Governor, this is a very important feature. Here is a scheduled mass killing, and Zaire will be attacked, in one framework, or a Great British Empire. And, that is reality. You have to read the details."

The governor told me, "Oh, you know, Zaire is so big, small Rwanda is not able to attack the Zaireans!"

But, Madame de Hoyos was right!

This is the reality, my friends, my brothers, my sisters. And later, the process went on in Zaire, as I say now. It is now going on in Uganda and Sudan. All these mass killings are led by George Bush, George Bush and the private system of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, in the framework of neo-colonialism and Great British Empire, using [Ugandan President Yoweri] Museveni and his Hima empire as a tool.

Ladies and gentlemen, all these facts give evidence, that a peaceful solution to resolve the crisis in the Great Lakes region would be imperative, if there were any solution. We think that, for us, a peaceful solution is exhausted.

The 1990s is not the first time democracy has been assassinated, provoking mass killings. The same events happened in 1965, when Hutu members of parliament were slaughtered by the same ethnic Tutsi enemy. Democratic Tutsi members of parliament were put in jail, along with their leaders.

After every assassination of leaders, the Tutsi junta perpetrated genocide, planned in 1962 and denounced in 1968. This plan is called the Simbananiye Plan, implemented in 1965, with up to 50,000 victims; in 1972, with up to 500,000 victims, according to CIA sources and the former general director of security, in his book, called *The Truth in Burundi*.

In 1988, with up to 50,000 victims killed by the junta led by Pierre Buyoya at the time; in 1991, more than 3,000—with the same Buyoya leading. From 1993 to date, more than 200,000 victims, with the same Buyoya. Of course, Buyoya is backed by Museveni and [Rwanda's Paul] Kagame and the international Bush lobby, and so on, and the Queen of Great Britain.

If you add in up to 200,000 Burundian Hutus who have been slaughtered recently in Zaire, by the Ugandans, Rwandans, and the Burundian Hima junta, *the total is up to 1 million* during 30 years.

From the Hutu standpoint, you have to add the 2 million Hutu Rwandis massacred recently. That means during these 30 years, a total of 3 million, since 1965.

You see, Mr. LaRouche is right, the Schiller Institute is right. Many authors here, writing about this, they are right, that there is a plan to destroy humanity, to destroy mankind. Because if they are able to kill so many people in Africa, tomorrow they will be able to do what Hitler did in Europe.

And, after Europe, it can be tomorrow America. So, we have to come together, hand in hand, to find a solution.

The creation of the CNDD

If you add apartheid to the disguised genocide, Burundian democrats had no choice but to take up arms and fight for their own and their people's self-defense. This is the reason why we created the CNDD, the National Council for Defense of Democracy, on the historic date of Sept. 24-25, 1994.

The creation of the CNDD was aimed to accompany and organize the Burundian people in their heroic struggle for their life, their survival, welfare, and their dignity. The CNDD created its military branch to implement the necessary military step, so as to go on the political and economic struggle. The CNDD includes many democratic political parties. Our secretary-general will elaborate further on this topic tomorrow [see *EIR*, May 23, for the speech of William Munyen Babazi].

The National Council for the Defense of Democracy takes this opportunity to express deep concern over the massacres of civilians by the Buyoya junta after it loses a battle, instead of continuing the battle against our forces for defense of democracy, many children, women, and old people are slaughtered. The death toll: up to 200,000 civilians since Oct. 21, 1993, after the assassination of President Ndayaye.

Last, but not least, is the lifting of the economic embargo. We are not discouraged nor frightened by the wrong decision of the heads of state of our region, the Great Lakes, lifting sanctions. Our people, and the forces for the defense of democracy, are now determined to pursue an embargo. And we have had some success in the lake and in roads.

Victory is certain

Our victory is certain, because of the determination of our people. Our deepest concern, is the Nazi-like concentration camps set up by Buyoya, whereby up to 800,000 families are forced into starvation: lack of food, drinking water, exposure to epidemic disease, cholera and dysentery. The figure 800,000 is confirmed by the World Health Organization in its report, given to the UN on March 11, 1997, and published by *EIR*.

So, now it is time to tell you about conditions the Tutsis are fighting. The forces of the defense of democracy will not agree to a cease-fire, and put down their weapons, before, first, restoration of the constitution set by the March 1992 referendum. Second, the security and freedom of members of parliament. Third, the multiparty political system, including public meetings and direct negotiations between the two belligerents, and only the two: the junta and the National Council for the Defense of Democracy.

And how about the negotiations? The negotiations must solve the main step to peace, to build a new national army based on the forces for defense of democracy, and including those military [personnel] who were not involved in the putsch of 1993.