

FDR-PAC seminar in Seattle maps out necessity for Eurasian Land-Bridge

by Patrick Ruckert

Seattle, Washington is often described as the U.S. gateway to Asia, because more than 25% of all jobs in the state depend on international trade. On June 5, FDR-PAC—a political action committee whose advisory board is chaired by Lyndon LaRouche—sponsored a seminar on “The New Bretton Woods System and the Eurasian Land-Bridge,” bringing together a remarkable panel of speakers from several nations, for over seven hours of dialogue with 70 guests. The Seattle seminar was part of a series around the country, to build public support for LaRouche’s policies, with the first in the series being keynoted by LaRouche on May 10, in Washington, D.C.

The keynote speech for the Seattle event was given by Harley Schlanger, the Houston coordinator for the Schiller Institute. Schlanger established the theme for the day-long event, situating the current battle to replace the bankrupt International Monetary Fund-dominated financial system with a new Bretton Woods agreement, and to use the Eurasian Land-Bridge as a driver for global economic development, within the history of 500 years of war between the builders of the sovereign nation-state and the British-led oligarchy.

Schlanger contrasted the economic, financial, and political disintegration of most of the world to the exciting drive, led by China, to build railroads, ports, dams, and other infrastructure along the “new Silk Road” (as the Land-Bridge is also known). He confronted the audience with the fact that, unless Americans organize a groundswell of support for LaRouche’s New Bretton Woods proposal and the Land-Bridge, upon which President Clinton can rapidly act, the United States will make the same inexorable descent into Hell now threatening Russia and Europe. The case of Africa, already entering a new dark age, Schlanger said, demonstrates the determination of the British oligarchy to retain control of the British Empire. Through the British and Canadian mining companies and banks, they have installed a new Hitler in power in Zaire. Two million Africans have already died in the worst genocide of the 20th century, he said. Unless we are able to move the American people to stop this, then our civilization is finished.

Schlanger throughout stressed that Lyndon LaRouche’s

“Ninth Forecast” on the coming financial disintegration, issued in July 1994, is now accepted as having been absolutely right, even by the oligarchy itself. Using LaRouche’s “Triple Curve Function,” which demonstrates the growing divergence between the real physical economy, the growth of monetary aggregates, and the ballooning speculative financial markets, Schlanger traced how the policies of the New Bretton Woods and the Land-Bridge were created by LaRouche along with his wife Helga, beginning with his proposal for “European Productive Triangle,” encompassing Paris, Berlin, and Vienna, at the time of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Ending colonialism in Africa

The second presentation, “Developing Africa: The True End of Colonialism,” was given by the Hon. Girma Yilma Bulbula, former Ethiopian ambassador to the Soviet Union. (The full text of his speech follows.) “Africa,” he said, “is fragmenting more and more. Africa is abandoned by its intelligentsia; forgotten by the world; characterized by genocide and ethnic strife; has lost its strategic value since the collapse of the Soviet Union; and, is blacked out by the media, except when some warlord takes power and some Western nationals have to be evacuated.”

Bulbula said that the only hope for Africa and the whole human family is that provided by Lyndon LaRouche and his associates in the Schiller Institute.

Concluding the afternoon session, were presentations from Prof. Werner Behrman of the University of Washington School of Engineering, and Hal Cooper. Cooper, a railroad engineering consultant, using dozens of overhead projections, took the audience on an exciting tour of all the great infrastructure projects of the Eurasian Land-Bridge.

The evening session began with a summary presentation by this author of the researches by LaRouche’s associates Michael Billington and Anton Chaitkin. Billington’s work on Chinese history and philosophy, and Chaitkin’s on the leadership role of American nationalists to build an international alliance for the Land-Bridge in the 19th century, have been covered in *EIR* and elsewhere.

Crossroads of the 'New Silk Road'

The next three presentations emphasized the role of the Central Asian republics, Iran, and the Middle East as the connecting link between East and West, and how the British attempts to destroy the Land-Bridge today are here most violently demonstrated.

Dr. Hadi Qurraie, professor of Near East Languages at the University of Washington, provided an exciting report on the tremendous changes taking place in Iran. He held up copies of an Iranian daily he receives, saying, "Day after day, there are reports of projects, new factories, mines, dams, roadways, and railroads being built or being completed."

Abdul Tarshi, from Afghanistan, spoke next. Tarshi gave the audience an exercise in geography and demographics: He began by explaining the necessary elements required for economic development and the Land-Bridge—water, electricity, transportation, communications, and, most important, educated manpower. Then, one by one, Tarshi located each of the Central Asian republics on overhead maps and presented the figures on their population size, land area, resources, major products, and how each "fits into the Land-Bridge."

The last part of his presentation focussed on Afghanistan. He said Afghanistan has been for more than 160 years the plaything of a "Great Game" between the British Empire and Russia. Eliciting smiles in his audience, he recounted how, in response to British colonialist oppression, the people of Afghanistan decided to fight the Empire's invaders, and defeated them three times, in 1842, then again in 1880, and again in 1919. Yet, he said, British influence remained, by means of bought-and-paid for puppet-kings.

The final speaker for the evening session was Dr. Mohamad Said, from Palestine. Dr. Said is a family physician who practices in eastern Washington. "I must tell you why I admire this organization," he declared. The Schiller Institute "is a global organization, it gives solutions to global problems. It stresses that economic cooperation is the basis for political agreements between nations. Second, it attacks the British Empire, which is an evil empire. It was the British who created the problems in the Middle East through divide-and-conquer methods. Third, Lyndon LaRouche is a visionary. That is why he is attacked. I fully support the exoneration of Mr. LaRouche. He is seen as a hero in many countries."

Dr. Said then discussed his activities over the past 20 years in attempting to create a dialogue between the Palestinians and the Israelis, including his fights and political battles with the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. He said that there must be justice for the Palestinians, if there is to be peace in the Middle East. But peace, he said, can only be kept through economic development. Dr. Said then described the irrigation and energy development projects of the "Oasis Plan for Middle East Development" developed by LaRouche and his associates.

Ethnicism hinders Africa's development

by Hon. Girma Yilma Bulbula

The Hon. Girma Yilma Bulbula is formerly Ethiopia's ambassador to the Soviet Union. What follows is from the written text of his presentation to a conference on "The New Bretton Woods System and the Eurasian Land-Bridge," sponsored by the FDR-PAC in Seattle on June 5. In his oral remarks, the ambassador described his country as an old, and proud nation, which has many tribes and languages, but is united by the use of one language for government and education. Subheads have been added.

Tribalism is even more criminal than imperialism.

— Ahmed Sekou Toure, 1979

British colonialist domination imposed an artificial backwardness on many nations and their people. It caused both an abnormal stagnation and cultural development and even cultural retrogression.

— Lyndon LaRouche, "A Theory of Development for African Labor," 1979

Today Africa is abandoned and betrayed by its intellectuals, marginalized and forgotten by the world. The peoples and the continent are subjected to genocide, degradation and ethnic strife. Africa is no more newsworthy. It has lost its strategic value after the collapse of the socialist world. There seems a near total blackout by the western electronic and print media. They become active whenever ethnic warlords take power by force and western governments are obliged to evacuate their nationals from a certain African country.

As an African and a member of the human family, I sincerely thank the LaRouche movement and the Schiller Institute for their special interest in the plight of Africa and its immense problems. Their fact-finders travel to trouble spots and appeal to the conscience of the world through conferences and various publications. The *New Federalist* and the *Executive Intelligence Review* are the only sources to know about present-day Africa. Africans are indeed grateful for this noble deed. . . .

The development of infrastructure and a viable financial system are possible only in a stable, democratic, open and legal society. The current situation in Africa is very alarming.