

Schiller Institute congratulates China on return of Hongkong

by Helga Zepp LaRouche

The following statement was released on June 29 by Helga Zepp LaRouche, the founder of the Schiller Institute, and was distributed in leaflet form at rallies in the United States celebrating the return of Hongkong to China.

Far too seldom, it seems, is a remedy for a great injustice established in this world. All the more joy, then, should all decent human beings feel and express, when such justice is done, as is now the case with the return of Hongkong to China!

Therefore, let us remind the world of what the Hongkong question was and is all about. It is definitely not, that "socialism is gobbling up a bastion of 'free trade.'" The truth about Hongkong is that one of the many crimes of the British Empire is coming to an end.

How did China lose Hongkong? In 1830, Lin Zexu, an official of the imperial Qing dynasty (1644-1911), destroyed 3 million pounds of opium, by having 500 workers dissolve the raw drug with lime and saltwater, and then flush it into the sea. Lin Zexu acted to save the Chinese nation, endangered by the British-directed opium trade. This act infuriated the British Empire, which then launched the Opium Wars in retaliation. The Chinese Imperial Army was defeated, and British Prime Minister Palmerston ordered Crown Commissioner Captain Charles Elliott to demand "admission of opium into China as an article of lawful commerce."

The British version of the story

Isn't it funny that the 15th edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, published in 1977, writes about the great hero Lin Zexu: "He [Lin] did not comprehend the significance of the British demands for free trade and international equality, which were based on their concept of a commercial empire. . . . Lin relied on an aggressive moral tone; meanwhile proceeding relentlessly against British merchants, in a manner that could only insult their government."

In addition to forced reparations and other looting following the Treaty of Nanking, the British got control over Hongkong, which has remained a center of British drug-running and money-laundering!

The Chinese government has just released the film "The



Helga Zepp LaRouche, chairman of the board of directors of the Schiller Institute, in New York City to discuss the proposed Eurasian Land-Bridge project.

Opium Wars," to honor the return of Hongkong, and the film's director, Xie Jin, has correctly compared the British crimes in the Opium Wars with the crimes of the Nazis against the Jews, and to the period of the Proletarian Cultural Revolution.

It is important that at a time when, contrary to the perception created by the media, the British Empire, in the form of the City of London financial center and the Commonwealth, is today, still engaged in the same crimes, that the history of Hongkong is made known to all the world. Today, the British Empire is backing the genocide being conducted by Museveni of Uganda and Kabila of Congo-Zaire, in order for British mining companies to grab the strategic resources of the Great Lakes region of Africa, while at the same time they are attempting to destabilize and split China into many parts.

So, let us rejoice, let us celebrate a crucial step forward toward a single, unified, and strong China, and the defeat of the British Empire; the defeat of what Charles de Gaulle called "Perfidious Albion"!

Long live the memory of Lin Zexu!

Long live the memory of Sun Yat-sen!

Long live a united and strong China!