

2,500 Haitians Hear About NAWAPA and ‘This Guy LaRouche’

by Cynthia R. Rush

Nov. 27—On the eve of Presidential elections, and in the midst of the chaos and panic spawned by an uncontrolled cholera epidemic, an extraordinary 2,500 Haitian citizens—students, businessmen, journalists, and politicians—whom U.S. President Barack Obama has left for dead, attended a conference Nov. 26, organized by COREJENE (Regional Youth Coalition of North and Northeast Haiti), in the northern city of Cap Haitien, to learn about economist Lyndon LaRouche’s proposed emergency solutions for saving Haiti, and the planet.

In an environment that COREJENE leader Charles Luckson described as “incredible,” LaRouche Youth Movement leader Jean-Philippe LeBleu of Montreal presented LaRouche’s analysis of the global financial breakdown, the emergency intervention necessary to save Haiti from the current disaster, and, in the longer term, how Haiti and the world would benefit from the construction of the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA) and related global infrastructure projects.

According to Luckson, who was interviewed on LPAC-TV Nov. 15, and represents a voice of sanity in an otherwise nightmarish situation, everyone was eager to ask questions and learn more about “this guy LaRouche” and NAWAPA. They were also heartened by the message issued Nov. 18 by German political leader Helga Zepp-LaRouche, published below, with which LeBleu opened the conference. Circulating internationally, Zepp-LaRouche’s initiative called for launching “Operation Frederick Douglass,” an urgently needed “international alliance for development” to rebuild and save Haiti from the current double catastrophe of the devastation wrought by last January’s horrific earthquake, followed by the eminently *foreseeable* cholera epidemic which erupted in mid-October, and is now tearing through the country at breakneck speed.

Zepp-LaRouche’s call is appropriately named for former slave and abolitionist leader Frederick Douglass, who served as Consul General to Haiti from 1889 to 1891, and subsequently, became an eloquent voice in defense of that nation’s interests (see below).

Obama Has To Go

“The unfolding catastrophe which is happening in Haiti right now is a mirror of what will happen to the rest of the planet if the attitude towards this beautiful cuntry is not changed dramatically,” Zepp-LaRouche warned. If Barack Obama “can’t develop the empathy with the suffering and immediately contact the government of Haiti and offer a treaty arrangement and deploy the [U.S. Army] Corps of Engineers,” Zepp-LaRouche admonished, then he should be removed from office.

LeBleu made the same point about Obama, and discussed “Operation Support Hope,” the emergency military relief program launched by the Clinton Administration in 1994, as a model for what could be done in Haiti. At that time, the White House deployed the Army, Navy, and Air Force to quickly set up water purification facilities in Goma, Zaire, which saved the lives of over 500,000 Rwandans who would have otherwise died of cholera. Why not do it in Haiti?

As the conference attendance attests, the Haitian people are desperate for solutions to the hellish conditions they face on a daily basis. Nothing that has occurred in Haiti over the past ten months was inevitable. Rather, it was President Barack Obama’s criminal negligence—his refusal to adopt LaRouche’s February 2010 proposal for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-led emergency military mobilization to Haiti—that created the conditions of a Dark Age breakdown which, unless reversed, will annihilate the Haitian people.

As a result of “Nero” Obama’s insanity, *there is*



UN/MINUSTAH/Logan Abassi

The people of Haiti have suffered immeasurably, but needlessly, thanks to the cruel neglect of the Obama Administration, since the earthquake last January; they now face a deadly cholera epidemic. These children are waiting to be relocated from a displaced persons camp, Nov. 4, 2010.

nothing in place in Haiti—other than thousands of squabbling, money-grubbing Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)—that is capable of dealing with, either the post-earthquake reconstruction or, more immediately, the raging cholera epidemic.

‘We Need More of Everything’

The picture that official cholera statistics paint is a stark one; and there are indications that the incidence of disease is far greater than the official numbers suggest. United Nations officials now estimate that at least 425,000 cholera cases will have developed in Haiti by the end of the six-month period that began in October when cholera first struck. This figure is *up from the 270,000 that the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) had originally estimated would occur over the next “several years.”* PAHO’s deputy director, Dr. Jon Kim Andrus, now predicts a total of 200,000 cases will develop by the end of this year, “due to the explosive nature of this epidemic.”

The situation is out of control. “We need more of everything,” Dr. Andrus said in a Nov. 23 press briefing. Medical facilities are overwhelmed by the accelerating rate at which people are becoming ill, while doctors, nurses, medicine, treatment centers, and money

are in very short supply. The United Nations has only been able to collect \$19 million of the pathetic \$164 million it requested for its anti-cholera efforts, while only a tiny portion of the \$10 billion pledged by international donors for earthquake relief has trickled in.

Currently there are only 36 Cholera Treatment Centers (CTC) in the country, with a pathetic 2,830-bed capacity. Growing panic and chaos are seen in the violent protests that occurred in Cap Haitien on Nov. 14-16 where protesters attacked UN peacekeepers, blaming the UN’s Nepalese contingent for causing the cholera outbreak. Similar protests, as well as violence related to

the Nov. 28 Presidential elections, broke out in other cities, including the capital of Port-au-Prince.

While officially, there are close to 2,000 fatalities and 66,593 total cases, it is universally acknowledged that the real numbers are far higher. According to the Haiti Epidemic Advisory System (HEAS), run by the Praecipio International NGO dedicated to the promotion of operational biosurveillance worldwide, the UN’s Office of the Coordinator of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has tended to focus on the Artibonite region and points north, and routinely excludes other areas that have reported cholera.

Based on the discrepancies between HEAS partner information—HEAS has 750-member network on the ground in Haiti—and the official statistics, HEAS’s own *conservative* estimate is of 95,000 cholera cases in Haiti to date, the majority of which are subclinical (asymptomatic). In a late-November report, HEAS states that in some areas of the country, “we have confirmation that in-patient statistics are under-reported by as much as 400%. In many areas of Haiti, we are documenting outbreaks that are not being accounted for in the official statistics. We therefore estimate the upper bound of estimated total (subclinical and clinically apparent) case counts to be nearly 375,000.”