On June 29, Helga Zepp LaRouche released the statement excerpted below for distribution at U.S. rallies hailing 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. 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 three 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.’

“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 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.

“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 ‘Albion Perfide’!

“Long live the memory of Lin Zexu! Long live the memory of Sun Yat Sen! Long live a united and strong China!”

Institute Hails Hongkong Return

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Food Must Go To

North Korea will run out of food by June 20, and “millions face starvation,” Catherine Bertini, director of the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), told an emergency New York press conference on June 4. Peter McDermott, UNICEF’s deputy director of emergency programs, announced June 5, after a 10-day tour of the North, that 2.6 million children under six will die of malnutrition this year.

U.S. Congressman Tony Hall, after his recent trip there, reported that up to 50% of North Korea’s 24 million people may be nearing death, because food stocks are being shared in tiny 100-gram-a-day rations, equally by everyone. The entire population of North Korea is growing weaker and weaker.

Ms. Bertini said that North Korea requires immediate foreign help of 1.8 million tons of grain to avoid starvation.

North Korea’s entire economy is paralyzed, since workers are too weak to work and all cash goes to pay for food—cutting off fuel supplies. Mines and refineries are shut, and minerals cannot be transported to port, because the electricity and transportation grids are also paralyzed. “The health care system is on the verge of collapse, fuel is scarce, and infrastructure is breaking down,”