

Berlin Seminar Promotes New ‘Treaty of Westphalia’

An extraordinary meeting of international personalities, including political figures, economists, military, strategic analysts, regional experts, and intellectuals, was convened in Berlin January 12-13, to discuss the current strategic, economic-financial, and cultural world crisis, and the perspectives for solving it through concerted international action for a “New Treaty of Westphalia.”

Lyndon and Helga LaRouche engaged in an intensive two-day discussion with the 40-plus participants from the United States, Russia, China, India, Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Egypt, Iraq, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The leading aim of the seminar was to outline the parameters of a new world financial and monetary system, to be brought into being by a transatlantic-Eurasian dialogue on the imminent breakdown crisis. In-depth reports were presented on the internal political process in the U.S., highlighting the role of LaRouche and his movement; the Russian crisis, characterized by internal economic-social dislocations and external geopolitical pressures, as well as enormous scientific and economic potentials; the current situations in China and India; the continuing disaster in Iraq, and the broader Southwest Asian region; and the political and economic situation in Western and Central Europe.

Strategic Alternative

The strategic alternative presented by LaRouche, was a vision of U.S.-Eurasian cooperation over the next fifty years, to guarantee all countries just access to vital raw materials resources, and joint development of new raw materials and technologies. This should be the content of a revived “Peace of Westphalia,” and the true meaning of a dialogue of cultures. LaRouche identified three focal points at the current juncture:

- The solution to the global financial, economic, and strategic crisis must emerge from the United States, despite the insanity prevailing in the George W. Bush Administration. There is, currently, a major shift occurring in U.S. politics: Forces in the Democratic Party, which have been catalyzed by LaRouche’s faction since the 2000 elections, and in particular since the July 2004 Democratic Party Convention in Boston, are challenging the Bush-Cheney regime, notably on the issue of Social Security privatization. This involves important circles, including Republicans, in the U.S. Congress. In parallel, “institutional forces” in the military and the intelligence services, and among diplomats and intellectuals, are mounting a major effort to redirect U.S. domestic and foreign policy. These forces will initiate cooperation with the countries of Eurasia.

- We require a new, long-term agreement among sovereign nations for equal and just access to existing raw materials resources, as well as the development of new categories of resources. The greatest deposits of raw materials are in Central Asia and Siberia. In this context, the role of Russia’s scientific sector was defined as key for the elaboration of raw materials, and the development of new categories, beyond the Mendeleyev system.

- The collapse of the post-Bretton Woods monetary system requires abandoning the “independent” central banking system, and replacing it with national banking, through which sovereign governments hold the sole right to issue currency, and are bound by the duty to promote economic development in the interests of the common good. Under such conditions, a cooperative treaty agreement for a New Bretton Woods system can be achieved between the U.S. and the states of Eurasia.

Civil Rights

On the 40th anniversary of the historic Selma-to-Montgomery march for voting rights, four members of the LaRouche Youth Movement were invited by one of the great heroines of the Civil Rights movement, Amelia Boynton Robinson, to participate in the celebrations, culminating in a re-enactment of the famous march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

As the members of the LYM described it, their goal was to intervene into these events and elevate them from the level of simple nostalgia for the heyday of the movement; i.e., from “Hey, this is what we did,” to “Where do we go from here?” and “How do we do it?”

The LYM team arrived in Selma on March 3, a day which was to be dedicated to the honor of Mrs. Robinson’s deceased husband, Samuel W. Boynton, her long-time partner in the struggle for voting rights for African Americans. The LYM organizers joined Mrs. Robinson for a TV interview, in which she recounted her experiences in the fight to register Blacks in the South to vote, and described the process by which she met the LaRouche movement in New York City many years ago. She subsequently became a leading spokesman for the Schiller Institute and its vice chairman.

That evening, the group proceeded to the historic Tabernacle Baptist Church, where the first voting rights meeting in Selma took place, for a tribute to Mr. Boynton. The event, which was attended by 400 people, including a number of elected officials and Civil Rights veterans, turned into an impromptu book-signing by Mrs. Robinson of her autobiography, *Bridge Across Jordan*. Speakers included Mrs. Robinson, her son, Bruce Boynton, Dr. Joseph Lowery, Dr. F.D. Reese, and Dr. Charles Steele. Bruce Boynton recalled the courage of his parents, Amelia and Samuel, in organizing the impoverished Black population to register to vote, despite threats against their lives, in a South where lynchings of innocent Blacks were still common.