
CONFERENCE REPORT

The Club of Life pursues civil defense and medical research breakthroughs

by Marjorie Hecht

The questions of civil defense potential against the consequences of nuclear attack, and the medical research requirements for prolonging human life, were the subject of the afternoon session of the Club of Life's Sept. 16 conference in Washington, D.C. on "Medical Science and the Fight Against Genocide." The 11-month-old organization was founded by European Labor Party chairman Helga Zepp-LaRouche to counter the anti-technology ethos fostered by the Club of Rome and its backers, which have paved the way for public acceptance of mass murder.

Nancy Spannaus, chairman of the U.S. branch of the Club of Life, stressed that "Whereas the right-to-life groups see themselves as saving lives, we have as our task extending lives and doing everything possible to make sure that those lives are productive," she said. "This means fighting for the cultural development of the population and for industrial development."

Mrs. Spannaus noted that at last year's Club of Life conference in Washington, the National Institute of Health had sent a specialist to discuss its cancer research protocol, but this time the Club of Life has received no cooperation from the federal government; the member of the NIH's Heart, Blood, and Lung Institute who was expected to speak was told that he had better reconsider appearing at an event where Central America commission chairman Henry Kissinger would come under fire. The Club of Life has identified the former Secretary of State as one of the principal executioners of dark-skinned populations in the underdeveloped sector, as well as an architect of the Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) strategic doctrine that has brought the world to the edge of nuclear war.

'Civil defense is feasible'

Ned Rosinsky, a New York physician who works with the Fusion Energy Foundation and has written widely on medicine and biology, began his conference presentation by citing the recent proposal by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. that the United States institute an emergency medical program to give the nation a civil defense capability as well as an up-

graded research effort in the fight to extend life.

During approximately the next 10 years, defensive anti-missile energy-beam weapons could be developed and deployed in stages, but could not initially provide total protection from an all-out military attack. Civil defense is therefore crucial to protect the population and lessen the destruction from a nuclear attack in this interval. The intrinsic value of human life is the foundation of our society, Dr. Rosinsky said, and a civil defense program would defend life even in the most devastating of circumstances. "We have to see civil defense not in a negative light but as necessary for survival, specifically in the case of a nuclear attack and generally as part of a mobilization of our medical and research resources to prolong life."

The news media have promoted two myths about nuclear war, he continued: first, that if President Reagan institutes a civil defense program it is because he is planning a first strike against the Soviet Union; and second, that in any case nothing can be done to protect ourselves against a nuclear attack. Dr. Rosinsky cited the two-hour ABC-TV program planned for Oct. 23 that purports to show how the population of a U.S. city is inexorably incinerated by a nuclear attack.

The media equation between nuclear war and total disaster, Rosinsky asserted, comes from the Pugwash Conference controllers of the so-called peace movement, who invented the MAD concept that the Soviets would never attack the United States because the counterattack would destroy them, and with Pugwash affiliates like groups like the Physicians for Social Responsibility. The Soviet leadership, for all its promotion of Pugwash, has never bought this argument, Dr. Rosinsky said; the U.S.S.R. has an extensive civil defense program. The American Medical Association and the National Academy of Sciences also reject the "total disaster" argument, and NAS has said that even in an all-out attack with every nuclear bomb dropped, large sections of the population would need to know how to survive. The California Medical Association, Dr. Rosinsky said, has recently advocated civil defense measures, stating that some 60 percent of the population would survive an attack and would have to

prepare to continue the war.

President Reagan's civil defense program is a modest one which has had almost no publicity. It would set up around the country 150 highly mobile teams of specialists, each with about 100 members, including two or three doctors. These would provide first aid and initial casualty clearance, backed up by mobile surgical-hospital units, one for every two teams.

Dr. Rosinsky said that this effort has to be greatly increased, and carried out on a paid, not voluntary basis, with an intensive drilling system. In addition to the challenge of medical care, we would face major tasks such as stockpiling food and purifying drinking water to prevent epidemics. To mount a successful civil defense program, Dr. Rosinsky said, would require upgrading the economy as a whole.

Dr. Rosinsky went on to refute some of the myths about radiation. For example, he said, casualties are greatly reduced by staying indoors during an attack. The Hiroshima bombing occurred in the morning, after an all-clear signal had been given and the population was on its way to work, so many more deaths were inflicted. Another myth is that even if people survive the blast, their genes will be destroyed; the Hiroshima studies show no genetic damage to survivors, and no increase in the cancer rate among their children.

The LaRouche proposal would train as back-up civil defense personnel tens of thousands of medical people, and at the same time put many more doctors into research programs on extending life. "How do we make the breakthroughs to enable people to live to be 100 or 150?" Dr. Rosinsky asked. "This is the question for further research." To this end, he said, we would put every cancer patient under the cancer research protocols program, giving them the highest-quality care and learning systematically which treatments are most effective. Patients are in an environment that is hopeful, not one that glorifies dying; their metabolism improves, and they know that they are contributing to the effort to prolong life.

Dr. Rosinsky outlined the kinds of research in biological science that must be promoted from this point of view. The Fusion Energy Foundation has proposed that the emphasis here be, not on the individual cell—the current direction of molecular biology—but on the functioning of tissue, the higher level of organization in the organism. "How do you get tissue to regenerate cells? Here you have to look at how the embryo develops, the geometry of the whole organism. This approach to biology is similar to the way we look at the economy, from the standpoint of higher-order interactions."

Advances in understanding metabolism

The second speaker on this panel was Demetrio Sodi Pallares, M.D., an eminent cardiologist from Mexico who is an honorary president of the Mexican Association of Cardiologists and the American Heart Association and a founding member of the Club of Life.

Dr. Sodi began by discussing how in his medical practice

as a cardiologist he had combated aging by improving the metabolism of his patients and by preserving their tissue mass, particularly muscle. Most simply put, his innovative treatment for heart patients is a no-sodium, high-potassium diet, which he originated in 1944. His patients' heart metabolism improved, there was a marked reduction in the size of the heart, and diabetic conditions also tended to abate.

To discover why, he studied the electropotential of cells and the interaction of potassium, insulin, and sodium in the cell. He compared the way he looked at increasing the energy of the body to the way LaRouche looked at the economy: you have to make energy in the most efficient way. In the body, the first step is to make ATP, adenosine triphosphate, the source of energy for metabolic reactions.

He first presented his theory of metabolism in detail in 1962; now, he said, it is the accepted theory. He described some of the recent research on metabolism showing that the ratio of glucose to fats in the body has to be at an invariant level of 1.5 in order to maximize production of ATP. The normal heart gets 60 percent of its energy through the oxidation of fats, he said, and 28 percent from glucose; in the diet he has been prescribing, this ratio is about 1.49. Returning to the language of economics, Dr. Sodi concluded that the role of fats in metabolism was negentropic, while glucose produced entropy.

In the conference's morning session, John Grauerholtz, M.D., FEF health policy director and deputy chief medical examiner for Passaic County, New Jersey, described the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) epidemic as part of a larger picture: rampant malnutrition and unsanitary conditions in large parts of the world, weakening of the immune cell system, the spread of virus-borne malignancies, the return of malaria, and the spread of refugee concentration camps with "conditions like a culture medium for growing disease"—the gift of the environmentalists and population reducers to Africa and eventually the rest of humanity. (See *EIR*, Oct. 4.) Billy Davis, a nationally known farm spokesman from Mississippi, followed up on the relation of disease to protein unavailability, describing the gigantic shortfalls in U.S. food production relative to world needs, and the huge numbers of U.S. farmers who are being driven bankrupt, contrary to Agriculture Department statistics.

"You see pictures of 'surpluses'—big piles of grain in the Midwest. It's a lie. The fact is that there are no rail cars, no rail lines to transport the grain!" America must increase vegetable protein output threefold and animal protein output fivefold to meet daily maintenance requirements for the world population. We've got to plant fencerow to fencerow!" Davis declared, and upgrade meat and grain production with genetic engineering. "America must be the moral rock from which to turn the world situation around."

In future issues, EIR will report on additional presentations at the Club of Life conference and its counterpart conferences in Western Europe.