

## Lessons of anti-Nazi Resistance invoked in Lyon conference

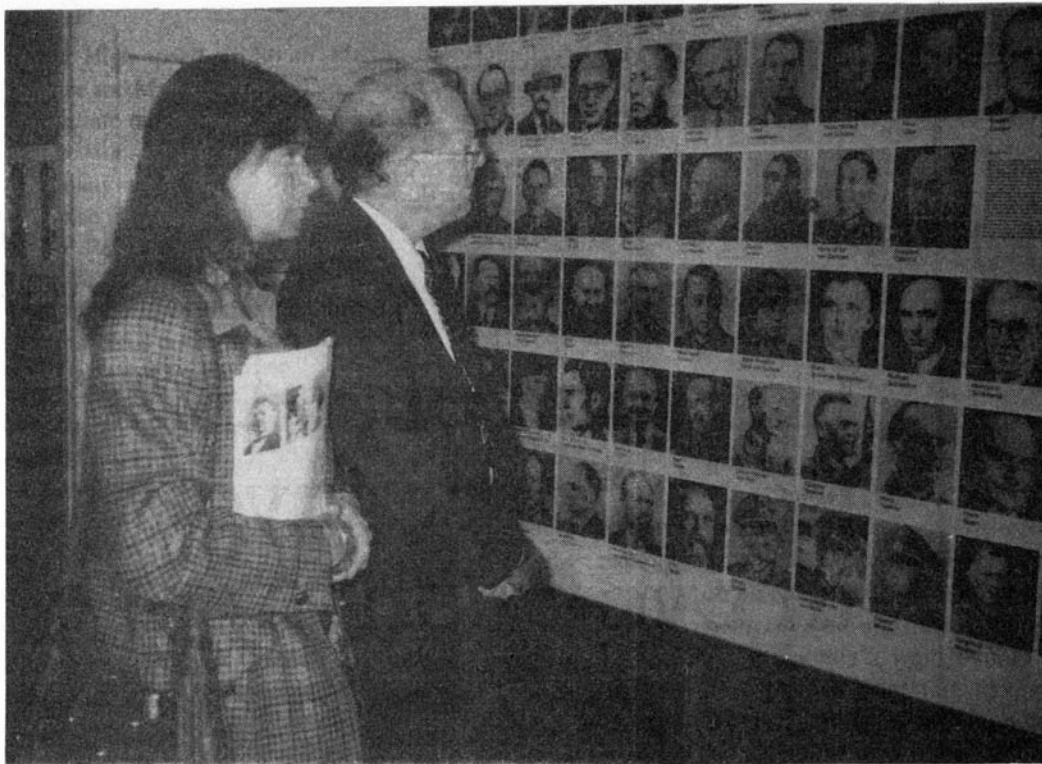
by Christophe Lavernhe

Fifty years after the Normandy invasion began the final military push to defeat Hitler, a unique conference was convened in Lyon, the capital of the French Resistance during World War II, on the theme, "1933-1994: The Resistance, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." The June 25 conference, which involved the precious testimony of several veterans of the heroic struggle against Nazism, occurred shortly before President Clinton's second trip to Europe, which opened up a new opportunity to finish off the causes that led to Nazi-fascism and two world wars.

Sponsored by the Schiller Institute, the gathering of some 100 people honored the memory of *both* the French Resistance to the Nazi occupation and the German Resistance to the Hitler regime. Little known to the general public, the latter was systematically liquidated from the 1930s on; organizations such as Reichsbanner Schwarz-Rot-Gold (National Flag: Black, Red, Gold) have but a few survivors. Then there was the White Rose, a loosely structured group made up mostly of students, who were all rapidly targeted and eliminated.

Continental Europe, and particularly France and Germany, have crucial roles to play in defeating the backers of Nazism past and present, by launching an industrial boom at the frontiers of science and technology, and fostering a revival of the universal civilization to which Europe has contributed so much. But Europeans or anyone else to do so, will require a truthful image of what the Resistance to Nazism was, without mythologies and manipulative "spins." The need for such historical depth explains why the conference presentations excerpted in this *Feature* are so extraordinarily timely.

French Schiller Institute President Jacques Cheminade and German Schiller Institute President Helga Zepp-LaRouche (whose speech was delivered in her absence by Ortrun Cramer) began by drawing the lessons of that somber period. It is easy to say "Never Again," but what does that mean for today? The two speakers recalled that the pro-eugenics circles, adepts at racial selection, who supported Hitler right up to at least 1939, are now surfacing again. They have seized upon the occasion of the preparations for the U.N.-sponsored International Conference



*Lyndon and Helga LaRouche at the Memorial of German Resistance in West Berlin, Oct. 11, 1988. The following day, Lyndon LaRouche gave a speech forecasting the reunification of Germany and calling for the economies of eastern Europe. In the spirit of the French and German wartime Resistance, participants in the Schiller Institute's Lyon conference dedicated themselves to achieve such a vision.*

on Population and Development, scheduled for Cairo, Egypt in September, to push their agenda, which is to reduce the world's population over the next 150 years to 2.2 billion. Those specially targeted are the non-whites. This is nothing less—on a scale that Hitler could not have dreamed of—than the extermination project for the Nazi-occupied territories, applied to the populations South of the Tropic of Capricorn.

The Resistance to this “new order,” which means ethnic triage, forced sterilization, and food blackmail, requires an attitude as clear as that of the earlier Resistance fighters confronting Hitler.

André Rigoyne de Fougerolles, president emeritus and founder of the European Confederation of Former Servicemen, sent a message to the conference. A great Resistance fighter, after escaping from a camp in Germany, he crossed the country on foot, hunted like a beast. According to him, the need for resistance is no less necessary today, and the most important thing is never to give up hope: “I am speaking to you today, because I never gave up, and I never shall give up.”

Dr. Rupprecht Gerngross, chairman of the Federation of Persecuted Democratic Organizations, based in Bavaria; and Robert Becker, an active member of the Reichsbanner, were Resistance fighters inside Germany. Presenting a picture of their struggle under the hideous conditions of the Nazi regime, they underlined that the German Resistance benefitted from practically no support whatever from the Allies. Michael Liebig, a leader of the Schiller Institute in Germany, discussing the German Resistance group called the Kreisauer Kreis,

quoted one of the leading figures in the American liberation of Europe, according to whom the elimination of the German Resistance fighters was a good thing, because it was better after the war to deal with more malleable German leaders.

This extreme reaction reflects an attitude among certain members of the Anglo-American financial establishment, which is at the heart of racism in the United States, as Rev. Richard Boone demonstrated. A black American minister who was a leader of the civil rights struggle, Boone showed that nothing has really changed for American blacks; quite the contrary, more than ever, the struggle begun by Martin Luther King has to be taken up again, and this time on a global scale. He made clear that that was the reason he was visiting Europe with the Schiller Institute.

Muriel Mirak-Weissbach, a Middle East specialist with the institute, brought out another aspect of the North-South manipulations, via the example of several countries, such as Algeria, or Iraq and Sudan, from which she had recently returned. She spoke of an operation to “demonize” Islam, in order to create a new public enemy No. 1. Europe has a fundamental role to play, she said, play in bringing the two cultures together, especially around economic development projects.

Gen. Paul Albert Scherer, former counterintelligence chief for the West German Army, defined the strategic threats in the present situation. The regions of the former Soviet empire are the most unstable. The civilian economy is disrupted and the still great potential in the Russian military-industrial complex, despite the brain-drain, remains dangerously idled.