

## Editorial

### *Stopping the Genocide*

A spotlight is once again being put on genocide in Africa, specifically in the northeastern provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (D.R.C.). A bitter struggle has broken out there, around the city of Bunia in Itari province, between militias from different tribes, who are being manipulated from outside the country. Once again, the United Nations, which has a small contingent in Bunia, is being mobilized to send in military forces to try to prevent a spread of the atrocities being reported.

“How could this happen again?” some might ask. The reality is, that such genocide, reminiscent of the 1994-95 horrors in Rwanda and Burundi, has never stopped. And, without a fundamental shift in the global strategic situation, toward international cooperation for a new, just world economic order, there is only a minute likelihood that it will.

What is going on in Congo today, as in the 1990s, is a conflict between the Ugandan and Rwandan governments, with each side seeking to control the enormous raw-material wealth of the area. Wood, gold, coltan, and diamonds are all abundant, and the fact that they exist on the territory of the D.R.C. is of no consequence to these marcher-lords.

But why do Uganda’s President Yoweri Museveni and Rwanda’s Paul Kagame continue to wage war to exhaustion? The answer lies in the external controls and incentives coming from the Anglo-American raw-materials cartels. Those cartels could care less about the people in these areas—the less population the better for them. Their interest is maximizing the “take” of minerals. And Museveni and Kagame are simply competing to be the cartels’ favored comprador.

Thus, the deployment of UN peacekeepers, as has just been decided upon, once again, is not going to have any lasting effect, although it may save some lives. The same can be said for the stopgap emergency measures being proposed, and, in some cases, carried out, for the famine disasters in Ethiopia, or the AIDS holocaust throughout Sub-Saharan Africa.

What is required to stop the genocide, is a change in the policy of the world financial institutions, which have prescribed genocide explicitly, or implicitly, since

at least 1980. From that time forward, the bankers and families who control the international financial institutions, have successfully cut off Africa from any in-depth or long-term infrastructural investment, and concentrated on “opening it up” to wholesale “free-trade” looting, especially in the areas rich in raw materials. Left to the predatory practices of the “markets,” African nations have lost all security and prospect for hope. Governments have been deliberately weakened, leaving nations at the mercy of armed gangs, who are often in the employ of the foreign raw-materials companies which are seeking better terms for looting.

If you find their murderous cynicism unbelievable, think again. You will find statements directly to this effect in the British press back in 1997, when the father of D.R.C. President Joseph Kabila was being bankrolled, in order to overthrow Zaire’s then-President Mobutu. Africa is ungovernable, the British pundits wrote. Their only choice: “failed” governments were to be handed over to rule by corporate interests, which can “restore order and production.” It went without saying, that this would provide a stream of wealth for those companies.

Lyndon LaRouche has put it on the line: The policy of the United States, Great Britain, and other European nations has been to support such a process—and therefore it must be called *genocide*. This situation must be changed, by the action of an alliance of nations who have come together to establish long-term agreements for economic development in Eurasia, and who are prepared to move from that accomplishment, to redressing the horrendous wrongs which have been inflicted on Africa. This will mean pouring in massive amounts of investment, including free anti-AIDS drugs, and vital water, power, and transport infrastructure, with virtually no expectation of return, until the situation is turned around.

Nowhere is the downturn of the morality of mankind as a whole more visible, than in our toleration of genocide in Africa. When leading governments finally move to establish a just new economic order, we’ll know that the situation in Africa is on the verge of being cured, as well.