

## NAWAPA: The Possibilities of Africa

“Look back at the history of the Earth’s Biosphere,” this 21-minute LPAC video beckons us.<sup>1</sup> Can you hear the first gentle breezes, the first thud of the fruit as it drops from the trees, the first melodic song of a bird? Now mankind enters this stage, and has the gigantic responsibility to harvest and develop this fruit, to multiply, and to create civilization, to replenish the Earth, and subdue it, to have dominion over the fish of the sea, and the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the Earth.

We can think of NAWAPA as man harnessing this process of nature, harnessing the climate, and curbing its wastefulness.

Thus, says the narrator, we will now enter the Vernadskyan age of man. And what better place on Earth, to begin, than in Africa, where, looking at the continent as a whole, we find some of the most extreme of the extremes, conditions incapable of supporting any long-term civilization of human beings: In the North, the desert is expanding, and a threatening army of sands from the Sahara looms nearer and nearer to the cities in the Sahel region; in the Central West, there is frequent flooding in the Congo basin; then there are the swamps of the East, blocking the flow of water for up to a year; and further east, in Ethiopia, are some of the hottest temperatures on the Earth’s surface.

Africa is, at present, a pretty big “fixer-upper.”

The video then takes us for a trip along the great Nile River: We see that the system of water collection and transportation already existing in Egypt and Sudan is impressive; dams and reservoirs have been built and are under construction. But, the people of region are struggling to conserve the water flow along the Nile, although there is clearly a desperate upper limit to this process. The lands of Sudan are potentially among the most fertile in the world. For example, the Gezira farmland project lies between the Blue and the White Nile, holding more than 2 million acres of agriculturally productive land—roughly two TVAs, side-by-side. Over half the land in Sudan is irrigable in this way, and could become a bread-



LPAC-TV videogram

*Work on the Jonglei Canal, the biggest infrastructure project in Africa at the time, began in 1978; the largest bulldozer in the world, seen here, was brought in, and nicknamed “Sarah.” The project was never finished, and Sarah still sits, rusting in the desert.*

basket for the world!—were the political conditions, imposed by the British Empire, wiped away.

### Developing the Right Questions

Next we see infrastructure projects, lying half-finished, rusting, along the Nile’s tributaries. For example, the Jonglei Canal project was first studied by the government of Egypt in 1946, and plans were developed by 1959. Work started in 1978, and once under construction, it was the biggest infrastructure project in Africa, bringing in the largest bulldozer in the world, a huge canal-boring machine, the bucket wheel, nicknamed “Sarah,” made by West Germany. After six years, about half of the 220-mile canal was completed—until, in 1984, under a British-orchestrated destabilization operation, the southern Sudanese rebels brought the works to a halt. Sarah now sits, rusting, where they left it, being shot at with missiles by the rebels.

Yet, this land is full of potential, as FDR knew. During the Casablanca conference (1945), he spoke about the tremendous potential to develop Africa, if it were freed from colonial persecution: “The Sahara would bloom for hundreds of miles. . . .”

Next, look at the Nubian sandstone aquifer, which is in use for irrigation, but nuclear desalination is needed to meet expanded needs for freshwater. In Darfur, satellite geologist and NASA veteran Dr. Farouk El-Baz has found a massive underground

1. [www.larouchepac.com/nawapa-africa](http://www.larouchepac.com/nawapa-africa)



LPAC-TV videograb

*President Franklin Roosevelt (right, with Chiang Kai-shek) travelled over the region, and knew it well. At the Casablanca conference, in Morocco, in 1945, he spoke about its potential: “Wealth: The imperialists just don’t realize what they can do, what they can create! They’ve robbed these continents of billions, and all because they were too short-sighted to understand that their billions were pennies, compared to the possibilities, possibilities that must include a better life for the people who inhabit this land.”*

body of water, equivalent to the size of Lake Erie, and has proposed to build 1,000 wells to aid the water-starved area—but, the project is being stymied by the British, and their tools, like Obama.

In the Sahel region, Lake Chad, once the sixth-largest freshwater lake in the world, is drying up. A plan, known as the Transaqua project, to address this, by creating a gigantic, new river, to empty into Lake Chad, was put forward in 1972, by the Italian firm Bonifica. The new river would create the first inland water port on the African continent; the water flow would produce 4 GW of hydroelectric power. New farmland in the Lake Chad basin, totalling

12-17 million irrigated acres, will be created, saving millions from starvation.

Next, the rail lines will be developed: The Eurasian Land-Bridge plan of Lyndon and Helga LaRouche, will answer the need.

Ultimately, it will take huge amounts of nuclear fusion-powered desalination to green the deserts of Africa, once again.

But that’s not all: It is not only the African deserts that will be wiped out: there is a band of deserts, from the Sahara, to the Gobi in China—more than 5.5 million square miles in all—1/10th the size of Mars! Wouldn’t terraforming this area with nuclear power, and developing it to support civilization, be a wonderful opportunity to learn some crucial lessons for our future’s future!

As LaRouche points out, at the conclusion of the video: “We don’t have to have all the answers. We have to develop the right questions. And develop some of the answers, at least partially, to those questions....”

—Bonnie James

FIGURE 1



LPAC-TV videograb

*The Transaqua development scheme to supply water to Lake Chad and the surrounding region, as proposed by the Italian firm Bonifica, has been suppressed by the British imperialists.*