

‘Climate Al-Guru’ Gets Slammed in Europe

by Rainer Apel

The intervention of the LaRouche Youth in Germany, which began on March 23 with the circulation of a leaflet against Al Gore’s “global warming” swindle and his European supporters, is showing its first major impacts.

On March 28, an opinion column in the *Rheinische Post*, a leading news daily in Germany’s biggest state, North Rhine-Westphalia, likened the Gore-centered “green wave” as it is occurring in the banks, venture capital funds, and corporate sector, to Edgar Allan Poe’s story “Van Kempelen and His Discovery”—the one being as much a hoax as the other. Gore’s lifestyle and his private consumption of electricity at his Tennessee mansion, as well as his zinc mine business, make him “a showcase patrician,” the article said, calling him the “climate Al-Guru.” In what seems to reflect the formulations in the aforementioned mass leaflet by Helga Zepp-LaRouche (which was sent to the *Rheinische Post*), the author of the article wrote: “Gore is involved in the London speculative branch, he was chairman of the Generation Investment Management fund and former vice-chairman of the Metropolitan West Financial fund. The interests that he represents, in reality, are those of the most elitist upper class, I say very plainly.”

On March 29, the opposition to Gore’s swindle achieved a breakthrough, when Germany’s biggest daily, *Bildzeitung*, with a daily circulation of 4.5 million, ran a piece with the banner headline, “Is Global Warming a Big Swindle?” The article, which was presented even more prominently on the newspaper’s website than in the print edition, signalled the backing of high-level political circles, and reiterated all the essential aspects of a March 23 article in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine* daily, which was the first mainstream media in Germany to have coverage of anti-Gore critics.

Also on March 29, the Hamburg-based weekly, *Stern*, ran a short piece on its website under the headline, “CO₂ Not To Blame for Climate Change?” The report mentioned the theory that Solar eruptions are principally responsible for climate change on Earth, as reported in *Bildzeitung* and in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine* before, saying that man only accounts for 4% of global CO₂ emissions. *Stern* is one of the leading anglophile publications in Germany, having pushed “Al Green” with a big story just the week before.

The high-impact *Bildzeitung* piece met a prompt, panicked response from the Environment Ministry, whose assis-



Bildzeitung's March 30 cover story, "Is Climate Alarm Just an Eco-Lie?", signalled the decision by some high-level political circles to break with the global warming hoax.

tant minister, Michael Mueller, on March 30 attacked the media for their critical coverage, saying that presenting "alleged scientific and abstruse arguments against the climate catastrophe," was "irresponsible," because the CO₂ catastrophe was "one of the biggest challenges to mankind and to this planet." Critics of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) should not be taken seriously, Mueller demanded.* What may have destabilized him in particular, is the fact that the *Rheinische Post* is published in Duesseldorf—his own election district.

From Switzerland: 'Gore Is Crazy'

The breakthrough spilled over from Germany into neighboring Switzerland, where the *Weltwoche* weekly, usually a strict neo-con journal, published an interview on March 29, with MIT climatologist Richard Lindzen, one of the most prominent U.S. critics of Gore. Only two days after a speech that Gore gave at a Swiss business event in Zurich, Lindzen attacked him as a pompous know-nothing, who "is promoting hysteria, which is never good for democracy, and second, he has strong financial interests." Lindzen told the audience that Gore had already shown his ignorance of science, during hearings on the climate issue in the Senate in

*For a thorough refutation of the IPCC swindle, see Dr. Zbigniew Jaworowski, "CO₂: The Greatest Scientific Scandal of Our Time," *EIR*, March 16, 2007.

the late 1980s, and he recalled a Gore appearance on U.S. television a few days after his movie, "An Inconvenient Truth," arrived at the theaters: "The moderator asked him why he thought that the ocean level would rise by six meters, whereas scientists spoke of about 40 centimeters. He answered that scientists just did not know it. He knows it. I think Gore is crazy."

On April 1, Cash TV, a widely watched financial market special on Switzerland's German-language national television program, mocked Gore in the form of an "April Fools" piece, "reporting" that in order to "straighten things out" on the turbulent world markets, a number of "new investment products" on the carbon issue would be launched now, such as CO₂ bonds and certificates, and that Gore was central to this initiative. As everyone familiar with Gore's hedge fund activities knows, there was much truth in that "joke" on Cash TV.

On April 2, Switzerland's largest news daily, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*—which is widely read also in Germany—followed with a report on an assessment by Florian Siegert, a climate researcher at the German GeoBio-Institute in Munich, who attacked the promotion of palm oil as a crucial component of bio-fuels, as destructive for the world climate, because the massive expansion of palm tree growing takes place at the expense of the rain forests. As rain forests are eliminated by burning of large areas, that causes enormous CO₂ emissions, thus invalidating all expected effects from palm-oil-based bio-fuels on the reduction of emissions, Siegert charged, calling bio-fuels "climate killers."

German Teachers Resist Brainwashing

On April 3, Germany's Westdeutscher Rundfunk radio revealed that the German Environment Ministry's free showing of the Gore movie to teachers in the city of Iserlohn the week before, provoked criticism among some teachers. Some of them are not at all convinced that this movie is something that should be generally shown to school classes, at least not without a critical review discussion afterwards. Apparently, the mass-leafletting and mailing of the Zepp-LaRouche statement, which had called on teachers to resist the brainwashing attempt by the pro-Gore lobby, had a remoralizing effect on many teachers.

And lastly, on April 5, the first prominent figure in the German establishment to break the taboo against discussing the revival of nuclear power in public, appeared on the scene, with Werner Mueller, a former Economics Minister who is now CEO of the national coal corporation Ruhrkohle. Construction of new nuclear plants is banned in Germany, and those which exist are supposed to be phased out. In the context of a report in the new issue of the weekly *Die Zeit*, Mueller pointed to the presumed challenges of global climate changes, as an argument in favor of the revival of nuclear technology also in Germany: "I think we will not be able to avoid the construction of new nuclear power plants."