

Leaders gather in Paris to demand LaRouche be freed

The following article is based on reportage by Christine Bierre and John Koehler, and was written by Nora Hammerman.

A new stage in the formation of the worldwide “anti-Bolshevik resistance” movement against tyranny, which Lyndon LaRouche called for exactly two years ago, was reached over the Nov. 24-25 weekend in Paris, France. More than 150 persons from some 20 countries gathered in Paris at the two-day conference to free LaRouche, organized by the international Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations.

It was on Nov. 14, 1988, that LaRouche—then facing his own Calvary in the Alexandria, Virginia political trial that “railroaded” himself and six associates into long jail terms—invoked the image of the Good Samaritan of the Gospel parable, as well as the “Rütli Oath” in Schiller’s immortal drama *William Tell*. He issued a call which read, in part: “Let those who refuse to submit to Soviet worldwide imperial aggression rally to the ranks of a new, global resistance movement, prepared to fight the agents and accomplices of Soviet interest in the same spirit as anti-communist resistance organizations fought the fascist tyrannies of Germany and Italy.”

The participants in Paris were not spectators, but key people in various freedom movements. To the dais came spokesmen for human rights and related groups of 15 different nations. There was a parliamentary deputy from Hungary, who had been condemned to death twice. A Lithuanian delegate had spent 27 years in Siberia. The Panamanian trade minister in exile described 15 years of attempts to deny Panama its economic sovereignty, which culminated in the invasion last Christmas and the slaughter of innocent civilians. A Lebanese professor, who is forming a new government in exile, spoke of Kissinger’s destruction of his country, divid-

ing it between Israel and Syria. From Romania, Ion Alexander Ghika, head of the French section of the World Union of Free Romanians, described the ongoing resistance to the new communist Iliescu-Roman tyranny that replaced the Ceausescu dictatorship.

From the United States, voices from the Nation of Islam and the Martin Luther King-led civil rights movement had an electrifying impact on the first day of the conference. David Hall, a speaker from Operation Rescue (Texas) described the fight against abortion as a human rights issue. Attorney John DeCamp, a former state senator from Nebraska, spoke of the legal suit he is representing against a satanic-pedophile ring in that state which enjoys protection at the highest levels of the political and juridical machines.

From Asia, the Movement for Freedom and Democracy in Vietnam was represented by its Secretary General Nguyen Vo Ky. For the Federation for Democracy in China, Chen Lichuan gave an overview of what has happened in that country since the Tiananmen massacres. Numerous African, Eastern European, and Asian freedom and humanitarian organizations were represented in the audience, although not all had the opportunity to speak officially.

One participant reported, “Some of the more radical groups had believed that they alone were the victims of suffering and misery. They realized that one race or one nationality has not been the sole beneficiaries of the misery of this century but that it’s been shared around. There was a broadening of views, and a strengthening of tolerance for those areas where we don’t have an agreement.

“You had these powerful groups from all around the world who recognized the commonness of the struggle. Everybody said that central to this struggle is the United States, and central to the United States is the freedom of Lyndon LaRouche. And speaker after speaker, including some who

did not even know him, as they understood the role of LaRouche and the politics here, came to this point of view.”

LaRouche and the strategic crisis

The conference was opened by the president of the International Commission, Eliane Magnan, a greatly admired French 'cellist, who from 1964 to 1975 was a pivotal figure in the national musical culture of Lebanon, and who recently issued a fine new recording of the solo 'cello suites of J.S. Bach. “For Lyndon LaRouche, culture is what will save a nation,” she said, recalling many an evening spent with him discussing classical music, and conducting rehearsals of string quartets and other pieces. “We also discussed a lot about the conquest of space, about the laws of nature, about geometry.” LaRouche must be freed because in times of historical crisis, like today, we need such men of ideas and action to lead our nations.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, a candidate for Parliament in the German national elections on Dec. 2, set the tone for the conference with an impassioned speech where she showed the dangers to which humanity is exposed today due to threat of war in the Gulf, which very well could lead to a general war by miscalculation, as well as the general collapse of the economies of both superpowers. Denouncing the Anglo-American elites who are responsible for the miserable condition of mankind, Helga Zepp-LaRouche then showed how her husband's entire life's work had been to counter such policies. “Lyndon LaRouche is the individual most capable of love toward humanity,” she said, because he takes “the suffering world into his heart.” Mrs. LaRouche listed her husband's proposals to improve the general economic condition of man on the African continent, in Latin America, in Eastern Europe.

She concluded with a call to all present to work relentlessly to achieve the liberation of Lyndon LaRouche, because he is the only man in the world today with the necessary ideas and moral courage to deal with the tremendous crisis humanity is facing.

Black Americans lead the way

Through Amelia Boynton Robinson, a close collaborator of Dr. Martin Luther King; Dr. Charles Knox, director of the International Human Rights Association of American Minorities; and Dr. Alim Muhammad, national spokesman for the Nation of Islam, one of the largest black movements in the United States, the greater part of the black American community was represented in Paris.

Dr. Knox called for the liberation of Lyndon LaRouche on humanitarian grounds. It is not enough, he said, to say that he's a political prisoner. He has to be freed because he's the only man with the ideas to deal with the economic crisis which is threatening people worldwide.

It is useless for me to repeat what Helga Zepp-LaRouche has said, Dr. Knox emphasized. The issue is getting orga-

nized. We all recognize many differences, between black Africans, Latin American people, East Europeans, Australians, but the commonality of the fight for the rights of man, and the threat we are now under, leave no room to argue about the differences. The crisis is too imminent: Let us fight for what we have in common.

Dr. Knox later wrote a petition, proposing an initial drive to gather 100,000 names in the United States, and another 100,000 in the rest of the world, which read: “It is the consensus of the undersigned representatives of nations around the world that Lyndon LaRouche be immediately released from prison, for humanitarian reasons, to provide guidance to our nations in the area of development. We recognize the tremendous achievements of Mr. LaRouche and his total commitment to spiriting a rebirth of hope for ending world hunger, disease, and economic depressions.

“Therefore, we appeal to you in the name of humanity to release Mr. LaRouche, allowing him to carry forth his great works for the uplifting of humanity in an effort to attain world peace.”

Dr. Muhammad recounted the history of oppression against the blacks. Some 50 million Africans were murdered during the times of slavery. In modern times, drugs, economic misery, hunger, AIDS, and abortion continue to decimate the black population. Our enemy is not some other country, said Dr. Muhammad—it is our own government. For these reasons, he went on, blacks should not go to fight in the Persian Gulf war, a war which is being fought for a government which violates the most essential rights of blacks—for a Saudi monarchy which violates the very law of Islam and for a Kuwaiti regime which still today tolerates slavery!

A French observer said, “This black American delegation had a very powerful effect on Europeans who still feel pretty comfortable in countries where the crisis has not yet really hit. Here they were confronted with people who do not fear the fight because they have nothing to lose; they have nothing.”

Nations ravaged

“What they really couldn't stand,” said exiled Panamanian minister Elmo Martínez Blanco, speaking of the United States, “was the fact that a small nation like Panama tried to stand on its own feet.” He described the terrible night of the American invasion of Panama, when as many as 6,000 civilians were killed. The poorest neighborhoods were bombed mercilessly all night, he said. The explosion of as many as 250 high-impact bombs—bombs whose effect is to create such a firestorm that the lungs of those caught within a radius of 50 meters explode—had been recorded. Helpless families and children threw themselves on the floor hoping to save themselves. Blanco himself was put into a concentration camp after he sent a message to the American people. “The people who thought they could sit on the fence now realize that we were right,” he said, “and organizing to regain the

country is going strongly.”

Professor Bassam el Hachem from Lebanon, as well as his Mexican-Lebanese compatriot, Alfredo Jalife from the Maronite Church of Mexico, made the same point for Lebanon. This small nation went from being one of the most prosperous and peaceful in the world 15 years ago, to being a rubblefield today and having lost all sovereignty to the Syrian and Israeli occupiers. These speakers stressed that throughout their nations’ ordeals, they found constantly at their side to help them, one association, and one political figure: Lyndon LaRouche.

Jenoe Fonay represented the Association of Former Hungarian Political Prisoners. He located the final victory for freedom in Hungary in the spring of 1990 in the original kernel of people who spoke out against the tyranny in the 1956 Budapest uprising. Their call for Western help went unanswered. He described the bitterness of the Hungarian people, who couldn’t understand why the West did not come to their aid. They didn’t know about the Stalin-Churchill-Roosevelt deal at Yalta. They were unaware that they had been abandoned. Now, having met the Schiller Institute over the last year, and having come to the conference and heard what people had to say, he could understand that LaRouche and his friends are under the same attack in their countries, as the Hungarian freedom fighters had been then.

The Lithuanian delegate had spent 27 years in Siberia, on three separate convictions. The first time he was sent away for 10 years, under Stalin, for political activities. All of the other convictions were on trumped-up charges. After Stalin, the dictators and the puppet regimes never jailed people for political activities, but for fraud, theft, all kinds of things.

“After 27 years in labor camps in Siberia, he is a beautiful, free person,” commented one observer. “He speaks four languages and spends his time doing something useful. The lesson is that they cannot defeat us, because after having been through what he’s been through, and coming out the way he’s come out, there’s nothing they can do to stop us other than kill us. And they can’t kill everybody, so we’re going to win.”

Mathis Bortner, former head of a Solidarnosc affiliate in France, told of the economic horror in Poland since Jeffrey Sachs’s “free-market” reforms have been applied by the Tadeusz Mazowiecki government: Production is officially down 33%, unemployment has hit more than 1 million, and panic is setting in. We, of the Schiller Institute, had told them months ago that this would happen, and nobody believed us then, he recalled.

Africa was represented at the conference by A. A. A. Sakho, an engineer who published recently a book proposing the creation of a high-speed rail network in Africa, as well as by the president for France of the International Committee for the Respect and Application of the Human Rights Charter, Massengo Tiasse. The voice of Australia, a British colony run in the most dictatorial fashion by parts of the British

monarchy controlled Scottish Rite Freemasonry, was heard through the intervention of farmer John Koehler.

Italian parliamentarian and former intelligence director Gen. Ambrogio Viviani human rights violations in the United States not only for LaRouche, but also for an Italian woman, condemned to 33 years in prison for “political conspiracy,” whom the United States is refusing to extradite to Italy despite all treaty obligations.

Disband ‘Amnesty International’

Two prominent members of the French Bar, attorneys Alain Stuts and Jean-Marc Varaut (Lyndon LaRouche’s attorney in France) addressed the conference. Jean-Marc Varaut set LaRouche’s case in the context of natural law. Stuts read out an article about LaRouche, which he intends to publish in a major news outlet, entitled “J’accuse No. 2,” in reference to Emile Zola’s celebrated defense of the unjustly accused Captain Dreyfus in the “Dreyfus Affair.” One of LaRouche’s crimes, continued Stuts, is to “be a follower of Socrates, an opponent of Jesuitical and Aristotelian logic.”

Stuts announced that he had resigned from his responsibilities in Amnesty International-France after he wrote to their London office asking for information, and they refused, telling him to stop harassing them. To the great joy of many of those leaders of human rights groups present for whom Amnesty has never moved one little finger—including a woman from Cameroon who said she had discovered Amnesty to be merely a front for various governments—Dr. Knox proposed marches on the Amnesty International offices worldwide, to disband it.

At the end, Helga Zepp-LaRouche turned the conference over to Amelia Robinson and Dr. Knox, to organize the mobilization to free LaRouche and to stop the Gulf war. “They have the experience,” she said, “so we should follow their advice” referring, for instance, to Amelia Robinson’s work in organizing the great march which started in Selma, Alabama and spearheaded the civil rights struggle in the United States in the 1960s; and to Dr. Knox’s 25-year experience in building one of the largest human rights organizations in the United States.

Amelia Robinson proposed that all the associations present establish an international coordinating committee to oppose the Gulf war and win the freedom of Lyndon LaRouche. Many associations registered their names and addresses in agreement. She also proposed that an international day of action be chosen. If this does not succeed, economic actions such as the store boycotts the civil rights movement organized successfully in Selma should be considered next, she said. Dr. Knox presented his petition and asked for all associations present to start mobilizing immediately around this. It was also proposed to set a first international day of action for Dec. 15, the date when the U.S. Schiller Institute is organizing a “teach-in” in the city of Chicago.