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Founding conference, Center for Ibero-American Studies, Anapolis, Brazil. Left: Bishop Manoel Pestana addresses the seminar; panelists include Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche. Above: Dr. Mario Caponnetto lectures on Hispanic culture.

Found Brazil Center for Ibero-American Solidarity

On Nov. 14, 1992 the Center for Ibero-American Studies and Solidarity was founded in the city of Anapolis, in the heart of Brazil. The founding ceremony took place following a week-long seminar held in Anapolis Nov. 9-13, on the Quincentenary of the Evangelization of the Americas. Both the founding ceremony and the seminar were attended by Anapolis Bishop Manoel Pestana and the city's Mayor-elect. A special invited guest was Helga Zepp-LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute and wife of American political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche.

The inauguration of the Center in Brazil parallels the creation of the Movement for National Identity and Ibero-American Integration in October 1992 in Argentina, as well as the founding in May 1992, in Tlaxcala, Mexico, of the Movement for Ibero-American Solidarity (MSIA). All three institutions promote the idea of building Ibero-American integration to counter the policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and each was founded in defense of man's inalienable right to economic and social justice and on the principle of *imago viva Dei*—man created in the living image of God. This same concept, of a just new world economic order

based on the idea of *imago viva Dei*, is the guiding light behind Zepp-LaRouche's campaign for a World Coalition of Peace Through Development.

In addition to her attendance at the Anapolis events, Zepp-LaRouche gave several press and television interviews, met with Bishop Pestana and others, and visited an Anapolis school whose curriculum had been designed around Lyndon LaRouche's principles of Classical education. She also visited Brasilia and Rio de Janeiro, where she held meetings with business, religious, and academic leaders, as well as with congressmen and other political figures.

Exposing the Black Legend

The Anapolis seminar on the Evangelization, which was attended daily by 120 or more—including university students, community leaders, businessmen, religious representatives, and leaders from other Ibero-American countries—focused on exposing the lies of the so-called Black Legend, which paints the Spanish and Portuguese colonization and evangelization effort as a purely genocidal encroachment of European civilization upon the "noble savages" of the continent's pre-Columbian Indian populations.

Numerous of the presentations concentrated on formulating a program that could transform Ibero-America into an economic and moral superpower for a world in crisis. As Bishop Pestana declared in his opening statement to the seminar, "It is now our turn to return to Europe the optimism that the evangelizers brought us."

The week-long seminar was addressed by such eminent scholars as Dr. Ricardo Henry Dip, a Brazilian expert on questions of natural law, Dr. Mario Caponnetto of Argentina, speaking on Hispanic culture, and Msgr. Emilio Silva, one of the Roman Catholic Church's foremost scholars on the Black Legend. Extensive television, press, and radio coverage was given to the seminar, whose closing address by Zepp-LaRouche was on "The Science of Christian Economy," the text authored by her imprisoned husband.

Zepp-LaRouche warned that a Thirty Years War scenario is already engulfing parts of the world, and that only by undertaking a "Peace through Development" perspective, as first outlined by Pope Paul VI and translated into concrete programmatic proposals by her husband, could the world find the moral strength to fight its way back from the brink of catastrophe.