

A Certain Difference Between The Great Jesse Owens and the Present Jesse Jackson

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

In effect, it is insane to do as Jesse Jackson is doing, to discuss any of the leading issues touching the Republic of South Africa without starting from the problems of the African continent as a whole. If Jesse were competent and serious about assisting Africa, he would begin by attacking Henry A. Kissinger, instead of working in Kissinger's interest. That is what Jesse, wittingly or not, undertook to do this past December, when he leapt into bed with the organized-crime-linked Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the neo-Nazi Green Party.

In today's, and my next column, I'll show why this is so.

Start from scratch: What are the possible political solutions for the much advertised problem of "Apartheid"? In general, at first glance, there are, immediately, only two possible solutions which are not of the bloodily gruesome varieties. Either the black African population is fully integrated politically into citizenship of the Republic of South Africa, or a form of confederation must be established, which secures the full local rights of black and white populations in their respective areas. Looking more deeply into the situation, it is immediately clear that neither alternative is workable under the present circumstances prevailing in Africa as a whole.

Given the present temper of the black population of the Republic of South Africa, giving full political rights to that



Hans-Martin Schleyer, held captive before his murder by the Red Brigades in 1977.

population means a process of driving the white portion of the population out of the country. This would drive the Boers into the extremes of their potential for a "lager mentality," a blood-bath. The fault with the confederation alternative is shown by a glance at the infant-mortality rates in the "Bantustans"; under present

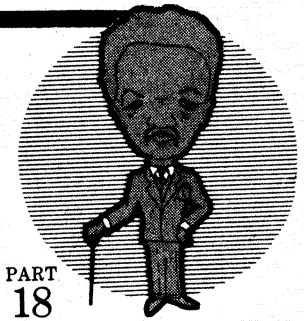
economic conditions in Africa at large, separate is savagely unequal.

There was a man, murdered by the Soviet-linked Baader-Meinhof gang in 1977, who was working in a most practical way to foster a genuine solution. His name was Juergen Ponto, and he was the head of the Dresdner Bank, one of the three major banks of West Germany, at the time the Soviet-linked terrorists killed him. Ponto happened to have been murdered on the pretext that he was a leading promoter of nuclear energy, for Brazil and other places, as well as Germany itself. In addition to being a supporter of nuclear energy, he was a leading force in Europe for genuine economic development of developing nations. Ponto was the co-sponsor, together with some leading interests of Pretoria, in the Republic of South Africa, of the creation of a special regional economic-development fund for southern Africa as a whole.

The other leading West German business figure killed by the Baader-Meinhof gang that year, Hanns-Martin Schleyer, was the only other West Germany figure, but Ponto, involved in this policy for the development of southern Africa.

The Green Party gang may insist it has no connections to the Baader-Meinhof terrorists, overlooking common connections to East Germany's Marcus Wolf; politically, they have the same causes, and share a common pool of sympathizers. If you doubt this, you could compare the lists of supporters and apologists for the "political aims" of both.

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It sounds very nice to speak of "political equality," but what good is "equality" if it means a continuation of the kinds of economic conditions prevailing among the majority of the black population of southern Africa? In Africa, a man who reaches the age of 40 is becoming a part of the tiny minority of "old men." Victims of infant mortality, and the rates in Africa are monstrous and being increased by Kissinger's policies, have no need of adult political equality. Hunger and disease are rife.

Without basic economic infrastructure, on the scale needed to benefit the population as a whole, talk of "equality" is a fool's babbling. Without capital goods, to create modern workplaces in farming and industry, talk of "equality" is a fool's babbling. True, in the Republic of South Africa, there is a stratum of professionals, clerks, skilled operatives, and so forth, which has approximately a European standard of literacy and economic existence; even without economic improvements, "political equality" would be a great boon to them. However, what of the other nearly nine-tenths of the population? Without modern agricultural and industrial workplaces, what chance of improvement do they have accessible to them?

We'll continue this report in my next column.