

The Roth bill now goes to the House, where its landslide margin in the Senate is expected to finally move it through the Government Operations Committee chaired by Rep. Jack Brooks (R-Tex.), who has previously kept the bill bottled up in committee. David Stockman is a major supporter of the bill, according to Roth's office.

Taking issues out of Congress

Keying off of the new budget deficit projections, the economic policy panels at the ongoing conference of the American Enterprise Institute have focused on the role of the budget process in restructuring the federal government. The most blatant call for crushing the powers of Congress to legislate on substantive issues came from White House spokesman David Gergen, formerly of George Bush's presidential campaign committee, speaking on a panel chaired by none other than Lloyd Cutler.

Gergen demanded that Congress "overcome its natural instincts" to vote on each budgetary and appropriations measure as concrete questions of policy, and confine itself simply to voting up an omnibus bill "as a commitment to reduce spending." While he added that "President Reagan has a preference for running the government with regular appropriations," Gergen declared that congressional committees "can't reconcile growing demands with scarce resources," and said the administration would try to use the reconciliation process again next year.

His remarks were warmly endorsed by Lloyd Cutler, who called for toughening and tightening the budget process even further.

Gergen's call for curtailing democratic decision making to meet the requirements dictated by "scarce resources" echoes the theme of Trilateral member Samuel Huntington's 1975 book, *The Crisis of Democracy*. Written as a report to the Trilateral Commission "on the governability of democracies," Huntington's study argued, "We have come to recognize that there are potentially desirable limits to economic growth. There are also potentially desirable limits to the indefinite extension of political democracy."

Subsequently appointed to the staff of Jimmy Carter's National Security Council, Huntington also emphasized, "A government which lacks authority and which is committed to substantial domestic programs will have little ability, short of cataclysmic crisis, to impose on its people the sacrifices which may be necessary to deal with foreign policy and defense."

Huntington was also a featured participant in AEI conference, reporting as a project co-director with Brent Scowcroft—rumored to be in some quarters a possible successor to Richard Allen as national security adviser—on American vital interests in "regions of conflict."

Baltimore

Control Data uses city as test tube

by Freyda Greenberg

"Over the next decade, sweeping economic and technological transformations will alter the jobs people do and the ways they do them. Older, heavy industries such as steel and automobile manufacturing will continue a retrenchment that has already begun—and the semiskilled legions who served them will be hard pressed to find similar work. . . . It will be a decade of dramatic demographic, geographic and educational realignment. And it will be painful."

This statement in the Nov. 23 issue of the Washington Post Company's *Newsweek* magazine was subsequently repeated in media outlets throughout the United States.

Behind *Newsweek's* ostensible prediction are individuals who have not only been defending the Federal Reserve Bank's high interest-rate destruction of industry, but who have also been getting in on the ground floor of their desired "post-industrial" society. An outstanding example of what this scheme is doing to American cities is Baltimore, where area-based financial and political leaders are conspiring with the Control Data Corporation to turn that once-prominent steel, auto, and ship-building center into a model post-industrial city.

The Minneapolis-based Control Data's program for Baltimore is comprised of both public and behind-the-scenes initiatives. On the one hand, Control Data is known in Baltimore as the creator of the PLATO computer education course, which has been incorporated into the public-school curriculum, despite vehement opposition from teachers and parents because of its documented brainwashing effects on students. A more secretive aspect of Control Data's Baltimore venture, according to sources in the city's business community, is that the firm is quietly buying up abandoned school buildings and slum real estate. Where do these ventures coincide and what do they have to do with the post-industrial society? First, it is necessary to understand the real nature of PLATO "education." Control Data personnel have provided the most candid description of their 20-year old, \$1 billion project. "We are redefining education," said an assistant at one of CDC's learning centers, "No frills. Down to basics. A little reading, a little math, a little science. All very simple. Teach people to be func-

tional. Get them ready for job slots. . . . The post-industrial society needs people who can think like and understand computers." The student is provided with the equivalent of a TV set with which to "interact," i.e., answer questions and be then told by the computer whether the answer is right or wrong. PLATO works on two key principles. It demands that all complicated subjects be reduced to simple statements that can fit on a screen, and that the interaction of student and computer be limited and controlled. All programs are "drill and grill"; instead of being able to ask questions and demand in-depth explanations from a teacher, a PLATO student's attention is sustained only by an aura of fantasy modeled on video games.

While Control Data sells PLATO to the city of Baltimore, its affiliates are buying inner-city real estate because it is targeted for Rep. Jack Kemp's "free enterprise zones," where new light assembly industries would be "developed" to employ workers living there. Electronics and computer assembly, functions essential to a firm like Control Data, are among the most talked-about types of "new industry" slated for the enterprise zones. Hence, Control Data positions itself to reap the benefits of this post-industrial age by determining what is produced (computers), by owning the industrial real estate, and by controlling the manpower (PLATO). The firm explains its urban ventures as "social responsibility."

Because Control Data's collaborators in Baltimore reach into the highest strata of the city's politics and finance, Baltimore has become a special test tube for the "post-industrial society" program. When the Board of School Commissioners approved a new, expanded PLATO contract with Control Data on Dec. 3, it was under direct orders from CDC's Baltimore collaborators. This group consists of a network around Control Data, CDC's Baltimore-based subsidiary Commercial Credit Company (CCC) including Johns Hopkins University President Dr. Steven Muller and Baltimore financier F. Barton Harvey, Jr., both members of CCC's Board.

Lurking behind the scenes is former Sen. Joseph Tydings, one of the original Draper Fund promoters of depopulation, who is credited with political control of Board of School Commissioners head David Daneker.

A message delivered to the School Commissioners from City Council President Walter Orlinsky conveyed CDC's instructions. According to Orlinsky, who serves also as a mouthpiece for the Johns Hopkins Metro Center for Planning and Development, Baltimore *used to be* an industrial city, characterized by its auto and steel plants. But that is over, Orlinsky contends, and Baltimore must now move unafraid into the brave new world of the "post-industrial society." The Metro Center, founded in part by Dr. Steven Muller, has been central in social engineering projects pertaining to Baltimore's "move into the future." These projects have included

studies on demographic profiling, forced migration, housing stress, and shifts to smaller communities.

The prime Control Data vehicle for the real-estate side of their operation is City Ventures, Inc. City Ventures is a joint venture with other private sector firms to purchase real estate for "development." City Ventures is in active collaboration with the promoters of urban enterprise zones to legislate the appropriate tax and labor policies needed to set up businesses cheaply and maintain a workforce cheaply. Through this venture CDC has been purchasing urban real estate, in particular in the Park Circle area already slated for free enterprise zones should legislation pass. CDC affiliates have also been involved in the purchase of abandoned school buildings closed in recent years due to cutbacks in the city's pre-PLATO education budget.

The backing of the Baltimore financial community for this perspective has been accomplished through the influence of the Johns Hopkins-linked networks and through Baltimore's leading "blueblood" investment banking firm, Alexander, Brown & Sons. A leading board member of CCC, F. Barton Harvey, Jr. has been with Alexander, Brown & Sons since 1946, managing it since 1966. CDC's Commercial Credit, run largely by Daniel H. Brill, a member of the Federal Reserve Board from 1947-63 and the Federal Open Market Committee from 1965-69, is an important venture in its own right. Coupled with City Venture-type schemes, PLATO, and the support of locally based creditors, CCC provides credit generation for new, smaller business ventures.

Comprised of more than 100 subsidiaries, Commercial Credit is involved in small business financing, real estate financing, factoring, and life, health, and business insurance including insurance for computer equipment as well as nuclear fuel. Relocation Realty Services Corporation provides employee relocation services, including the buying and selling and renting of homes and other services related to the relocation of workers. Interestingly, Control Data has just added Jimmy Carter's former Vice-President Walter Mondale to its board of directors. The former senator, whose association with Control Data is reported to be long-term, championed the highly controversial National Employment Relocation Act (NERA) known as the "boxcar" bill in 1974. The only difference between that aborted effort and the Baltimore case of today is that the money now comes from the private sector.

For all its talk about "social responsibility," however, Control Data is worried that "premature publicity" might wreck its plans to turn dozens of major cities into "post-industrial" cities. Asked about a front page Dec. 4 article in the *Washington Post* reporting on the firm's plans to introduce PLATO into the school system of the nation's capital, a CDC spokesman flew into a rage. "We didn't ask for that article."