

Congressional Closeup by Barbara Dreyfuss and Susan Kokinda

Congress calls on Reagan to back Global 2000

Massachusetts Democrat Rep. Nicholas Mavroulos has introduced a resolution calling on the Reagan administration to implement various important aspects of the Carter administration's *Global 2000 Report* which aims at reducing world population levels by 2 billion people by the year 2000.

The Mavroulos Resolution, H.R.275, states, "It is the sense of the Congress that the executive branch should begin to systematically coordinate and improve its projections of world population, resource, and environmental trends, and their analysis, as outlined in the Global 2000 study."

In introducing his resolution, Mavroulos indicated his full approval for *Global 2000*, a document developed largely under the influence of the genocidal Club of Rome. "I believe that *Global 2000* is a landmark event, and that it deserves serious attention from the current administration. If we ignore it, we do so at our own peril," he said.

Mavroulos has just sent out a Dear Colleague letter soliciting support from his fellow Congressmen. Rep. Les Aucoin (D-Ore.) has agreed to cosponsor the resolution.

Why is Stockman against farm exports?

OMB Director David Stockman's sabotage of Congressional efforts to establish an export credit fund to foster agricultural exports is being hotly discussed in the House Agriculture Committee.

The committee held hearings

March 9 to hear Agriculture Secretary Block, U.S. Trade Representative Bill Brock and other officials on the problems and prospects for U.S. agricultural programs. In particular, the hearings focused on the export credit revolving fund authorized by Congress in the 1981 omnibus farm bill. Under that Act, funds would be loaned to overseas customers to promote market development and expansion. The fund is considered a revolving one because as principal and interest payments are paid back to the Agriculture Department, the money is reloaned to foreign buyers of U.S. farm goods.

At the hearings, Secretary Block endorsed the program, saying that he believes it sound and useful. But David Stockman has ensured that the administration's budget does not recommend any funds for it.

House Agriculture Committee members are adamant that the fund begin operation, particularly now, when Paul Volcker's usurious interest rates are devastating U.S. agricultural production. The committee voted to recommend to the Budget Committee that the FY 1983 budget contain the funds for the program. The committee believes that between \$500 million and \$1 billion is needed.

Republicans on the committee, under the leadership of the ranking minority member William Wampler (Va.), sent a letter to the President stressing their backing for the fund and urging him to support it.

Following the March 9 hearing, Agriculture Committee Chairman Kiki de la Garza (D-Tex.) declared in a statement March 10 that Stockman seems to be the key person preventing implementation

of the fund. "It seems that, so far, officials who control budget decisions have not been willing to give export credit the priority many of us—in both parties—believe it deserves in the national interest. . . . Perhaps we may want to invite Mr. Stockman to discuss these matters with us."

Tower states defense priorities

Testifying before the Senate Budget Committee on March 18, Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John Tower (R-Tex.) advocated reducing the size of the U.S. military force structure rather than cutting back in the areas of readiness or modernization. Tower added, "I should emphasize that I do not favor these force structure reductions, but will pursue them if budget pressures become too severe."

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) agreed with Tower that "it would be a grave error to reduce significantly our near and long-term defense commitment, although we may disagree on what 'significant' means." Domenici agreed with Tower that defense cuts should not be made in exchange for *increases* in domestic spending. "I do not intend to support significant cuts in our military spending unless they come as part of a package that dramatically reduces domestic spending and substantially changes the revenue base of the federal government," he said.

Tower concluded his recommendations by warning that if force structure reductions were

carried out, the United States would have to make some of those reductions overseas. "Thus in the final analysis reducing force structure means that some foreign policy commitments will not be met."

Tower was not specific as to where these reductions in commitment would occur but when asked by Sen. Slade Gorton (R-Wash.) his opinion of Sen. Ted Stevens's (R-Alaska) proposed reduction of U.S. ground forces in Europe, Tower replied, "We are in Western Europe for our own national interest, because of what the consequences would be if Europe was neutralized or Finlandized." Noting that European defense commitments grew at a faster rate than those of the United States in the 1970s, Tower concluded, "I do think, however, that it is appropriate to warn Europe that the American public will not support a continued American presence in Europe if the Europeans do not maintain an equivalent level of support and if the Europeans do not permit us to deploy weapons in their defense." He also reported he has questions about the Rapid Deployment Force, whose mission, he said, has "traditionally been a Marine Corps function. Any other form "smacks to me of an American expeditionary force."

Senator attacks cuts in high-tech coal research

Senator John Melcher (D-Mont.) questioned the Department of Energy's decision to end federal funding for magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) research in its fiscal 1983 budget, at March 17 hearings of the Research and Development

subcommittee of the Senate Energy Committee. Melcher pointed out that according to the administration's own criteria, the MHD process, which produces electricity from coal by an efficient and environmentally clean method, should be one of the prime candidates for continued research and development funding.

Jan Mares, Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy at the Department of Energy, replied that the MHD program met the criteria for federal funding, but "the process required a very expensive effort" and was being terminated for that reason.

Melcher answered, "Administration logic escapes me."

While this most promising, high-technology area of coal research is being rescinded in 1982 and zeroed-out in 1983 despite congressional support and appropriations, the administration is putting top priority on the highly inefficient and expensive technologies to produce synthetic fuels through coal gasification and liquefaction. Much of the FY83 coal research budget of \$107 million—down from \$417 million in 1982, is devoted to those technologies.

New immigration legislation proposed

Senator Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.) and Rep. Romano Mazzoli (D-Ky.), former members of the commission on U.S. immigration policy headed by the Rev. Theodore Hesburgh of Notre Dame, introduced a new immigration bill March 17. The legislation, the Immigration Reform and Control Act, is a significant departure from

the open border, guest-worker approach proposed by President Reagan to further strengthen U.S. relations with Mexico; it adopts the population control strategy of the Hesburgh Commission.

In introducing the bill, Simpson said on the Senate floor, "It is my judgment that uncontrolled immigration is one of the greatest threats to the future of this country. . . . As mortals, we live in a world of limits and tragically that must include limits to our charity. Each man and woman here faces daily in his or her own life, the moral dilemma posed by other human beings in need. Each must decide where to draw the line in helping others. It is tough—but we have all done that or we would not be here today."

The Simpson-Mazzoli bill would, as part of a "universal employment authorization" system, levy fines against employers who hired unregistered employees. First and second violations would be punishable by \$1,000 and \$2,000 fines, third violations by criminal penalties including imprisonment. The bill sets a total U.S. immigration quota of 425,000 people per year.

The key to the system proposed in the bill is the controversial policy of using identity cards or a government-maintained data bank to regulate the activities of immigrants and employers. Anticipating adverse reactions to this proposal, which parallels the work-book system used under Hitler's Third Reich, Simpson insisted, "It won't be an internal passport or a card you have to carry all the time. . . . It will not be a card which some jack-booted minion mashes your door down" for.