

had to learn to balance its commitment to compassion with the fiscal realities of the 1980s.

Those "fiscal realities," as defined by the international banking community, translate into policies of genocide for which Richard Lamm, the Democratic governor of Colorado, has already become notorious. Lamm's arguments that the United States can no longer afford to keep the elderly and the very ill alive is only an advanced version of Kirk's "break" with constituency groups.

Sen. Ted Kennedy's headline-grabbing support of the "line-item veto," a shibboleth of right-wing Republicans, is cut from the same cloth. The line-item veto allows the President to veto specific programs in a bill, rather than the cumbersome and constitutionally established process of vetoing an entire bill. This will emasculate the spending powers of Congress, which (for good or ill) are a crucial aspect of the American representative system of government, and will make austerity easy to administer.

Of course, the Democratic Party doesn't come out and declare that its 1986 program is a rewarmed version of Nazi Economics Minister Hjalmar Schacht's policies. It has cloaked its policies in the technobabble of a media-dominated society and has even discovered a new class of Americans who allegedly will support these policies. Dubbed the "New Collar Class," by MIT professor Ralph Whitehead, Jr., these Americans outnumber the much-publicized Yuppies by a 7:1 ratio. The member of the "New Collar Class," is young, family-oriented, earns a low to low middle class income, and works in the service sector. The new-collar worker is a heavy TV watcher, whose favorite programs are *Saturday Night Live*, *Entertainment Tonight*, and *Monday Night Football*, reads *People*, *TV Guide*, *Women's Day*, *Sports Illustrated*, and *Road and Track*, and has the highest incidence of VCRs in the home.

This "new collar class" is what used to be a blue-collar, industrial worker. The Democratic Party has abandoned the technologically progressive, productive worker who sought a better life for his children than himself, as a dying breed. Instead they preach advertising slogans to the "new collars"—post-industrial, service-sector workers who have turned to *Dallas* and *Dynasty* as solace, while the American Dream and Western industrial society disintegrate outside their viewing room.

Indeed, outside of the calls for austerity and sacrifice put forward at the June 10 Democratic Policy Commission, the "policy-makers" sounded like a series of TV commercials gone berserk:

"I think the greatest challenge facing us is to find the metaphors."

"We must remember three things: modern, moderate, and mainstream."

"Our problems have been perception, message, and messenger."

"We have to remold a structurally sound model."

Welcome to the new Democratic Party!

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## Interview: Steve Trott

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# 'We'll fight drugs with Colombia'

*U.S. Assistant Attorney General Steve Trott, in charge of the Department of Justice Criminal Division, gave the following interview to Executive Intelligence Review Washington Bureau Chief Nicholas Benton live on EIR's daily Washington radio show on Aug. 6:*

**EIR:** We have learned of the extraordinary raids which have been undertaken by combined federal, state and local authorities to root out the marijuana production in the United States. Can you give us an update on how it went during the first day?

**Trott:** The first day showed productivity in 32 out of the 50 states where this is going on. We were able to identify 336 different plots where marijuana was being cultivated. We were able to seize 105,000 plants by 8 p.m. last night. We made 54 arrests, recovered a number of weapons, a number of booby-traps and unfortunately there was even one shooting at a helicopter in Arkansas.

**EIR:** This is all on what is technically federal property, is that right?

**Trott:** It is really on a combination of both federal and state property. This is a program that is aimed at both. But you are right in pointing out that a lot of marijuana cultivation is going on on federal property, which is, of course, held by the federal government in trust for the American citizens.

**EIR:** 106,000 marijuana plants. How much marijuana is that?

**Trott:** I don't exactly know what size they were, in what condition they were. Let me just say it is a very sizable amount. But the more important thing is that this is the beginning of a long-range program that is being conducted by law enforcement, not just federal law enforcement but state law enforcement and local law enforcement, to attack the marijuana cultivation problem in the United States. We're in this program for the long haul, not just a one, two, three day program, or for a month. This is a serious problem and we are going to follow it to the end.

**EIR:** I understand that the Drug Enforcement Administration just completed an environmental impact study which indicates that you may be again using herbicide in dealing

with the marijuana problem. It is my understanding that it is not being used now, but that it has been proven that it is safe and may be part of the program in the future.

**Trott:** That's distinctly possible. The program that we are using right now does not rely on herbicides or spraying. If we are able to determine that the use of herbicides would be absolutely and perfectly safe to the environment and human beings, there is a possibility the DEA might decide to resume that program.

**EIR:** But it is my understanding that this is what that environmental impact study concludes, is that right?

**Trott:** That's correct, and we've found in other places around the world, for example in Mexico and recently in Colombia, that herbicides have been used with great effectiveness. I might point out that these same herbicides are used everywhere right now by farmers throughout the United States to protect the crops that they regularly use, and they have been found in no instance to be a hazard to human beings.

**EIR:** What you're getting a lot on the national news media is commentary that this may be a good PR stunt, but that you really can't win the war on drugs.

**Trott:** We see it as a war on drugs. But we don't see it as winning or losing in the sense that people talk about those terms for baseball games or football games. We see this as a long-term commitment to the youth of America, and to the decent people of America and to families of America to try to knock out a problem that for unfortunately a long time has menaced many people in this country. The American public has been dangerously misled over the last 20 years about the hazards of marijuana use. It now turns out it has serious health problems associated with it. It has serious birth defects problems associated with it, it is a poison that gets into the mind, the spirit and the body. It erodes productivity and it robs young people of their opportunity to grow up and become productive members of society.

I am a parent and I personally think, on the basis of my experience as a parent and a law enforcement person for 20 years, that the greatest danger to young people in this country is to become involved in drug use at a young age, and all of a sudden to wake up as a young adult and realize that the educational opportunities and abilities to grow up have been squandered because you spent most of your time in a stupor. I think parents realize that this is not a victimless crime, and parents appreciate the efforts that are being made to protect people from this hazard.

**EIR:** We have followed with great interest all of the moves which Attorney General Meese has taken to introduce legislation to launch a comprehensive war on drugs and declare bank laundering of drug money officially illegal, to make illegal the so-called "designer drugs" that are now menacing the population, and so forth. This marijuana eradication effort falls in coherence with this. One important question I

know a lot of parents often raise involved in concern for drugs is whether there is going to be a more favorable environment in which the general public can get involved and pitch in. We hear reports often that parents can identify the license plates of cars parked outside of schools and can't really do anything to get enforcement because of the overwhelming nature of the problem. Maybe these efforts are going to turn this around. What words do you have for the parents about their involvement in this program?

**Trott:** We want the parents to be encouraged that the law enforcement is doing everything that it possibly can at all levels to fight this problem and to protect their children. We have established that the drug war is really our number one law enforcement priority. We are out in the international environment talking to foreign countries about the production problem, we are doing something here. The Drug Enforcement Administration is involved working with high school coaches to try to get to the kids in that sense. But we think that the parents ought to support educational programs in their schools, and call local law enforcement with information they have. I think they'll find law enforcement today is much more receptive than it was ten years ago. We now see marijuana as the dangerous problem that it is, as the menace it is, especially to children, and we're going to spare no effort to try to do something about it.

**EIR:** I'm told that this raid is designed not only to actually get at the problem, but also to be a demonstration for our friendly countries abroad to engage in similar programs. Do you have any update on any moves toward international cooperation in dealing with the trafficking?

**Trott:** Yes, I do. I just came back from Bogota, Colombia where I met with the Attorney General in that country. The eradication program down there is marvelous. They are almost at the point of knocking out the entire marijuana crop in Colombia, which is an enormous achievement. They wanted to know from the beginning whether we were serious about this, because when we go down to Colombia and say, "What are you doing about all the drugs you're producing," do you know what they say to us? They say, "What are you doing about your market? If you didn't have people in the United States spending \$80 billion a year for this stuff, our peasants wouldn't be growing it in their fields." And they're right. We have to tell the Colombians, "We are in this together. We'll work together on this. You eradicate, we'll eradicate. You prosecute, we'll prosecute. You extradite, we will extradite." No single country standing alone can fight this problem, but all countries standing together can, and that's the international cooperation that we're beginning to forge.

**EIR:** It is encouraging that the environmental impact study is now in and hopefully we can get back to using paraquat and other means to wipe out this crop in the United States.

**Trott:** The Colombians and the Mexicans are doing that right now, with no danger to human beings at all.