

# Smoke billows from clean air debate

by Rogelio A. Maduro

After months of complacency in the face of the devastating amendments to the Clean Air Act proposed by President George Bush a year ago and about to become law, American businesses are finally waking up and starting a campaign to tell the truth about the consequences of the bill. In advertisements run in major newspapers and radio stations, the Clean Air Working Group and the American Petroleum Institute warned of the loss of 750,000 jobs and the multibillion-dollar swindle behind subsidies for "alternative fuels." Even the news media seem to be waking up. On May 11, the *Washington Times* ran a headline warning, "Clean Air Act is Gorbachev's secret weapon."

Under the bill, industrial, transportation, and business policy will be consolidated in the hands of William Reilly, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, who will have the power to jail any individual or shut down any business for "environmental violations."

But that is not the end of it, according to syndicated columnist Warren Brookes. In a column published May 9, Brookes says there is a firestorm now erupting in the White House over the initial draft of William Reilly's new "Five-Year Plan" for "Pollution Prevention." One top Bush official told Brookes, "You think the Clean Air Act is bad, wait until you see how far Reilly wants to go."

Brookes says that "the basic premise of this agenda is that American industry must not merely clean up its messes as it goes along, it must avoid even producing any waste in the first place. As Mr. Reilly suggested archly, waste is merely 'misused resource.' In the future, the chiefs of American business, big and small, will be required to make their omelets without breaking any eggs."

Although that may be Reilly's agenda, Brookes warns, "That approach is already implicit in the largely ignored 'Permitting and Enforcement' titles of the Clean Air Act which give the EPA a life-and-death, upstream chokehold over all but the tiniest businesses and every new idea product or process. If these titles become law as passed by the Senate with Mr. Reilly's and President Bush's approval, they will for the first time require as many as 150,000 American businesses from heavy manufacturing to small print shops and dry cleaners to secure specific EPA permits for every single-point source of one or more of 191 'air pollutants' if they emit more than 2.5 to 7 pounds per hour."

As it stands right now, debate is raging on the House version of the bill, which is expected to pass before the

Memorial Day recess. Business and industry had been counting on President Bush to veto any bill that was too extreme, but lately they have come to a realization that he may not. They have, therefore, concentrated their fire on some of the most outrageous aspects of the bill.

Amendments added to the Senate bill by Senators Thomas Daschle (D-S.D.), Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), and Robert Dole (R-Kans.) require, in effect, the use of highly subsidized ethanol to be used in motor vehicles sold in at least nine cities. This would affect 25% of the nation's drivers, costing consumers \$25-50 billion. Rep. Bill Richardson (D-N.M.) has introduced a similar amendment in the House that extends this requirement to 18 other cities, while Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) has introduced an amendment mandating the production of "alternative fuel" vehicles. The most astonishing fact here is that these amendments won't provide any "clean air," since burning ethanol is much more polluting than gasoline!

## Cartels will rake it in

The catch is that there are hundreds of billions of dollars to be made in this swindle, a fact duly noted in an irate editorial that appeared on the May 2 *Wall Street Journal*. "The main beneficiary of this windfall will be Archer Daniels Midland, Inc., which accounts for 75% of U.S. ethanol production," the paper charges, adding that the grain cartel has been giving "generous contributions" to politicians in Washington, and "ADM chief executive Dwayne Andreas is a major contributor to Senator Dole and ADM's foundation has given \$160,000 to his Dole Foundation." The *Journal* continues, "The piggishness of ADM has caused a major political problem for the whole corn industry," says John Ford of the American Corn Growers Association, a group that decries Mr. Andreas's influence in Washington. "The corn industry, the politics of it, is controlled by one man, and Bob Dole is his go-fer on the Hill."

Since the Carter administration approved the use of ethanol in gasoline, as gasohol, producers have received a windfall of \$4.6 billion in subsidies from the government. Most of this has ended up in the hands of Archer Daniels Midland, Inc., whose CEO Dwayne Andreas is one of the best friends that Mikhail Gorbachov has in the West, and one of the main promoters of the East-West trade policy embraced by the Bush administration.

The American Petroleum Institute, which is leading the charge against ethanol, put out ads in all major newspapers blasting "Government Gas," while Sierra Research, Inc., an independent environmental research firm, released a study on May 8 warning that "statutory provisions that encourage or require the use of ethanol-gasoline blends in ozone (smog) non-attainment areas will cause adverse air quality impacts. In combination with the well-established cost penalty and fuel economy loss caused by ethanol-gasoline blends, motorists would end up paying more for dirtier air."

# NORBERT BRAININ

first violinist of the legendary Amadeus Quartet



IN CONCERT AT C-256

GUENTER LUDWIG, pianist



*Mozart, Sonata in Eb major, KV 481*  
*Brahms, Sonata in A major, Op. 100*  
*Beethoven, Sonata in G major, Op. 96*

**N**orbert Brainin, one of Europe's greatest violinists, who led the Amadeus Quartet for four decades, is coming to America to demonstrate the importance of returning to the tuning used by the classical composers for their music—a middle C set at 256 Hz. C-256 was known throughout the last century as the "scientific tuning," and was mandated in Italy in 1884 by a decree inspired by the great Giuseppe Verdi. To show that the old, lower tuning is just as crucial for bringing out the beauty of fine instruments as for the human voice, Dr. Brainin will demonstrate the *Saraband and Double* from J.S. Bach's *First Partita for Violin Solo* on his Stradivarius violin, at today's arbitrary, high International Standard Pitch, A-440, and then at C-256 (which gives an A of about 432 Hz.).

The Schiller Institute and Lubo Opera Company sponsored the first modern American performance of Beethoven's opera *Fidelio* at the "Verdi tuning" at Lincoln Center in New York in January 1990.

Wednesday, June 6 8:30 P.M.  
Lisner Auditorium  
The George Washington University  
Washington, D. C.

General admission \$15  
Students, seniors \$5

Sponsored by Schiller Institute and Lubo Opera Company  
in cooperation with The George Washington University  
For tickets call TELETRON: 800-543-3041  
For more information: 800-543-1462

## HISTORIC COMPACT DISC AVAILABLE!

Norbert Brainin and Guenter Ludwig  
First Sonata Demonstration this century at C-256 Hz.  
December 12, 1988 Munich, West Germany  
Featuring J.S. Bach: Adagio, Sonata #1 in G minor  
demonstrated at both C-256 and A-440  
Plus: Beethoven Op. 30 no. 2 & Brahms Op. 105  
Available from Ben Franklin Books (703) 777-3661