

lution. We will be looking at prospects for repeal at the upcoming UNGA. *We urge your government to also publicly support a repeal effort. Specifically, you might urge your President or prime minister to include a call for repeal in his UNGA address [emphasis added]. . . .*

6. Human rights

. . . We hope that you will lend your support to efforts to continue the broad international condemnation of Iraqi human rights violations within Iraq and during its occupation of Kuwait. We also hope you will resist competing efforts to detract attention from Iraqi responsibility for gross and systematic violations of human rights. . . .

Similarly, we hope you will support the resolution on respect for the will of the people in Burma, as indicated in the May 1990 national elections. . . . There have been no signs of movement by the Burmese military authorities to respect the election results and return the government to civilian control. We hope you will give your support to the deferred resolution at the UNGA. . . .

We do ask that you help maintain the international pressure on Cuba to improve its human rights practices by monitoring the situation there and supporting a strong, active, and credible investigation by the UNHRC [U.N. Human Rights Commission] special representative.

The question of human rights in Afghanistan will again be considered by the UNGA, and special rapporteur Ermacora will present an interim report on the human rights situation there. Any resolution based on that report should be objective, recognizing the responsibility which must still be borne by the Soviet Union and the Najibullah regime, the parties which started the conflict in the first place. . . .

The Third Committee should also address issues of human rights violations in Africa. . . .

7. Fourth committee reform

We are following closely developments in the Fourth Committee/C-24 reform working groups and remain concerned about the committees' penchant for extraneous and anachronistic rhetoric.

The Fourth Committee's resolutions do not reflect the positive political evolution that has taken place in recent years. We cannot continue to accept the committee's outdated rhetoric, misguided assertions, name-calling, and other vestiges of the Cold War. *Our ability to remain on the Fourth Committee and to respect its work will depend on its ability to adapt itself to the new world reality [emphasis added]. . . .*

We oppose also a resolution condemning foreign economic and military interests which allegedly impede implementation of the declaration. The United States strongly disagrees with the premise that mere presence of foreign economic and military interests in non-self-governing territories is an obstacle to self-determination. . . .

Thailand

Depopulation program was 'too successful'

by Michael Billington

The northern sector of Thailand has been a target area for the various world bodies involved in birth control efforts since at least the early 1960s. According to the World Bank and others, this area, and Thailand as a whole, stand as a success story for having radically reduced the fertility rate of a relatively underdeveloped nation. But one of the Thai professionals most intimately involved with the implementation of that program has, since the mid-1980s, been attempting to warn his nation and the world at large that the program was "too successful," creating a disastrous demographic collapse of the towns and villages of northern Thailand. Thai officialdom has refused to respond, primarily because the population control policies have been adopted at levels which political leaders are hesitant to challenge. In particular, members of the Royal Family have backed the depopulation programs.

Dr. Tieng Pardthaisong, a demography professor at Chiang Mai University in northern Thailand, has now been rewarded for his courage and honesty by having all his funding cut, from the Ford Foundation and other institutions unhappy with the exposure of the genocidal results of their programs. Dr. Tieng's worldwide reputation as a leading expert in the field will not prevent his community medicine operations from closing down when his personal funds run out, which he estimates will be within two years.

Dr. Tieng actively participated in the numerous studies and projects in population control in northern Thailand over the past 30 years. It was not until the mid-1980s that he realized the devastating impact of the "success" of the programs. Fertility had been decreased from over six children per woman to less than two children per woman (known as replacement level) by 1980 in the north, and the rates in the rest of the nation also fell below replacement levels over the next decade. What Dr. Tieng saw in a 1989 study of the province of Chiang Mai was a breakdown of school systems, a shortage of labor, skyrocketing social and medical costs due to the relative aging of the population, and a death rate so rapidly surpassing the birth rate, that villages were facing

actual extinction.

The World Bank as early as 1959 had intervened against the pro-natalist Thai government policies, strongly "recommending" that the government implement population control policies. By 1970, with the help of several Thai health officials who had studied demographics on scholarships in the United States, the government officially adopted the idea of restricting population growth. Unlike most other nations, where the Judeo-Christian, Muslim, or Confucian traditions generated a strong resistance to such attacks on human procreation, there was and continues to be a rather stoic acceptance by the mostly Buddhist Thai society of the depopulation of their nation.

As revealed in the recently declassified U.S. National Security Study Memorandum 200 from 1974, the U.S. government adopted as a national security policy the reduction of non-white populations of the developing sector nations. It is by no means proven that a high density of population is a strain on an economy, as the malthusians assert; on the contrary, every economy which has rapidly industrialized, enjoys a high population density. Moreover, the U.S. and the World Bank population controllers publicly admitted that they had the "problem" to overcome the historically demonstrated fact that the only way to lower population growth rates, was to increase the standard of living of a nation to something approximating that of the advanced sector. This had been proven in Taiwan and Korea. But the emerging global debt crisis in the mid 1970s had already led the U.S. and the World Bank policies to shift against development. They needed to show that population could be reduced while still keeping a nation in economic backwardness. Thailand became a test case for this plan.

The Thai government provided its full support. Free condoms, pills, and sterilizations were soon being promoted. Sterilization has become the most common method. Private physicians receive a government bonus for each sterilization procedure they perform, either male or female.

The results

Of the 1,312 villages in the Province of Chiang Mai, over 50% had fewer than 9 births per year by 1986. In 25 villages, there were no births at all, and in 255 villages, there were fewer than 4 births. These are all villages that supported a school system, with an average of over 20 students per year in each class. Dr. Tieng reports that in the district of Doisaket, of the 59 schools, 8 have simply closed down, 18 have fewer than 9 children per class, while only 14 still have 20 students or more per grade level.

While the death rate in Thailand has remained at the relatively low level of 6 per thousand, the decrease in the birth rate has created a dramatic shift in the age structure of the population. An increasing ratio of the population is old, with a smaller percentage of working people to sustain the greater social cost of the aged. Because of the actual fall in

the overall population, the death rate has reached 13-15 per thousand in these villages. Dr. Tieng concludes that if this continues, the population collapse will accelerate "until in the end the villages must submit to extinction, while others lie in ruins."

The 'Condom King'

The infamous Mechai Viravaidya, known variously as "Mr. Contraceptive" or the "Condom King," became the symbol of the population control mafia, both within Thailand and internationally. Mechai is close to Henry Kissinger, serves on the executive board of the genocidal World Wildlife Fund, and became a spokesman for the draconian "Chinese model" of birth control, visiting the People's Republic of China and showing graphic Chinese films to Thai audiences on coercive techniques used to force women to undergo abortions.

While also promoting his own rise in the government bureaucracy and maintaining close relations with the Thai Royal Family, Mechai ran "vasectomy fairs" in Bangkok and elsewhere, blew up condoms like balloons in international forums, wore condom buttons, and other such boorish stunts. Behind the circus routines, Mechai was provided funds in 1983 by the Population Crisis Committee, run by William Draper, to set up a particularly repulsive form of economic coercion to force compliance with birth control measures by the peasantry.

Starting in the impoverished northeast region of Thailand, Mechai's Population and Community Development Association (PDA) set up a loan service in a series of villages. These loans, of only \$80-200 each, were used to merely sustain the peasants in the poorest area of the country. At first they were granted to anyone who needed the money. "However," says the Draper Fund Report from December 1986, "as the fund became established and the promotion of family planning grew, contraceptive use became an increasingly important factor in the loan review process." After two years, "75% of all village households had received at least one loan," and "contraceptive practice jumped from 46% to 75% of all married women." This was accomplished with a total of only \$72,000 worth of loans! The project was subsequently expanded into other parts of the country.

In addition to the "birth control" aspect of demographic collapse, is the fact that Thailand faces one of the worst AIDS pandemics in the world. In the same northern province of Chiang Mai debilitated demographically by the population control policies, four out of five prostitutes carry the HIV virus, and 14% of the men are infected. Nationwide the problem is only slightly less severe. With over 300,000 Thais infected, and with nearly one-half million visits to brothels per day, the World Health Organization predicts hundreds of thousands of deaths by the turn of the century, with other estimates reaching as high as 5 million infected by that time.