

Earth Summit to usher in population control frenzy

by Kathleen Klenetsky

The United Nations-sponsored global environmental conference slated to convene in Rio de Janeiro this June, will be a "watershed event" in the malthusian campaign to enforce mandatory population reduction on the world's countries, especially on those of the developing sector. That is the expectation of leading figures in the international population control lobby, who hope that the U.N. Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) will achieve global acceptance for the fraudulent view that population growth destroys the environment.

What that will mean concretely for Third World nations can be seen in the case of Brazil, a major target of the population control zealots ever since Henry Kissinger authored the notorious 1974 National Security Study Memorandum 200, which laid out the U.S. strategy for slashing population growth in the developing sector as a "national security" goal. In Brazil, 25 million women have been sterilized, largely through programs run by the U.S. State Department's Agency for International Development.

Or it can be seen in the case of the People's Republic of China, where the communist dictatorship has enforced a one-child per family policy, killing millions of unborn children and producing an economically disastrous distortion in the population pyramid as a result.

The Earth Summit "will be the first time that the integral relationship between environment, population, and resource consumption will be explicitly acknowledged," said one long-time anti-population activist echoing the thesis of the Kissinger NSSM 200. "Until recently," said the activist who used to hold a high-level State Department post, "developing countries were not paying much attention to the issue of environmental degradation. But the emergence of global warming and the ozone hole has now made it possible to persuade them that they have to limit their population, or face an environmental catastrophe."

If these expectations are met, it will be due in large part to the actions of the Bush administration, which, in league with Great Britain, managed to place the



The World Bank gave money to the government of Jamaica to run “family planning” programs; signs such as this, which drill in the idea of the “unwanted” child, are seen throughout the country. Inset: Henry Kissinger, who sees Third World population growth as a “security threat” to the United States.



issue of population onto the Rio agenda.

Prior to the third UNCED Preparatory Committee, which took place last August in Geneva, population was not even up for discussion at the Earth Summit. The Group of 77, representing 125 developing countries, had opposed the inclusion of the subject. Many G-77 member states had already been victimized by U.S. population control programs, and feared that permitting the population issue to be raised at the Rio conference in June would mean a new round of demands that they impose birth-control and sterilization measures on their people.

That began to change with the second preparatory meeting in 1991. According to a source close to the negotiations, the U.S. delegation to Preppcomm II argued that to solve the world’s environmental problems, it was essential for UNCED to examine the interrelationship among population growth, technology, and consumption levels, and their allegedly deleterious effect on the environment.

Until then, UNCED Secretary General Maurice Strong had kept his silence on the population issue, carefully maintaining his profile as a “friend of the Third World.” However, Strong began to be bombarded with requests that he “do something” about the population “problem.” Among those urging him to insist on including population on the Rio agenda was Richard Gardner, a former State Department official and Jimmy Carter’s ambassador to Italy. Gardner had worked closely with Strong in setting up the United Nations’s first environmental conference in

Stockholm in 1972.

Soon, a member of the UNCED Secretariat, reportedly acting under Strong’s instructions, drafted a paragraph for one of the UNCED working papers on the “linkage” between environment and population.

The paragraph—described by one participant who assisted in its development as having been written in “secretive language”—was the first reference to population in any UNCED document. Its contents were immediately endorsed by Assistant Secretary of State Buff Bohlen, head of the U.S. delegation.

Getting the language into an official UNCED paper was a “major breakthrough,” which “made it possible to have a much larger entree into the subject of overpopulation and the environment at the Preppcomm III in August [1991],” says a leading population control official involved in the UNCED process.

‘Overpopulation’ for ‘overconsumption’

At Preppcomm III the U.S. and Britain, backed by Venezuela, mounted a campaign to make “population” an official agenda item for the Rio meeting, overriding Third World hesitation by promising to couple “overpopulation” in the South with “overconsumption” in the North.

Nancy Carter, coordinator of the State Department’s Office of Population Affairs and a member of the U.S. delegation at Preppcomm III, told the story of how the United States pulled this off in a recent interview with *21st Century Science*

and *Technology* magazine (see *Documentation*). Her account was verified by Ambassador Robert Ryan, one of the U.S. diplomats assigned to the UNCED negotiations.

According to Carter, Buff Bohlen spearheaded a "strong

U.N. plots next world population conference

Population activists see the Earth Summit as a stage-setter for the 1994 U.N. World Population Conference. Rio will be "important not so much for what is accomplished there, but for how it will shape the environment," says Alexander Winslow of Population-Environment Balance.

In a Jan. 28 speech sponsored by the Earth Summit Committee of UNCED, Population Institute President Werner Fornos observed that the full integration of "population concerns" into the UNCED agenda are "a positive starting point for an international consensus on the population/environment/development interlinkages and for establishing priorities that will be developed more fully during the preparation process for the 1994 United Nations Conference on Population and Development." That view is shared by the State Department, which is already planning for the 1994 population event.

The U.N. has already set a theme for the conference: "Population, Sustained Economic Growth and Sustainable Development." Charlotte Hoehn of Germany, chairman of the U.N.'s Population Commission, wants the meeting to draft a second version of the 1974 World Population Plan.

According to the *U.N. Chronicle*, the 1994 conference agenda will likely include such topics as: "regionalization of persistent high rates of population growth"; "the demographic impact of . . . AIDS"; "the aging of populations" and the "demographic collapse of the post-transitional societies"; the "population and sustainable development"; "continuing unmet family planning needs"; and "population policy implementation."

In advance of the conference, the Population Commission has called on the "international community [to] reiterate its support of the World Population Plan of Action and pay special attention to the reports 'Our Common Future,' and 'Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond,' particularly on population issues."

U.S. intervention" on the population issue at Prepcomm III, which included issuing two important position papers on the subject. One, the "Statement by the U.S. Delegation on Poverty, Environmental Degradation, Sustainability, Health, and Education," urged massive new population control efforts.

"National governments must move now to stem rapid population growth," the statement asserted. "Collaborative international commitment to stabilize such growth can also influence effective and concrete national action."

The document stated that the U.S. "seek[s] as an Agenda 21 goal [Agenda 21 is the "action plan" slated to come out of Rio] the integration of population considerations into the design of national economic goals and strategies, so as to better correlate population growth and distribution with development resources and infrastructure capacity."

As a result of the U.S. intervention, the UNCED Secretariat has produced a paper, not yet made public, which, according to a source who has seen it, "deals with the subject of population and poverty, population and consumption, and the interrelationship of population and the environment."

The U.S. was delighted over its victory at Geneva. Shortly after Prepcomm III ended, Nancy Carter sent out a "Dear Colleague" letter, crowing that "population issues were well-integrated into the Agenda 21 structure and have been accepted as part of the UNCED deliberations." The subject of population pressures, she added, will "form part of the four final decision documents" expected to be produced by the Earth Summit.

'Brilliant tactic'

The United States and its co-conspirators managed to overcome Third World recalcitrance to the population issue with a simple ruse: In exchange for G-77 agreement to include Third World "overpopulation" at Rio, the U.S.-led advanced sector would agree to include a discussion of its "overconsumption" and its contribution to developing sector poverty.

"This was a brilliant tactic," commented one person who participated at Prepcomm II. "By putting all these things in one paper, and by putting it together in a way that interested the G-77, with all the references to Third World poverty and overconsumption, we were able to do what we hadn't been able to before, get population into the official Rio debate." With this accomplished, "I am convinced that Rio will come out very well" on the population question, he added.

The agreement to discuss "overpopulation" in the developing sector if "overconsumption" in the developed sector is also raised, is an absurd proposition on the face of it. The population density of highly industrialized western Europe and Japan far exceeds that of most developing countries—especially the poorest countries of Africa.

The obvious point is that high levels of infrastructure,

high-technology industry, and highly mechanized agriculture are capable of sustaining far higher levels of population than exist in the developing countries today. The requirement is not to export Third World poverty to the advanced sector—actually the lawful outcome of George Bush's free trade war cry—but to export infrastructure and technology to the developing countries.

That is precisely the proposal delineated in the call for a "True Fourth Development Decade" issued by the Schiller Institute to the United Nations General Assembly in September 1991. The institute's "Development Decade," designed under the direction of American statesman Lyndon LaRouche, stands today as the alternative to the malthusian dogma-dominated the U.N. and its associated one-world organizations, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

'Hot and heavy' Prepcomm IV

The final determination of what the Earth Summit will agree upon will be made at the fourth and last preparatory committee meeting, which opens in New York this March. According to State's Nancy Carter, these negotiations will be "hot and heavy"; the Rio summit will merely rubberstamp the decisions taken at Prepcomm IV.

Carter has been holding strategy sessions at the State Department to strengthen the U.S. position on population going into the meeting.

According to an official of one of the leading population control groups in Washington, a group of population/environmental NGOs (non-governmental organizations), including the National Wildlife Federation, the Population Crisis Committee, Zero Population Growth, and Planned Parenthood, met with Carter at the State Department on Jan. 24. The meeting's purpose was to coordinate official U.S. government strategy for Prepcomm IV with the extensive lobbying efforts the NGO apparatus is expected to deploy there. "We went over the working documents that touched on the population issue with a fine-tooth comb," one participant reported.

On Jan. 27, Carter met with the Council for Environmental Quality and other branches of the Bush administration to report on the discussion, and a final population strategy session involving the population NGOs and the official U.S. delegation to Prepcomm IV will take place in Washington Feb. 10.

It is urgent that the "overconsumption" for "overpopulation" equation, which the governments of developing countries appear to have been hoodwinking into accepting, be undone at Prepcomm IV. Otherwise, Rio will, in the words of a leading zero-growth activist, "usher in a whole new era of massive population control," in which population reduction becomes an absolute "conditionality" imposed by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank on the developing countries.

Kissinger's success in depopulating Brazil

by Silvia Palacios and Lorenzo Carrasco

Preliminary 1991 census data give irrefutable proof of the success of the racist policies planned by the Anglo-American establishment and implemented by the Brazilian oligarchy starting from the 1970s, under the direct coordination of then-Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. Kissinger abruptly canceled his planned visit for last October, fearing popular fury especially from black people who suffered most directly the effects of the policy of depopulation by forced sterilization, which was elaborated under his orders. The contents of this policy were shaped in the National Security Study Memorandum NSSM-200 of 1974, which demanded the application of severe birth control programs in 13 nations of the Third World, particularly targeting Brazil because, in the establishment's racist view, its population growth allegedly threatens U.S. strategic interests.

The census, which was retracted under political pressures by those applying the birth control programs, thus pretending to hide the horrible truth of having sterilized 20 million women of childbearing years, dramatically confirms that the "best" scenario envisaged by the National Security Council had been fulfilled. It was the worst for the would-be South American industrial giant, for population is the most vital sign for any nation aspiring to development and social justice. On Feb. 5, Eduardo Guimaraes, president of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), announced at a press conference that the Brazilian population is 146 million inhabitants, 7 million fewer than projected. The demographic hecatomb will be seen more clearly in the year 2000, when Brazil's population loss will surpass 30 million with respect to historical growth rates, as *EIR* announced one year ago (Figure 1).

The decline of the fertility rate projected for the year 2000—1.5 children per woman—yields an index below the replacement rate, or negative population growth, as the genocidal Club of Rome went around preaching. Whereas in the 1960-70 decade the average fertility rate was 6 children, in 1970-80 it went down to 4.5, and in 1980-90 it was under 3. If this trend continues, the tragic result will be of an aging population and a birth rate below the level needed to replace existing population (Figure 2).