

Peace" program, which incorporate triage. When reached for comment, an aide to Sen. McGovern told a reporter that McGovern's office was currently debating whether or not McGovern would "come out openly for triage."

Simultaneously, Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy will introduce a bill which will grant "amnesty" to all so-called illegal Mexicans who can prove that they have been living in the U.S. for three or more years. All others will be rounded up and shipped back to Mexico, and aide to Senator Kennedy explained.

The movement against "illegal immigrants", heavily played up in the press this past week, is simply another side to population control. Already H.R. 981, an immigration bill introduced by Peter Rodino (D-NJ), has passed both Houses and was reluctantly signed by President Ford on Oct. 20, Zero Population Growth's National Reporter reports. The bill establishes revised quotas for the Western hemisphere, specifically reducing the number of available visas for Mexicans from 42,000 to 20,000 — a more than 50 per cent reduction. Another new

law, H. R. 14535, will not allow an illegal alien mother to benefit by her child's U.S. citizenship until the child is 20 years of age and able to petition to legally have its mother enter the United States.

In tandem, the Government Accounting Office (GAO) recommends "a comprehensive and coordinated" evaluation of U.S. immigration policy in a new report titled "Immigration — Need to Reassess U. S. Policy," according to the *National Reporter*. The Department of State concurred with the GAO's findings and elaborated on the need for such a reassessment by stating "it is now almost thirty years since the last systematic study of United States immigration policy and procedures was conducted." Tying immigration to population policy, the State Department spokesman commented that "international movement of people for both temporary and permanent purposes, both legally and illegally, has become a major international issues and, with the continuing rapid and largely uncontrolled growth in the world's population, will become an increasingly critical one."

An Interview with James Scheuer

Dec. 29 — The following is an interview held this week with Representative James Scheuer (D-N. Y.)

Q: What made you decide to take your recent trip to Africa and to review the problem of population control?

Scheuer: With the exception of the Ivory Coast, the underdeveloped world has malnutrition, disease, a lack of jobs. A decade ago they were food exporters, not now. The population growth has doubled in 18-20 years. This dooms all other programs to failure. They can't double food production and facilities. It is a desperate and tragic treadmill they are on. They are ready to get a handle on this — that is family planning — and some governments are beginning to do it publicly. In Kenya, Kenyatta has a national policy for population planning. Next door in Tanzania they have no policy. But although they have no public policy they have 2,400 rural child-health clinics with contraception facilities and we send packages from the Agency for International Development that cost us \$300 each. They are training hundreds of health workers, though they have no statement of national policy.

Q: Why do they not have a stated national policy?

Scheuer: There are two reasons. First, the health profession is volatile in state politics in the developing world and if a chief executive embraced it and then changed, the next person would wipe out all he had done. The second reason is that although millions of women are desperate to stop producing kids, there are still tribal, religious and cultural reasons against this. So, rather than get the demagogues in a country angry, the leaders are quietly doing it. You couldn't have talked about this a year ago. In Dakar (Senegal —ed.), the President is a Catholic with 8-10 kids and in the last week in October when I was there, AID was setting up the design and

structure of what will be a national family planning program. The Minister of Health is running the program there.

Q: How are these cultural, tribal and religious taboos overcome?

Scheuer: Well the Ford Foundation has a research project; there are two Americans in Accra, Ghana. They are studying the impact on birth rates of the dying out of tribal practices that promoted family planning. In ancient times, the women would leave their husbands when they had a child till they finished breast feeding, or a member of the family would move in and keep the husband away from the wife. As the families moved from the country to the city, there was an increase in birth rates. The guy jumps on his wife the day after she gives birth. So the Ford Foundation is spending a quarter of a million dollars researching this.

Q: How was the opposition of the tribal chiefs broken?

Scheuer: The tribal chiefs who opposed this get bigger representation and bigger amounts of money. They are now coopted into family planning. They get orientation sessions. We tell them that the development programs will fail without family planning.

Q: What about the opposition of religious groups?

Scheuer: The chiefs' reservations have diminished. The church — well much of the family planning is done through the Catholic and Protestant missions. In Tanzania, in Dar Es Salaam, an American sister of the Tarrytown Order of Maryknoll showed me a batik factory, then said to me, "This is not my real work; I run family-planning clinics, I give out IUDs, condoms, pills. You don't think any of us around here believe that old stuff do you?"

Q: What about the opposition to family planning from people who say that even more people are actually needed if development is to take place, that people are necessary to actualize that development?

Scheuer: Africa is family planning ready. The industrialization process is capital and energy intensive and incredibly expensive. In a rational allocation of money, money would go for land reclamation and family planning. The argument that we don't have a people problem but a land problem is as phoney as a \$3 bill. You can't raise money for land reclamation from the developing world and do it to keep up with population increases. We would need roads and transport to get to the people and this would be enormously expensive. It isn't going to happen. There is no way on earth that the Sahel could keep 50 million people.

Time has run out on Africa. They must get with it or they will be forced to contemplate the programs of Egypt and India where there are draconian measures of forced sterilization.

Q: Do you think that the religious, tribal and cultural problems have been fully erased?

Scheuer: Well, a Jesuit priest is the head of family planning in Zaire. He heads the Department of Demography at the University of Zaire; his name is Father Bouti. He was trained at Princeton and he is the intellectual driving force behind their family planning program. The Moslems have been coopted, some of their leaders. They were given titular roles in the family planning operations and they were paid a little.

Q: Have you been active in this in the U.S.?

Scheuer: I was the author of the 1970 Population and Research Act that rationalized our family planning program here. I also added the amendment that made family planning part of the War on Poverty program (of the Johnson administration).

Q: Did the State Department help in your trip to Africa?

Scheuer: It was worked out with them — with Marshall Green who is the coordinator of the State Department Population Affairs Division and with Ray Ravenholt who heads their Office of Population. They arranged it and they set up the meetings with our AID people, ambassadors, etc. I was amenable to going.

Q: How will you act on your findings now in the new Congress?

Scheuer: I'm sponsoring a Select Committee on Population Affairs. The problem is not just Africa but Latin America and Asia as well. On Jan. 1, I will release a resolution to create a Select Committee on Population Explosion. It authorizes an investigation into the adverse effects of current growth rates; approaches that are effective in coopting excessive growth; and ways to encourage countries with excessive growth rates to not encourage this. I have co-sponsors: Jim Wright, Mel Price, Udall, John Rhodes, Michel, Anderson, Ashbrook, Conte, Conable, Fenwick, McCloskey, Fish, Quie, Buchanan, Kemp, Lent, Clarence Long, Moss, Waggonner, Pryor, Rangel, Dodd, Fraser, Burke, Rosenthal, Aspin, Burton, Bolling, Collins, Chisholm, Conyers, Jordan, Dellums, Metcalf. I haven't asked Bergland or Young yet.

Q: Do you agree with Sen. McGovern's plan to have food aid depend on family planning programs?

Scheuer: I don't think you should give aid on a coercion basis, but where it has the best chance of being effective and so doing things that would make it more effective. There should be extra consideration for money where things are done such as fair land practices. The Committee that we hope will be set up will have members of other committees that have jurisdictional oversight over various aspects, such as crime, international relations, government operations, foreign aid, health, banking, and education, that relate to problems caused by overpopulation.

Q: How does the Immigration Committee relate to that?

Scheuer: Well there are 6-8 million illegal Mexicans and several million illegal Caribbeans and the impact that these illegals have on the quality of life here is important. A comprehensive look is necessary. We are starved for money to man the borders. Green is urging the Administration to do an action program on family planning. Ravenholt thinks the answer is sprinkling condoms from a helicopter. He's wrong because they won't let you in the countries to do that unless it is part of a comprehensive health program. Then you have the question of inducing the Mexicans to have more cooperation with us on the illegal alien question and thus the Mexican government ought to institute family planning. It's affecting development programs of all kinds.