

The Environmental Agenda Task Force was personally established by RBF Chairman Laurance Rockefeller, a leading Board member of the Natural Resources Defense Council, a Task Force participant. The Task Force was formed last July only days after Jimmy Carter wrangled the Democratic Party nomination. The report was first publicized about two weeks after Carter's inauguration and only hours before his "fireside chat" on energy policy.

To insure that the Task Force document would be ready on time Rockefeller personally drafted leading zero growth propagandists, including Lester Brown (Worldwatch Institute), Amory Lovins (Friends of the Earth), Donella Meadows (Club of Rome) and even himself to write the bulk of the book's 10 chapters.

According to RBF staffer Gerald D. Barney, Rocke-

feller hopes to use the Task Force, whose members represent the 12 largest environmental groups, along with the other leading environmentalists who participated in the project as the core of a large "united front" organization which would lobby for the recommendations listed in *The Unfinished Agenda*. While all of these groups have basically adopted the anti-nuclear energy perspective, both in terms of the economy and population, there are differences in emphasis, particularly between the so-called radical wing, Zero Population Growth, Environmental Action, Friends of the Earth, etc., and those considered more traditional, Sierra Club, National Audubon Society, etc. While in practice these differences are miniscule, Laurance Rockefeller wants to turn this presently loose coalition into a highly centralized and *fascist* movement.

'Some Of The Kids Aren't Going To Make It'

The following is an interview with Gerald O. Barney, editor of the Unfinished Agenda and coordinator of the Environmental Agenda Task Force. Mr. Barney is on the staff of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

Q: How do you expect to get the recommendations in the *Unfinished Agenda* implemented?

A: Right now I am writing a memo proposing that the Task Force stay together. The main thing is to get the organizations together to lobby. We need to set aside a number of people to closely monitor Congress...We must be prepared to make a united front.

Q: How do you think Congress will relate to the recommendations of the report?

A: Well we have some Friends on the Hill. (Rep.) John Dingill, for example, invited us to use the Caucus Room of the House's Cannon Building. Percy, Ottinger and others are favorable. Also the Rockefeller Brothers Fund is buying 5,000 copies of the Task Force book and will be sending it to every member of Congress, plus distributing widely to government, business and labor.

Q: What about the Administration. How will they respond?

A: If you heard Stu Eizenstadt's speech, you would know where the Administration stands. His speech was damn good....

Q: I understand that President Carter will announce a national energy policy in April. Will it contain any of the report's recommendations? I'm particularly interested in this idea of an energy tax and, of course, nuclear energy.

A: We're working on this. Carter is quite receptive on the energy tax and also on conservation in general. Recently, he's been a little equivocal on nuclear energy. If he goes along with the breeder reactor program, he'll certainly get a lot of flak from us. I know Laurance Rockefeller has particular concern around the nuclear question....we're going to put a lot of pressure on him....We think he'll respond.

Q: Many of the recommendations — like eliminating personal tax exemptions, high energy prices, etc., won't be very popular with the public. How do you expect to rally support?

A: We are raising unpopular issues — unpopular but necessary....These are tough things we have to do. It's the children from 0-10 that we are really talking about. Some of them may not make it.