

National News

Ecologists demand shift in space science

Top environmentalists are attempting to shift the philosophical and scientific outlook of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration from basic scientific research to giving support to a slew of anti-scientific hoaxes. The new direction was outlined for top NASA and NOAA scientists at a conference on "Climate Change" the week of Sept. 18 in Washington, D.C.

The keynote speech was given by Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.), who said that the greatest threat to nature is population growth. Frank Press, head of the National Academy of Sciences and former science adviser to President Carter, agreed, and said, "The desire of the growing populations of the Third World to achieve the affluent standard of living of the advanced sector is really unsustainable."

Other speakers included Alan Bromley, President Bush's science adviser; John Knauss, the new head of NOAA; administration officials; and leaders of the World Resources Institute and other environmentalist groups.

The audience, mainly senior researchers at NASA and NOAA who believe that the much-ballyhooed "greenhouse effect" and "ozone depletion" are hoaxes, were brought to Washington to be told where their funding will be channeled.

One "dissident" at the conference was Gregg Easterbrook, contributing editor of *Newsweek* magazine, who told conferees, "The role of man is to safeguard life," and "nature can take care of itself." Easterbrook pointed out that climate change was not necessarily bad, since "we are here because of climate change." He warned that nature should not be worshiped, and that for 4 billion years the Earth had proven to be quite tough.

Easterbrook read a written question for Frank Press submitted by *21st Century Science and Technology* magazine. Since "volcanoes emit over 36 million tons of chlorine

every year into the atmosphere . . . 48 times more chlorine than all the chlorine contained in chlorofluorocarbons," the question read, "would it not be advisable to do the research and plug a few volcanoes, rather than ban CFCs?" The question sent the audience into gales of laughter.

Regan proposes scheme to stop drug money

Donald Regan, former Treasury Secretary and White House Chief of Staff during the Reagan administration, proposed a plan to attack drug-money laundering, in a commentary entitled, "The Color of Money Can Stop Drugs," in the Sept. 18 *New York Times*.

The nub of the problem is the laundering of dirty cash, Regan says. He therefore proposes that the United States should "quietly print new \$50 and \$100 bills—either of a different color, or size, than the current ones. Then with only a 10-day warning, we should make all \$50 and \$100 bills obsolete. . . . Everyone would have to exchange their large bills for new ones." Bingo! The money-launderers would be caught.

Regan also proposes that the top 200 U.S. banks cooperate with the Comptroller of the Currency by reporting suspected drug dealers and record all cash transactions over \$1,000. "If our government is going all out to fight a war on drugs, bankers should be the first to join in," he concluded.

That Regan would be claiming to join the war on drugs has raised eyebrows. Before coming to the White House, he headed Merrill Lynch, a firm which was not only barred by the London Stock Exchange from its management committee because of "disreputable practices," but was cited by a November 1984 report by the President's Commission on Organized Crime as one of the premier Wall Street financial institutions to open its doors to the dope mafia, both during and after Regan's tenure as chairman. An *EIR* exposé entitled "Donald Regan and the fine art of laundering dollars" (April 25, 1986), placed Merrill Lynch in the middle

of drug-money laundering.

Analysts have also pointed out that Regan's plan, if implemented, would swiftly collapse the dollar, as drug dollars fled into other currencies.

Kissinger says Soviets no first strike threat

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger proclaimed that "the Soviet Union is in no condition to launch an all-out surprise attack on the U.S.," during an interview with Cable Network News on Sept. 16.

Kissinger said that, as a result of this and other factors, "the military approach to East-West relations is coming to an end for the first time in the post-war period."

"The situation in the East bloc is now the most fluid in the post-war period," Kissinger said, adding that the key for the U.S. in the visit of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze "will be to determine how the Soviets view events that are unfolding in Eastern Europe."

When asked to comment on an article in the *Wall Street Journal* which charged that Kissinger's political comments on Communist China were colored by his business investments there (see article, page 61), Kissinger snorted back, "This is an outrage. It is intimidation by people who are trying to disgrace me in order to keep me from presenting my views."

CIA chief says allies are threat, not Soviets

Director of Central Intelligence William Webster indicated in a major policy address on Sept. 20 that the CIA was moving away from primary concentration on the Cold War and focus on the Soviet Union, and toward greater concentration on the alleged threat posed to the U.S. by "economic competition" from its allies. The London *Guardian* reported that his comments have "intrigued

Western European and Japanese diplomats in the United States by hinting that traditional allies who are also economic rivals are becoming intelligence targets."

Speaking to the World Affairs Council in Los Angeles, Webster stated: "Our political and military allies are also our economic competitors. The national security implications of a competitor's ability to create, capture or control markets of the future are very significant. . . . The intelligence community looks at these developments from a strategic perspective, examining what is occurring, the forces at play, and the ways that actions taken abroad can directly and indirectly affect our national security interests."

Noting that there is increased "Japanese and European surplus capital" being deployed to finance the U.S. trade and fiscal deficits and being used for productive investment, he warned that "this new financial environment is also creating some potential risks."

Police state justice suffers setbacks

Mail-fraud and racketeering convictions against former Washington State Senate Majority Leader Gordon Walgren were overturned on Sept. 13 by a three-judge panel of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. The panel also ordered a federal judge in Seattle to rehear Walgren's request for a new trial on one remaining conviction—interstate wire fraud for a single phone call from Oregon to Washington.

Walgren has spent nine years fighting this frameup. The National Democratic Policy Committee, a political action committee representing the Lyndon LaRouche wing of the Democratic Party, had issued a pamphlet exposing the police state nature of the prosecution against Walgren.

The appeals court found that the conviction under the RICO (racketeering) statute cannot be based solely on a single act. The basis for overturning the mail fraud count was the precedent set in the case of former

Maryland Gov. Marvin Mandel in 1987, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the 118-year-old federal mail fraud law had been applied too broadly.

The federal government's scapegoating of savings and loan institutions also suffered a setback, when its case against Empire S&L ended in a mistrial in Lubbock, Texas on Sept. 15. Co-defendants D.L. Faulkner, former Garland, Texas Mayor James L. Toler, and five others are accused of heading a conspiracy to steal \$135 million from Empire and four other S&Ls in 1982-83. Among the counts against them was one of racketeering, which would have allowed the government to confiscate their assets in advance of trial.

Toler's attorney, Mike Fawer, called the mistrial "an absolutely crushing defeat for the government," whose strategy was to win the two cases considered the most blatant, Empire and Vernon S&L, and use those victories to force plea bargains elsewhere.

Pentagon assessment deflates Soviet threat

The U.S. Department of Defense will officially change its assessment of the Soviet Union and the threat which it represents to the United States when it releases its 1989 edition of *Soviet Military Power*, the *Washington Times* reported on Sept. 18.

"It's official: The Soviet Union has become a 'challenge' rather than a 'threat,'" the *Times* said.

Soviet Military Power, published annually by the Pentagon, was first published in 1981 and was entitled *Soviet Military Power: An Assessment of the Threat*. This year's edition is entitled, *Soviet Military Power: Prospects for Change*. The first chapter is "Nature of the Soviet Challenge," instead of last year's title, "Nature of the Soviet Threat."

Scheduled to be released in the spring of each year, the book is already six months late in coming out, which some Washington observers view as a reassessment forced on the Pentagon by the Bush administration.

Briefly

● **MORDECHAI LEVY**, the FBI-controlled terrorist who heads the Jewish Defense Organization, was released on \$25,000 bail on Sept. 11. He was arrested in August for attempted murder in a Greenwich Village shootout, and was twice denied bail previously.

● **OPERATION RESCUE** head Randall Terry on Sept. 14 denounced the use of the racketeering (RICO) laws as unconstitutional, and said the legal prosecution of his anti-abortion group was financial warfare being used to destroy it.

● **GLEN MAULDIN**, the administrative aide to former Sen. Chic Hecht (R-Nev.), was indicted in Texas as a result of an investigation code-named "Operation Dundead" on Sept. 14, on charges that he used his congressional offices to obtain federal approval of several Texas savings and loan deals.

● **THE U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS** Commission asked the Department of Justice on Sept. 15 to investigate charges of police brutality against anti-abortion demonstrators in West Hartford, Connecticut, Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, and other cities.

● **GEORGE BUSH** has agreed to be the keynote speaker and serve as the honorary chairman of "Globe-scope Pacific," an environmentalist conference organized by the Global Tomorrow coalition on the theme of "Our Common Future," which opens on Oct. 31 in Los Angeles and which will feature a host of zero population growth advocates.

● **MICHAEL MILIKEN'S** lawyers asked a federal judge on Sept. 13 to order the government to halt "a constant stream" of leaks to the press which they contend threatens the indicted junk bond trader's right to a fair trial and have turned confidential grand jury proceedings into "a spectator sport."