

EIR Feature

LaRouche: repeal Gorbachov's Clean Air Act

by Marcia Merry

Lyndon LaRouche, the political prisoner running for U.S. Congress in Virginia's 10th District, has called for repeal of the Clean Air act, if it becomes law, calling it the "Gorbachov Clean Air Act." In a statement issued April 10, he said, "I want to take the lead in committing myself, as a candidate, to the repeal of the Clean Air Bill—the Gorbachov Clean Air Bill, and to have, instead, economic recovery bills."

The Clean Air Bill, passed out of the U.S. Senate on April 3 and now making its way through the House of Representatives, is a landmark act of stupidity by the legislative branch and the Bush administration. But much worse is involved.

The "Gorbachov Clean Air Act" is in reality a set of regulations whose known impact in terms of shutting down the United States basic economy is part of the deal struck by the Reagan-Bush team with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov at the end of 1988. At that time, the issue of the supremacy of controls over an economy, in the name of environmentalism, was part of the talks on relations in the superpower condominium, involving rights over regions of the world shared and delineated between the United States and the Soviet Empire.

The Gorbachov Clean Air Act, if implemented, will result in at least 750,000 jobs lost in forced industry shutdowns; 5,000 coal-mining jobs lost immediately, an expense of at least \$21 billion a year for scrubbers and various emissions control equipment on smokestacks, cars, and light trucks; and much more economic havoc.

In his address to the United Nations on Dec. 7, 1988, Gorbachov explicitly made the priority environmentalism over industry. Immediately after Bush's inauguration and the jailing of LaRouche in January 1989, the new President set into motion the appointments to his administration, and the initiatives in the Executive Branch and in Congress, which would follow through on his part of the bargain to use environmentalism to dismantle the productive potential of the United States economy as a means of placating Moscow.

Every aspect of the Clean Air Act—its origins, and its content, its speed of passage so far—shows it to be part of an international strategic dirty deal. In his



The thuggish Mikhail Gorbachov at his December 1988 United Nations appearance, where he proclaimed the "green" goals of the emerging superpower condominium.

April 10 call for repeal of the bill, LaRouche stressed that the bill in no way is merely the final outcome of years of lobbying by American "grassroots" constituents, concerned over air quality. That is a myth. After all, if achieving clean air were the objective, then *more* technology and rising living standards would be called for, because these are the means of maintaining and improving the ecology. Poverty and declining technology degrade both populations and the environment.

Russia's cultural inferiority

"The point behind Moscow's insistence on the deal," LaRouche said, "is that the Russians don't trust the West to be destroyed adequately, as an economic-military power, unless they're under the kind of international environmentalist control embodied in the Clean Air Act. Whatever economic activity is still left in the United States that could foster technological progress—and however decrepit it may be, the Russians want it shut down." He added that the Russians would also like to see it shut down in West Germany and Japan, and would like to have environmentalist agreements there too, to that effect.

Why the perceived threat from Western technological progress? Besides the obvious point of sheer military counterforce, LaRouche pointed out that "the deeper threat is that the Russians—the Great Russians—cannot keep pace with technological progress, because they are culturally inferior. They can't stand technological progress in the West, because they cannot keep up; they can't assimilate it. That does not

mean that the Russian scientists cannot generate advances; but the Russian people, the *raskolniki*, cannot assimilate it, because of their cultural inferiority to the West."

That is the essential background to understanding why the Bush administration's Gorbachov Clean Air Bill is whizzing through Congress. Rep. Don Ritter (R-Pa.), a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, wrote in the April 10 *Washington Times* that "the legislative process [around the Clean Air Bill] is moving like a speeding bullet. There's virtually no 'sunshine' on the process—hundred-page documents are presented for votes moments after they're written by small cliques. In 11 years in Congress, I've not seen anything like this one. The deals have been cut, and the American worker, consumer, motorist, ratepayer, and taxpayer were not part of the process."

As of April 12, no copy of the bill, as passed by the Senate April 3, had yet been printed up for government officials or the public!

The autocratic carry-through on this bill shows that the policymaking processes of the Bush administration are the reincarnation of those of the Trilateral Commission Carter administration. Indeed, on performance, the Bush administration is far worse than the Carter administration, in terms of long-term impact on the United States. In his call for repeal, LaRouche observed, "The Bush administration is softer on Moscow; it's insane; and it is more Trilateral than the Carter administration. Carter was constrained by the fact that there were still some constituency forces left in the nation"—the remnants of the nuclear industry, for example.

A "Trilateral Commission" government is, by definition, incompetent. Over recent decades, the Trilateral Commission policy initiatives have repeatedly backed "restructuring" Western economies in ways that are shutting down the very basis of physical output of goods and services, upon which society's existence depends. Trilateral policies include "downscaling" agriculture production and food reserves, "deregulating" industry and services, and imposing killing austerity. This has characterized the Reagan-Bush foreign as well as domestic policies.

"Essentially," LaRouche emphasized, "the Bush administration is a Kissinger administration in terms of policy, especially all aspects of diplomatic and foreign policy, Third World policy, and so forth." (LaRouche pointed out that there are in fact three sexes: men, women, and Trilaterals.)

Back to the Stone Age

Just to rub it in, Gorbachov chose Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, 1988, to deliver his "back to the Stone Age" declaration to the United Nations General Assembly. Gorbachov said that the "old patterns of industrialization" must be scrapped *in toto*, in favor of a one-world system of "environmentally clean" production. "The scientific and technological revolution has turned many economic, food, energy, environmental, information, and population problems, which only recently we treated as national or regional ones, into global problems.

"Today, the preservation of any kind of 'closed' societies is hardly possible. This calls for a radical review of approaches to the totality of the problems of international cooperation as a major element of universal security.

"The world economy is becoming a single organism, and no state, whatever its social system or economic status, can normally develop outside it. . . . At the same time, the growth of the world economy reveals the contradictions and limits inherent in traditional-type industrialization. . . .

"Hence the need to begin a search for a fundamentally new type of industrial progress—one that would meet the interests of all peoples and states."

In speeches preceding Gorbachov's address, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze listed specific environmentalist issues Moscow viewed as connected to disarmament, such as "aggression against nature . . . the greenhouse effect . . . holes burnt in the ozone layer . . . acid rains . . . nuclear warheads and tons of toxic agents."

As for solutions, on Sept. 27, 1988 speaking at the United Nations, Shevardnadze was already using the Moscow environmentalist doublespeak about "the world's growing maturity, which makes it possible to pose and solve global problems on a planetary scale: the growing worldwide 'green peace' movement; shared perceptions of environmental scientists and policymakers who are becoming increasingly active as environmentalists."

Following Gorbachov's call for a one-world supranation-

al "ecologist" dictatorship, the drumbeat began in the United States for Bush to comply. *Time* magazine named Earth "Planet of the Year," in place of its usual "Man of the Year." Armand Hammer, the aging Soviet asset in the West, called the Gorbachov speech "terrific, great . . . it shows he is not interested in exporting communism." Dwayne Andreas, president of Archer Daniels Midland food giant, political heir-apparent to Hammer, and president of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Trade and Economic Council, gloated that Gorbachov's initiatives for arms reduction and his environmental concerns laid the basis for a dramatic increase in East-West economic dealings.

With Hammer and Andreas in the lead, a network of in-place East-West agencies and individuals went into high gear on implementing the environmentalist measures to undermine the U.S. economy:

- An international convocation of legal experts met in Moscow, including Attorney General Richard Thornburgh, to discuss collaboration on environmentalist and other areas of law.

- A U.S.-U.S.S.R. legal exchange program began, in which Soviet jurists are guest members of Department of Justice and other offices.

- Exchange programs on "sustainable agriculture"—i.e., low-technology, environmentally "sensitive" farming—were arranged.

Environmentalist czar Reilly

President Bush's appointment of William K. Reilly as head of the Environmental Protection Agency guaranteed the implementation of the Gorbachov demands to undercut the U.S. economy. At his press conference called last year to announce his selection as EPA head, Reilly stated outright that his priority would be to comply with Gorbachov's call for building international cooperation on environmental issues.

Similarly, James Baker made environmentalism and cooperation with the Soviet Union the themes of his first major address as Secretary of State.

Reilly's background shows the direct hand of the Trilateral Commission. Reilly came to the administration from his position as head of the joint World Wildlife Fund and Conservation Foundation. Here he was the protégé of Russell Train and William Ruckelshaus, two of the most important Establishment ecology fanatics in the United States today. Both Republicans, Train and Ruckelshaus have served as EPA directors at various times, and have made decisions on pesticides and other matters that have cost the lives of millions around the world.

A member of the Trilateral Commission and Council on Foreign Relations, Train is a close friend of Bush, and reportedly recommended Reilly for the EPA post. Reilly studied at Harvard, then worked as executive director of the Rockefeller Task Force on Land Use, and as a staff member of the President's Council on Environmental Quality.