

Bush's green agenda is deep-rooted

by Kathleen Klenetsky

President George Bush is sparing no effort in implementing the deal which he worked out with Mikhail Gorbachov in December 1988, to use "environmentalism" as a weapon against U.S. technological and economic development. With the President's avid encouragement, ecology is being put at the top of the U.S. policy agenda.

Just days after the U.S. Senate passed (with Bush's help) a so-called Clean Air Act, which some analysts believe will put as many as 3 million people out of work in the Midwest alone, Bush played host to a White House Conference on Science and Economics Research Related to Global Change, whose primary purpose was to promote the fraudulent "global warming" hypothesis.

Originally arranged at the Bush-Gorbachov summit in Malta last December, the conference, which ran from April 16-18, drew representatives from 17 countries, including the Soviet Union, as well as the European Community and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

What occurred during the meeting provided a case study in how Bush is trying to play both sides of the environmental issue—while remaining, at bottom, a full-blooded "greenie" in the mode of his idol, Theodore Roosevelt. Mindful of the political need to pay lip service to the interests of industry, administration representatives—including the President himself—took pains to adopt a "balanced" approach, asserting that economic development and environmentalism must go hand-in-hand.

This produced the expected fireworks: accusations were tossed about that Bush was not seriously committed to the radical measures allegedly required to counter "global warming"—accusations which Bush could then cite as proof that he wasn't being stampeded by the environmentalists into hasty and unnecessary measures.

Yet by the end of the conference, Bush had sided squarely with the radical ecologists. In his second speech to the meeting, Bush offered to host another conference in the future, one which would plan reductions in "global warming" pollutants. "To those who suggest we're only trying to balance economic growth and environmental protection, I say they miss the point," Bush said. "To say that this issue has sides is about as productive as saying the Earth is flat. . . . Above all, the climate change issue is not about research versus action, for we have never considered research a substitute for action."

Global stewardship

That the Bush administration is "green" to its gills, came across loud and clear in the statements made by key U.S. participants. Michael Deland, chairman of the President's Council on Environmental Quality, praised the changes that have taken place since Earth Day 1970, such as the growth of the "environmental ethic," the rejection of "the narrow views of nation-states in favor of more universal values," and "the beginnings of a global stewardship for global quality of life."

Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady boasted that the President "has taken the lead in focusing national attention on global climate change issues," by, among other steps, formulating such general guidelines as: "First, nations can't afford to wait for a final resolution of the scientific uncertainties before they act." In other words, the administration doesn't think it is first necessary to determine whether the global warming phenomenon even exists before impoverishing the country through industrial shutdowns, pollution taxes, and draconian regulations. So much for Bush's "moderate" tack!

Brady cited other Bush administration environmental initiatives, among them, the President's request for \$1 billion in fiscal year 1991 for research on global climate change, the U.S. commitment to phasing out chlorofluorocarbons by the year 2000, and the push to make World Bank and other government-financed international lending contingent on environmental considerations.

In addition to its campaign to prevent financing for any Third World development project that is not deemed "environmentally sound," the Bush administration is trying to do the same vis-à-vis Eastern Europe. According to Brady, the "U.S. has strongly advocated an environmental emphasis for the programs of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development."

The Trilats go Gaia

One week after the global climate conference, the President was scheduled for yet another environmentalist fest: the annual meeting of the Trilateral Commission being held in Washington over "Earth Day" weekend.

The timing of the Trilateralists' conference is appropriate: A centerpiece of the meeting will be the release of a new report on global ecology entitled, "Beyond Interdependence: The Meshing of the World's Economy and the Earth's Ecology." The report was drafted by Jim MacNeill, secretary general of the World Commission on Environment and Development. Known as the Brundtland Commission, the WCED produced a notorious eco-fascist report *Our Common Future*, which called for creating a global ecology-based international order that would put stringent restrictions on technological, economic, and demographic growth—in the name of saving Mother Earth.

Bush was slated to confer with his erstwhile Trilateral colleagues at a gala White House get-together on April 23.