

Malthusians want even more deaths in the Third World

by Kathleen Klenetsky

Over the last two months, partisans of the brave new world of zero population growth have opened a new offensive to force a rapid, massive reduction in global population levels. Since April, a swarm of new demands and proposals for dealing with the alleged threat of "overpopulation" has come pouring forth from a wide variety of private and public groups, all insisting that, unless drastic steps are taken to curb fertility rates, mankind is doomed.

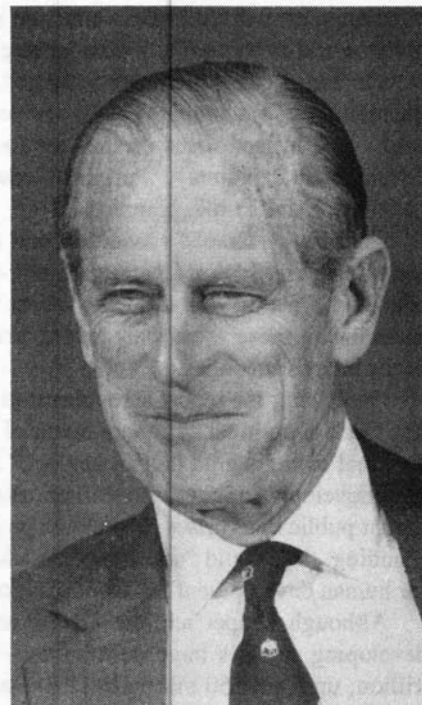
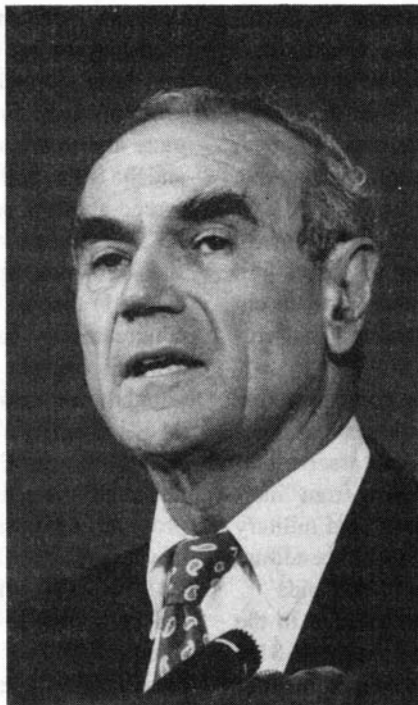
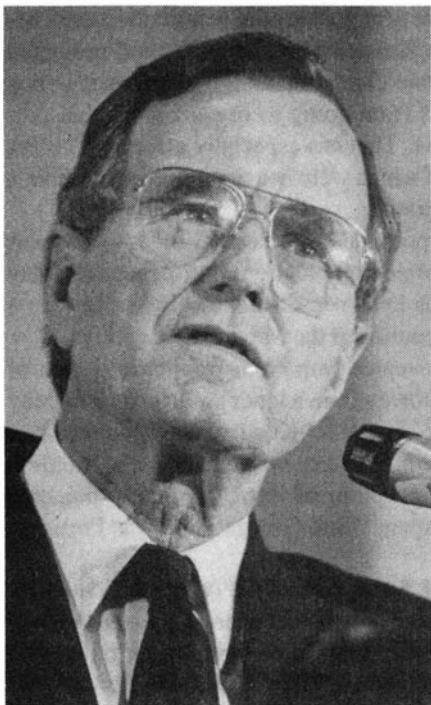
One of the factors prompting this new drive is that a relatively large number of people in the Third World are just now reaching child-bearing age. Nearly all of the latest zero-growth manifestos cite this as a key reason why a crackdown on reproduction is necessary at this time.

These "blueprints for extinction" represent the next phase of the genocidal drive laid out in a series of secret National Security Council documents, drafted by Henry Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft, with input from then-CIA head George Bush, in 1974-76 (see *EIR*, May 3, 1991).

The anti-population drive detailed in these documents has been spectacularly successful in driving down fertility rates. Statistics compiled by the United Nations show that every part of the developing sector has experienced a sharp decline in population growth, thanks to the efforts of such agencies of depopulation as the U.S. State Department's Agency for International Development (AID), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and a slew of so-called non-governmental organizations, most notably the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

In East Asia, for example, births per woman declined from 6.1 in 1960-65 to 2.7 in 1985-90. In Latin America, there were 5.9 births per woman in 1960-65; by 1985-90, that figure had dropped to 3.6. For the developing sector as a whole, births per woman declined from 6.1 in 1960-65 to 3.9 in 1985-90 (see the graphs in the accompanying *Documentation* section).

Yet, this extraordinary level of genocide has not come anywhere close to satisfying the neo-malthusians. They continue to maintain that, at the very least,



Top dogs of the zero population growth movement (left to right): George "Rubbers" Bush, William Draper III, and Britain's Prince Philip.

the world must rapidly achieve "replacement level" fertility rates—in other words, zero growth—and that no obstacles should be allowed to interfere with this objective.

U.N.'s brave new world order

Taking the lead in this latest assault on the human species is the U.N., which has been tapped by George Bush to play a central role in his new world disorder. Both the United Nations Development Program and UNFPA issued reports this spring insisting that population growth in the developing sector is still way too high, and that bringing it under control must be a priority.

The UNFPA report is especially telling. Noting that population growth in many industrialized countries has declined to below replacement levels, the study laments that "nearly all (95%)" of projected global population for the foreseeable future "will be in developing countries." The report references the huge problems plaguing the industrialized sector because there are too few young people to support the growing number of elderly—yet blithely orders the Third World to follow suit.

Instead of proposing economic development policies that would make it possible to accommodate these increased numbers of human beings, the UNFPA report calls for "sustainable development"—a euphemism for zero economic growth—and says that such sustainable development requires a sharp decline in fertility. Specifically, it calls for bringing down developing-sector fertility from the present

3.8 births per woman to 3.3 by the year 2000.

This will mean "profound implications for programs and policies," says the report. To achieve this drop in fertility will require a 50% increase in the number of Third World couples—over 1 billion people—who use birth control (currently, nearly 800 million do so, according to UNFPA statistics). And it will also require a huge investment of money—money that could be spent on debt relief, or infrastructure investment, instead of killing people. UNFPA estimates that spending on population control will have to double, to \$9 billion annually, to reach these targets.

Sterilization, not steel mills

Although the UNDP report deals with a broader range of issues than demographics alone, the overweening concern about reducing population levels in the Third World keeps on creeping in. Entitled the "Human Development Report 1991," the document was unveiled at a Washington press conference by UNDP administrator William Draper III. Draper is a close friend of President Bush; his father, William Draper, Jr., was not only a leading zero-growth fanatic in the 1950s and 1960s, but also endorsed the Nazi eugenics movement, and led the Population Crisis Committee—one of the most influential population-control groups—during the 1960s and 1970s. Earlier this year, Draper III, who also held a leadership post in the PCC, publicly stated that population control would be central to Bush's new world order.

At his May 22 press conference, Draper claimed that

population growth has led to a situation in which “the developing world is becoming a powder keg ready to explode.” Developing-sector governments, he said, should stop spending money on “extravagant prestige projects” (like the Aswan Dam), and instead focus on the “the foundations of human development,” namely, “primary education, preventive health care, and family planning.”

Contrary to Draper’s assertion that the UNDP wants to encourage Third World nations to put more resources into education, health, and food, its report stresses how to cut spending in these areas, suggesting privatization and cutbacks in food subsidies.

Describing the report’s key thrust as the contention that it is “lack of political will—not financial resources” which is the “real cause behind human neglect,” Draper asserts that, were developing countries to shift priorities away from “inefficient public enterprises,” “prestige projects,” and military spending, they could “accommodate additional expenditure for human development” without additional foreign aid.

Although Draper and the UNDP report alluded to the developing sector’s huge debt burden—it now totals \$1.2 trillion, up from \$50 billion in 1970—as an impediment to progress, nowhere did they offer any real solution, aside from suggesting an inconsequential amount of debt forgiveness. Yet, it is this mountain of debt—not “prestige projects,” or population expansion, or necessary defense spending—which accounts for the Third World’s crisis.

The anti-human coalition

The private zero-growth apparatus is enthusiastically following the U.N.’s lead. The day Draper released the UNDP report, a coalition of environmentalist, animal rights, feminist, and zero population growth fanatics convened in Washington to, as they put it, “launch one of the most ambitious cooperative efforts ever undertaken to bring public attention to the devastating impacts of overpopulation.”

More than 60 signers, including Paul “Population Bomb” Ehrlich, Linus Pauling, the Fund for the Feminist Majority, “Earth Day” founder Denis Hayes, Prince Philip’s World Wildlife Fund, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, and Zero Population Growth, endorsed a “Priority Statement on Population” which claimed that “the increase in population and in resource consumption are basic causes of human suffering and environmental degradation and must become major priorities for national and international action.”

One signer of the “Priority Statement,” the Draper family’s Population Crisis Committee, issued its own report in April, with a critique of AID’s population control programs. AID has done a wonderful job in bringing down population growth in the Third World, says the report; it just hasn’t gone far enough.

The PCC study seconds UNFPA’s demand for a big jump in funding for population reduction, and calls explicitly for overturning the so-called Mexico City policy. This has be-

come an important tactical goal for the neo-malthusians. Established during the Reagan administration, and prompted by China’s brutal “one-child-per-family” diktat, the policy prohibits U.S. funds from going to organizations that promote abortion abroad. This has especially affected UNFPA and the IPPF, both of which were heavily involved in China’s forced-abortion program.

For reasons of political expediency, Bush—who was such a staunch supporter of population control (see *EIR*, May 3, 1991) that he was known as “Rubbers” when he was a congressman—has continued the Mexico City policy.

This has not prevented him from promoting forms of population control, however. In a letter published in the May 24 *Washington Post*, James R. Kunder, deputy director of AID’s Office of External Affairs, wrote: “Of the \$4.1 billion allocated since the inception of the U.S. family planning program, 65% was spent while George Bush was President or vice president.”

The ZPG crowd wants to get rid of the Mexico City policy, so that U.S. tax dollars can once again start flowing into the coffers of the two most important population-control agencies now operating in the Third World, UNFPA and the IPPF.

On June 12, the U.S. House of Representatives voted up an amendment to the foreign aid bill which would effectively eliminate the aid restrictions. Although President Bush says he will veto the bill, several sources believe he may well then reverse his support for the Mexico City policy, citing, as his reason, the “new evidence” of the “population threat” so conveniently provided by Draper, the PCC, and others.

Coercion and the ‘final solution’

While UNFPA and the rest of the zero-growth mob try to downplay this fact, coercion will play an integral role in reaching these targets, as it has throughout the history of population control. Rhetorical flourishes about “voluntary” family planning, and protecting human rights, are sheer hypocrisy.

Take the UNFPA and the PCC. Both have been consistent and vigorous promoters of China’s draconian population-control measures, even after the horror stories about infanticide, forced abortion in the ninth month of pregnancy, and other brutalities had been well established. In a 1989 television interview, UNFPA Executive Director Nafis Sadik insisted that “the implementation of the [birth control] policy [in China] and the acceptance of the policy is purely voluntary.”

In their recent reports, both UNFPA and the PCC cite China as a model to which all other Third World countries should aspire. Furthermore, the UNFPA study is ecstatic about the inroads sterilization has made in the Third World, especially in Panama and Puerto Rico, where 80% of child-bearing women could be sterilized in the near future. As *EIR*’s recent exposé of sterilization in Brazil shows, very few such operations performed in the Third World can truly be called voluntary.