

On the Green Front by Rogelio A. Maduro

How deep will the ozone lies go?

A conference in British Columbia on ozone depletion is upset by the intervention of scientific truth.

It is not very often that one has the opportunity to witness how new lies are spun by environmentalists, before they become the subject of mass hysteria in the media. This writer not only had that opportunity recently, but was able to derail some of the hysteria.

The occasion was a conference at the University of Victoria, in British Columbia, on the dangers of ultraviolet radiation. The conference, titled "How Deep Will the Burning Go? Ozone Depletion and UV Radiation, Preparing for the Impacts," was held April 27-29, and was co-sponsored by the British Columbia Ministry of the Environment, Lands, and Parks.

It had two principal objectives. The first was to come up with as many different ways as possible to scare the public about alleged increases of UV radiation due to ozone depletion. The second objective was to gather leading promoters of the ozone depletion fraud so they could plan a strategy to counter the growing number of scientists and others who are arguing that the ozone depletion theory is a scientific fraud.

Things did not turn out as the conference organizers had hoped, however. This writer and several other people showed up and demanded that the organizers allow the scientific truth to be presented. Out of 35 speakers at the conference, not a single scientist was present who represented the opposing (and prevalent) views of the scientific community. This is quite a scandal, since the conference was paid for by the Canadian government and was supposed to present the existing scien-

tific evidence in an objective way.

This scandal was reported by the Canadian press on the opening day of the conference. The local daily *Times Colonist*, for example, ran the headline, "Ozone Hole Skeptic Vows to Challenge UVIC Conference." The press coverage forced the conference organizers to allow me five minutes to present the arguments on the other side. Holding up a copy of *The Holes in the Ozone Scare: The Scientific Evidence That the Sky Isn't Falling* (by Rogelio A. Maduro and Ralf Schauerhammer, 21st Century Science Associates, 1992), I presented the evidence proving that the ozone depletion theory is without scientific merit and that the ban on chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) is going to kill millions of human beings. The intervention was a leading news story in the regional TV news and newspapers.

There was a booth at the conference with copies of the book, *21st Century Science & Technology* magazine, and *EIR*, publications which have not been afraid to present the evidence against the ozone depletion scare. This booth quickly became the center of attention.

Instead of challenging the evidence presented against the ozone depletion hoax, several speakers proceeded to launch a character assassination against the leading opponents of the ozone hoax. Rhys Roth, editor of *No Sweat News*, an environmentalist newspaper put out by the Earth Island Institute, said that the opponents of the ozone depletion theory were "confusionists," part of a conspiracy run by Lyn-

don LaRouche, the Moonies, and industry. He laid out a strategy to discredit these "confusionists" based on "exposing" their ulterior motives. This strategy was laid out in detail the next day, as part of a full-day workshop.

Another speaker was Fred Knelman, Canada's leading anti-nuclear activist. Now at the Whistler Foundation for a Sustainable Environment, Knelman opened his presentation by granting that people in the Third World were going to die as a result of the ban on CFCs, but said that the claims made in the book I co-authored, of more than 10 million deaths per year, were "ridiculous." Knelman said he could prove this, but then changed the subject, saying that the critics of environmentalism always claimed that there would be dire consequences to product bans. He said that he had been accused of being a "mass murderer" and "genocidalist" in the 1970s, because he opposed fusion power.

Knelman said that promoters of the CFC ban would be accused of genocide, and that they should pay no attention to those accusations. Incredibly, he argued at the end of his presentation that India and China posed a grave threat to the world because of their plans to manufacture millions of refrigerators. India, he pointed out, had 11 million refrigerators, and China 30 million. Plans to increase these numbers would pose a threat to the world, in his view, because of all the CFCs these refrigerators would contain. Knelman argued that patents for "ozone safe" refrigerators should be abrogated and the technology given to these countries. At no point did Knelman mention the fact that millions of people die from diseases caused by lack of food refrigeration. Raising this issue will expose the deadly consequences of the environmentalists' policies for all to see.