

# National News

## Clinton: Int'l economic 'trends' cause poverty

President Clinton told the National Governors Association meeting in Baltimore on June 6 that "rising poverty" and stagnating incomes in the United States are "clearly the result of international economic trends sweeping all advanced countries and national economic policies. And all those things are reinforced, one with another. We're on the verge of having a 40-year low in the minimum wage."

President Clinton's address, as transcribed by Federal News Service, focused on the welfare reform bill the Conservative Revolutionists have been pushing through Congress. "The current bill gives states an incentive," Clinton said, "to save money simply by throwing people off the welfare rolls. The House bill even gives states what the Catholic Church has called an 'illegitimacy bonus'—an incentive for more people to have abortions. That is not welfare reform."

As for the impact on children of the Sen. Phil Gramm (R-Tex.)-Rep. Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) schemes, Clinton told the governors, "If you put this welfare reform block grant, with less money and no local maintenance requirement, up against the Medicaid cuts and the education cuts and the other things that are in this budget, you tell me how the poor children of your state are going to fare. . . . You know, everybody wants to cut Medicaid to shreds because they say that's just a poor person's health care. You know as well as I do almost 70% of that money goes to the elderly and the disabled. And they're all coming to see you and your state legislators. Now, how are they going to do?"

In the event of another "serious national recession," Clinton warned, little could be done if the government provided neither welfare nor jobs at sustaining wages. "Why would somebody who was on welfare who had two kids, who at least had health care from Medicaid and they got food stamps, go to work if we won't even raise the minimum wage to keep it up to where it was 10 years ago?"

The President added, "Now, don't kid

yourself. From the point of view of the Congress, welfare reform has stopped being welfare reform primarily. Primarily, welfare reform is a way to cut spending on the poor, so that we don't have to worry about it, and we can balance the budget in seven years and give a big tax cut largely benefiting upper-income people who have done pretty well in the 1980s. That's what this is about."

## Gingrich pushes new environmental agency

House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) is the leading toady for yet another attempt by Britain's Prince Philip to impose pagan environmentalism on the United States. Newt is hopping about Capitol Hill trying to pass a bill to establish a new "super-agency," dubbed the National Institutes for the Environment (NIE), which would confine the remaining research efforts of several federal agencies to "environmental science."

The proposed new agency would absorb all or part of several federal agencies, including the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The scheme was originally promoted by former EPA head Russell E. Train, former head of the World Wildlife Fund in the United States, and a collaborator of Prince Philip.

The bill, which was introduced last year as H.R. 2918, will soon be reintroduced by Rep. Jim Saxton (R-N.J.), chair of the House Natural Resource Committee's Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans Subcommittee. Gingrich was one of the co-sponsors of the bill last year, together with radical green congressmen such as Bruce Vento (D-Minn.) and George Miller (D-Calif.). Supporters say they expect the bill to be signed into law by the end of the summer.

The legislation is being promoted by the Committee for the National Institutes for the Environment, headed by Richard E. Benedict, the former State Department official who negotiated the Montreal Protocol banning chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) interna-

tionally in 1987. The board of directors of the committee reads like a *Who's Who* of Prince Philip's green apparatus. One of them, Robert Strange McNamara, fresh from his public *mea culpa* on the Vietnam War, proclaimed that the NIE "will give us a strong base to deal with potential environmental threats to our nation and the world in the decades to come."

The NIE is also supported by major corporations and leading environmental organizations. All major pharmaceutical corporations support the NIE, as do AT&T and the DuPont Corp. Green organizations include Greenpeace, the World Wildlife Fund, the Sierra Club, the Nature Conservancy, Zero Population Growth, Friends of the Earth, the Cousteau Society, and the Gorilla Project.

## Historian confirms FDR plan to end Brit empire

Further evidence has emerged of British rage at President Clinton's repeated defiance of their claim to a controlling "special relationship" with the United States. A new book by a British historian denounces former Prime Minister Winston Churchill for "selling out" British interests, by overplaying that card in dealing with President Franklin D. Roosevelt at the end of World War II. The argument includes confirmation from the British side that FDR was unalterably opposed to preserving or restoring the British Empire, as *EIR* has extensively documented.

The London *Times* ran a synopsis on June 7 by historian John Charmley of his new work, *Churchill's Grand Alliance: The Anglo-American Special Relationship, 1940-1957*. The same Charmley wrote a diatribe against President Clinton and the United States for the Hollinger Corp.'s *Sunday Telegraph* on March 19, headlined, "The U.S. is no friend of Britain," in which he denounced the Americans as "disloyal colonists."

In previewing his book, Charmley claims that Churchill personally rigged an international East-West crisis over Poland, during and after the 1945 Churchill-Roose-

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velt-Stalin grand summits, in order to force the Americans into Europe, in alliance with Britain. Churchill promoted an artificial Cold War, using Poland as his "chip" in the game, in order to build his "special relationship," Charmley charges. Churchill regarded the Polish question as a good "pretext" for a showdown with the Soviets—and as a "hook" to keep the Americans in Europe, allied with Britain.

But "there was one obstacle: Roosevelt," Charmley says. "Roosevelt had made it clear ever since [the Teheran summit] that he was not going to enter some exclusive special relationship with the British. For him, the British Empire was as much to be deplored as Soviet Communism, and there are no signs that he was willing to do what Churchill wanted, which was to use burgeoning American power to prevent the Soviets dominating Europe."

Despite Churchill's efforts, Charmley says, "Roosevelt tried hard to avoid presenting Stalin with an Anglo-American front," and never wanted to provoke what later would become the Cold War. On April 11, 1945, FDR wrote to Churchill, "I would minimize the general Soviet problem as much as possible, because these problems, in one form or another, seem to arise every day and most of them straighten out." The next day, Roosevelt died. "Henceforth," Charmley concludes, "the cruder methods which Churchill dignified with the term 'superior statecraft' would prevail; the true exponent of the art had passed from the scene, leaving no worthy successor."

### Devastating cuts aimed at N.Y.C. public schools

New York City schools chancellor Ramon Cortines says the school system must cut \$1 billion from its current budget of \$7.7 billion, according to the June 8 *New York Times*. New York Gov. George E. Pataki and the state legislature agreed on a state budget plan on June 7, which imposes substantial reductions in state aid to the New York City public school system. Large-scale cuts are also expected in the city's already scandalously degraded hospital system, which depends upon state Medicaid

payments for most of its revenue.

A spokesman for the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) told *EIR* that the city schools had already sustained about \$1.5 billion in budget cuts over the past five years.

In May 15 testimony at a City Council hearing, Chancellor Cortines attacked the *New York Times's* lying assertion that the previous budget cuts had been "painless" reductions of a bloated bureaucracy, with the implication that further cuts would be easy.

Cortines told the City Council, "Our capital budget has been devastated. Nearly every building in our system is plagued by system failures—leaky roofs, antiquated boilers and plumbing, faulty wiring, deteriorated paint and plaster, etc. Half our elementary and middle schools are overcrowded, as are 80% of our high schools, and we anticipate that there will be more than 150,000 students without school seats in only five years."

### Sen. Simpson proposes two-tier citizenship

Sen. Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.) has proposed an amendment to the Senate welfare reform bill which would restrict public aid to immigrants, even after they become citizens, according to the June 11 *Washington Post*. The blatantly unconstitutional proposal would create two categories of citizenship, native-born and immigrant.

The House version of the bill already denies most forms of aid to legal immigrants who are not citizens. The Senate bill would restrict access only to Social Security. The nature of the Senate proposal is otherwise highlighted by the so-called "deeming" provisions, which apply to immigrants applying for public assistance. The rules require that the income of the applicant and the sponsors be jointly considered when there is a request for public aid from Aid to Families with Dependent Children, food stamps, and Supplemental Security Income. The Senate bill would extend the "deeming" of sponsor's income even after a person becomes a citizen.

● **AFL-CIO** President Lane Kirkland has decided not to seek re-election, in the face of opposition by union leaders representing more than half the AFL-CIO's 13 million members. The leading candidates to succeed him are expected to be incumbent Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Donahue, and leader of the anti-Kirkland movement, SEIU President John Sweeney.

● **PRO-CONFEDERATE** George Allen (R) of Virginia brought a trade delegation to London on June 6, the third U.S. governor to do so this year. Virginia is "open for business," he said, and has cheap labor to offer. He began his visit with a private meeting with Margaret Thatcher. Governors Christine Todd Whitman (R-N.J.) and William Weld (R-Mass.) earlier sought greater ties with Britain's Thatcherized and bankrupt economy.

● **ESCAMBIA** County, Florida's former comptroller was indicted on June 7 by a county grand jury. Joe Flowers was charged with making illegal derivatives purchases and sales, banking funds without open bidding, and entering an illegal lease purchase agreement. The county lost \$21 million on \$30 million in purchases.

● **THE FBI** has arrested Vyacheslav Kirillovich Ivankov, reputed leader of the Russian organized-crime mafia in Brooklyn, New York. The June 11 *Washington Times* said the arrest is the first fruit of the collaboration between U.S. and Russian authorities, set in motion by FBI director Louis Freeh during a trip to Moscow one year ago.

● **SEN. JOE BIDEN** (D-Del.), calling for lifting the "illegal" arms embargo against Bosnia, told the Foreign Relations Committee on June 8 that "the Bush administration was asleep at the switch" in failing to revoke it in April 1992, when Bosnia-Herzegovina was admitted to the United Nations. The U.N. Charter, he noted, guarantees every state the right of self-defense.