

National News

Kissinger brays British line for U.S. policy

Sir Henry Kissinger, self-professed British agent and oracle of U.S. foreign policy, has weighed in again behind the interests of the British Empire. Speaking April 30 at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, Sir Henry declared he is adamantly opposed to a U.S. presence in such areas as the Balkans and Somalia.

Ignoring the historic principles of America's foreign policy, designed to outflank and defend itself against the British Empire, Kissinger lied, "The U.S. was brought up in an environment where it was protected by two great oceans—until 1945 it didn't have to conduct any foreign policy." Sir Henry added, "We do not have to be in the front line of every confrontation. I do not think the U.S. Army has been created to distribute food in trouble spots. . . .

"I have not been in favor of sending American troops to Bosnia. We cannot sacrifice American lives for the sake of unifying Bosnia. If we stay, we will sooner or later become targets. . . . We cannot go all over the world slaying dragons." He apparently chose not to add: "unless Her Majesty tells us to."

AFL-CIO launches 'Union Summer' organizing drive

At a press conference May 1 outside union headquarters in Washington, D.C., AFL-CIO President John Sweeney announced the opening of "a new era of organizing for workplace justice in America." The labor federation plans to recruit and train 1,000 young people to spend the summer working on union organizing and political initiatives.

"At the same time these young activists are advancing workers' rights," Sweeney said, "they will learn firsthand that the labor movement is at the heart of the struggle for fairness and justice in America." Inspired by the civil rights movement's "Freedom Summer" of 1964, Union Summer will deploy

its young organizers to help "manufacturing, health care, hotel, laundry, newspaper, retail, and other workers organize and fight for dignity, a living wage, and protection from unfair firings, sexual harassment and discrimination," according to the program's director, Andy Levin.

Eighteen cities where the AFL-CIO already has initiated organizing campaigns, have been selected so far as Union Summer sites. In addition, Union Summer will send a bus tour through the Deep South, to register voters and support ongoing organizing efforts.

The flyer announcing Union Summer declares: "For the first time ever, a generation of Americans is facing a lower standard of living than their parents. The gap between rich and poor has hit Depression-era levels. Corporate executives take home more than 190 times what workers earn, while 10 million American working families live in poverty. . . . You can help working people organize for dignity and economic and racial justice. This summer, join hundreds of young workers and students making history."

New York prosecutor: Drug bankers are whores

John Moscow, Deputy District Attorney for Manhattan, told a recent conference on money laundering held in Portugal, "There is no reason why bankers who do what they are told for a fee should consider themselves any better than the prostitutes who do the same," the London *Financial Times* reported April 24. "If you think the size of the fee makes the conduct better or appropriate, think again, for the penalties are far greater. At least they are if you are dealing with the dollar."

John Moscow was one of the prosecutors in the Bank of Credit and Commerce International money-laundering case. "Bank secrecy statutes in international finance," he declared, "are used by crooks, tax evaders, securities fraudsters, and capital flight fellows; they are used by narcotics dealers. But they are not needed by honest folks engaged in honest transactions."

He attacked the use of national sovereignty to protect and facilitate money laundering, and warned countries not to "try to merchant their sovereign status and impose their sovereignty on New York (along with the rest of the civilized world), to protect the narco-dollars from detection. . . . As we see it, if the money goes through Manhattan, we may well have jurisdiction."

Justice Dept. to probe gasoline price hikes

The U.S. Department of Justice announced on April 30 that its anti-trust division has assembled a five-member task force, to investigate skyrocketing oil and gasoline prices. According to a department spokesman, "If the task force finds the price increase was not related to market forces, then it will look for evidence of illegal collusion." President Clinton has also asked the Department of Energy to investigate. The price for regular gasoline, which stood at a national average of \$1.10 per gallon last December, reached as high as \$1.77, at some gas stations in New York City, by the end of April.

The speculative run-up of gasoline prices—coupled with soaring levels for grains, soybeans, and other commodities internationally—has all the earmarks of a British-coordinated campaign of economic warfare against the United States. Some suspicions have already been raised in Congress, and election-year jousting over the issue is under way.

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, the apparent Republican Presidential nominee, challenged President Clinton April 26 to help him repeal the 4.3¢ a gallon gasoline tax increase, passed by the Democratic-controlled Congress in 1993. Dole said that gas prices are "careening out of control and are diminishing the value of millions of American paychecks." Dole, who counts the Archer Daniels Midland grain cartel among his chief sources of campaign funds, recently met in Houston with ex-President George Bush—who is still awash with profits from his own unsavory oil interests.

A spokesman for Clinton's reelection campaign noted that Dole himself—as Sen-

ate Finance Committee chairman, and then as budget negotiator for President Bush—had helped to raise gas taxes from 4¢ to 14¢ a gallon between 1982 and 1990. Senate Democratic Minority Leader Tom Daschle (S.D.), replying to Dole at a press briefing on April 30, declared, “It isn’t the tax increase that generated those high costs; it’s profits going into the pockets of the oil companies all through this country.”

At a follow-up press conference May 1, Daschle asked, “First of all, what is the reason for this? We know that the increase in price had nothing to do with the 4.3¢ that was added to the gas tax in 1993. . . . We don’t know what is causing it. Is it collusion? Is it a lack of supply? And I think we need to get to the bottom of that question.”

Daschle added, “I don’t want to be a part of bailing out the oil companies. For every cent decrease in the tax, the oil companies are potentially able to generate \$1 billion in additional profit. . . . I think we need to know what the oil companies themselves are going to do about it.”

Wisconsin terminates aid to welfare recipients

Wisconsin Gov. Tommy G. Thompson (R) has signed a bill to eliminate traditional public assistance to the poor. The new law is scheduled to take effect in 1997, should the federal government agree to waive current rules against many of its key provisions. Thompson called his Clockwork Orange legislation “the biggest change in social policy in 60 years.”

The new law would terminate welfare payments, and require recipients to work for peanuts. The state claims that 15% of the jobs would pay about \$6 per hour. For the vast majority, however, even the legal minimum wage would disappear. Roughly half of the jobs would only pay about \$3.20 per hour, and another 25% of them would pay only \$3 per hour. In most cases, the payments would be considered “grants” rather than “wages,” so that the worker could not even qualify for federal earned income credits on tax returns for those in poverty.

The bill would also terminate all assis-

tance for post-secondary education and training by mid-1997. A spokesman for the AFL-CIO said April 26 the bill “eliminates education and training, and locks welfare recipients into minimum wage and sub-minimum wage jobs without the chance of ever rising out of that level.” According to one clause in the bill, employers are supposed to make a good-faith effort not to hire welfare slaves to replace current workers—but there are no penalties for employers who do so.

Wisconsin’s British-inspired “reform” program was put together by a former official of the Bush administration and fascist planners at the Hudson Institute. The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation—a Milwaukee-based funding conduit for such British political projects such as *American Spectator* magazine—funneled at least \$175,000 to the Hudson Institute to design the Wisconsin program. Jason Turner, the Bush-league director of the Office of Family Assistance at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 1989-1993, was brought in to run the so-called “Welfare Replacement Project” for Governor Thompson.

Former Justice Brennan denounces death penalty

Former Supreme Court Justice William Brennan, celebrating his 90th birthday on April 27, denounced the death penalty as a “barbaric and inhuman punishment that violates our Constitution.” Before a birthday gathering at the Supreme Court of his friends and colleagues, he declared, in a speech read by his son, “Even the most vile murderer does not release the state from its Constitutional obligation to respect human dignity; for the state does not honor the victim by emulating the murderer who took the victim’s life.”

Justice Brennan, who retired from the bench in 1990, predicted that the Supreme Court would eventually “outlaw the death penalty. I hope I will live to celebrate the day, but I am supremely confident that the day will come.” Brennan joined in the Supreme Court’s 1972 ruling which banned the death penalty on Constitutional grounds.

Briefly

IT’S PAT BUCHANAN, stupid! Forget about protecting the U.S. economy from British free trade. In a recent fundraising letter, Buchanan says he has “virtually no chance of securing the Republican nomination,” but calls for a fight for “a conservative platform”—against homosexuality, pornography, and “those who pollute our popular culture.”

ALABAMA’S prison commissioner, the overseer of the nation’s first revival of chain gangs, announced April 26 he would expand the program to place women in leg-irons as well. “There’s no real defense for not doing the females,” said Alabama Corrections Commissioner Ron Jones. He was fired the same day by Gov. “Fob” James, who declared that no woman would serve on a chain gang “under my watch.”

ARCHER Daniels Midland is producing more vodka for export to Russia. The grain cartel’s 1995 annual report drools over increased sales “due largely to the quality appeal of U.S. vodka.” With soaring grain prices, ADM recently announced it has cut corn purchases for ethanol, and has installed equipment more suitable for producing grain alcohol.

BELL ATLANTIC’S largest union, the Communications Workers of America, declared April 26 that it would fight the phone company’s planned merger with Nynex Corp., which already controls New York and New England. At Bell Atlantic’s annual shareholders’ meeting, union leaders denounced the merger as a “downsizing” scheme.

NEWT GINGRICH told a GOP event in a Las Vegas casino April 29 that he now thinks the proposed federal gambling commission should be stripped of its subpoena power. Casino interests claim it “would compromise confidential records,” the *Washington Post* said May 1. A bill creating the commission was unanimously passed in Newt’s House in March, but has been stalled by the mob in the Senate.