

plied some \$29 billion to rescue the owners of the privatized banks, buying up their debt arrears, to then give away the cleaned-up banks to their new foreign owners (by and large, British). The \$29 billion is equivalent to 8.4% of Mexico's 1996 Gross National Product; the \$10 billion additional allocated to "rescue" the privatized highways, brings the total paid out to \$39 billion; that is, 11.3% of GNP!

Another "weekend" bit of news was that July was the first month since February 1995 in which Mexico ran a trade deficit. According to the curious information released by the treasury secretary, exports reached a "monthly record," increasing by 15.7%, but alas, against an increase of 22.1% in imports. The increase in imports is only the beginning of the path toward the global trade deficit which is expected by the end of the year.

And with this, the circle of "weekend news" was completed. The problem that the Mexican economy now faces again is the growing current account deficit, the famous story seen under the government of Salinas de Gortari: a flow of speculative capital to the stock market and into government revenues is used to finance an export program which depends on large imports (as do the *maquiladoras*, the slave-labor operations along the U.S.-Mexico border). An increase in the international interest rates or a devaluation of the peso and . . . "boom." Once again, back to December 1994.

Assassinations, again, too

The bad political news which the tale of "explosive growth" sought to soften, was the mysterious assassination of Alejandro Ortiz Martínez, brother of the treasury secretary. Without stretching the comparison, this event could have as significant implications for the financial sector, as did the assassination of PRI Presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio.

Ortiz Martínez formerly headed agricultural credit for Banca Serfin, and, at the time he was killed, he was Serfin's "special affairs" executive. While the official line is that the assassination probably occurred during a robbery attempt, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa has dismissed the robbery hypothesis.

Banca Serfin, Mexico's third-largest bank, was pulled out of its 1995 bankruptcy through a murky arrangement. It became a partner of the British Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp., the fifth largest bank in the world. HongShang, historically recognized as the bank of all drug money-laundering banks, took control of 20% of Serfin, while the federal government took another 20%, to be handed over to HongShang in the case that the Mexican owners of Serfin, headed by Adrian Sada, did not pay back other loans taken from the British bank.

With the British mafia now situated at the heart of the Mexican banking system, there would be nothing strange about "pistol shots" becoming the way in which the internationalization of the national banks will be completed, while the Mexican economy finds itself in its "seventh bounce."

World population growth is ceasing

by Paul Gallagher

It is now generally acknowledged by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and the swarms of Malthusian population-control groups under its umbrella, that world population growth is dramatically slowing down. "More rapidly than expected" is the word among the depopulators, the more radical of which—like the U.S. State Department-linked Negative Population Growth organization—want the human race thrown back 500 years, to 500 million individuals.

Moreover, the UNFPA's report *The State of World Population, 1997; The Right to Choose—Reproductive Rights and Reproductive Health* (May 1997), for the first time admits that the sharp drop in population growth is coming not only from sterilization, contraception, and abortion, but also from spiking death rates and sinking life expectancies in a growing number of countries. Both developments are powerfully documented in an article in the *New Federalist* newspaper of Sept. 1, written by Gabriele Liebig, editor of the newspaper *Neue Solidarität* in Wiesbaden, Germany. Titled "The Orchestrated Population Implosion," the article was originally published in German.

Is a collapse of human population building up, prepared by deteriorating conditions of life in a global economic crisis, by genocidal warfare, by famines and epidemics?

Consider, first, the following pattern of decline in world population estimates (and for many underdeveloped or war-ravaged nations, estimates are all we have, often slanted by the UN's Malthusians to make them appear higher than reality):

- The earliest forecasts for the world population, as of the year 2000, were made more than 40 years ago by the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. They estimated that 8 billion people would be alive by, roughly, the beginning of the new millennium.

- In 1969, when President Richard Nixon created the "Rockefeller Commission" on population growth, he stated to Congress: "If this rate of population continues, it is likely that the Earth will contain 7 billion human beings by the end of the century."

- In December 1974, when the infamous National Security Study Memorandum 200 (NSSM 200) was compiled in the National Security Council, under the direction of Henry

Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft, it adopted the then-current UN forecast (the so-called “middle variant”) of 6.5 billion by the year 2000. NSSM 200 identified the growth of population in a dozen developing countries as a “security threat” to the United States.

- By 1987, the U.S. Bureau of the Census forecast a world population of 6.3 billion by the year 2000.

Thus, nearly 2 billion souls gradually disappeared from the forecasts in 35 years. It is now clear that the world population, in 2000, will not exceed 6 billion human beings — *if* one accepts current published UN population data as accurate, a question we restrain ourselves from entering into here.

Looking further ahead

What about longer-range prognoses? The next, most-common benchmark is 2025. NSSM 200, which secretly committed the United States to financing aggressive population-reduction measures worldwide, forecast a human population of 10 billion by the year 2025 (then 50 years away). The 1987 U.S. Census Bureau report forecast 8.7 billion for 2015 (40 years away). Then, at the 1992 global circus known as the Rio Conference, or UN Conference on the Global Environment, the UNFPA gave a new “middle variant” estimate of 8.5 billion. Today, only five years later, the UNFPA’s report, *The State of the World Population 1997*, forecasts — for the same year 2025, now fewer than 30 years off — a world population of 8 billion people.

Thus, “authoritative” global population forecasts for 2025 have been declining at a rate of 1% each year, and that rate has accelerated in the past five years, as lower and lower forecasts succeed one another.

Underlying this is the ongoing sharp plunge in the currently measured, year-to-year growth rate of the world’s population. In the 1960s and 1970s, it was over 2%; in 1987, still at 1.9%; by the 1992 Rio Conference, only 1.7%; since then, it has plunged to 1.4%, according to the 1997 UN report cited above. This is an amazingly drastic decline in a complex annual rate, which *cannot* fall so fast, without increasing death rates from war, famine, and disease, as well as decreasing birthrates. As recently as Aug. 14, 1997, Lester Brown, the unscrupulous head of the Worldwatch Institute, claimed that the human race was adding 93 million individuals every year; the actual number is fewer than 80 million, and *may be far below that number*.

At the *increasing* rate of decline of annual population growth, it is obvious that within about 15 years, the world’s population will be starting to decline, never having achieved the level of 7 billion human beings, unless there is worldwide economic reconstruction and increase in living standards, and a renewed value placed on every human life. Already, there are vast areas of the world wherein total population is falling now, comprising all of western, central, and eastern Europe, Russia and the other former republics of the Soviet Union, and Japan.

The example of Uganda

The British-backed dictator of Uganda, President Yoweri Museveni, recently issued his own “2020 Vision” statement, entitled “Is World Population Growth Slowing?” (See Marcia Merry Baker and Joseph Brewda, “Ugandan Mass-Murderer Chairs ‘2020 Vision,’ ” *EIR*, July 18, 1997.) Museveni ought to know, as through aggressive wars initiated by him, perhaps 2 million Africans — Hutus and Tutsis — have died in Rwanda, Burundi, Zaire, and Uganda itself since 1994.

According to the 1987 U.S. Census Bureau’s worldwide report, Uganda’s population was then 16 million, and growing at an annual rate of 3.5%. Ten years later, the latest UNFPA report claims a Ugandan population of 20.8 million, growing at only 2.6% annually. But that 1987 report had *forecast* that Uganda’s end-of-the-century population would be 25 million. Now, only a decade later, it is clear that it cannot much exceed 21 million in the year 2000 — 15% less than predicted!

Moreover, the UNFPA nowhere makes clear, how it judges the accuracy of its published population totals for nations like Uganda. Uganda is the epicenter of the AIDS epidemic in Africa, and total life expectancy there has dropped to 41.2 years, a drop of 2.4 years *since 1994*. The country’s infant mortality rate has reached nearly 13%, as of 1996, compared to 1% or less in all economically developed countries. And there has been war raging across the north of the country, continuously, in the 11 years since Museveni took power. There is, in fact, a U.S. Census Bureau regional report, recently prepared, which examines the possibility that by early in the 21st century, the populations of Uganda and several other Central African countries will be declining outright.

Yet, when we look at the already cited UNFPA 1997 report, in the column for population forecasts for the year 2025, what do we find next to Uganda? A forecast of 45 million people! Thus, a country which grew by 30% over the past decade, with a sharply *falling* annual rate of increase, is supposed — according to the UN — to increase at 40% per decade from now until 2025; this, despite low and falling life expectancy, terrible infant mortality, and a prediction from the U.S. Census Bureau that its population may actually be declining during those decades.

This will give an idea of how little the UN’s latest forecast, of a world population of 8 billion in 2025, really means.

As Liebig concludes her *New Federalist* article, the demographic collapse can still be turned around, but “only through an enormous, international effort to overcome the worldwide economic and financial crisis. The destructive policies of the IMF and the Malthusian ‘contraception campaign’ of the UN must end; the financial system must be reorganized in a new Bretton Woods Agreement; the sabotage of the industrialization of the developing nations must be stopped, and the productive economy revolutionized through great projects of infrastructure.”