

Congressional Closeup by Ronald Kokinda and Susan Kokinda

Population policy fight spills onto Capitol Hill

Members of Congress quickly took sides in the battle over U.S. population policy which has erupted between the State Department and the National Security Council (NSC). According to press reports, the NSC and Office of Policy Development—both based in the White House—have prepared a U.S. position paper for the August International Conference on Population Policy to be held in Mexico City, rejecting the view that overpopulation is an underlying cause of Third World problems. The position paper states that population control cannot replace economic growth as a solution, nor can it “substitute for the rapid and responsible development of natural resources.” Bastions of the depopulation lobby, such as the State Department, have taken strong exception to the paper.

The opening shot was fired on Capitol Hill by Rep. John Edward Porter (R-Ill.), a liberal Republican in the Charles Percy vein. In a floor speech of June 7, Porter stated, “If this [NSC] position paper is approved, and becomes official policy, it will constitute a great step backward by our government in this vital area.” Porter points out that the administration (namely, the State Department) had strongly supported the FY 85 foreign aid appropriation, which contains an increase in funding for population assistance.

“I urge the White House to reject this draft and adopt a policy statement reflecting the longstanding and strong support of our country for voluntary family planning efforts worldwide,” he concludes.

On June 14, Rep. Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House Repub-

lican Conference, counterattacked with a letter of support for the NSC paper sent to the White House. But Kemp, a Swiss-tutored free-enterprise advocate, focused on those aspects of the NSC paper which assert that the problem of development in Third World countries is a result, not of population pressure, but of state-directed economic activity. Kemp stated, “Programs that force people to accept population control are elitist, anti-democratic, and at odds with economic history. Freeing up the human mind and human spirit and allowing people to develop their talents is the key to economic growth, not pushing population planning down the throats of the Third World.”

Pugwash congressmen embrace Soviet position

Rep. Tom Downey (D-N.Y.) embraced Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko's call for negotiations on anti-satellite weapons (ASAT) in a floor statement on June 12. Downey is the U.S. chairman of the Parliamentarians for World Order, an outgrowth of world-federalist Pugwash Conferences, through which Lord Bertrand Russell determined the outlines of U.S. arms-control policy in the 1960s and 1970s through back-channel negotiations with the Soviet Union.

Referring to the Chernenko call to negotiate without delay a pact banning the use of anti-satellite weapons (a ban which the administration has shown could not be verified), Downey lied that the United States is “in a position of strength with respect to ASATs—a position the administration has supposedly been waiting for.” The Soviets have the only operational ASATs in existence, and the House recently

tied the hands of the administration in the pending tests of America's first ASAT capabilities.

Assuming that the Soviets are ready to sign a treaty today, Downey declared, “We should move without delay to the bargaining table and stop this next round of dangerous and destabilizing weapons.”

One of Downey's fellow travelers in the Pugwash network on Capitol Hill, Rep. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), has adopted some questionable tactics in his drive to unseat pro-defense Sen. Roger Jepsen (R-Iowa) in this year's election. In early June, front-page headlines suddenly appeared, charging Jepsen with having “visited” a sex spa several years ago.

Capitol Hill sources report that the story was broken by a Washington, D.C.-based reporter for several Iowa radio stations who used to be a business partner of Harkin's current press secretary. Harkin has strong support from the Council for a Livable World, founded by Leo “Dr. Strangelove” Szilard in 1961 to elect congressmen trained in the goals of Pugwash.

Sandinista activity on Capitol Hill scored

Following Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche's May 31 exposé of Soviet involvement in drafting defense-related legislation for the U.S. Congress, further charges of direct foreign lobbying on Capitol Hill have been aired. Rep. Dan Daniel (R-Va.) claimed on June 14 that high-level officials of the Nicaraguan government have been bypassing diplomatic channels and have gone directly to the Hill to press their cause. Daniel stated, “I am reliably advised that the

director for North American affairs of the Nicaraguan foreign ministry . . . bypassed the U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua, the Secretary of State, and the President and came directly to the Intelligence Committee with an 'aide-mémoire' [March 31] presenting the Sandinista negotiating position on matters involving the United States."

Daniel added that he thought the lobbying effort could compromise the House's ability to consider legislation concerning aid to the Contras—the anti-Sandinista, U.S.-backed forces in Nicaragua.

Futurists seek to 'buy time,' 'take power'

Senator Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.) has urged a U.S. withdrawal from the race for defensive beam weapons, thereby assuring Soviet strategic superiority.

Looking glassy-eyed and demoralized, Club of Rome member Pell told a June 25 session of the World Futures Society (WFS) conference in Washington, D.C. that "our strategy for survival must be to buy time until a new generation comes along. Arms control must be the imperative necessity to buy time."

Fretting over the continued U.S. commitment to develop space-based anti-ballistic missile systems; Pell concluded: "War is too important to be left to the generals, and nuclear war is too important to be left up to the government. We the people must rise and take power." Pell managed to find his chair and sit down.

Pell's fellow futurist Rep. Bob Edgar (D-Pa.) keyed the same conference a day earlier, praising the World Future Society as the source of information to make the critical choices facing the world, "the moral

task of the World Future Society is to help us develop solutions." In subsequent WFS sessions, speakers advocated world federalism and "small atomic wars" to bring down the world's nation states.

Edgar, in his capacity as chairman of the Congressional Clearinghouse on the Future, a point of penetration for KGB-contaminated kook and futurist networks, hosted a day-long conference on June 6 on "The New Economy." At that conference, which was co-sponsored by the General Oversight Subcommittee of the Joint Economic Committee, *Limits to Growth* author Jay Forrester put forward a document which called for using the impending international and domestic financial crises to impose a "phase change" on the U.S. economy, away from the current "overbuilding of capital plant" to an information- and service-based economy.

Immigration bill is rushed through House

Over the strenuous objections of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and other organizations, the House approved on June 11 by a vote of 291 to 111 a rule allowing consideration to begin on the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill. The rule allows for 69 amendments to be considered as part of the floor debate, a situation which opponents have charged is leading to a bad legislative process of reworking the bill on the floor rather than in new committee hearings.

Rep. Edward Roybal (D-Calif.), a chief opponent of the bill, charged that the bill has been "greased" to pass quickly through the House. Roybal has attacked any form of national identi-

fication system as leading to a potential "police-state" atmosphere in the United States, and has attacked the employer sanctions as leading to discrimination against anyone with an accent.

In action taken so far, the House defeated 304 to 120 a proposal by Roybal that would have scrapped all employer sanctions and substituted tougher labor laws. But instead of criminal penalties against employers who evidence a pattern of hiring undocumented workers, the House voted to impose civil penalties including fines up to \$1,000. The elimination of criminal penalties was offered by Rep. Ron Coleman (D-Tex.) and passed by voice vote, leading some to suspect that the bill's proponents will attempt to put the criminal penalties back into the bill at some future point.

A Roybal proposal to increase funding for the Immigration and Naturalization Service border patrols was also approved by voice vote.

The most heated differences have surfaced over the Simpson-Mazzoli guest-worker provisions, which opponents charge could bring 300,000 to 500,000 foreign workers into the United States. Liberal opponents of the bill such as Rep. Howard Berman (D-Calif.) have attacked the provisions as designed to destroy the United Farm Workers and lower farm-labor working conditions. An attempt by Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.) to strengthen protection for farm workers in the current guest-worker program was defeated 256 to 164. The House next approved an amendment from Rep. Leon Panetta (D-Calif.) by 228 to 172 to allow employers to hire foreign workers on 72 hours' notice when unusual weather conditions demand that crops be harvested immediately.