

National News

Copper companies busting unions

Stating it was uncertain whether it will continue operating its mining and smelting divisions, Kennecott Copper canceled all vacations starting June 7 for all its Utah workers.

The announcement came less than a week after 13 unions representing workers in four states said they would not reopen contract talks as the company demanded. This affects a total of 5,000 workers, of whom 3,500 are in Utah. Kennecott is owned by Sohio oil company, which in turn is owned by British Petroleum.

Phelps Dodge Company refused to accept substantial concessions offered by 2,200 unionists on a year-long strike at their Western mines. The union concessions, which were close to the cuts demanded by the company a year ago, accepted lower pay for new employees, a \$2.00 per hour pay cut for strikers, and a two-year freeze on cost-of-living adjustments and medical insurance payments.

Phelps Dodge is insisting that the workers must accept an end to all cost-of-living adjustments, not a two-year freeze. The company has continued to operate the mines throughout the year-old strike, using non-union labor.

Auto companies to demand wage freeze?

UAW sources report that General Motors is apparently prepared to demand a freeze on wages and benefits when the July contract negotiations begin. The sources say that GM is conducting a campaign to target high labor costs as a serious threat to the industry's recovery.

With the union leadership under tremendous pressure to reverse the trend of give-backs in recent contracts, the United Auto

Workers is said to have completely rejected any wage freeze proposal. There is now a much better than 50% chance that the union will be forced to strike at the expiration of their current contract on Sept. 14, according to these sources.

In addition, auto industry spokesmen said June 15 that ongoing strikes by metalworkers in West Germany could lead to layoffs in U.S. auto firms, should bottlenecks develop in the supply of parts from idled German companies.

Both GM and Ford indicated that the strikes could affect their production in the United States, although they refused to give details.

Club of Rome group for 'population contraction'

Club of Rome president and co-founder Dr. Alexander King was proven a liar at the World Futures Conference, held in Washington, D.C. June 13 and 14. Although King proclaimed that "despite the notoriety of our *Limits to Growth* report, it is simply not true we are for zero growth," in another room at the conference, a Washington-based group called Carrying Capacity presented a report concluding that by the end of this century the United States will no longer be producing huge agricultural surpluses which can be exported, and that countries dependent on U.S. exports must start cutting back population drastically.

Carrying Capacity head Ed Passerini stated:

"This is not a negative finding. . . . We will cause people to think globally and act locally, by becoming locally self-reliant for food." Passerini denounced efforts such as Israel's, to "make the deserts bloom."

Carrying Capacity executive director Gary Imhoff added: "Limiting population is not enough. Population *contraction* is required for a decent world. Birth reduction is an *imperative*."

The next day, King and other speakers extolled deceased Club of Rome founder

Aurelio Peccei—who advocated cannibalism—as a "great charismatic leader." King called the Club a "very special kind of animal" that evolved out of the injunctions of anthropologist Margaret Mead to "attack all kinds of problems simultaneously." Member Hazel Henderson of Great Britain said, "I almost feel like I'm extraterrestrial; I don't feel like I belong anywhere on this planet."

King, who formed the Club of Rome together with KGB operative Dzherman Gvishiani over a decade ago, later revealed some of his political connections in a private discussion. "I went to a conference of the Soviet Academy of Sciences two years ago in Estonia, and I can assure you that the Soviets are *very* interested in global and international organization. . . . They will be participating in our conference in Helsinki next month."

D.C. doctors 'pioneer' euthanasia case

The Washington, D.C. courts for the first time determined June 4 that a patient with an immediately treatable, life-threatening condition—neither terminally ill nor in a coma—be allowed to refuse treatment and die.

D.C. General Hospital, the only hospital in Washington without a "bioethical review board," petitioned the D.C. Superior Court in early June to prove that Bertha Harris, an elderly diabetic patient, was incapable of making decisions about her medical treatment. The hospital asked permission to amputate her gangrenous leg before the infection spread throughout her system, killing her. Harris had previously lost her other leg to gangrene.

When the patient refused the operation, Barbara Mishkin, Deputy Director of the now defunct Abrams Commission, was appointed her representative. Mishkin declared that her client's decision against the operation should be accepted, because she is not 30 or 40 years old and does not have a full life in front of her. Mishkin brought in

Dr. Joanne Lynn, another member of the Abrams Commission, who testified that doctors like the ones at D.C. General who said, "This cannot happen . . . this is suicide. . . . gested that antibiotics could alleviate the gangrene.

Judge Foutleroy of the Superior Court ruled the patient incompetent the last week of May, and ordered the operation to be performed. Mishkin brought the case to the D.C. Court of Appeals, which instructed Foutleroy to review their decision. Foutleroy reversed his opinion on June 4, saying the hospital did not show adequate proof of Harris's incapacity.

While the hospital has the option to return to court with new proof, Mishkin, who says that "bioethical cases are addicting," is determined to make this "pioneer" euthanasia case a precedent to be used in similar cases nationally.

U.S. nuclear expert deems Bethe a 'know-nothing'

Dr. Lowell Wood, a Lawrence Livermore Laboratory physicist, denounced American Pugwash physicist Hans Bethe as a "know-nothing" and incompetent to make judgments on the question of anti-ballistic missile defensive systems.

Bethe has consistently claimed that beam weapon defense cannot work, and recently helped write a report for the Boston-based Union of Concerned Scientists dismissing space-based beam weapons on the grounds that "the enemy could easily outsmart such weapons." According to the June 14 *International Herald Tribune*, Bethe proclaimed X-ray lasers "unfeasible. . . . The great question is whether you can get an X-ray laser up high enough before the booster has burned out and started to dispense decoys and warheads," Bethe stated after visiting the X-ray laser development center at the Lawrence Livermore National Lab in California. "But that," he added, "is not so easy because the earth is round."

Dr. Lowell Wood, the physicist in charge of the X-ray lasers at Livermore, answered Bethe in the *Tribune*:

"Is Hans Bethe a good physicist? Yes, he's one of the best alive. Is he a rocket engineer? No. Is he a military systems engineer? No. Is he a general? No. Has he ever put a weapon in the stockpile? No. Has he ever fought a war? No. Everybody around here respects Hans Bethe enormously as a physicist. But weapons are my profession. He dabbles as a military systems analyst."

Eastern Establishment targets U.S. intelligence

"The KGB couldn't have written a better article against U.S. intelligence capabilities than the one the *New York Times* wrote," a U.S. intelligence source reported, referring to the June 8 front page article entitled "U.S. Military Creates Secret Units For Sensitive Task Abroad."

This article revealed details on the newly created Joint Special Operations Agency under the command of Maj. Gen. Wesley Rice and the special counterterrorist operations mandated by President Reagan.

The *Times'* revelations were made as the United States faces the threat of terrorism at the summer Olympic Games, the Republican and Democratic national conventions, and the presidential campaign. Intelligence community sources state that most of the information for the article was released by certain Senate and House Intelligence Committee members.

Especially targeted by the *Times* are the secret training facilities of the Navy Sea Air Land (SEAL), the commando force involved in pre-invasion operations to liberate the island of Grenada from its Soviet-backed coup. The article asserts that Army Special Forces and secret counterterrorist teams will have to be brought under "liberal" congressional "oversight." These teams were set up in the wake of the failed rescue attempt on the Iranian hostages and the rescue of NATO Gen. James Lee Dozier from the Red Brigades in Italy.

Briefly

● **BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD** has launched a new initiative to slash the availability of high-technology medical care as a "cost-cutting" measure. The company, one of the largest medical-insurance providers in the world, announced on June 13 that it has developed guidelines to reduce the number of "unneeded" tests it claims are routinely performed by hospitals and physicians. The tests in question include such crucial diagnostic methods as X-rays, CAT scans, ultrasound, mammography, and radionuclide imaging. The American College of Radiology and seven other professional organizations assisted the company in developing the guidelines.

● **THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS** union national leadership plans to hold a mass march and rally on June 24 in support of striking Local 14 workers at the AP Parts plant in Toledo, Ohio. Local 14 walked out on May 2 when the company refused to bargain on demands for 35% wage and benefit cuts. The demonstration will include UAW president Owen Bieber and officials from the AFL-CIO

● **LYNDON LAROUCHE'S** half-hour broadcast attacking Soviet contamination of U.S. defense policy centers, particularly Gen. Danny Graham's High Frontier "alternative" to beam weapons defense systems, was "mislaidd" by CBS television June 11. CBS substituted another LaRouche program. The LaRouche Campaign had planned the broadcast of the speech on strategic defense policy to precede a series of critical congressional votes on funding defense programs. Despite the CBS "blunder," LaRouche's statement was broadcast in the Washington, D.C. area three times the week of June 11: on Washington stations June 14 and 16, and on CBS from Baltimore June 15. The network gave The LaRouche Campaign a half-hour of free time June 15 because of the error.