

to the conclusion that any money lent to Africa, is lost money. And since when have bankers had a conscience?"

Then, this fellow admitted that the real issue is reducing Africa's population: "The population viewpoint toward Africa is very clear," he said. "We have never had the slightest doubt that Africa should master its demography. Schmidt and [Japan's Takeo] Fukuda have always been extraordinarily open, frank, and direct on this point at Inter-Action Council meetings. They would like to see smaller growth rates of population."

Asked if Schmidt et al. were not sufficiently satisfied that general famine, AIDS, locust spread, etc., were reducing world population, he said: "All these factors don't produce many deaths. They are really not affecting, in quantitative terms, population growth. They are factors that count in the *many thousands*, which is nothing compared to the *millions* born every day. I agree, Africa is a place where AIDS will be devastating. There *will be* more and more famine. And, Africa will suffer all kinds of locust plague. But all these factors together, do not limit the fact that there has been an incredible *extension of life span*, thanks to medical drugs, vaccination, eradication of smallpox, and the like. *Natural*, extraordinary causes which provoke *death*, do not balance out *man-made* interventions which increase *life*."

Schmidt is a policy spokesman for the elite banking families of Hamburg, including Warburg, Brinckmann, Toepfer, and others, as well as powerful elements in the Swiss and Venetian banking-insurance cartels. His Inter-Action Council Policy Board will be holding a meeting on Africa, in Harare, Zimbabwe, from March 20-22 (see *EIR*, No. 7, Feb. 19, 1988).

World Bank: Projects spread AIDS

A variant on the Schmidt/Inter-Action theme, is coming from the World Bank in Washington, D.C., which is now arguing that development projects in Africa *cause* the spread of AIDS, and therefore must give way to new "priorities."

The World Bank argument was endorsed in the Feb. 8, 1988 edition of the newsletter of the Berne, Switzerland Ost Institute, directed by one Dr. Peter Sager. The newsletter draws attention to a "highly disturbing document about the economic aspects of AIDS," published in Washington by the World Bank, "the most important financial institution dealing with multi-national development assistance."

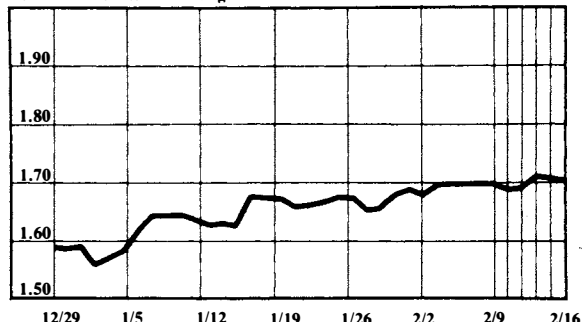
The newsletter writes: "The World Bank thinks that economic aid and technical cooperation has itself contributed to the spread of AIDS throughout the world. Technical assistance personnel from the industrialized countries become infected and bring the disease home. One of the results is that AIDS is by no means restricted to Africa, and the economic consequences are spreading."

A Sager aide recently admitted, "Dr. Sager points to the fact that population in Western Europe is stable, while the population of Africa is rising too fast. . . . The point of racial imbalance comes across."

Currency Rates

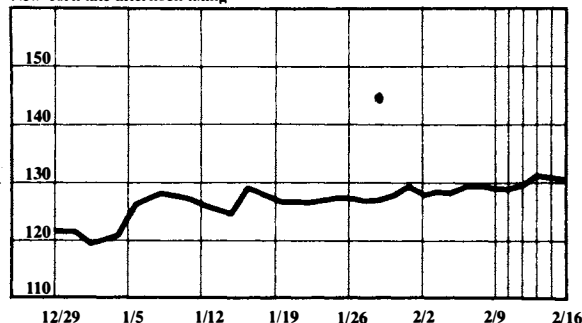
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



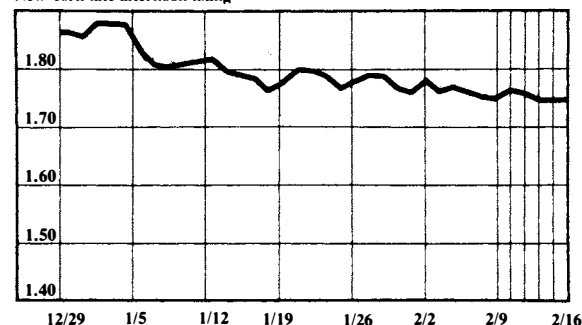
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

