

# Ecoindustry pursues 'unholy genocide'

by Dr. J. Gordon Edwards

*J. Gordon Edwards is a professor of biology at San Jose State University, San Jose, California.*

Imagine how DDT would have been praised in the press and on radio and television if organizations with the financial clout and the plethora of uncensored publications of the Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), and more than 150 other pseudo-environmental groups were campaigning to *protect* it, rather than to outlaw it. This chemical has saved more human lives and enhanced human existence far more than any other ever devised by humans. There would have been television specials aplenty, revealing the spectacular success of DDT, and every magazine and newspaper would have been peppered with the following facts:

DDT saved millions of human lives during the past 25 years, by controlling the insects that transmit disease to people—the mosquitoes that give us malaria, yellow fever, encephalitis, and elephantiasis, the lice that transmit typhus, the flea vectors of plague, and the tsetse flies that spread African sleeping sickness and nagana. These horrible ailments are not simply a part of the “good old days” before pesticides . . . they are still prevalent in many countries today. They are still being fought desperately by the World Health Organization, the Pan-American Health Organization, the U.S. Public Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control, the Agency for International Development, and many other dedicated groups of humanitarians, *and pesticides are still their major weapons!*

DDT has eliminated much of the illness that formerly prevented millions of inhabitants of tropical lands from performing a good day's work. DDT permitted people to occupy and produce food in large areas of Africa, India, and Asia that were formerly uninhabitable because of disease-bearing insects and other arthropods. This was especially important, for malnutrition in children causes irreversible brain damage, dooming the victims to a life of subnormal mentality and inferior accomplishments.

DDT and other pesticides contributed heavily to the spectacular agricultural success in the United States and abroad, boosting farm productivity, raising farm income, and keeping food costs low. The many businesses that depend on agriculture prospered far more than they could have if crops still depended on arsenic, cyanide, fluorine, nicotine, lead,

lime-sulfur, and the other “natural” pre-DDT insecticides, (and more than they ever will if pesticides are forcibly replaced by “alternative control measures”).

## Forests, wildlife saved

DDT saved hundreds of millions of acres of forest in North America from decimation by gypsy moths and other insect pests, and thereby prevented extensive flood damage and loss of topsoil. When forests are destroyed, the natural home of much of our wildlife is also gone and the ecosystem is adversely affected for decades, probably forever. In the 1950s, DDT eradicated gypsy moth populations in the eastern United States wherever it was properly applied. Forestry experts pointed out that “there was no survival of the insect. This has been proved by the work conducted in Pennsylvania from 1944 to 1958, where no infestation has ever survived a single aerial treatment with DDT, on 1,109,458 acres” (Nichols, J.O., Pennsylvania Miscellaneous Bulletin No. 4404).

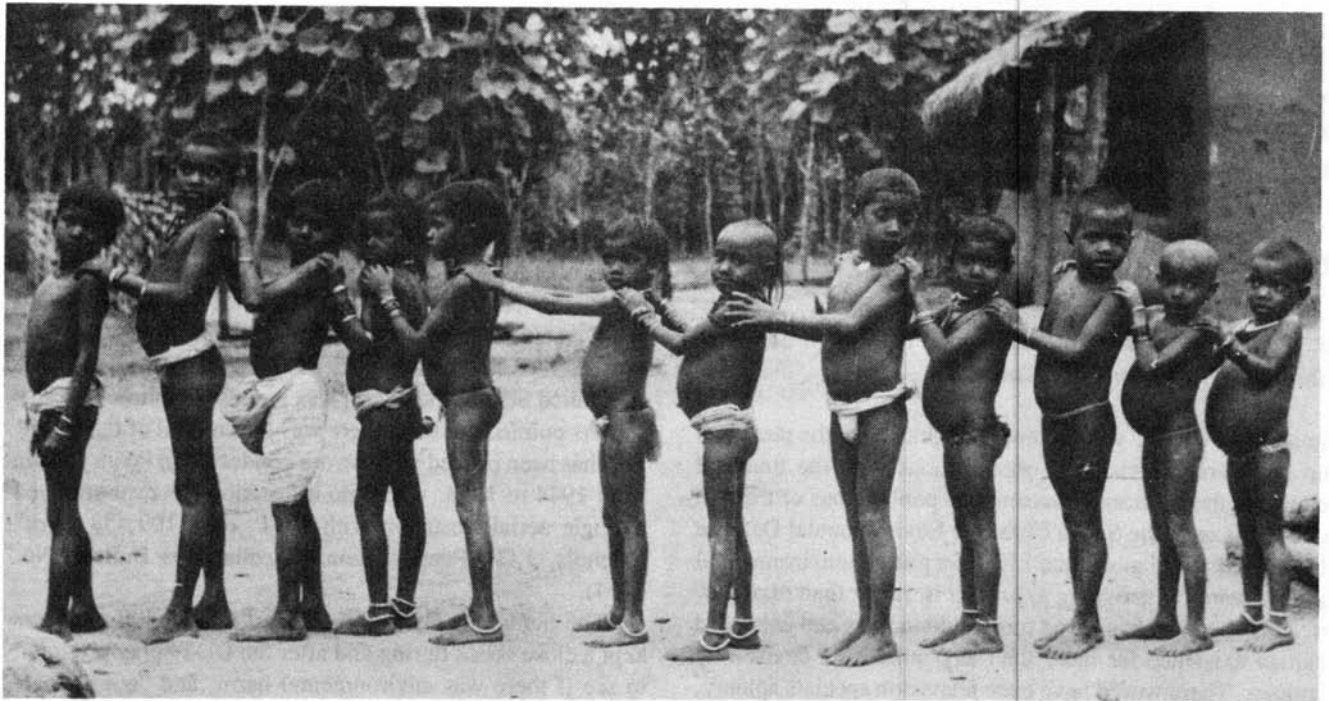
The Scranton, Pennsylvania Bird Club's 400 members kept a close check during and after the DDT spray program, to see if there was environmental harm, and “not a single case of poisoning attributable to the DDT treatment was reported.”

A National Audubon Society study by C.T. Brues reported in 1947 that “following the destruction of gypsy moth caterpillars by spraying DDT, the woodland presented a much healthier appearance and provided an apparently optimum environment for the natural animal fauna.” Audubon officials were satisfied that “no damage had been done to bird life, including nestling birds.”

After DDT use was stopped, that pest spread quickly through every eastern state, killing millions of mature oak trees and other hardwoods, as well as conifers and underbrush. Birds, mammals, and other wildlife will suffer for decades as a result.

Small infestations of gypsy moths have been eradicated in the western United States, but the cost was hundreds of times greater than if they had been treated with a pound of DDT. An uncontrollable catastrophe is now facing us because a new strain of gypsy moth has been imported on larch logs from Siberia. Unlike the European strain, which was so destructive in the eastern states, this new strain has females that fly, and it will certainly not be easy to contain them, even if DDT use is again permitted (as it finally was, to control a destructive Douglas-fir tussock moth outbreak that had persisted for several years in the 1970s).

The Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Counts determined that there were notable *increases* in the numbers of birds seen during the 20 years of greatest DDT presence. The increase could be attributed, in part, to the control of plant pests, resulting in more natural food in forests, prairies, and marshes, more abundant cover, and safer nest-sites. However, DDT in the diet has repeatedly been shown to



*Malaria-infected children in India. One of the symptoms of the disease is an enlarged spleen. DDT saved more lives than any other chemical invented by man, and the zero population growth people were so mad about that, they banned it.*

enhance the production of hepatic enzymes in mammals and birds. Those enzymes inhibit tumors and cancers in humans as well as wildlife.

### **DDT decreased cancer risk**

DDT apparently prevented cancer in humans with a high daily exposure to the chemical in DDT manufacturing plants. Among workers there, U.S. Public Health Service researchers found that there was not a single case of cancer during massive exposures of 9-19 years. Those workers used no protective equipment, and contained up to 630 parts per million (ppm) of DDT residues in their fat tissue, compared with normal levels of less than 10 ppm in non-employees. Other health researchers fed DDT to volunteers at rates up to 35 milligrams per day for nearly two years, with no adverse effects. (The average intake by normal Americans at that time was about 13 milligrams *per year*, indicating the total lack of harm from traces of DDT in our diet.)

DDT did not readily kill honey bees, as did the "substitutes" that replaced it (70-85,000 colonies of bees were killed annually in California by those substitutes). Bee pollination is essential for the production of high yields of most crops, so agriculture suffered greatly as a result of the DDT ban.

The World Health Organization (WHO) stated: "This remarkable chemical lifted millions of people from starving, malnourished, disease-ridden level of existence at which they had previously languished. It was sprayed on the inside walls of homes, which resulted in the death of malarial mosquitoes that rested on the walls after a blood meal. The mosquitoes,

therefore, did not live to transmit the parasites to other people in the vicinity, and epidemics of malaria were abruptly halted." In 1965, the National Academy of Sciences wrote, "In a little more than two decades, DDT has prevented 500 million deaths that would otherwise have been inevitable." The July 1990 issue of *World Watch* stated: With more than 1 million Amazon dwellers expected to succumb to malaria this year alone, Brazil has a major health crisis on its hands. DDT is fast-acting, long-lasting, and cheaper than any other pesticide that works on mosquitoes." In 1973, the WHO stated that 100 million human beings who would have died of insect-borne diseases are alive today because of DDT. A German study takes issue with this figure in *Parasitology Today* (vol. 5), saying that the actual studies in many tropical countries indicate that the figure should be five times that high, for it includes 300 million cases in Africa, 170 million in Asia, and 15 million in Latin America, and about 2.3 million will probably die every year of malaria alone!

Dr. William Bowers, head of the entomology department at the University of Arizona, cites DDT as "the most important discovery of all time" and estimates that "in malaria control alone it saved almost 3 billion lives."

In his autobiography, Dr. Albert Schweitzer wrote: "How much labor and waste of time these wicked insects do cause us . . . but a ray of hope, in the use of DDT, is now held out to us." Rachel Carson dedicated *Silent Spring* to Dr. Schweitzer, but implied that he was opposed to DDT and other pesticides.

In view of these biological and humanitarian considera-

tions, Rachel Carson, the Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, and the Environmental Defense Fund might have campaigned successfully for the construction of great monuments to DDT. Instead, the so-called "environmental" groups devoted millions of dollars to the campaign *against* DDT. Their activities doomed millions of acres of forest, ruined the natural habitat by permitting needless devastation of native vegetation, depleted agricultural productivity, and doomed hundreds of millions of people to death from insect-borne disease, malnutrition, and starvation. Their lack of concern for human life was exemplified by the Sierra Club president in 1971 when he told reporters: "The Sierra Club wants a ban on DDT, even in tropical countries where it has kept malaria under control." Similar statements have been made by leaders of most other so-called environmental organizations.

### Attacking humanity

*Why would these organizations take this strong anti-DDT position?* It doesn't take much research to arrive at an answer. Those opponents of DDT were better financed and better staffed than any other propaganda force in history, receiving donations from hundreds of thousands of citizens who have been convinced that the organizations deserve their financial support. Pseudo-environmentalism is truly a big business! Their tax-exempt income has financed the publication of glossy advocacy journals and books, in which censorship is absolute. The readers are so thoroughly brainwashed that it is not surprising that they become biased against pesticides. The same holds true for a great proportion of the writers and reporters for magazines and newspapers, as well as television and radio personnel. I believe the majority have good intentions and noble goals, but few realize the true objectives of the ecoindustry. The major goals of those groups are *first*, the accumulation of money and property, *second*, the enhancement of political power, and *third*, the decimation of humans in the Third World countries by any means possible.

Dr. Charles Wurster, alleged to be the "chief scientist" for the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), wrote in *BioScience*: "If the environmentalists can win on DDT, they will achieve a level of authority they have never had before. In a sense, then, much more is at stake than DDT."

Dr. Wurster also illustrated the third point outlined above, when, according to Victor Yannacone, a founder of the Environmental Defense Fund, he responded to a reporter's question if banning DDT would not result in the further use of much more toxic insecticides, answering: "So what. People are the cause of all the problems; we have too many of them; we need to get rid of some of them, and this is as good a way as any." Yannacone also reported Wurster's response to a reporter's question about the relative value of humans and pelicans, which was: "It really doesn't make a lot of difference because the organophosphates act locally and only kill farm workers."

Such "environmentalist" views about humans are not

scarce: Lamonte Cole told a college audience that "to feed a starving child is to exacerbate the overpopulation problem." Alexander King, the president of the Club of Rome, which is active in more than 40 countries on five continents, wrote: "My own doubts came when DDT was introduced for civilian use. In Guyana, within two years it had almost eliminated malaria. So my chief quarrel with DDT in hindsight is that it has greatly added to the population problem."

### Ecoindustry is well financed

Financially, the non-profit, tax-exempt pseudo-environmental groups are even more incredible. The September 1990 issue of *Outside* magazine listed many of those organizations and discussed their methods and their finances. Environmental Defense Fund president Fred Krupp has a salary of \$125,000; Audubon president Peter Berle makes \$140,000; National Wildlife president Jay Hair gets \$200,000, plus his chauffeur; Natural Resources Defense Council president John Adams gets \$120,000, and his senior attorneys receive \$80,000; the Nature Conservancy president makes \$185,000 (and the group has assets of \$600 million); Sierra Club president Mike Fisher only draws \$85,000 (he recently resigned, and no wonder!); the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund's president does better, earning \$133,000; Wilderness Society president George Frampton receives \$120,000; the head of the American Wildlife Foundation is paid \$122,000; and the World Wildlife Fund limps along with Kathryn Fuller getting \$188,000 and Russell Train \$102,000. Not bad, for the non-profit groups that Americans are frightened into supporting.

So, we continue to be victimized daily by untruthful propaganda by organizations whose major business is the accumulation of money and power, and unholy genocide in underdeveloped countries throughout the tropics. They seek to win even further concessions at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June and, perhaps, will get an international green police force empowered to boost their power and income still further.

Originally, I was concerned about pseudo-environmentalism primarily because of the untruthful and unethical behavior of a few "scientists" who were pandering to the ecoindustry, for the sake of a few grants and publications. That still bothers me, but the "big picture" has gotten much larger, and is still growing. Without the help of our news media [to expose the fraud], they will become more and more powerful and, perhaps, succeed in becoming the most powerful force in the world. They had only a few million dollars with which to fight against DDT, but they succeeded (thanks to William Ruckelshaus, who overruled the judge after seven months of hearings by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). Now they have billions of dollars and almost total media support to launch even more destructive fraudulent propaganda concerning "global warming," the "greenhouse effect," "the hole in the ozone," and so on and on and on.

It really makes you think!