

## **Congressional Closeup** by Ronald Kokinda and Susan Kokinda

### **Abscam's Giuliani backs labor witchhunt**

Former Associate Attorney General Rudolph Giuliani, one of the fathers of the Abscam frame-up operations, is lobbying behind the scenes for passage of labor racketeering legislation S.366, a bill which puts the burden of proof of innocence on any accused official, a violation of the U.S. Constitution.

Giuliani, who was nominated the week of April 11 by the White House to become U.S. Attorney for the Southern District, has reportedly told congressional "friends" that he wants quick passage of the legislation, which is backed by AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland. Giuliani is said to plan to "clean out the east coast labor movement" of some of Kirkland's enemies and thinks that the easy frame-up and built-in blackmail provisions of the new law would facilitate the job.

Under the bill, sponsored by Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) and co-sponsored by Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and others, an indicted union official would be immediately removed from office and barred from holding union office for 10 years, regardless of his right to appeal.

"It will make any prosecutor like Giuliani's life much easier," a staffer on the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee stated. "All he will need to do is get enough evidence for an indictment. Then he can force union leaders to cop a deal, leave office or face expulsion and loss of their union benefits and pensions. It will be like shooting ducks on a still lake."

The staffer reported the law will apply retroactively to convicted trade union leaders like Teamsters President Roy Williams. "Williams is out

of office the minute the law is passed," said the staffer. "So will a few hundred other people. There will be a wholesale housecleaning in the labor movement without any new prosecutions."

With Kirkland lobbying hard for the legislation, sponsors expect that it will come up for a vote on the Senate floor by May 1, where its passage is all but certain.

The bill may also pass the House. Rep. Phil Burton (D-Calif.), who died of a heart attack in early April, had tied the bill up in the Judiciary Committee last year and was expected to do the same thing this year. No other member of the House Judiciary Committee has stated any intention to oppose the bill.

"Things are looking real good for passage this year, possibly by late June," said the Senate Labor Committee staffer.

### **House subcommittee's war on drugs**

The role of the Netherlands Antilles as a haven for tax evasion, drug-money laundering, and other dirty money operations was reviewed by Congressmen and experts on illicit banking operations at hearings held April 12 in the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer and Monetary Affairs. The hearings revealed that the Netherlands Antilles may be perhaps the leading drug money laundering center off the continental U.S. shore, and that its government is probably complicit in the money laundering activities.

Testifying at the hearings were William Anderson from the General Accounting Office; Robert Edwards from the Florida Department of Law

Enforcement; Dr. Charles Kimball, a Florida real estate expert; Robert Butcher, a Citibank vice-president; and Marshal Langer, an international attorney on tax law. About 150 people attended the hearings; the audience took all available copies of the testimony.

Committee organizers of the hearings have been in regular contact with the Senate's Permanent Investigations Subcommittee, which recently issued a broader report on offshore banking havens and drug-running, called "Crime and Secrecy." In that report, attention is devoted to proposals forwarded by the International Monetary Fund for combating drug money laundering through an IMF-run Currency Authority for the Eastern Caribbean.

Officials at the IMF's central banking division now report that they are "in disagreement" with the conclusions of the investigation, and other U.S. studies on money-laundering.

According to an IMF official who helped to create the Currency Authority for the eastern Caribbean, the United States investigations have only presented the crime and drug problem from "the U.S. standpoint," ignoring the "views and interests of the offshore countries" which benefit from their banking industries.

### **Bipartisan attack on beam weapon policy**

Republican Sen. Larry Pressler presided over hearings in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the subject of the militarization of space on April 14. Committee Chairman Charles Percy (R-Ill.) praised him for his "initiative and dedication" in opposing spaced based weapons sys-

tems. Pressler replied that he looked forward to confronting administration spokesmen who had promised to appear before the committee in May.

The witnesses invited to testify on this question were retired Lt. General Daniel "Rube Goldberg" Graham, an advocate of spaced-based tomato soup cans filled with buckshot for ballistic missile defense; Dr. George Rathjens of MIT, a professional cultural pessimist; Jan Lodall, formerly Henry Kissinger's arms control expert; and Daniel Deudney of the Malthusian World Watch Institute. Pressler had refused to invite specialists from the Fusion Energy Foundation or the *EIR*.

Asked to estimate what it would take to develop a space-based laser weapons system, Deudney announced, "I have no technical expertise in this area." He had been added to the list of witnesses at the last moment through the efforts of Carol Rossin, who leads the newly formed Institute for Security and Cooperation in Outer Space, which, according to her account and confirmed by additional observations, cooperates closely with the Soviets in trying to curb U.S. military programs in space.

Pressler opened the hearing by lying that, in his historic March 23 address, President Reagan had said that his ballistic missile defense system would be viewed as aggressive if it were not preceded by nuclear weapons reductions. Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), countered Pressler by saying that he found the President's message "gratifying," then proceeded to praise the "High Frontier" proposal promoted by witness Graham.

Jan Lodall, the first witness called, underlined the role which Graham plays in the current strategic debate. Himself an enemy of all anti-ballistic

missile systems, Lodall praised Graham for convincing him that his low-technology system was better than lasers. This affinity between Graham and the opponents of space weapons was underscored by Rathjens, who also said he thought "projectiles carrying explosive warheads" would be more effective than "lasers or particle beams"

## **H**atfield reintroduces Global 2000 legislation

Senator Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) has reintroduced legislation to establish an Interagency Council on Global Resources, Environment, and Population, which would carry out the policies put forward in the Carter administration's *Global 2000 Report*.

The Global Resources, Environment, and Population Act of 1983, S. 1025, would make a policy of global and national "population stabilization" a goal of the United States. The legislation would mandate that the U.S. government, in cooperation with the newly established Interagency Council, to "identify and develop methods and procedures [to] ensure that the promotion of national and global population stabilization will be considered . . . in planning and decision making in such agencies."

The legislation emphasizes that worldwide population growth is a national security matter, and "encourages . . . voluntary" national population stabilization.

Hatfield praised the Kissinger-directed creation of the ad hoc population group within the National Security Council in 1975 as well as the genocidal *Global 2000* and *Global Futures* reports.

In relating his legislation to U.S. domestic economic conditions, he points to the demographic shift of workers from the industrial cities of the northern Midwest to the Sunbelt brought about by the collapse of the auto and steel industries, implying that such a pattern is inevitable and must be taken into account in future national policymaking.

## **H**ouse votes up emergency farm credit

A great many farmers across the United States are now unable to obtain the credit they need to finance planting spring crops from the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), which is the source of credit for farmers unable to qualify for private or commercial loans, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture approved \$600 million in new federal loan money on April 13. FmHA funds have run out in 17 states.

Agriculture Secretary John Block has evaded questions as to when the administration would decide to make new funds for FmHA loans available. If the administration comes up with new loan money, the subcommittee will not push the \$600 million dollar appropriation forward.

The subcommittee also voted to bar the FmHA from foreclosing or trying to collect current loans held by farmers if they were unable to receive new operating loans.

The House Rules Committee has also granted a rule allowing consideration of another emergency farm credit bill, which would give \$200 million to the fiscal year 1983 operating loan authority. This emergency legislation would permit longer-term loan.