EIRInternational

Western leaders endorse 'ozone' insanity in London

by John Sigerson

The results of a huge, three-day international conference in London, England March 6-9—held ostensibly to deal with those gaping holes in the Earth's ozone layer—would be enough to convince anyone that most leaders of the Western industrialized world have crossed the border into insanity, in their drive to live up to Mikhail Gorbachov's statement last December at the U.N., that industrial progress is humanity's major enemy. Not only the pro-Soviet British Royal Family-from whom one would expect such things-joined in approving the quack-theory that "ozone holes" are caused by the use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and signed on to the so-called Montreal Protocol which would ban CFCs in aerosols, hair-spray, and refrigerators; but U.S. President George Bush, under heavy pressure from William Reilly of the Environmental Protection Agency, has also joined the ranks of the malthusians by signing on as well.

The issue at the conference went way beyond banning CFCs—which is bad enough, since it would ruin the already far too scant refrigeration and food-handling capabilities of the nations of the Third World. As Prince Charles laid out in his keynote to the conference, the governments of the West are now moving to "challenge the power of any industrial lobby which seeks to ignore or disprove such matters of global environmental concern." Those "matters" include such things as modern intensive farming methods, sophisticated chemical production, and other industrial processes which are in fact essential to increasing the relative population potential of the human species.

Whether they care to admit it or not, the Western industrialized powers who joined Prince Charles at the London conference, are not only signing their own death warrants as industrialized nations, but are giving their dubious blessing to the murder of millions, and quite likely billions of human

beings on this planet.

Fortunately for humanity, certain nations, such as Brazil, and certain factions within nations, such as in the United States, are not so easily convinced of the benefits of this genocidal malthusian world order. And even in the Soviet Union, the *Nomenklatura* is apparently not 100% behind Gorbachov's drive to realize a Satanic "New Age" of technological putrefaction. If the Western powers continue this drive much longer, the popular explosion in Venezuela against such policies is only a mild foretaste of what is to come.

The London conference on "saving the ozone layer" was the the biggest eco-extravaganza to date on this theme. Representatives from 124 countries were in attendance, including ministers from 85 countries. It was sponsored by the British government and the United Nations Environment Program. Representing the U.S. at the conference was William Reilly, former head of the World Wildlife Fund and now head of the EPA. Top-level U.S. participation in the conference virtually assured that most nations would support the Montreal Protocol, which aims to reduce CFCs by 50% by the end of the century, and by 1995 to completely phase out other chemicals said to deplete the ozone layer.

Prince Charles set the overall tone of the conference with a neo-fascist tirade against man's irritating habit of using technology to improve nature. "We thought the world belonged to us. Now we begin to realize that we belong to the world. We are responsible to it, and each other," he said. "We can't pretend that we aren't aware of the potential long-term dangers to the intricate balance of nature. Since the industrial revolution, human beings have been upsetting that balance, persistently choosing the short-term options, and to hell with the long-term repercussions. . . .

"Like the sorcerer's apprentice causing havoc in his mas-

32 International EIR March 17, 1989

ter's home when he couldn't control the spell which he had released, mankind runs a similar risk of laying waste his earthly home by thinking that he is in control of things when he's clearly not."

As for those governments which might beg to disagree, Charles proposed that means be found to force them to comply: "I do not believe that it is enough to rely on voluntary action alone; there should be an obligation to intervene as, and when appropriate to accelerate or enforce environmental measures."

By proposing to enforce the reduction in vital industrial processes throughout the world, Charles is merely proving the adage coined by a wise old man, that the worst polluters of the environment, are the environmentalists. The hoax about the "ozone hole" is typical of the fairy-stories which they have come up with to buttress their basic hostility to technological progress. In fact, there is no such thing as a manmade "ozone hole," which was ostensibly "discovered" in 1985. It has been sufficiently demonstrated that during midyear, the ozone layer at the North and South Poles (where the ozone ostensibly "seeps out"), is just as dense as in other parts of the world. Already in 1956 and 1957, the ozone researcher Dobson did studies which indicated that it was a seasonal variation, with annual fluctuations. Not surprisingly, the "ozone lobby" has tried to play down the fact that, although ozone levels were very low in 1987, they went back up again in 1988.

Or, consider Prince Philip, head of the World Wildlife Fund, who just happened to be giving a lecture on BBC on the dangers of modern agriculture while the ozone conference was taking place. Philip accused modern intensive farming methods for having "created their own problems of disease in livestock reared under intensive systems." But the biggest enemy of all, he said, is "the damage that the rapid growth of the human population is doing to the natural environment; it is causing almost insoluble difficulties for many of the poorer countries, in the provision of adequate housing, water supplies, schools, hospitals, and, above all, employment." And who caused this population growth? Why, the farmer himself! "Agriculture," he explained, "requires regular work for most of the year, while in years of plenty at least, it seems as if predation [i.e., hunting] is getting something for nothing until demand exceeds supply." As the London Independent remarked, Philip "seemed to be extolling the virtues of the hunter . . . over the farmer, who created an engine for population growth."

Brazil revolts

While many countries represented at the conference—notably India and China—indicated a willingness to submit to these malthusian policies, a group of Ibero-American nations led by Brazil declared a revolt against the attempts by their foreign creditors to use indebtedness as a bludgeon in order to force compliance. The revolt came to a head a few weeks ago, when Brazil's President José Sarney was invited

to a "consultative meeting" at The Hague in the Netherlands, scheduled for March 11-12, in order to discuss various "debt-for-nature" schemes with European de-industrialization enthusiasts such as Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. Sarney declined the invitation when it became clear that the main purpose of the affair was to hold Brazil up to public scorn for refusing to hand over its sovereign control over its natural resources to its international creditors. According to the West German daily *Die Welt*, the entire leadership in Brazil is now angered by these attempts to "internationalize" the Amazon rain forest. "The Amazon is not an ecological reservoir for humanity," one Brazilian official is quoted.

On March 6, the nations of the entire Amazon Pact—Brazil, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Paraguay, Guyana, Peru, and Surinam—gathered in Quito to announce that they "reject any foreign interference over member countries' actions or policies in Amazonia," and gave their total backing to Brazil against pressure on it for international surveillance over the Amazon as a condition for debt relief. "Pressure exerted on any one member forces all of us to act jointly and in sympathy," warned Ecuadorian Foreign Minister Diego Cordóvez.

The vehemence of the declaration was unprecedented. As Reuters news service observed, "The language of their final statement was strong, considering that the Amazon Pact was viewed as a basically non-political, economic cooperation treaty when it was signed in 1978." But especially following the events in Venezuela, that is rapidly changing. Brazilian Gen. Leonidas Pires Gonçalves is quoted in news accounts charging that the pressures on Brazil have been orchestrated by "false ecologists" seeking "the internationalization of the whole of the Amazon." "It's a frenzy. The Brazilian press is running amok and so is the Brazilian government," complained one Western diplomat in Brazil.

Moscow contradicts own propaganda

Judging from its own propaganda, Moscow might have been expected to fully endorse the creation of "supra-governmental control over the ecological situation," as the Soviet weekly *New Times* recently put it. But instead, Soviet officials attending the ozone conference refused to endorse the Montreal Protocol, arguing that not enough data was available, and that any such bans on CFCs and halons "should be well-grounded and should have a purely scientific basis." Vladimir Zakharov, chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Protection of the Ozone layer, even announced that he has found that the 25% depletion of the ozone layer over northwest Russia "was probably caused by atmospheric and geophysical factors rather than CFCs."

This apparent Soviet shift away from Gorbachov's malthusian New Age policies has potentially vast implications for the powerful convulsions within the Soviet leadership. It is, however, too early to draw definite conclusions from their action.

EIR March 17, 1989 International 33