Bank from these sort of mega-projects, huge dams and so forth, toward something that's more sustainable, environmental, appropriate technology-oriented?

Strong: Well, you know, the good thing about Jim is that he had most of these convictions for many years. I worked with him way back at the Stockholm Conference in 1972. He was there. He was one of the bright young men. So, he's had a long interest in these issues. He didn't need me to advise him on the more fundamental things such as incorporating the people aspects, as he's done, the social aspects, the environmental aspects. He knew not just to rely just on the big megaprojects, but to bring in the NGOs, the little people, citizens, religious leaders, foundation leaders. Those things he already had in mind and on his agenda, when he came. If I was any help, it was more a matter of helping him to actually implement some of those things.

Q: One of the companies my researcher came across that had been involved with both financially and ethically was Molten Metal.... Now, Vice President Gore praised this as a breakthrough technology, and I believe Peter Knight, who was a lobbyist for Molten Metal, became the 1996 Clinton/Gore campaign manager, so I assume you know him?

Strong: Well, I don't really know him. I know about him, and I know of his role in the 1996 Clinton/Gore campaign. But, I can't recall that I ever met him, and, if I did, it would have been very superficial—

Q: I understand that some people may be in litigation with Molten Metal, and there were some claims that there was some sharp trading going on. What can you tell me about Molten Metal, as it involves you and the Vice President? How viable was this technology?

Strong: Well, from what I know and understood, and I believe the operations are proving it out now, the technology is an effective one. However, the problem with the company was that it takes sometimes more time and more money to develop certain technologies. And, sometimes they're not quite as economical as it would appear. And, so the company's problems were related more to the fact that they got ahead of themselves financially—

Q: You mean with the Vice President's support? Was he being iced out by the Department of Energy, because it seems like the Department of Energy cut off the research and development technology, that related to this—

Strong: Well, first of all, the first funding that Molten Metal got from the U.S. government was from a Republican administration, so, although much was made of the fact that they also got money from—I think more money eventually—from a Democratic administration, it came through the professional, rather than the political process.

Q: I see. So, the Vice President had nothing to say about

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how, "Look, I've just said that this is one of the technologies that must be developed to reprocess hazardous waste, and, to have that effect, you must give more money."

Strong: I don't have a deeper knowledge of the particulars, but I do understand that the Vice President based his statement on a briefing from officials of the Department of Energy, who had a genuine knowledge of it and a genuine interest in it. It had been those officials who had promoted it for funding. My understanding is that there was some form of investigation that made it clear that Vice President Gore had never had anything to do with the allocation of the funding.... Now, of course, who knows? People may have heard his speech, and then been influenced by that—

Q: I understand there was some influence of the speech, at least in terms of the stock market, but apparently he did not have the werewithal to effect the DOE, in terms of continuing the project.

Also, my researcher came across a reference in Peter Munk's book—I guess you know Peter Munk?

Strong: Yes, I know him.

Meet eco-fascist Al Gore

Al Gore, Jr.'s book Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit (published in 1992 by Houghton Mifflin Co. while Gore was a U.S. Senator), like Adolf Hitler's Mein Kampf, has within it the seeds of the next world war, insofar as it is anti-human, Malthusian mumbo-jumbo and pseudo-science which would condemn mankind to a nightmare of "scarce resources" and "biological holocaust." The Earth is like a living being, or a goddess, according to Gore, whose livable surface is its skin, its most important organ. He equates mankind's relationship to nature to rape, or the rampages of the Nazis across Europe. Modern industrial civilization is the equivalent of a dysfunctional family of drunks and drug addicts which abuses its own children, and the radical ecology movement is the modern-day resistance movement against the "real" fascism, that is, "production and consumption."

Gore's genocidal outlook is typified in the following quotes. For example, did you know:

• That the tragic "Irish Potato Famine" was caused—by the Irish!

"Archaic rules of land ownership helped to create a culture of poverty, which in turn resulted in early marriage and further population growth. Between 1779 and 1841 the population increased 172%, making Ireland, by Disraeli's estimate, the most densely populated area of Europe. The fateful decision to rely almost exclusively on a single food

Q: And, it said that Peter Munk had been frozen out of the United States, in terms of his Barrick Gold, by Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. Now, there's a reference in Peter Munk's book, that when he was being stonewalled by Babbitt, in terms of having the connection in the United States to open a gold field here, you helped put him in touch with Al Gore. Can you tell me anything about that?

Strong: No, I didn't actually put him in touch with Al Gore, because he already was in touch with Al Gore. I think through Vernon Jordan. . . . But, he knew that I knew Al Gore, and I might well have been happy to introduce the two, but I didn't actually need to do that, because he already had made contact.

Q: I wonder why he cited you in his book?

Strong: Well, I don't know. But I did send someone out to look at his mine.... You know, whether I thought I was doing a job, because I actually know something about the mining industry—I used to be in it. And, I felt they were doing, from what I could see, from what my expert could see, a very good job with that mine.... It was the one [mine] in the U.S. that I was looking at.... And, I never went to any of their other

mines. The issue there was not so much an environmental issue, as an issue of title under the U.S. regulation or law, people who get mining claims have to pay only a very small royalty. And, the issue at that time with Babbitt, who's also a good friend, was that he used that as an example of a mine that was going to make a vast amount of money, and yet the U.S. government only got a small piece of it.

Q: I think the reserves were estimated at \$10 billion— Strong: Yes, well, Munk's assertion was that, well, yes, but that's been your law for years. We followed the same law. If you want to change the law, that's fine—

Q: But, otherwise, it was an environmentally qualitative operation?

Strong: Yes, I think so. That doesn't mean it was without flaws and had some challenges, but they spent a lot of money, and, I thought they were doing a good job. It was in that context that I made a positive remark at one stage about it. He may have relayed that to Al Gore, because I think he made a case to Al Gore, or somebody did on his behalf.

crop, potatoes, for subsistence, set the stage for the horrible tragedy known as the Great Potato Famine."

• That the fourteenth-century "Black Death" spread of bubonic plague was due to "climate change," in Europe and China, not the economic collapse due to the failure of the oligarchical banking system of Europe.

"Just before the Black Death, poor weather and crop failures caused widespread malnutrition and increased susceptibility to disease. . . . One year earlier, as a result of the same global climate changes that produced constant rains in Europe, unusually heavy rainfall in China caused the repeated Yellow River floods."

• That the answer to the question, "What is your life worth?" is two trees, not three, if you know the right people!

"The Pacific Yew [tree] can be cut down and processed to produce a potent chemical, taxol, which offers some promise of curing certain forms of lung, breast, and ovarian cancer in patients who would quickly die. It seems an easy choice—sacrifice the tree for a human life—until one learns that three trees must be destroyed for each patient treated. . . . Suddenly, we must confront some tough questions. How important are the medical needs of future generations? Are those of us alive today entitled to cut down all those trees to extend the lives of a few of us, even if it means that this unique form of life will disappear forever, thus making it impossible to save human lives in the future?"

• That the pre-Christian, Mother Earth cults were more "environmentally friendly" than the Western mono-

theistic religions. Did you know how much we can learn by studying the history of Druid sex rituals with trees?

"The prevailing ideology of belief in prehistoric Europe and much of the world was based on the worship of a single earth goddess, who radiated harmony among all living things....

"Its best documented tenet seems to have been a reverence for the sacredness of the earth—and a belief in the need for harmony among all living things; other aspects of the faith are less clear, and it is probable that many barbaric practices accompanied the more benign beliefs.

- "... It seems obvious that a better understanding of a religious heritage preceding our own by so many thousands of years could offer us new insights into the nature of human experience."
- That if you are a manufacturer, producer, or industrial worker, you are the moral equivalent of a drug addict.

"Industrial civilization's great engines of distraction still seduce us with a promise of fulfillment. Our new power to work our will upon the world can bring with it a sudden rush of exhilaration, not unlike the momentary 'rush' experienced by drug addicts when a drug injected into their bloodstream triggers changes in the chemistry of the brain. But that exhilaration is fleeting; it is not true fulfillment. And the metaphor of drug addiction applies in another way too. Over time, a drug user needs a progressively larger dose to produce an equivalent level of exhilaration; similarly, our civilization seems to require an ever increasing level of consumption."—Lance Rosen