Schellnhuber's Media Propaganda Escalates

Since the release of the preliminary WBGU report last month, co-author Hans-Joachim Schellnhuber has been on the stump to spread his fascist line through the German media. We quote and comment on a few particularly outrageous items from his article in the May 4 establishment daily Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, titled "Contract for Future Generations: Forward to Nature." The quotes are translated from German.

While generally outlining the WBGU policy, the author uses more hysteria-inducing language, for what he presumably expects to be a larger audience. He describes coal, for example, as "a black mineral torn from the

Earth" (ouch!) The massive use of coal, he writes, "produced the Age of Industry in Europe, and, thereby, domination of the world by 'the West." The industrial revolution is therefore, according to him, "the result of that geochemical quirk of nature which took millions of years of sunlight and concentrated it into preserved fossil cemeteries of organic material."

Does man's creative discovery have anything to do with revolutions in technology? Nah, these are "quirks of nature."

Take nuclear power: The United States achieved hegemony, he writes, in part "through its utilization of yet another quirk of nature, namely the instability of certain heavy atomic nuclei."

In a distant (and perverted) echo of V.I. Vernadsky and Lyndon LaRouche, the author writes: "In the Age of Fire (*Pyrozän*), humanity has grown to become the determining planetary force...." But don't think that's a good thing: "Most aspects of the realities of life today remain straitjacketed within the borders of nation-states."

Furthermore, "with the Fukushima explosion on March 11, 2011, the underlying trust which a technology-worshipping comfort society used to place in nuclear energy production, has now melted into so much residual waste." *Explosion?* Of course, Schellnhuber knows perfectly well that there was no nuclear explosion at Japan's Fukushima power plant. There were explosions of *hydrogen* gas, but no "mushroom cloud," no radioactive fallout, no deaths. Do Schellnhuber's readers know that? Unlikely.

Then, there's the WBGU program for a "new social contract." The author claims that "world energy consumption will be only slightly reduced, without impinging on living standards"—which is the opposite of what the organization's report actually says (see accompanying *Documentation*).

He elaborates a bit on the report's advocacy of (fascist) electoral and constitutional changes: "We should also consider innovative formats for democratic participation, such as possible constitutional challenges to non-future-oriented policies [!], plebiscites with obligatory participation [!] on special occasions, or the election of special ombudsmen to advocate the rights of future generations—perhaps even with a seat in parliament."

Any population that would accept that certainly does lack the moral fitness to survive.

-Susan Welsh

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