

International Credit by Peter Rush

Willy Brandt's 'dark age'

The official report of the so-called Brandt Commission on restructuring the world economy has just been released..

The Independent Commission on International Development Issues, the "Brandt Commission," officially released its report on Feb. 11. In the preface, the commission's chairman, Willy Brandt, reports that "as we discussed and argued over specifics, we found that we had gradually come to share a common vision of the kind of world we hoped for."

This vision of Brandt and the 25 other members on the commission can be summed up in two words: Malthusian genocide.

The report is without doubt one of the most evil documents of the 20th century. It is a call to strip away the national sovereignty of nation-states and in its place impose the most extreme forms of feudal backwardness; end Third World industrial development and go instead with the "redistributionist" strategy of the "one world" ideologues who are centered in the royal house of Britain and the black nobility of Italy and Austria.

Calling for a "fundamental change in relations between North and South as well as East and West," the report proposes that the wealth of the rich countries be "redistributed" to the Third World to bring about a closer "equality." Ruled out is either technological development in the advanced sector or the transfer of high-technology goods from the advanced to the underdeveloped sector.

The report, entitled "North-

South: a Program for Survival" is chock full of superlatives about "labor-intensive" farming and industry and "appropriate technologies," the code-words for substituting the muscle-labor of the 13th century for the advanced production techniques and brain power of the 20th century.

The World Bank sponsorship of the report is evident in every paragraph of the final document. In 1977, World Bank President Robert Strange McNamara collaborated with former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt to pull together Third World radicals and a few representatives of the advanced sector. Brandt's credentials for the job consist of his leadership of the world Socialist International.

Brandt gathered around himself a group with an impressive list of titles: Edward Heath, former Conservative Party Prime Minister of Great Britain; Olof Palme, former Prime Minister of Sweden; Peter Peterson, chairman of the top British investment bank Lehmann Brothers-Kuhn Loeb; Katherine Graham, publisher of the *Washington Post*; Shridath Ramphal of Guyana, secretary general of the British Commonwealth; Abdlatif Y al-hamad, director general of the Kuwait Fund for Arabic Economic Development.

Brandt's Commission then assembled into one report each of the several proposals that were being floated by various think

tanks concerning national sovereignty and increasing the power of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank by reorganizing the world's monetary system. These proposals include:

- A doubling of the subscription base and lending power of the World Bank to \$160 billion;

- A common fund for food and raw material reserves, which would force massive increases in the prices of all commodities, as proposed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);

- An expansion of advanced sector loans to the Third World of \$50 to \$60 billion per year;

- The creation of a World Development Fund to collect and distribute taxes on foreign trade, especially on arms, and the mining of seabed materials;

- Interregional organizations that would divide the world into rival economic, trade and currency zones which will compete in a survival of the fittest fashion against each other.

- A redefinition of growth as living within one's own cultural means.

Deeply embedded within the very fabric of the report is one general theme: to accomplish the above plans, the sovereignty of nation-states must be abolished, otherwise they will resist this attempt to impose from the top a one world, zero-growth government. One step in this direction, reports the Feb. 12 *New York Times* is that "the most novel feature of the 304-page report issued by the commission is a series of proposals to weaken the control of national legislatures over the granting of aid."