

# How the 'fondi' finance eco-terrorism

by Rogelio A. Maduro

It was over a thousand years ago that the Venetian oligarchy established the first tax-exempt foundations, the *fondi*, administered out of the Doge's private chapel, St. Mark's Cathedral. Today, the legacy of the Venetian oligarchy is maintained by the Club of the Isles. Prince Philip, the chief operations officer for the Club of the Isles and international president of the World Wide Fund for Nature, draws on an international network of tax-exempt charitable trusts to bankroll every facet of the global environmental insurgency.

In the United States, since the "Green" revolution was launched in the late 1960s, tax-exempt foundations have poured more than \$30 billion into more than 12,000 ecology, animal rights, indigenous, conservation, and land trust groups. The sums are so vast that in recent years, the foundations have formed a secret funding cartel to more centrally dispense their untaxed dollars. The Environmental Grantmakers Association was launched in 1985 by Donald K. Ross, executive director of the Rockefeller Family Fund.

Since its inception, the EGA has been housed in the New York City headquarters of the Rockefeller Family Fund, although the association has no listing in the telephone directory and is not registered with the New York secretary of state. For all intents and purposes, EGA is invisible. By 1988, Ross had drawn 184 foundations into the EGA, accounting for more than \$350 million in annual payouts to the ecologists.

The EGA includes top executives from a number of multinational corporations that are also "crown jewels" of the Club of the Isles, including Atlantic Richfield Corp., Chevron, and Waste Management, Inc. The Aspen Institute also participates in EGA strategy sessions. These corporations, along with Royal Dutch Shell (not a formal participant in EGA), also pour an estimated \$1 billion a year into the coffers of the environmentalist gangs, matching the tax-exempt payouts. The best estimate of the total annual cash flow into "Greens"—including tax-exempt funding, corporate donations, commercial profits, payments extracted from targets of the environmentalist movement who are inundated with "public interest" legal actions—exceeds \$15 billion!

Tape recordings of the EGA's October 1992 meeting on Orcas Island in Washington State have been obtained by EIR. The session included 24 panel presentations identifying organizations, individuals, and industries to be targeted by the eco-fascist apparatus. One panel was devoted to blocking the economic development of eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union; another spelled out plans for teaching the pagan Gaia religion in America's public school system.

## Top 25 'green' bankrollers

The Foundation Center, a New York- and Washington-based center managed by the Russell Sage Foundation, maintains records of all tax-exempt foundation grants given in the United States. According to its records, over 1,000 tax-exempt trusts bankroll the environmental and animal rights movement. The following is its list of the 25 top bankrollers of the "Green" revolution for 1993.

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| 1. David and Lucille Packard Foundation: \$27.2 million        | 9. Charles Stewart Mott Foundation: \$7.6 million        |
| 2. Ford Foundation: \$26 million                               | 10. Joyce Foundation: \$6.3 million                      |
| 3. John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation: \$26 million | 11. Longwood Foundation, Inc.: \$5.8 million             |
| 4. Pew Charitable Trust: \$25.3 million                        | 12. Surdna Foundation, Inc.: \$5.4 million               |
| 5. W.K. Kellogg Foundation: \$18.1 million                     | 13. William Penn Foundation: \$5.3 million               |
| 6. Andrew W. Mellon Foundation: \$11.6 million                 | 14. Northwest Area Foundation: \$5 million               |
| 7. W. Alton Jones Foundation, Inc.: \$9.3 million              | 15. Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, Inc.: \$4.4 million   |
| 8. Rockefeller Foundation: \$8.6 million                       | 16. Kresge Foundation: \$4 million                       |
|  | 17. Public Welfare Foundation, Inc.: \$3.9 million       |
|  | 18. Bullitt Foundation: \$3.8 million                    |
|  | 19. Energy Foundation: \$3.8 million                     |
|  | 20. Florence and John Schumann Foundation: \$3.5 million |
|  | 21. Rockefeller Brothers Fund: \$3.4 million             |
|  | 22. Richard King Mellon Foundation: \$3.3 million        |
|  | 23. James Graham Brown Foundation, Inc.: \$3.3 million   |
|  | 24. Gebbie Foundation, Inc.: \$3.3 million               |
|  | 25. William and Flora Hewlett Foundation: \$3.1 million  |
|  | <b>Total: \$227.3 million</b>                            |