

## Editorial

### 'American system' can develop Africa

President Reagan's Jan. 3 announcement of a new "Food for Progress" initiative to relieve the famine in Africa was a most welcome development. Particularly encouraging was his stress on "the need to stimulate agricultural development on that continent," including through research programs to improve agricultural production in the rain-short regions of Africa.

The President directed that the U.S. government's food aid to Africa for fiscal year 1985 exceed \$1 billion, providing over 1.5 million tons of emergency food. While far short of the 30-40 million tons required, this could be the start of the right approach.

What is needed is a military-style emergency mobilization to deliver the food where it is needed *now*, combined with a crash program to develop the infrastructure, industry, and agriculture of the continent over the somewhat longer term—with "American system" methods. These are the dirigistic methods that Franklin D. Roosevelt used from 1939 to 1943 to gear up the depressed U.S. economy for the war effort, and that he threatened to use after the war to end the hegemony of the British Empire. Such methods have nothing in common with the British "free-enterprise" doctrine of Adam Smith and the dope-pushing East India Company, the swindle most vigorously promoted in Washington, D.C. today by Henry Kissinger, the Heritage Foundation, and the Treasury Department.

American-style industrial capitalism is needed, not what Roosevelt described to British Prime Minister Winston Churchill as "18th century British methods."

"Who's talking of 18th century methods?" Churchill asked. Roosevelt replied: "Whichever of your ministers recommends a policy which takes wealth and raw materials out of a colonial country and returns nothing to the people of that country in consideration. 20th-century methods involve bringing industry to these colonies, 20th-century methods include increasing the wealth of a people by increasing their standard of living, by educating them, by bringing them sanitation, by making sure that they get a return for the raw wealth of their country."

The "18th-century faction" in Washington today is promoting Kissinger's infamous debt-for-equity scheme to loot the countries of the Third World. This has been backed by officials of the Reagan administration as a laudable opportunity for increasing the role of the private sector.

It is nothing of the kind. "Free enterprise" à la Kissinger means the same thing that it did under the British East India Company: dope. The Caribbean Basin Initiative, for example, concocted by Kissinger, David Rockefeller, and Lawrence Eagleburger, aimed to give free rein to Dope, Inc. throughout the region. Jamaica was selected as the model—and was turned into a drug economy.

Provided the Kissinger moles are turned out of the U.S. government, the means are ready at hand to implement an Apollo Project-style program to solve the African food crisis. The same people who are opposing the President's Strategic Defense Initiative for beam-weapon development are promoting genocide in Africa; and the research and development for the SDI itself produces exciting spinoffs which are vital to increasing food production worldwide.

Here are a few examples of what can be done:

- High-energy lasers and other beams of coherent radiation can be used to irradiate food, lengthening the shelf life of meat and produce to as long as 10 years without refrigeration.
- Beam technologies can be used in coal-fired plants to transform sulphurous emissions into fertilizer.
- The most advanced forms of laser and electron-beam welding are needed to produce high-quality farm equipment.
- Low-temperature plasmas can revolutionize production of the steel needed to build modern railway lines across sub-Saharan Africa.

This illustrates the "Great Project" approach which the President must adopt. If he does not, the malthusians and free-enterprisers will sabotage his "Food for Progress" initiative from the start.