

AGENDA 21 GOES COUNTRY

TRANSFORMING CAPITALISM INTO SOCIALISM AND HEADING FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE. BY HENRY LAMB

Where exactly does the U.S. Constitution authorize the federal government to create “sustainable communities” in order to “expand access to the capital necessary for economic growth, promote innovation, improve access to health care and education, and expand outdoor recreational activities on public lands.”

Clearly, the Constitution provides no such authority, and the 10th Amendment prohibits the federal government from engaging in activity not explicitly enumerated and authorized in the Constitution. This fact meant nothing to Bill Clinton, who created the President’s Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD) by executive order. Nor does this fact have meaning for Barack Hussein Obama. On June 9, 2011, by Executive Order 13575, Obama created the White House Rural Council.

This new council consists of 25 cabinet secretaries—or their designees—and is chaired by the secretary of the Department of Agriculture. Its mission is to “work across executive departments, agencies, and offices to coordinate development of policy recommendations to promote economic prosperity and quality of life in rural America, and shall coordinate my administration’s engagement with rural communities.”

Anyone who has ever had cow manure on his boots knows full well that until the federal government decided to get “engaged” with rural communities to improve the quality of life for the poor unfortunate souls who live in flyover country, farmers and ranchers fed the nation and much of the world. Rural America provided the food, fiber, and other resources that fueled unprecedented prosperity. Not until the government showed up to help did rural families begin to suffer.

Obama’s White House Rural Council (WHRC) has the potential to be much worse than anything Franklin Roosevelt ever dreamed about. In 1992, the United Nations produced a 40-chapter, nonbinding policy document called Agenda 21. It sets forth recommendations to transform capitalism into socialism, and a free Republic into an administrative unit of global governance. Bill Clin-

ton’s PCSD has been imposing these policies on American towns and cities since the mid-1990s. Obama’s WHRC is designed to continue the implementation of these policies into the hinterland.

Remember the National Animal Identification System, which USDA said was being abandoned. It’s back. The USDA published a proposed rule in the Federal Register for a new Animal Identification Program. It’s a new name, but the same old game: govern-

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ment sticking its nose where it has no business sticking it.

- The rule requires tagging of feeder cattle, which are processed at a young age and never enter the breeding herd.

- The rule creates new requirements for veterinarians and sales barns, including a five-year record-keeping mandate.

- The rule also includes new requirements for identifying horses and poultry.

Not to be outdone, the Department of Transportation has published a proposed rule in the Federal Register that declares all farm vehicles and implements to be “commercial” vehicles which require every driver of such vehicles and implements to hold a commercial driver’s license. The requirements for a CDL preclude farm children and grandpas and temporary farm workers from working on the farm. One might assume that the Department of Transportation has lost its collective mind, until the reason for this

mandate is recognized: control.

The WHRC, as well as the PSCD before it, has one overarching purpose: to control the behavior of people, businesses, and organizations. A primary tool to achieve this purpose is multijurisdictional enforcement. Simply put: If a rancher or farmer fights too hard against the new USDA animal identification program, the rancher can and will be identified to every agency in the council, and each agency will be called upon to begin inspections and enforcement of every rule and regulation imaginable.

Obama’s ultimate goal is to assure that government has ultimate control of every square inch of land, every business activity, the curriculum in every school, and, ultimately, the information that may be conveyed on the public airways.

This is the goal of Agenda 21. Its recommendations are designed to produce this outcome. The program is called “sustainable development,” which means, in real terms, “government-approved.” Every recommendation in Agenda 21 requires government enforcement. Any activity that is preceded by the word sustainable should be recognized as a government-controlled activity.

To a large extent, the federal government has already imposed this principle. Think endangered species and wolf reintroduction, wetlands, sodbuster, uncontrolled fires, wilderness designations, and other land-use-control policies that have no constitutional basis.

The White House Rural Council is an attempt to put a pretty ribbon of respectability on a nasty regime of government regulation and oppression. It’s high time to recognize the administration’s blatant disregard for the Constitution, and to cleanse Washington of all who fail to honor their oath by allowing either Congress or the administration to succumb to the socialist policies recommended by the United Nations. ■

Henry Lamb lives in Hollow Rock, Tenn. Question: Is it a coincidence that Obama’s Executive Order 13575 adds up to 21?