

THE THIRD WAY: AN ALTERNATIVE TO COMMUNIST INCOMPETENCE AND CAPITALIST GREED

Communism and Monopoly Capitalism both threaten the future of mankind through the incompetence of the former and rampant exploitation by the latter in the use of the world's land.

The third way of land reform and social justice is the only hope for the survival of mankind. The nuclear power stations built by the Russian bloc are so sub-standard they could explode at any time, deluging the world's atmosphere with deadly radioactive gases. Misuse of the land is widespread. Russia has become a massive importer of food.

The rape of the forests of the Amazon basin by Western entrepreneurs threatens to seriously deplete the world's oxygen. The Amazonian forest contains at least a third of all the world's trees which could be cut down early next century, turning the Amazon basin into desert.

The efforts of Pope John Paul to curb the excesses of Communism and Capitalism are heartening. During his recent visit to Brazil, the Pope focused attention on the appalling poverty in that country caused by land monopoly. According to the Catholic Institute for International Relations, two per cent of Brazil's land owners control 57 per cent of arable land and the poorest 30 per cent of land owners share only one per cent.

Behind the glitter of Rio De Janeiro, Sao Paulo and other superb cities, tens of millions of poor cling to a precarious and short existence. Their squalid shacks lack water, sanitation and access to public facilities, such as schools and hospitals. The country is run by a military junta, riddled with graft, which aids and abets genocide of people, and destruction of resources by Western entrepreneurs.

Of the thousands of tribes who lived more or less undisturbed in the Amazonian forest, an area larger than Europe, only some 100 remain with a total population of less than 40,000. They have been reduced to their present level by murder and disease brought in by the plunderers of the forest.

Land must be restored to the people of Brazil by payment of the economic rent to the nation instead of to the few fortunate descendants of Portuguese conquerors and latter day capitalists.

Morris Williams.