

Fusion Power Campaign Gains at U.N.

Sept. 21 (IPS) — UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim has learned the difference between nuclear fusion and fission in the past four months — because of the Labor Committee's active organizing for the development of thermonuclear fusion power. When asked about fusion by an IPS correspondent at a June press conference, Waldheim fumbled and consulted his aides. At the Secretary-General's Sept. 16 press conference, when the IPS correspondent asked Waldheim what initiative he was taking for the development of fusion power, he responded quickly: "I am in contact with my experts in this field and I hope that I shall be able to give you a clearer answer as soon as a result of the study is available."

News of the Labor Committee fusion campaign has traveled speedily through the UN technical staff. With the assistance of the Office of Technical Cooperation, the Labor Committee held two UN briefings on fusion for UN mission representatives, press, and other UN staff in August. A few individual UN staff members, excited that the Labor Committee working-class organizing actually makes fusion a reality, are helping to

spread the fusion proposal throughout the UN scientific staff.

Apparently, the burst of discussion around thermonuclear fusion in the Secretariat has ruffled the feathers of the UN-affiliated International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) based in Vienna.

Sigvard Eklund, Director General of the IAEA in Vienna cabled the Secretary-General two days after the Sept. 16 press conference to offer "grateful clarification" on Waldheim's statement. Obviously miffed, Eklund asserted: "IAEA is internationally responsible for this topic and has long-standing major programmes." He urged Waldheim that "UN divisions concerned...be reminded of requirements to consult with IAEA whenever questions involving nuclear energy arise so that you can be properly briefed."

A few UN missions are seriously considering raising the proposal for the brute-force development of fusion power on the agenda of the UN General Assembly. The Labor Committee fusion proposal was widely circulated and discussed at the August World Population Conference in Bucharest.

World Bank Warns of Cabal's Crimes

Sept. 22 (IPS) — In a candid statement of capitalism's collapse, the UN-affiliated World Bank issued a press release today indicating the severity of the Rockefeller cabal's attack on the working class. Entitled, "World Bank Sees 'Uncertain' Future for Developing World," the release warned that "without a major, worldwide effort, 800 million people in the developing countries of the world can expect almost no improvement in their lives during the rest of the 1970s." According to the release, the World Bank annual report for 1974 cautions further that such a worldwide effort is not likely to be on the required scale.

Without naming the perpetrators of the collapse or the fact that this "uncertain" future spells actual starvation and death for millions, the World Bank lists the crimes of the Rockefeller cabal:

" — the realignment and floating of exchange rates;
— accelerated inflation, especially in the prices of most primary commodities and industrial goods;
— the rise in petroleum prices;
— shortages of foodgrains and fertilizer; and
— a slowdown in the growth rates of industrialized countries."