

Until early this year, Gibson was the president of the Interstate Oil Transport Company, a firm that buys and leases oil tankers for use by Rockefeller-owned companies. Touted as a "tough administrator," Gibson is slated to take the FEA down a low-profile road, while Rockefeller unleashes his engineered economic chaos. In his previous position in the Commerce Department, Gibson issued a series of government-level policy papers in 1970 in which he "warned" of the dangers of oil embargoes, energy crises, and supply shortages.

President Ford indicated that the request for Sawhill's removal had come from Rogers Morton, Interior Secretary and head of the newly formed Energy Resources Council. The removal clears the decks for a number of Rockefeller policy options, including militarization of the economy around the new Rockefeller energy hoax, using machinery set up by Sawhill himself. The propaganda machine around Project Independence will be toned down, allowing support to build for its fascist proposals amid the developing chaos--mass layoffs, short work weeks, no heating fuels, power brown outs, and gas lines.

The Labor Party's exposure of Project Independence and the fascist National Priorities Employment Act with its relocation provisions has severely sabotaged Rockefeller's energy policies. The program designed by Sawhill will, nonetheless, be carried out on schedule under a different administrative head.

Sawhill combined the FEA's coal contingency planning committee with the Office of Preparedness emergency planning apparatus and civil action type groups of the military. In addition, Sawhill linked this infrastructure with its appropriate enabling legislation--i.e., the Defense Production Act, which would give it the power to control allocation of existing supplies under emergency conditions. In the event of a nationwide coal strike or any other "national emergency," Sawhill's Rockefeller policies immediately will go into operation.

In a related move, President Ford also named a relatively unknown but highly-placed Rockefeller crony to head the recently activated Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), Robert Channing Seamans, Jr., a specialist in defense systems engineering. He has served on the RAND-controlled Science Advisory Board of the U.S. Air Force and systems projects at MIT and at Harvard, where he is on the Board of Overseers. In addition, Mr. Seamans has served a stint with NASA and with the Airborne Systems division of Radio Corporation of America (RCA). No political virgin, he also is a member of the Foreign Policy Association and David Rockefeller's Council on Foreign Relations.

#### VIRGINIA UNION BUREAUCRATS DRAFT LAST MINUTE CANDIDATE AGAINST LABOR PARTY

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 31 (IPS)--At the eleventh hour, a "labor" candidate has been thrust into the race in Richmond, Virginia's 5th Congressional District to try to blunt the influence of the U.S.

Labor Party. University professor Robinson James claims that he has been swept up in an "unresistable draft" as the write-in candidate for "Labor," sponsored by the Teamsters, the Communications Workers of America, and the Tobacco Workers.

In a press conference in Richmond this week, James stated that he does not really want to run, will not vote for himself, and has no pretensions of winning. His candidacy, therefore, is clearly a move by the CIA and its labor leader flunkies to stop workers from voting for Alan Ogden, U.S. Labor Party candidate in the 5th Congressional District. Ogden has been campaigning heavily for several months and has frightened the union bureaucracy into coming up with a last-minute candidate who can take the "embarrassment" of running as a "dark horse."

#### MIDEAST SITUATION MAY BE BUILDING TO U.S.-USSR CONFRONTATION

NEW YORK, N.Y., Oct. 31 (IPS)--An official of the CIA-connected Institute for American Strategy (IAS) in Virginia yesterday confirmed to IPS that U.S. policy-making bodies are evaluating the situation in the Middle East from the standpoint of escalation into threatened nuclear war with the Soviet Union.

The IAS official told IPS: "Kissinger's strategy is not expected to work. It's purely psychological....The situation is a lot stickier than [we] could imagine." He continued by remarking that the U.S. is no longer on top of the situation and that the Soviets are "conflict-oriented....[Their] involvement in the Mideast is exacerbating" the situation. He concluded with, "if there is a 'red scare,' it is only the consequence of what the 'Reds' are doing."

Knowledgeable observers in recent weeks have raised the possibility of U.S./NATO military intervention to stop a Mideast war, as the crisis has been heated up.

#### IG METALL CONTRACT SETS STAGE FOR AUSTERITY IN WEST GERMANY

WIESBADEN, BRD, Oct. 31 (IPS)--The 330,000 member German steelworker section of the German Metalworkers union, IG Metall, accepted a contract last week calling for a nine per cent wage increase. The steelworkers had demanded a 14 per cent increase.

The wage settlement has been rammed down the steelworkers' throats on the heels of a crushing electoral defeat of the working class based Social Democratic Party (SPD) in the recent state elections in Hesse and Bavaria. In these elections, the fascist Franz