

Act unless the strike becomes "extended." He refused to answer any questions, commenting that the administration has "no plans at current time."

As the long-planned "inevitable" walkout became official, immediately related industries activated contingency plans. Steel companies began preparations this morning to shut down production and lay off workers. The three major coal carrying railroads--the Penn Central, Norfolk and Western, and the Chessie System--announced plans to lay off 2,000 workers and cut freight service. U.S. Steel announced it will cut its work force by 14,000 this week. Other steel companies have announced proportional cuts with more industries expected to follow suit shortly.

That the strike is just a cover for mass layoffs, especially in heavy industry, is clear from the fact that large-scale layoffs occurred in the weeks prior to the strike. 15,000 auto workers, 6,000 steel workers, and 4,000 rubber workers were laid off in the last two weeks of October alone. An additional 22,500 layoffs hit auto earlier this week; most of them were announced several weeks in advance.

Government and industry officials continue to cover up the fact that the U.S. has enough coal reserves to last four to six months.

CHASE MANHATTAN PLOTS OVERTHROW OF INDIAN GOVERNMENT

MANILA, Philippines, Nov. 12 (IPS)--The closed and highly "sensitive" meeting of the International Advisory Committee of Chase Manhattan Bank concluded yesterday in this city. According to a Chase spokesman, the meeting "covered a wide range of subjects," including Chase activities in Southeast Asia and the political situation in India. The meeting was presented with a report on this subject by J.R.D. Tata, Indian steel magnate, leading industrialist, and a member of the International Advisory Committee. Tata reported that India is facing famine "no joke" and that the end of Mrs. Indira Gandhi's regime "is near." The source declined to comment on further Chase response to this "prediction."

The meeting heard other presentations on the Asian situation, including those by Shiro Inoue, President of the Asian Development Bank; William Sullivan, U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines; Derek Davies, editor of the Far East Economic Review; and representatives of the Philippine government. Missing at the last minute was Mr. Fujino, chairman of the Mitsubishi Corporation, the leading Japanese ally of Chase.

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