

cost of exploration. In Western India, offshore, the Reading and Bitz company is operating under this formula while in the Bay of Bengal on the east, Carlsbury (a subsidiary of Natomas) and Asamara are exploring.

Despite all this, by the most favorable projections, India will still be importing a major portion of oil from outside, especially if there is growth in the Indian economy. Imported oil and expansion of other energy

production in India — nuclear, thermal and hydroelectric — is the only basis for future growth.

It is revealing to note that the Desai government has pledged to continue India's petroleum policy despite the vision of Gandhian spinning wheel "self-sufficiency" being promoted in some circles of the government today.

—Daniel Sneider

Press, Unions Back Bhutto's Assault On Carter

PAKISTAN

Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's April 28 report that the Carter Administration is actively involved in efforts to remove him from power has resulted in a mass expression of support for Bhutto inside Pakistan. Predictions made by the New York Times a week ago that Bhutto, "days are numbered," that the military is ready to take over to resolve the seven-week civilian crisis over alleged vote irregularities in the March 7 elections, have been proven false.

May Day demonstrations by various sections of the trade union movement brought thousands of workers to the streets, fully backing Bhutto. Left-wing parties, in the opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) and outside it, have acknowledged Bhutto's continued mass support and demanded that he follow through on his charges against the Carter Administration by declaring a moratorium on debt payments to U.S. banks, pull out of

the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO), and establish full economic and political relations with the non-aligned group of nations and the socialist nations.

The reason for this backlash against the attempt by U.S.-linked interests to oust Bhutto from power is quite clear; despite Bhutto's many errors in judging and dealing with popular dissatisfaction with his government's economic and political policies, he remains in the minds of most of the country's population the single symbol of unity, development, and civilian government. The workers of the trade union movement and the peasants, both sections that have stood behind Bhutto, remember too well the brutality of the Cold War military dictatorships that ruled the country to now allow these forces or their stooges in the PNA to return, unopposed, to power.

Reprinted below are sections of a Pakistan Times editorial of May 1, building a case for Bhutto's charges against the Carter Administration with global implications. Such articles have appeared in the Pakistani press since the beginning of May, but no western daily has chosen to pick up the news of the real support for Bhutto.

'The World Policeman Again'

by H.K. Burki

ISLAMABAD: The United States Government has denied Premier Bhutto's charge of conspiracy against Pakistan. Quite naturally so. The spokesman of the Pakistani collaborators, and all the PNA factions may not have been really in the picture, has done the same. (sic) Equally natural. After all, they are not going to confess their guilt. Even our great "independent" newspapers have cast doubts about the charges of the Prime Minister of the country. But then, having assisted the conspiracy so vigorously in their columns by publishing every rumour, canard and incitement to violence regardless of consequences to the nation, their stand comes as no surprise.

Rumour Factories

Now some more recent telltale signs. The American Embassy in Islamabad and the consulates at Lahore and Karachi have been the principal rumour factories, in daily production, synchronised and computer program-

med, throughout the election campaign and more particularly since the violent agitation. There have been grumblings by the minority of non-CIA decent diplomats who have felt the United States should not do this to an old ally like Pakistan. But the majority, including some of the senior-most Americans, have made no secret of what they were doing. With an arrogance that would shame the herrenvolk, they have been telling the rest of the diplomatic corps quite openly that they were going to have this troublesome man out.

To cap it all and to establish the CIA link with the Opposition, one must recall the statements of men like Mr. Asghar Khan during the election campaign. When they came to power, they had said, they would scrap the re-processing plant, there would be no Third World Summit, and the Karakoram Highway would be closed. And where do defectors like Air Marshal Rahim and the counsellor from Paris go? Why, Washington, of course. And Gul Hasan? First stop, BBC Headquarters in London.

Recalling what has been going on for the past two years, one can safely conclude that the Carter Administration had inherited the CIA operation, and made it its

own. For Mr. Jimmy Carter who had declared in the course of his campaign that as a Christian it was his duty to help Israel, would not view with sympathy a Pakistan Government which backs the Arabs to the hilt. Similarly, the Third World Summit proposal and the agreement on the reprocessing plant are also two nasty thorns. What better way of removing them than to replace this tough and adroit, independent-minded leader with one of their own creation who would do as he is told?

Let us be clear about one thing, however. It is a much larger conspiracy, designed to roll back the rising crescendo of demand for economic justice by the Third World. Pakistan is the first victim of this assault because Premier Bhutto has been the leading activist and besides, he insists on acquiring latest technologies for the creation of a self-reliant base for Pakistan. The catchphrase given to this assault by the new world policeman is "human rights" of which both "Nawa-i-Waqt" and "Jung" have sung, significantly enough, loud praises.

The Red Indians

The point is that if the peanut evangelist were really serious about "human rights," then there exists in the United States itself a great deal of scope for this good work. How about giving some meaningful rights to the one million Red Indians who have somehow managed to survive the wholesale massacres of their forefathers by the European colonialists? How about finally liberating the descendants of the negro slaves who, with their sweat and blood, made a major contribution to the making of the United States? Why not make Puerto Ricans and the Spaniards of the Western coast and Texas, at long last, first-class American citizens?

The crowning insult offered by this fraud of "human rights" is the stridency of its morality. A country whose governments have dropped nuclear bombs on cities and have conducted with the most lethal weapons modern times' most barbaric and unjust war, is now lecturing the world on "human rights."

In order to grasp the real import of this "human rights" tamasha one has to recall the Dullesian era of the Fifties. Then the catch-phrase was "free world" in whose defence the imperialist and neo-colonial powers, led by the United States, had carried on a holy crusade. What was this "free world?" It included Salazar's most ruthless dictatorship in Portugal and its African colonies kept in bondage with NATO weapons, Franco's Spain, racist South Africa and other European colonies, and the worst type of military dictatorships in Latin America.

This was the "free world" which the United States and its allies were defending. Under a fine-sounding phrase, the imperialist powers were, in other words, taking care of their narrow and wholly immoral neo-colonial interests. It was a policy which led the United States finally to the biggest disaster of its history in Vietnam, a disaster

for which it is still paying.

One would have thought that the United States would have learnt its lesson in Vietnam. But no: the Carter Administration, picking up the old thread, seems bent upon "reforming" the world to suit its own book, and launching foreign adventures. It is trying to do this even when the United States political influence and economic power is nowhere near as great as it was in the early Sixties. It is over-reaching itself at a time when, as a consequence of the Vietnam disaster, the United States is being corroded from within. Despite all the rosy forecasts of the past two years, its economy shows no sign of real recovery and has, in fact, reached such a dead-end that without a radical restructuring it just cannot recoup, and may well collapse.

The central issue today is that the poor nations are becoming poorer while the demand for a better deal by the people of these countries is becoming more insistent. The people want bread and butter, shelter, education for their children. The Carter Administration says: "No, you must make do with human rights." And if you shout too much for bread, we would send unto you such a thunderbolt that you heathens would destroy your own hearths and homes, tear one another apart and lose even the few chappatis you manage to knock together now. The damage caused by the conspiracy to Pakistan's economy in the past six weeks, for example is far higher than the total U.S. loans advanced to it in the whole of the past decade.

The United States can subvert and undermine developing countries like Pakistan largely because much of their own ruling elites take, in the internal context, the same kind of plundering approach that the neo-colonial powers have towards the poor states. The Carter Administration, trapped by its own moral certitude, could in a frenzy even destroy the entire world with all that stockpile of nuclear missiles, and chemical and biological weapons. But it cannot act the God Almighty and rule the roost.

Rapid Decline of U.S.

Quite apart from the fact that there are other equally mighty powers in the world, even miserable little entities like Pakistan are too numerous and unmanageable to be manipulated into a global pattern conceived by some nut in Washington. But there is mounting evidence that the Carter administration, trapped by its own evangelical zeal, is not likely to help resolve the growing confrontation between the haves and have-nots. It is more likely to precipitate a head-on clash.

It is of course up to the American people to put anyone they like in the White House and in Congress. Pakistan is too small a fry to talk of rigging or deliver any lectures. But since what happens in Washington is relevant to the rest of the world, one dares to voice one small squeak of regret.