

Will Congress Allow Energy Dictatorship To Slip Through

The Carter Administration rammed its legislation for the creation of an energy department through the Senate this week by a vote of 74-10 with cosmetic modifications which will only slightly limit the dictatorial powers granted to the cabinet member who will head the department. The Senate adopted the Government Operations committee version of the bill with virtually no discussion, prompting Sen. James McClure (R-Idaho) to declare that "I have never seen a bill of such importance passed so fast without adequate Congressional scrutiny."

The swift passage of the bill underscores the fact that Congressional opponents of the Carter anti-energy program have still not consolidated their strategy to ensure the future growth of the nation's energy resources. On the same day that the bill slid across the floor of the Senate, two other Congressional committees heard — and made — attacks on several aspects of Carter's "comprehensive energy plan," and it is clear that some of the Administration's plans will be scrapped. However, even if Congress guts the *entire* plan, yet allows the proposed

Congress On Mideast War Danger: It Can't Happen Here

The U.S. Congress has reacted to the Likud electoral victory in Israel and the glaring danger of global conflict between the superpowers with the fantasy-ridden incantation, "It can't happen here." Expressing "grave concern" about the rapidly deteriorating Mideast situation, a number of Congressmen talked directly to U. S. Labor Party representatives last week and agreed that Carter's provocative policies set the stage for a Likud victory and brought the world to the brink of a new Mideast war.

Without a single exception, however, the august gentlemen on Capitol Hill declined to take action to derail Carter's singleminded drive for war. "Don't worry, the Congress will do something," one Midwest Republican apologized. "I don't know what, but we'll think of something." Clucking worriedly, Senator after Senator conceded the present dangers and limply said, "Call my appointments secretary." Representative after Representative regurgitated State Department pabulum, "We have to wait and see. The Israeli Cabinet has yet to be formed. It may turn out to be a force for stability in the Middle East."

Senator Jake Javits (R-NY) went even further, after a meeting with Carter at the White House. "The Likud victory," he said, makes me optimistic. It increases the likelihood of a negotiated settlement."

Senator Barry Goldwater (R-Az), by contrast,

warned that the present situation is characterized by "global conflict in gestation, irrespective of Soviet intent." Accusing his colleagues of having an "out-dated" view of history, Goldwater inserted in the Congressional Record statements by Air Force General Keegan on the imminent danger of war as a result of serious "miscalculations," a war which the United States is ill-equipped to fight. A number of Senators volunteered that Keegan's dramatic evidence of Soviet technological breakthroughs and their military implications is circulating widely on Capitol Hill.

Despite the perception in Congress that war is imminent, not one Congressman has publicly addressed the danger. An opportunity was provided at Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings on the Middle East May 20 where a spokesman for the conservative think tank, the American Enterprise Institute, warned that an outbreak of hostilities in the area would lead to a nuclear confrontation between the U.S. and USSR.

Dale Tahtinen told the Committee that while Israel has a solid military edge, it would not forestall the Arabs from declaring war. "They won't suffer a total loss," he said, "because the Soviets will back them up all the way." Israel has nuclear weapons, he continued, but will not use them because it would lead to their nuclear annihilation. Tahtinen's testimony was ignored by the Committee, which failed to ask him any questions.

energy department legislation to go through, then the Administration will be in a position to completely reverse the will of Congress.

Sen. Durkin (D-N.H.), a usually staunch proponent of Carter Administration policy, told reporters after the vote "This may be the finest bill we've ever passed or it may be the worst, but 75 percent of the Senators don't know." Durkin cast one of the 10 dissenting votes in protest to what he termed the "silver streak" passage of the measure.

Senate debate, lasting only six hours, included the body's affirmation of the Government Operations Committee recommendation to limit the department Secretary's powers to regulate oil prices and the nuclear energy industry by creating a three-man advisory board to be appointed by the President. The Senate also moved to change the terminology in one section of the bill, replacing what one Senate office termed "Humphrey-Hawkins language" which would require "national economic planning" with less stridently corporatist phrases. Nonetheless, the intent of the bill — to create a consolidated body to facilitate the militarization of the nation's economy through control of its natural resources — remains intact. Under the Senate version of the bill, the President will still biannually update a national "energy

plan" with 5 and 10 year "goals" for energy conservation and production.

The real issue to be discussed — the Administration's premise of a need for energy conservation — has been, so far, avoided in Congress except for Representative Mike McCormack (D-Wash) who has opened fire on the entire Carter package. In his statement before the International Economic Policy and Trade Subcommittee, McCormack asserted that the implementation of Carter's program would lead the U.S. into the worst depression the world had seen, and he used graphs and charts to demonstrate the positive relationship between the nation's Gross National Product, its energy production and energy usage. "The choice is a total economic collapse or full-scale energy production which would bring stability..." McCormack said, "What we're debating is a full-scale program for development. If we fail to do this we'll be facing a world-wide depression and the worst collapse of production the world has ever seen."

Congressional Snipes

Other Congressmen limited themselves to sniping at parts of the Carter plan, particularly at hearings held by the House Ways and Means Committee this week. The hearings, which focused on the Administration's energy

New Efforts To Oust General Brown

A new effort to oust General George Brown from his positions as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is underway by circles linked to the Carter Administration. The renewed push to force the dismissal of one of the staunchest military opponents of the Schlesinger-Brzezinski scenario for limited nuclear war in the Middle East, was launched May 11 by Rep. Ed Koch and Rep. Richard Ottinger. The two New York Democrats sent a letter to President Carter asking him to dismiss Brown because of his supposed "anti-Semitic" and "anti-democratic" views. The letter was signed by 18 Congressmen.

An aide to Koch told a reporter this week that "new revelations," i.e., "scandals," concerning Brown were expected to emerge within two weeks. While reluctant to disclose the details of these "revelations," the aide claimed that "many people" had offered information about the General to Koch since the letter to Carter was publicized by the Communist Party USA's newspaper, *The Daily World*. The aide also vowed that Koch and his cohorts "will continue to raise the issue from the floor."

Tim Wheeler *The Daily World* columnist who has given big play to previous attempts to discredit the General, spelled out the likely sequence of events leading to Brown's removal. Together with the "revelations" predicted by Koch's office, Wheeler said that the reassessment of U.S. military

posture just initiated by Defense Secretary Harold Brown (for the purpose of setting the stage for a U.S. first strike against the USSR) could easily create a situation where Brown could be dumped. "General Brown agrees with the dangerous Rumsfeld policy (President Ford's Secretary of Defense). If Harold Brown is serious about moving away from this, there will be a tremendous fight between him and the General. In this situation, Carter could easily fire Brown."

"We need a climate of opinion in this country which will force Carter to dump Brown," Wheeler cries. "I've been in touch with SANE and other groups, urging them to mobilize against him and I'll be getting in touch with B'nai B'rith and the NAACP to do the same."

A foreign policy aide to Rep. Ottinger was even more sweeping: "Harold Brown will have to dump not only George Brown, but the entire Joint Chiefs if he intends to get in a new policy."

General Brown has been a major obstacle to Rockefeller circles incitements in the Mideast over the past two years. Brown has also strongly emphasized that the only way the U.S. can guarantee the strength of its military forces is by strengthening the nation's basic scientific Research and Development program. On both counts, Brown's remaining as Joint Chiefs' chairman poses an intolerable obstacle to Carter Administration policies.

tax package, saw committee members aim their fire at would-be Energy Department head James Schlesinger, Secretary of the Treasury Michael Blumenthal and Office of Management and the Budget Director Bert Lance. The barrage of questions at the three White House spokesmen were termed by the committee's chairman, Rep. Les Ullman (D-Ore.), as "the first broadside, there will be more."

The first result of the hearings have lead to the widespread report, at the time of this writing, that the tax package is now dead and may be withdrawn entirely by the Administration.

A survey of the Senate Energy Committee conducted by this publication finds six Senators firmly committed to restoring cuts made to the crucial fusion research program, with another six "swing" votes verging on votes for full restoration. Only two Senators (of the 13 contacted on the 18-member committee) Sen. Abouresk (D-S.D.) and Sen. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), are fully supporting the Administration's policy. A similar line-up exists on the question of whether to restore cuts made in the fast breeder reactor program, which is vital to a transition to a comprehensive fusion energy program.

The fight for restoring the cuts, lead by Senators Hansen (R-WYO.) and McClure could lead to the full-scale battle necessary to defeat the entire Administration package. An aide to Sen. McClure commented that "President Carter is attempting to destroy new and advanced technologies. If Carter's program goes through, it will take us back to the caves."

Several of the "swing" Senators who initially supported the Carter plan have begun to change their positions after receiving some basic education on the necessity for nuclear energy from their constituencies. Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.) found seminars being held throughout his district in support of the fast breeder reactor, on a recent tour he conducted. Given the strong possibilities that Senators Church and Jackson, two former opponents of the fast breeder reactor, will support the restoration, chances for wining that fight in committee are great.

The question remaining is whether the Senators will work jointly with their colleagues in the House to ensure that the Administration's plan is not slipped through under the aegis of a new energy department.

McGovern, Kennedy Call Out 'Left' Fascist Shock Troops

Acting his part in a scenario written for him by Jimmy Carter and the Trilateral Commission's National Security Council (NSC), Sen. George McGovern opened a mock attack on Carter for "Republican economics" in a speech before the Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) May 7. The Trilateral deployment of 'radical spokesman' McGovern is designed to mobilize lumpenized layers of the population to fight for Carter's fascist deindustrialization program under the lace curtain of opposing the President's "fiscal conservatism."

The NSC hopes that this ploy will sidetrack the growing pro-growth "American Whig" coalition of GOPers and traditional Democrats — representing 70 percent of the population — from stopping Carter, diverting them into programmed 'right versus left' conflict.

McGovern's salvo was quickly followed by Senator Ted Kennedy's public "demand" that Carter "keep his campaign promises" to implement massive public works, welfare reform, national health insurance programs and the simultaneous activation of the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) "left Nazi" networks — including Jesse Jackson's PUSH, the Clamshell Alliance, the Communist Party USA, and the Woodcock-Fraser apparatus of the United Autoworkers (UAW) — with instructions to "take

to the streets" and "rekindle the finest traditions of the 1960s."

The Carter Administration's orchestration of the "liberal" attack on Carter was kicked off with their deliberate leak just days before the McGovern speech of pollster Patrick Caddell's memorandum to Carter "warning" of potential liberal opposition led by McGovern and Kennedy. This ploy was designed to provide credibility for McGovern, Kennedy and company in their pre-planned "criticism" of the President. Carter kept the game going at his press conference last week by taking McGovern and "liberals" to task and portraying himself as a harried "inflation fighter."

McGovern's May 7 speech was also timed to support Carter's efforts to push through a hyperinflationary program at the London Summit Conference and bust the pro-development, pro-nuclear energy governments of West Germany's Schmidt and Italy's Andreotti. At the very moment McGovern was "attacking" Carter for ignoring the problems of unemployment and poverty and not cutting the Pentagon's budget, Carter was declaring in a speech at London's Heathrow Airport that the subject of the about-to-begin summit must be unemployment, poverty, and the arms race! The IPS European networks are now fully activated demanding slave-labor jobs and the destruction of nuclear energy, and