

Indicative of the kind of "limits to growth" thinking behind these energy measures is a statement by Congressman Wydler (R-NY) who last week burned Schlesinger on his coal conversion plan, but admitted

privately that he opposes it because it is too expensive now; in a decade or so "when the costs of gas and oil are out of limits, perhaps then it will be feasible."

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## Carter Administration And Republicans: Is A Deal On Korea In The Works?

Developments surrounding the Korean lobbying scandal in Congress last week suggest that a deal is in the works between Republican conservative layers and the Carter Administration on the Administration's controversial Korea policy. The deal appears to center on a Carter backdown on his policy of withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea, and a conservative power play which would use the Korea scandal to gain control over the Justice Department.

Left on the outside — and sacrificed — in this deal are the screaming liberals of the Congress and their Fabian supporters who have been pushing both the withdrawal policy and the scandal as part of their "human rights" attacks on the South Korean government.

The foremost indicator of the deal was the call issued last week by Capital Hill Republican leaders Senator Baker and Rep. Rhodes for the formation of a Special Prosecutor's office in the Justice Department to handle the Korean investigation. The two Republicans charged that the present Justice Department effort in the matter was insufficient, and that "leaks" have been making their way from the Fabian liberals in the department to the press.

Baker is operating in conjunction with Nelson Rockefeller and his Republican networks in carrying out this purge of the Mondale-type liberals from the Justice Department and from the Carter Administration as a whole.

The aim of the Baker move is not to extend the investigation but rather to can it in the Justice Department by shifting the focus of investigation from Congress to the Executive, where a few small fish can be fried from the previous Administration. This shift was also evident in the moves by the House Ethics Committee, which plans to pass out a questionnaire to House members on their contact and involvement with various individuals identified as part of the Korean influence-peddling lobby. The Ethics Committee's main thrust of investigation, they announced this week, will center on former members of Kissinger's National Security Council and the CIA who have been subpoenaed to give what information they have on the Korean lobbying. Charges have been circulating through various conduits including the *New York Times* that various officials in a number of government agencies, including the State Department, FBI and others, were covering up the activity.

Significantly undercutting the line that the Baker call is a Republican move to use the Korean scandal as the Democrats' Watergate, the Democratic head of the Ethics Committee, Rep. Flynt, supported the Baker call.

These moves have not brought a happy reaction from the Liberals, whose own Korean baby is the investigation being carried out by the Subcommittee of the House International Relations Committee headed by Rep. Donald Fraser. Fraser, a member of David

Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission and former head of the ultra-liberal Americans for Democratic Action, has been going after the Pak regime in South Korea on "human rights" grounds. A top aide to Fraser, asked for his reaction to the Baker-Ethics Committee moves, strongly opposed them as an effort to put a lid on the Korean scandal investigation by trying "to put the shoe on the other foot," i.e., shift it from Congress to the Executive. The aide derided the talk of Executive cover-up, particularly charges directed against Undersecretary of State Philip Habib, as "misdirected."

### *Pullback On Korea Pullback*

The developments around the Korean scandal are tied to signs of a shift by the Carter Administration on their withdrawal policy which has been under strong attack from conservative layers since the Chief of Staff of the U.S. forces in Korea, General Singlaub, made public his opposition to the policy. Yesterday, Habib and General George Brown, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, appeared before the House and Senate Foreign Relations Committees to brief them on their visit last month to South Korea to discuss the troop withdrawal. While neither backed down visibly from the policy, they declined to give any indication of the timetable for withdrawal, sparking rumors that the timetable may be significantly slowed down — a de facto backdown.

The Senate Committee is now the scene of an effort led by Senator Baker to challenge the policy. Baker issued a statement last week charging that the withdrawal will "create uncertainty throughout free Asia, stimulate regional tensions, and risk a major outbreak of hostilities on the Korean peninsula." In the committee itself, a move has been made to ask the CIA for documents on a "new intelligence assessment" which allegedly says that North Korea is stronger than previously believed — precisely the position taken by General Singlaub, who is linked to military intelligence circles. CIA briefings to the committee staff, according to the *Washington Post*, have also now expressed concern that only a short warning would be available in the case of a North Korean attack. Carter's authorization for the CIA to make this reassessment is read in certain intelligence community circles as part of the attempt to smother the revolt in particularly military intelligence ranks who are enraged at the Administration's foreign policies.

At this point it is difficult to precisely predict what may unfold. It is clear, however, that the Korea policy and the Korea scandal are serving as a major battleground for the powerplays now underway, and that a deal in this realm would reflect fallback deals being made elsewhere under Nelson Rockefeller's direction between the Carter Administration and its conservative opposition.

— Daniel Snider