
THE FALLOUT

Why Secretary Vance resigned

The resignation of Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance yesterday removes from the inner circle of presidential counsel the only Carter advisor who had retained any remnant of sanity on the ways and means by which the United States may avoid war in the short term.

What Vance realizes is that the policies of the Carter administration have brought the United States to the brink of a thermonuclear showdown with the Soviet Union. Vance's sudden departure from the administration has created the conditions in which a break in the psychotic national unity that has bound the U.S. population to Carter's lunatic policies since last November's seizing of American hostages in Teheran may come.

Vance submitted his resignation not only as a protest against Carter's military rescue caper, but also against the general confrontationist bent of administration foreign policy. Although this news service has been Vance's most severe critic on the domestic political scene, we can report that his position, that the Carter administration should take "no military action in or around Iran," was based on an understanding of a reality that Carter, Brzezinski, and other administration officials are constitutionally incapable of understanding: that a U.S. military move into the Middle East region guarantees a thermonuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union, from which the Soviets will not back down, and therefore the very high risk of general nuclear war by miscalculation. As Vance was aware, the very best a U.S. military move into the region could portend was a U.S. back-down to the Soviets, full-scale strategic humiliation, and the threat of a Soviet invasion of Iran.

Vance's denunciation of Carter's lunatic policy course, therefore, has forced into the open the fact that the United States is in the middle of the gravest strategic crisis of its history.

The immediate cause of the national crisis was pinpointed for the American population by Democratic Presidential candidate, Lyndon LaRouche, in an extraordinary half hour national television broadcast on Jan. 27. LaRouche told his audience: "Now, the Carter administration has another feature. We profiled Zbig-

niew Brzezinski some years ago out of concern for what his influence might be on U.S. policy. We profiled Brzezinski as susceptible of a problem, a neurosis which is called in military science 'flight forward'...

"One of the great fears in military science is that this kind of flight forward...might occur at the command level, or the level of head of state.

"That's exactly what's happened. The Carter administration, which has been out-gunned, whose policy has been a failure, is responding to its failure—the bankruptcy of its Middle East and its China policy—by going into a 'flight forward' assault against the forces of the Soviet Union."

The announcement late Sunday of Vance's resignation was but the opening shot of protest within the administration. The first stage of what could be an avalanche of resignations has now begun.

On April 30, Deputy Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, the No. 2 man at State, announced his resignation, also in protest over Carter policies. Highly reliable sources in Washington expect U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union and former IBM Chairman, Thomas Watson Jr., to resign in protest any hour now. Watson has known Vance intimately for years—the two were codirectors of IBM prior to 1976, and both, along with other prominent figures such as Clark Clifford, Paul Warnke, and just-appointed Secretary of State, Edmund Muskie, are figures who developed in political life as protégés of FDR's former ambassador to Moscow, Averell Harriman. Watson arrived from Moscow today, in a surprise move, citing "personal reasons."

Amidst the resignations, the first calls for the commencement of a "Cartergate" process have surfaced, from individuals and institutions that speak for oligarchic Atlanticist families.

Henry Reuss, long identified as congressional point man for City of London financiers, has called upon Carter to follow in the footsteps of LBJ and declare he will not seek the nomination for reelection. David Broder, columnist for the Washington Post, today echoed Reuss's call with the assertion that only by "ending his status as a candidate can (Carter) gain the freedom of action and credibility he needs to deal with the deepening crisis in Iran."

Following the Vance resignation, the New York Times ran a lead editorial demanding of Vance—a former director of the Times—that he publicly relate the full account of why he resigned; "If Mr. Vance so feared the failure of the rescue mission—and perhaps even more the success—it must be because he knows more than the rest of the country about the President's mood and the drift of his policy ... if Mr. Vance wishes to head off reckless adventure, it is not enough to jump ship ... a defeated statesman speaks his mind."