

EXCLUSIVE**ENERGY**

OECD Nations Defy Trilateral Commission, Seek Nuclear Energy Development

At its Tokyo meeting last week, David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission called for a worldwide moratorium on export of nuclear fuel reprocessing facilities. The Trilateral decision came at the same time that the U.S. State Department and Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) announced a policy of effective banning of Japanese nuclear waste fuel recycling at the British Windscale facility run by British Nuclear Fuels Ltd., citing the October speech by President Ford which called for review of the nuclear fuel cycle question.

The latest U.S. decision, reached with the complicity of new U.S. "Energy Czar" James Schlesinger, according to sources, has brought the Japanese, European and developing sector nations to the verge of a forced political break with what they increasingly see as a U.S. government policy of international energy control.

Japanese Fight For Nuclear Power

In Japan, the Foreign Ministry announced Jan. 19 that it plans to go ahead with its plans to complete its own Tokai reprocessing facility and according to reports has been vigorously accumulating concentrated supplies of uranium fuels, especially during December. At the same time the Japanese Foreign Ministry announced resumption of negotiations with Canada to firm up terms for import of uranium from that country.

The government Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has announced plans for a national public relations campaign for its policy of increased nuclear fission power development. Three major industrial groups, the Federation of Economic Organizations, the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum, and the Committee for Energy Policy Promotion held a meeting with Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda. According to the *Mainichi Daily News*, they urged increased efforts for development of atomic power, oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) energy resources to be increased through creation of a cabinet level Energy Ministry.

A high MITI official reports that U.S. fuel restrictions were regarded as motivated by U.S. multinational oil companies attempts to control world energy prices and supplies. *Mainichi* echoed this widely held view, citing the fact that Japan, France, and West Germany viewed the U.S. restrictive attempts as part of moves to monopolize world plutonium supplies. (see Economic Report)

Closely tied to the Japanese opposition to this forced regulatory control of Japanese atomic power develop-

ment, French, British and West German nuclear interests and governmental agencies affirmed equally strong opposition to the Schlesinger policies. Britain has announced that it will back a French proposal made last month to include Japan in the group of eight advanced industrial nations to control the world's plutonium, a move which will be decided at a meeting in London this March between the U.S., Britain, France, USSR, Canada, Italy, W. Germany and Spain.

British Nuclear Fuels Ltd., which operates the large Windscale enrichment and reprocessing facility presently used by Japan, is part of a European nuclear fuels consortium, United Reprocessors, GmbH, which includes French, West German, and Italian reprocessing interests.

This substantial capability to regulate the entire so-called nuclear fuel cycle process is a major obstacle in the path of U.S. and specifically Rockefeller family control of world energy development. A spokesman for the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) in the U.S., a group set up by Laurance Rockefeller in the late 1960s and funded largely by the Rockefeller Foundation and Rockefeller Bros. Fund, has stated that the organization aims at stopping nuclear reprocessing worldwide. The NRDC and Friends of the Earth are planning a "counter conference" in April in Salzburg, Austria prior to the meeting of the International Atomic Energy Association as part of an international scare campaign against nuclear reprocessing and nuclear power generally. This same international network of "environmentalists," a remarkable number of whom have top national security backgrounds, was instrumental last spring in circulation of a scare campaign on the danger of nuclear terrorism.

Directly countering the so-called Friends of the Earth campaign, British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. announced this week it plans to make application to the government for permission to go ahead with construction of what it calls the "non-controversial" section of the proposed 600 million pound expansion at the Windscale nuclear fuels facility. Government approval is expected and full plans involving handling of spent nuclear fuels, which has been subject to environmentalist attack, will be subject to a public inquiry. Although this inquiry is not yet final, a related inquiry, by the British Health and Safety Executive has just favorably recommended to Energy Minister Wedgewood Benn that plans for development of a commercial fast breeder reactor program in Britain can be made safe enough to warrant license for development.

West German Sabotage Coordinated From U.S.

In West Germany, where the nuclear power development program has been built under what are considered the world's highest safety standards, future developments are being hampered by a concerted campaign of site occupations and disruptions being carried out in direct coordination with the NRDC and related groups in the U.S. A meeting earlier this week in Oldenburg of some 150 so-called Buerger Initiative groups planned a new wave of violent disruptions of the Brockdorf nuclear site. During the meeting a representative of Bremen Radio stated the likelihood that as many as 200 lives could be lost, but that "this is a small price to pay considering the danger of nuclear destruction." This new demonstration planned for Feb. 19 includes representatives from the U.S., Denmark, and Australia and involves members of several intelligence-run "Maoist" organizations — KBW, KPD, KPD-ml, KB (the so-called K-groups) and the groups associated with NATO agent Ernest Mandel.

A spokesman in Washington of the NRDC has revealed plans to occupy a second West German site for a nuclear reprocessing facility, to be announced soon. "More than 800 tractors will occupy the site within 24 hours of

government announcement of the final site," the source claimed.

The West German government has come under intense State Department and other pressure to withdraw its announced decision to sell to Brazil a nuclear reprocessing facility, even though inspection standards exceeding current International Atomic Energy Agency requirements have been agreed to by the Brazilian government.

In Brazil, which is firmly committed to fulfillment of the West German deal proceeding, in addition, eight nuclear power reactors, the government has recently refused a Canadian attempt to break the contract.

The Brazilians' commitment to develop nuclear power capacity is firmly supported by the Argentine government and industry. Argentina, which is the first Latin American country to possess a working commercial reactor, has had a vigorous press campaign in support of nuclear power. An article in the Argentine daily *Clarín* of Jan. 16 stated the case sharply: "All new advances of civilization are always surrounded by such discussions. Remember those who so vehemently opposed the automobile at the beginning of this century; or those who insisted that it was impossible for an airplane to fly?"

Saudi Production Increases Aimed at Creating New International Oil Marketing Network

Backed by a coalition dominated by European state-owned oil companies and American independents, the Saudi Arabian government earlier this week assigned designated purchases of additional Saudi crude to be produced over and above the old 8.5 million barrels a day (mbd) production ceiling to the four partners of Rockefeller's Aramco consortium. The four oil companies in Aramco — Mobil, Exxon, Socal, and Texaco — will deliver Saudi crude to the European based companies — French state-owned company CFP, its Italian counterpart, ENI, British Petroleum, and Royal Dutch Shell — on terms dictated by the Saudi government. The Saudis intend to redirect the flow of their oil towards new markets using the Aramco partners simply to deliver the oil. The sale of all additional production will be accompanied by strict price auditing measures to prevent profiteering with Saudi crude.

Aside from the four European companies named, the Jan. 20 *Journal of Commerce* reports that American independent refiners may well also soon be allocated Saudi oil, as well as the Japanese. This is the first time that U.S. independents, longstanding rivals of Exxon et al., have been identified with the Saudi efforts to undercut the multinationals.

Following the collapse of last month's North-South conference the Saudis, with strong backing from Italy and Great Britain, have taken the lead in OPEC to ensure that oil is used for industrial expansion in the advanced sector in order to assure supplies to the Third World of

vital imports and technology. The London Times welcomed the Saudi selection of BP and Shell, linking it to the policy of "making additional supplies of cheaper Saudi oil available throughout the world, the latest step in the Saudi campaign." A well-informed Texas oil analyst suggested that oil sold to Shell could then be remarketed to Third World countries through Shell's extensive networks. BP and Shell may also soon be handling additional Iranian oil as third parties in barter deals worth \$2 billion between Iran and Great Britain. Such deals will make both BP and Shell the largest shareholders in the Iranian consortium of companies, directly responsible to the two governments as dictated by the terms of their trade contracts.

Aramco Nationalization

The Lebanese magazine *Events* dated Jan 14 reports that the Saudis' 100 per cent takeover of Aramco have been completed by Jan. 15. While no other press reported the finalization of the super-secret nationalization negotiations, the Jan. 17 *Wall Street Journal* reports that the highly unusual assignment of buyers to Aramco's four companies was done "as if" the nationalization had been completed. *Events* reports that the terms of nationalization desired by the Saudis are to continue to use the extensive downstream capacity of the four multis to expand their production. But, unlike the previous terms of partial nationalization, the Saudis will exercise a much more vocal posture in deciding the use of the oil.