

Rockefeller puppet Carter, citing his own accomplishments even during the "Watergate period," and fresh détente initiatives with the Soviets, including "the first breakthrough in moving toward, not love, but at least not war in the Mideast."

The Trilateral Commission was left with a scheduled film interview damaging to their factional position. When Westinghouse, representative of industrial layers, decided to go with the interview, the Rockefeller crowd began to behave like cornered rats trained to push a "Watergate lever" to obtain sustenance. Suddenly, front-page banner headline stories appeared in the *New York*

Times and *Washington Post* ("leaks" from Reston, Jr.) screaming tales of "New Tapes" and "Nixon Linked to Watergate Scheme." Readers were told "Nixon Pockets One Million in TV Deal," and *Times* reporter Anthony Lewis led a pack of personal characterizations of the ex-president as "that dreadful creature."

Most humorous of all was the skewed judgment rendered by psychiatrist David Abrahamsen, politely referred to as the author of a 'psychological study' of Nixon, who proclaimed that the interviews represented proof that Nixon was plotting to takeover the American presidency and establish a dictatorship.

Senators Grill Schlesinger On Energy; Congress Slaps Carter Domestic Policy

At hearings of the Senate Energy Committee May 3, Republican Senator Harrison Schmitt bluntly told presidential energy advisor James Schlesinger that the Administration's energy program "reminds me of the old fairy tale about the emperor's new clothes." Charging that the Carter-Schlesinger program is based on "wishful thinking" and incompetent science, the New Mexico Senator, a former astronaut, declared, "We're an energy growth economy, always have been and always will be."

Schlesinger's repeated attempts to rebut Schmitt's pointed criticisms were silenced as Schmitt interjected, "You're wrong from any scientific standpoint." Torpedoing the Ford Foundation-authored myth that conservation must be the primary feature of a comprehensive energy plan, Schmitt scored the Administration's view that the nation's research and development capability can have little or no effect on solving the energy crisis, when in fact fusion power development offers unlimited energy supplies.

The rough handling that Schlesinger suffered from Schmitt and other Energy Committee members in yesterday's confrontation is characteristic of growing Congressional stubbornness toward the entire range of Jimmy Carter's policies. Last week both House and Senate rejected the Administration's budget for fiscal '78. Then May 2 the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Public Works voted unanimously to reinstate 17 out of 18 water projects the President had demanded be cut earlier this year. Smarting from these Congressional blows, Carter told newsmen May 4, "I intend to press curtailment of such water projects until the last vote. I am very determined to carry forward the proposals I have made to Congress." Of his current relationship with Congress, Carter said, "The sleeves are rolled up and the gloves are off."

Criticism Mounts

Carter's threat served only to encourage further Congressional resistance. On May 4 the Senate Rules Committee forced an Administration spokesman to admit

that the President's electoral reform package would increase vote fraud. The same day, the Senate Agriculture Committee gave final approval to agricultural price supports, which were substantially higher than the Administration's proposals. An Agriculture Department official publicly speculated that the White House may veto the legislation.

Carter also came under fire in Congress for his welfare reform package, with both Democrats and Republicans charging that no systematic and equitable overhaul of the welfare system could be accomplished with Carter's pledge that it would entail "no higher initial cost than the present system." Without facing up to higher costs, said Rep. Graddison (R-Ohio), "I don't see how we're going to build up the support we need." Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY) charged, "It now seems clear that the needs of the poor are not a clear priority of this administration." A key feature of Carter's scheme to "hold down costs" is the establishment of forced work projects for the able-bodied unemployed, a work or starve alternative, opposed by pro-growth advocates of both major parties.

The across-the-board rout of Carter's credibility in Congress prompted both the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times* to rush to the President's defense with hysterical condemnations of the Congressional leadership. The *Post* charged May 3 that Senate Finance chairman Russell Long (D-La) is like an airport traffic controller who refuses to allow Carter's legislative proposals to land in Congress, while the *Times* accused House Majority Leader Jim Wright of listening to his constituents, "behaving more like the Congressman from Fort Worth than his party's floor leader."

"The Trouble with Democracies"

At his Senate appearance May 4, Schlesinger inadvertently fueled Congressional ire by highhandedly predicting a depression crisis "akin to the 1930s" within 10 years if Carter's energy program is not quickly made law. Schlesinger began his testimony with a quotation from former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill:

"Make no small plans. They hold no magic for the souls of men." Schlesinger continued, "And another British Prime Minister, also of the 1930s, once said that 'the trouble with democracies is that they will not recognize the truth of a situation until they are right up against it.'" (Schlesinger was quoting Neville Chamberlain, who is most famous for his "policy of appeasement" toward Hitler.)

Other members of the Committee joined Schmitt in taking issue with every aspect of the energy plan: the stand-by gas tax; the impossibility of coal conversion given strict environmental standards and the exorbitant costs of capital formation; the emphasis on conservation rather than incentives for oil and natural gas production. Queried repeatedly on the Administration's failure to invest in fusion power, Schlesinger replied, "We're giving it \$600 million a year. We won't have it for 40 or 50 years. (Fusion researchers project a 1980s timetable — ed) At \$600 million a year, that's a substantial investment."

The same day, the Congressional Record was filled with anti-Carter attacks by U.S. Representatives. Illinois Reps. Derwinski (D) and Crane (R) both charged that the Administration's estimates of dwindling natural gas supplies are false, noting ERDA assessments of a 1,001 years' supply of natural gas waiting to be tapped. Rep. William Whitehurst (R-Va) inserted projections of a 500-year supply of oil prepared by the Superior Oil Company, while Rep. Olin Teague (D-Tex) described Carter's nuclear non-proliferation policy as a study in "how not to end nuclear proliferation."

Rep. Steve Syms (R-Id) compared the irrational fears which Carter has raised about the development of nuclear power to the benighted prejudices of the Middle Ages, when men maintained the world was flat even after Columbus proved it round by the discovery of America. If the nation follows Carter's course, Syms con-

tinued, the U.S. will plunge into a "Dark Ages" like that which overtook medieval Europe as a result of such superstitions. Failure to develop nuclear power will spell the end of civilization, he warned.

A Naked Imperial Presidency?

"Carter's Energy Program A Flop" the Los Angeles *Herald Examiner* concluded yesterday. Reaction to the plan "resembles an elaborate modern version of the minuet, with great courtly and formal gestures," the Op-Ed said, but "in reality the emperor is still stark, shivering naked." From the industrial heartland, a column in yesterday's *Chicago Tribune* commented, "It might be a good idea if Jimmy Carter read the *Federalist Papers*." Instead of conducting a "Nixon imperial presidency," Carter might learn that "you accomplish change in this country not by public opinion polls but by getting legislation through Congress." The newspaper added suggestively, "We are in for four more hard years. The American people don't deserve it."

CORRECTION

In the *Executive Intelligence Review* No. 18, of May 3, 1977, the Allegheny Electric Cooperative and the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association were erroneously included among the sponsors of conference on Energy and Technological Development held in Pittsburgh, Pa. who declared the meeting an "extraordinary success." By the day of the conference, in fact, the only sponsors were the initiating organizations, the Fusion Energy Foundation and the Three Rivers Coalition for Science and Industry. The other two groups were not present at the event, which took place on April 28.

White House Worried By Fusion Foundation Lawsuit

The Carter Administration indicted itself before a court of law in Pittsburgh, Pa. May 4, during a hearing on a civil suit brought by the Fusion Energy Foundation against presidential energy advisor James Schlesinger and the FBI. The suit charges harassment and sabotage of an April 29 conference on Energy and Technological Development in Pittsburgh which the FEF cosponsored with several other organizations. Attempting to use the court to cover up its illegal activities against the FEF and its supporters, the government compounded its problems by refusing to agree to a consent order to prevent harassment against the organization.

Federal Judge William Knox was amazed at the U.S. Attorney's refusal to cooperate, since the consent order would include no statement or implication of FBI wrongdoing. "What has the Bureau got to worry about?" Knox asked.

The FEF is presently seeking an injunction against

White House-FBI harassment of upcoming energy conferences in New York and Chicago, as well as substantial monetary damages. On April 29 Judge Knox granted the FEF a temporary restraining order barring further FBI activities against the Pittsburgh conference.

"I'm not sure the government appreciates the full importance of this case," the judge told U.S. Attorney Barr at the May 4 hearing.

FBI Argues Its Rights

Barr argued that the FBI has every right to investigate the FEF given what he called its "personnel overlap" with the U.S. Labor Party and the National Caucus of Labor Committees — two groups already under Bureau investigation. The Labor Party was acting through the FEF, Barr maintained, to "harass" the FBI with this legal action. Judge Knox incredulously asked how Barr could maintain on the one hand that the FBI is an "inno-