

# Carter Uses Blackout To Push Nazi Labor/Energy Program

Two days before the July 13 blackout descended over New York City, the Carter Administration's Energy Advisor James Schlesinger reiterated his oft-stated demand for emergency powers and rationing of energy. On Saturday, July 16, the *New York Daily News* reported that the day before the blackout White House domestic counsellor Jack Watson prepared a memorandum for President Carter outlining a step-by-step "crisis management" scenario for blackouts and other "natural" disasters. Recommendations included the use of the National Guard and "selective" nationwide blackouts.

Simultaneously, the Administration and its supporters in Congress and the press began a major push for slave-labor jobs as a way to prevent looting and rioting in the nation's cities. On Saturday, July 16 President Carter identified "unemployment" as "the number one contributing factor to crimes of all kind" and called for a greatly expanded job opportunities program for urban areas. The July 21 issue of New York City's *Amsterdam News* ran a front-page editorial: "Don't Lock Them Up, Put Them to Work" advocating that those convicted of looting "should be required, under strict supervision by parole officers and community leaders, to work in the communities rebuilding the shops and stores they looted and burned down."

This two-pronged program of massive energy cutbacks plus slave labor was first outlined at the Conference of Northeast Governors in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. in November 1976. Before the blackout, this program — consciously modeled after the policies of Nazi Finance Minister Hjalmar Schacht — had been put on the backburner: now the Administration is making this program its number one priority.

The chronology of this drive is given below:

**July 11-12:** The Senate votes to keep the Clinch River breeder reactor project paralyzed in its present design stage while supporting the Administration's plan to reduce by 20 percent the Energy Research and Development Administration's already inadequate thermonuclear fusion power research and development budget.

**July 13:** Blackout, plunging New York City and Westchester County into up to 25 hours of darkness occurred, extending into Thursday, July 14.

**July 14:** All news media played up looting with characterizations, particularly by *WINS* radio, that the looting is spreading elsewhere and reaching riot potential.

**July 15:** The *New York Post* runs a four-inch banner headline, "24 Hours of Terror" with press in Boston, Baltimore, Chicago and elsewhere echoing this theme. Long Island's *Newsday* asserted that the blackout shows

the need for a massive program of slave labor jobs to "help oppressed minorities."

Carter's United Nations Representative Andrew Young defended looting at a press conference given in Geneva. "If you turn the light out, folks will steal ... especially if they're hungry." Simultaneously, Congressional Democratic leaders, citing the New York blackout as one reason, scheduled "marathon sessions" to "keep their promise to President Carter to produce his top legislative priority, a national energy bill," the *Washington Star* reports. The *Star* characterized this as an "almost unprecedented move" and Senator Robert Byrd, Majority Leader, warns that the Senate will postpone its October recess if necessary. Rep. John Anderson (R-Ill.) charged that this amounts to a "ramrodding."

**July 16:** The *Washington Post's* lead editorial, "The Blackout," condemns the "awesome dependence of major cities on electricity and, therefore, on the energy that is needed to provide it." The *Baltimore Sun* endorses the "Metcalf plan" which would establish a federal corporation to strengthen national and regional electric power grids.

Carter interviewed by the *National Black Network* radio said, "obviously, the number one contributing factor to crises of all kind, in my opinion, is high unemployment among young people, particularly those

## Ramsey Clark And The Crazy Homicides

The *New York Post* July 21 published a story on the Crazy Homicides, a Bronx gang who boasted that it had been paid by landlords to set fire to abandoned buildings in the South Bronx slums.

Landlords aren't the only people who pay gangs like the Crazy Homicides to do their dirty work for them. Information received by the *EIR* reveals that former Attorney General Ramsey Clark runs an outfit in New York City called the *Inner City Roundtable of Youth* which hooks up and controls over 50 gangs throughout the city of New York.

This alleged social work outfit is responsible for the organized outbreak of looting during the city's July 13 blackout.

The *Roundtable* was set up in March 1976 with funds for the gangs allocated on the proviso that gang members would put in 5,000 manhours to "Get Out the Vote" for Jimmy Carter in New York's postcard registration.

In its next issue, the *EIR* will present the full documented story on Ramsey Clark's *Roundtable*, and its links to the Carter Administration and HEW.

who are black or Spanish-speaking or in a minority age group where they have a difficult time getting jobs in times of economic problems." He said the situation in New York was a sign of the need to channel government programs for housing, health, education and job opportunities into deteriorating urban areas. He also emphasized the need "to restore confidence of citizens who live in a community in the structure of government, police officers, the housing opportunities, good jobs — and this is obviously not the case in New York." Further publicity was given in the July 21 *New York Post*, and was broadcast nationally this week.

The *New York Daily News* charged in a news analysis article that White House domestic aide Jack Watson had prepared one day before the blackout a memorandum giving "crisis management" options for dealing with a blackout as well as a blizzard, flooding and other related emergencies. (This was subsequently confirmed through the White House by the *EIR*.)

*July 18:* President Carter announced that he requested his energy czar James Schlesinger to prepare "option reports" on (1) the use of the news media in enforcing energy conservation; (2) the use of partial blackouts to save the whole system in the case of a power shortage; and (3) the development of a national electricity grid system. According to the White House Press Office, Carter has also requested Secretary of Defense Harold Brown to determine the role of the National Guard in a blackout or similar emergency.

*July 19:* *Baltimore Sun*, reports that Carter's new chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Eleanor Holmes Norton, urged the Administration to use the nation's unemployment insurance system to subsidize "work-sharing programs" where "many companies would be able to avoid layoffs by reducing their work week to 4 or even 3 days."

President Carter agreed to seek an increase in Federal gasoline taxes of up to 5 cents to finance transportation or other Government programs.

*July 20:* House and Senate Conferees accepted President Carter's offer of a compromise, agreeing to

drop funds for the Clinch River breeder reactor for the continuation of nine water projects the President had earlier opposed. The House Ad Hoc Energy Committee approved 22 to 18 a 4 cents-per gallon tax to take effect in two stages beginning January.

AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Lane Kirkland praised Carter for returning to his campaign promises around boosting the minimum wage and labor law reform. "Last week, President Carter demonstrated that he is a big man in a big job — big enough to change his mind when a strong case is presented to him," he said according to the *Washington Post*.

Carter will propose to Congress legislation granting full amnesty to aliens who have been working illegally in the U.S. for seven years or longer and simultaneously will enforce the law rigidly on the hiring of workers who entered the country illegally.

*July 21:* The lead front-page editorial of the *Amsterdam News*, "Don't Lock Them Up, Put Them to Work" advocated that those New Yorkers convicted of looting "should be required, under strict supervision by parole officers and community leaders, to work in the communities rebuilding the shops and stores they looted and burned down." The editorial said the "real problem" was lack of jobs.

George F. Will, syndicated columnist wrote in the *Washington Post* and *Baltimore Sun* criticizing Andrew Young's statement legitimizing looting (see July 15) but concluded the "United States has within its urban population many people who lack the economic abilities and character traits necessary for life in a free and lawful society."

*New York Times* editor John B. Oakes blasted Carter, in an editorial page feature, for being too soft on Congress by going for a deal which included the continuation of nine water projects even though House and Senate conferees agreed to kill the breeder. "In doing so, he has made a sad and crippling retreat. For he is the first President in generations to have faced up to the political and moral corruption inherent in so many of these projects."