

# National News

## Muskie endorses limited war policy

Secretary of State Edmund Muskie came out unequivocally in favor of Presidential Directive 59, the policy statement that makes "limited nuclear" war U.S. military policy, on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation" Sept. 7.

"I am for it. It makes sense. As I examined my own record back to 1974, I found myself coming around to it. Having the flexibility is necessary. This policy was in place before I became secretary of state." Muskie had previously protested the fact that President Carter had not consulted him on the directive the President signed last month.

Critics of the presidential directive have pointed out that a U.S. commitment to "limited" nuclear war is dangerous foolishness when the Soviet Union continues to maintain a war fighting doctrine that calls for total retaliation in the event of any nuclear attack.

## Cline: Carter will reward China for GOP attacks

Ray Cline, a director of Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies and a policy adviser to Ronald Reagan, said last week that he expected the Carter administration to soon "reward" the People's Republic of China for its attacks on the GOP ticket.

Speaking at a press conference at the National Press Club, Cline, a former deputy director of the CIA, stated: "It seems to me that the administration is using foreign policy as a domestic political tool. . . . I predict that these sharp attacks by Peking on Reagan's candidacy will be rewarded by this administration reasonably soon. I predict that before the elections the administration will complete a number of arrangements between China and the U.S. These arrangements have been under negotiation for

some time, but have been hung up because the Chinese were demanding too much in the way of concessions. I have some reason to believe that the White House has made an agreement with the Chinese to get those agreements approved even if it means making major concessions to Peking."

Mr. Cline later told the *EIR* that he was "quite certain" that many of the "concessions will be military" but that these will not come before the election—or at least not be announced publicly.

Mr. Cline made his comments at a joint press conference with former Ford administration National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and defense policy expert John Lehman, called to denounce the Carter administration's leaking of the so-called Stealth technology which would make U.S. weapons systems invisible to radar.

## Dems try to oust Brzezinski

A group of leading Democrats has started a move to oust National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski from office. A letter to the President asking for Brzezinski to be removed from his post has been signed by leading Democrats in Pennsylvania and Ohio and is circulating elsewhere in the country. Democrats unwilling to go so far are urging Carter to appoint other men as key foreign policy advisers to counteract Brzezinski. Ohio Democrats Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, Sen. John Glenn, and Rep. Louis Stokes recently met with Vice-President Mondale to warn about mistakes the administration has made in foreign policy thanks to Brzezinski.

"The basic philosophical thrust of the people I talk to say that if Brzezinski is the chief adviser on foreign affairs, well, he is so much a hawk and not competent. All people are susceptible to power and 'being somebody.' Brzezinski watched Kissinger take power and become secretary of state," declared one Democratic

Party official in Ohio. He also revealed that a number of people who are backing John Anderson's campaign are hoping the Anderson threat can be used to pressure the President to downplay Brzezinski. "A large part of the Anderson campaign support is to put pressure on Carter. Most of the activists in the Jewish community who are with Anderson are doing this." They are concerned about Brzezinski, he declared, because they feel he doesn't understand the "historic perspective" of Israel, viewing it only as part of the East-West confrontation strategy.

## Administration charged with 'Royal' clamp on information

The Carter administration is instituting a major new classification system to clamp down on information that they consider "top security," at the direction of National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and CIA Director Stansfield Turner.

The most sensitive information will now be classified as "Royal" and given only to a few dozen people in the White House and 10 congressmen.

Congressional sources warn that the new classification system is being established principally to stop leaks of information politically damaging to the Carter administration. The *Daily Oklahoman* has reported that the "Royal" designation has been applied on one cable in which Libyan officials termed Billy Carter an "agent of influence."

## Judge impounds grain in bankrupt elevator

Three weeks ago, after the First Tennessee Bank in Memphis called a \$2.9 million note against Donald, Robert, and George James, owners of 11 elevators, the brothers asked Federal Judge Baker in Little Rock, Arkansas, for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Receiver Robert P. Lindsey

claimed all contents of the elevators to be part of the James brothers' property and Judge Baker allowed shipment of a million pounds of sorghum grain and milo under a contract signed by the James brothers last spring.

"But that is our grain," protested Home Evans, an official of the American Agriculture Movement in Ristine, Missouri. "It's like if you went to a Holiday Inn and that day they announced bankruptcy, and you found your automobile and belongings were part of the bankruptcy pool."

According to Missouri Department of Agriculture Grain Regulatory Services supervisor Tom Hopkins, who has been working hard to save the farmers' produce, "the drought has been so bad that soybean yields have gone from a normal 40 to 10 bushels per acre and corn from 150 to 40 bushels an acre. With this bankruptcy, a fair number of farmers could be ruined."

Farmers wonder if the bankruptcy was contrived to allow land grabbing by a former partner of the James brothers, now the largest land buyer in the area, or to set a precedent that could ruin farmers on a much larger scale if a bigger company went bankrupt.

## 'Take over Asian defense,' U.S. tells Japan

The Japanese government has disclosed that U.S. State Department officials told Japan that it must take over the defense of Asia in accordance with the American shift in priority of its military capability from Asia to the Middle East, according to the Japanese daily *Yomiuri*. Visiting official Reginald Bartholemew told Japanese leaders that the future of U.S.-Japanese ties hinges on Japan increasing its defense commitment. A private seminar in Japan with such American "heavies" as Gerry Ford, the Hoover Institution, Stanford Institute, and the Heritage Foundation delivered the same message.

Japan is definitely increasing its military spending and defense role, but not as far as Washington would like. And,

according to one American expert who just returned from Japan, some of the top Japanese proponents of Japanese rearmament express caution about a fullscale military relationship with China of the kind Washington has developed. Such leaders as Masamichi Inoki, director of the Peace and Security Research Institute, was one of the strongest advocates of rearming Japan as head of a commission appointed by former Premier Ohira, but he told Americans it is wrong to build up China's air and naval capacity. He said the problem is that it is impossible to tell which direction China may decide to aim these capacities 10 years down the road.

## U.S. troops found unprepared for combat

A confidential report prepared for the Secretary of the Army in December found that six of 16 U.S. Army divisions are currently in an "unsatisfactory" state of combat readiness. Three other divisions were declared combat ready but with deficiencies.

The six unsatisfactory divisions and two with major deficiencies are stationed in the U.S. They include two divisions that have been assigned to the "Rapid Deployment Force," a newly created unit supposedly able to rush into action quickly anywhere in the world.

Embarrassed Defense Department officials immediately confirmed the report, published first in the *New York Times*. Pentagon press spokesman Tom Ross tried to downplay the importance of the lack of readiness of the domestic-based U.S. troops by pointing out that all six U.S. divisions stationed in Europe are ready for combat.

The unfit divisions, basic army logistical and personnel units consisting of between 16,000 and 18,000 men, were judged according to a number of criteria including overall fitness of personnel and equipment.

The Army has openly admitted significant problems in recruiting, training, and keeping competent personnel.

## Briefly

● **RONALD REAGAN's** Sept. 3 B'nai B'rith address was authored by a founding member of the Jewish Defense League. Sources report that Reagan foreign policy adviser Joseph Churba, a retired Air Force Mideast intelligence chief and a cofounder with Meir Kahane of the Mossad-connected JDL, was the chief architect of Reagan's rabidly pro-Israel speech.

● **PRESIDENT CARTER** won the endorsement this week of 22 environmentalists for his efforts to keep America's resources bottled up and away from developers. Included among the group was the head of the League of Conservation Voters, Marion Edey, who is also a member of the Club of Rome, the organization that developed the notion of "limits to growth."

● **THE OVAL OFFICE**, where the nation's chief executive officer plans out international strategy, has décor carefully selected to help stimulate his mental processes. No Rembrandts or Holbeins for him. President Jimmy Carter is surrounded by stuffed and bronzed animals.

● **DEFENSE DEPARTMENT** officials were forced to announce last week the grounding of the entire fleet of more than 1000 F-4 Phantom jets. It seems that the Pentagon has discovered a minor mechanical flaw in the plane: the pilot ejection seat mechanism apparently works on its own sometimes, much to the chagrin of Air Force pilots.

● **THE TRANSPORTATION** Department, under Neil Goldschmidt, is planning to help eliminate half a million jobs in the city of Detroit, *EIR* has learned. Details will be in next week's issue of *EIR*.