

Pittsburgh Press, April 22, "Pro-Nuclear Groups Hit Carter Plan":

Two pro-nuclear groups have taken bitter exception to President Carter's energy plan.

Dr. Morris Levitt, national director of the Fusion Energy Foundation, termed the Carter policy, "The first step toward deindustrialization of the United States."

And the Concerned Citizens for the Nuclear Breeder stated flatly that "The cancellation of the breeder reactor development program proposed by the President will have a disastrous effect on our country's future energy supply."

Levitt, in Pittsburgh yesterday to promote an energy and technological development conference at the William Penn Hotel next Friday, also stated: "We can have as much energy, at reasonable prices, that we need if we are willing to develop the technology."

By banning the use of plutonium, Mr. Carter has

knocked out 99 percent of the available nuclear power, Levitt said. And the President has refused to recognize fusion energy as the power of the future despite being advised of very recent fusion research breakthroughs, Levitt charged. "The President cannot be unaware of testimony before Congress that we are now at a 'break-even' point in fusion research," he said.

...Levitt described the Fusion Energy Foundation as a "high technology think-tank for the pro-fusion development segment of our society." The concerned citizens group is a "community group of people within the nuclear industry and others supporting nuclear development," according to its president, Thomas Galioto, a Westinghouse employee.

... "Development of a commercial U.S. breeder industry will in no way increase nuclear proliferation," Galioto said. "Carter is using the breeder reactor as a political football at the expense of our country's future."

Nixon Lifts The Watergate Albatross Off Conservatives

Richard M. Nixon dished out more than he took in his nationally-televised May 4 confrontation with interrogator David Frost, once and for all lifting the Watergate albatross off the necks of American conservatives.

The show attracted 57.2 million viewers, an historic record for a TV interview. The filmed interview was carried by the Westinghouse Broadcasting Corporation, having been rejected by the financier-controlled networks, CBS, NBC and ABC.

The former president's reemergence onto the national political scene through the interview elicited cries of alarm from the New York financier-controlled press such as the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. Nixon's successful appearance has only served to force the impression of the weakness of the Carter Administration and its Trilateral Commission backers.

CBS' judgment on the interview was expressed frankly: "Frost was like a weak softball pitcher who kept lobbing pitches to Nixon who kept batting them out of the ballpark for a home run."

In the course of the interview, Nixon did manage to drop some political bombshells. For the first time, he let out his knowledge that "there may have been a conspiracy to get me," describing the months of Watergate as "a five-front war with a fifth column." While not making himself perfectly clear, Nixon did directly allude to "some Republican, some Democratic circles," and to "CIA shenanigans" which "haven't yet been told" — all part of the conspiracy. Informed circles recognize these statements as references to the Rockefeller private political intelligence networks inside the major political parties, the intelligence community proper, and the Nixon Administration itself (i.e., Nixon's Secretary of State Kissinger, adviser Alexander Haig, et al.).

Nixon's comeback to the position of at least a factor in

American politics comes in the context of a general political shift which finds traditionalist-conservative forces, including "the Nixon faction," increasingly confident and active. Nixon's and Ford's former Secretary of the Treasury, William Simon, went public in the past week to endorse fusion power against the Carter Administration's no-nuclear energy program. Early this week, former Vice President Spiro Agnew, himself an apparently finished Watergate victim, issued a public statement saying, "I've got information that will allow me to be elected to public office in the future." By contrast, Vice President Walter Mondale was forced into making a public apology to Gerald Ford for demanding that Ford quit criticizing Jimmy Carter's economic program.

A Trick That Didn't Work

The Trilateral Commission expected that in an interview Nixon would come off as badly as he had during his last weeks in the White House. In March, David Frost and his research assistant, James Reston, Jr., of the *New York Times*, were given the green light by the Rockefeller circles to film an interrogation of the ex-president, in the full expectation that the well-profiled "broken man" would be finished off, and thereby contribute to the consolidation of the fraudulent Carter presidency.

But Nixon refused as he put it "to grovel." Seizing the initiative from his startled inquisitor, Nixon not only deftly demonstrated that the Watergate charges brought against him were half-truths and fictions, but (correctly) insisted repeatedly that his single serious failing was not to have contained and destroyed the political opponents of his presidency for the overriding good of the country.

Nixon also got in some cracks at the expense of the

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: