

cent victim fallen prey to harassment by the FEF and U.S. Labor Party, and on the other hand that those same two organizations were the target of FBI investigation.

After Judge Knox listened to a repetitive government cross-examination of FEF director Dr. Morris Levitt on the connections between the three organizations, he commented, "It seems that the FBI is so eager to investigate the FEF that it has taken advantage of courtroom proceedings to pursue its investigation. After a day of hearings dominated by government-initiated back-and-forth, Judge Knox had to delineate rules of evidence from the bench to allow FEF witnesses to present their case.

In several hours of testimony, Dr. Levitt established the scientific credibility of the FEF, discussing its publications, conferences, and tours by energy experts. Levitt then described the contents of the FBI's 1976 operation against the FEF's first major conference and its supporters. The documents released through the Freedom of Information Act, Dr. Levitt said, showed that, for example, the FBI contacted a member of Commonwealth Edison in Chicago who later did not attend the conference after he had spoken to the FBI. The FBI also sabotaged for a full year the publication of the FEF-sponsored International Journal on Fusion Energy by disseminating slanders on the Foundation.

Next, Pittsburgh FEF coordinator Scott Brody testi-

fied about his personal knowledge of the "daisy chain"-like dropout rate of confirmed conference participants who cancelled their commitments immediately before the conference was to begin. Eleven out of 14 participants finally dropped out of the conference, and since that time, Mr. Brody said, he had been unable to communicate with these individuals.

Following the Levitt-Brody testimony, U.S. Attorney Barr moved to quash the FEF subpoena of Pittsburgh FBI agent Bill Martin, the local coordinator of the operation against the FEF acting on orders from Schlesinger and FBI headquarters in Washington.

Nevertheless it appears likely that Martin will be called to testify. Judge Knox informed Barr of the questions the FEF, and the court, will pose for Martin. They include Martin's personal knowledge of and activities around the FEF and the Pittsburgh conference, Martin's personal knowledge of other agents' activities around the Pittsburgh conference, and his personal knowledge of orders received from Washington on such activities.

After hearing the government's argument for dismissal, Judge Knox ruled further hearings and decisions on all motions for May 17. Until that time, the judge instructed, the government must "keep on its toes," implying that further FBI harassment of upcoming FEF events will do serious damages to the government's case.

Schlesinger Plan Disliked By Americans, Says Italian Pro-Gov't Paper

The following article by Ugo Gaudenzi appeared May 1 in the evening newspaper of the industrialists' Il Fiorino, which is widely regarded as expressing the views of the Andreotti government. The article refers to memorial resolutions for the development of nuclear fission power, but it is actually fusion which is meant, with the exception of Pennsylvania's resolution which calls for the development of the fast breeder and fusion.

The tug-of-war between the Carter Administration and the vast area of American public opinion continues to be strongly critical with respect to the Schlesinger energy policy. An opinion poll carried out by the *New York Times* and CBS-TV network has ascertained Carter's popularity has dropped eight points in the first 100 days of his Administration. When inaugurated the poll showed 72 percent favorable response; today it is at 64.

Besides this, yesterday at Pittsburgh a well-attended first conference on the energy alternative, promoted by the Fusion Energy Foundation, took place despite hard pressures to sabotage the event. Pittsburgh, the capital of Pennsylvania steel, therefore became the dynamo of opposition to the Carter program of containment of nuclear development.

Already on April 26 the Pennsylvania House of

Representatives, on the basis of a proposal by the Democratic Rep. Ivan Itkin, voted on a favorable resolution for the development of nuclear fission power. To date there are five states in the USA who have expressed their disapproval of the Schlesinger plan — which is already contested in Europe at the European Economic Community level by professionals — technicians and scientists of the nuclear sector. Among these, Pennsylvania and Illinois have requested the Congress to ratify an alternative energy policy which hypothesizes the development of energy through a system of nuclear fission — a method which was condemned by Carter on April 20.

The Pittsburgh conference, which was attended by independent American organizations, besides pointing to the development of the present systems of nuclear reactions as the only way to expansion of the energy capacity, denounced the counteroffensive launched in the past few days by the supporters of the Schlesinger plan in order to block technical and political criticisms of the government program.

In particular, James Schlesinger called for a series of "mini-seminars" organized by ecologist Barry Commoner and Weinstein, a member of his staff, linked to the American Jewish Committee and engaged directly by

Carter to organize the public in favor of the conservation program which has been proposed by the White House.

"Electrical energy generated by atoms is for the U.S. and for the world one of the major energy resources and above all if one takes into account the oil problem and the necessity to preserve to the utmost the currently existing supplies," affirmed a Sunday morning editorial in the Hearst-chain paper of Los Angeles and Seattle. William R. Hearst concluded, "Then why do we abandon an experimental road?"

Tough anti-Carter criticisms for his program have even come from William Simon who spoke of the Schlesinger plan as a catastrophe for the American people. This statement was made last week the day before the first public attack on the electoral reform project being put forward by Jimmy Carter. The attack came from ex-president Gerald Ford.

On April 27 the *Detroit News* violently lashed out at Ralph Nader and the Washington Administration, denouncing the coercive methods proposed by the President to limit energy consumption: "Germans, Japanese, Russians, everyone is proceeding rapidly in the development of nuclear capacity to make up for the lack of oil resources."

With the success of the Pittsburgh conference by the promoters of a system of nuclear fission, there is a harsh battle shaping up between the American government and the broad opposition to halting of energy projects. Democratic, Republican, USLP, scientific foundations, industrialists and parts of American public opinion already openly condemn the energy policy of President Carter. The Schlesinger plan is therefore the first real roadblock for the new American president.

The construction of nuclear plants is in fact an imperative obligation for the general increase of energy consumption necessary for the economies of the major industrialized countries, in particular for those countries lacking in raw materials and petroleum resources of their own — such as Italy, Germany, France and Japan. The development of thermonuclear fission power is crucial above all to prepare the way to the development of fusion power, the famous *JET* (Joint European Torus) project carried out by the EEC which represents at the same time the major potential for energy resources as well as the cleanest energy without environmental risks. And this is what the seven big countries of the West will speak about at London on May 10-11.

Mexican Daily Calls For Fusion 'Manhattan Project'

The April 20 edition of The News, Mexico City's English-language daily, alerted the U.S. business community in that city to the rational alternative to Jimmy Carter's recently announced energy program. Excerpts from The News calling for the crash development of controlled thermonuclear fusion power follow:

President Carter's controversial energy conservation program now faces the big test. He told the American people that the U.S. is confronting "a crisis as serious as war."

Will they buy that? Future generations everywhere will need the oil that's left in the ground — for some 70,000 different petrochemical products — and to lubricate every wheel that turns, this latter likely ad infinitum . . .

But to meet the crisis as though it were war? In that case, recalling World War II, another 'Manhattan Project' to crash-develop alternative fuel sources might be more viable than a carrot-stick taxation cure. Yet nothing of that magnitude appeared in Carter's program. A Manhattan Project for a breakthrough to nuclear fusion of seawater's hydrogen might end any need for sacrificing life style. The use of the laser in this process was tested at Los Alamos, N.M. on March 30, 1976. Near simultaneous reports from Moscow and Los Angeles told of successful separation of combustible hydrogen from H₂O to cheaply heat a home or fuel a car. A "Muscovich" model has been test run. From Bonn (Nov. 12, 1976) Volkswagen was reported readying a model that would burn coal-derived methanol — three times cheaper than gasoline.