

Republicans Demand Nuclear Energy

Former Texas Governor John Connally called for the formation of a labor-industry-government alliance to promote the modernization and expansion of U.S. industry and the growth of U.S. industrial exports to the rest of the world in a speech to the Republican Governors' Conference in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, Oct. 11.

Commenting on Energy Secretary James Schlesinger's program to restrict U.S. energy consumption and cut back development of new "hard" technology sources in favor of so-called "soft" technologies, Connally countered that "nuclear energy is the only solution."

The former Texas governor proposed the creation of a "Government Marketing Board" — a mechanism, he said, which he had adopted from an innovation of Charles de Gaulle's Fifth French Republic — to set export priorities and ensure increased trade.

Connally's call came a day after a call by physicist Edward Teller for massive exports of nuclear technology to the Third World. In view of the Third World's severe poverty, Teller warned, the only alternative to such a policy is war.

The statements by these two public figures intersect a major international push for nuclear energy development being led by the governments of France, West Germany, and Japan, and have given strong new impetus to efforts to defeat the no-growth energy plan being promoted globally by Schlesinger and British-centered financial interests.

Connally, in particular, is the first leading American politician besides the U.S. Labor Party's Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr. and the chairman of the National Coalition of Independents on Issues, Colonel Thomas McCrary, to step forward to rally labor and industry jointly around a program of industrial growth. The former Texas governor's most significant remarks were entirely blacked out in the major national press.

Nevertheless, Connally, currently on a national fund-raising tour for the Republican Party, has already had a significant effect on the factional situation in the GOP, which is split between conservatives groping for a programmatic orientation and moderates urging that the party downplay issues in favor of appeals to minority groups, women, etc. While Connally received a standing ovation, "moderate" GOP chairman Bill Brock was lambasted for urging the party to concentrate on refurbishing its image rather than on substantive issues. Attacking Brock, South Carolina Governor James B. Edwards declared, "We don't want to be an issueless party."

Because of his ties to the Democratic Party, it is expected that Connally's public campaign for a policy of expanded industrial development will help to reorient the stumbling opposition to the Carter energy program with-

in the Democratic Party as well. The pro-Schlesinger *New York Times*, while blacking out the substance of Connally's speech, has obliquely noted that threat: "The string of defeats suffered by Mr. Carter on energy," the *Times* wrote Oct. 13, "has emboldened such Republican Party strategists as John B. Connally... to suspect that the President may prove so vulnerable politically that he could be defeated in 1980."

So far, the leading Democratic opponent of the program, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Russell Long, has been devoting himself to political horsetrading aimed at a "compromise" energy program which will still be acceptable to the rabidly anti-industry energy Secretary James Schlesinger.

Teller:

Nuclear Technology Export The Only Alternative To War

Dr. Edward Teller, a leading U.S. nuclear physicist known as the "father of the H-Bomb," told the Society of Research Administrators meeting in San Antonio, Texas Oct. 10, that war could result unless nuclear energy is used to help the underdeveloped world industrialize and eliminate poverty.

Teller, known as an advisor on nuclear questions to Nelson Rockefeller, stated in the keynote address to the meeting that the underdeveloped nations' poverty "leads to despair which leads inevitably to war." Reiterating a theme he struck at a joint U.S.-Soviet meeting on fusion energy earlier this year, and more recently in meetings with nuclear spokesmen in West Germany and Italy, Teller declared that nuclear power is needed to feed, clothe, and supply energy to the world.

The abstract of Dr. Teller's speech, titled "Today's Challenges for Tomorrow's Changes," stated:

"For the rest of the century the world is involved in a radical change: the spread of the industrial revolution throughout the globe. The great and often painful developments that are becoming necessary will determine the state of the world as a whole far into the future.

"Today's challenges for the United States are to cooperate in this worldwide development in a positive manner. Such cooperation is important in diverse fields, including technology, energy, food, medicine and the preservation of peace. Our activities cannot bear fruit unless we stimulate our interest and development in science, research, and technology. Unfortunately, recent trends in American thinking have broken the tradition of emphasis on technology. This is a dangerous trend for ourselves and for the world as a whole."