

# U.S. Industry, Political Leaders Call For High-Technology Exports, Jobs

Faced with the American economy's headlong plunge toward collapse, significant sections of the industrial, banking, agricultural, and political communities are calling for a mobilization to restore the U.S. to its proper role as the premier industrial-technological power in the world, through a program of high-technology exports, capital-intensive job creation and the expansion of energy production and usage, specifically nuclear energy.

This trend was most explicitly voiced at a just-concluded conference on "Capital Formation for Exports" in Chicago. Sponsored by the Continental Illinois Bank, the conference brought together 600 top-level representatives of Midwestern banking and industry to hear speaker after speaker hammer home the need for a massive, public campaign, encompassing all sectors of the population, to rebuild and expand the USA's wealth-producing industrial infrastructure — or else face a devastating depression.

The most persuasive argument for the immediate adoption of such a strategy was presented by William Simon, Secretary of the Treasury in the Ford Administration and currently a member of Citibank's Board of Directors.

Simon's speech stressed three major points: (1) the need for a threefold increase in rates of capital formation to modernize industry and develop new and more technologically advanced modes of production; (2) Japan and Western Europe have consistently pursued a policy of capital formation thus guaranteeing greater productivity of their work force — and cheaper productions costs overall — therefore, the protectionists' arguments are completely skewed; and (3) the population has to wage a broad, vocal organizing campaign to insure that this policy is adopted as official government policy. (See excerpts below.)

### *Pronuclear Majority*

A similar call to arms was issued just a few days before the Chicago meet by Senator Harrison Schmitt. One of the most ardent congressional advocates of nuclear, including fusion, energy development, the New Mexican senator called a press conference Nov. 27 at the American Nuclear Society's meeting in San Francisco. Schmitt minced no words in calling the American scientific community to task for failing to counter the antinuclear propaganda spread by the environmentalists. "The American people are over-

whelmingly pronuclear," Schmitt asserted, but they are confused, and afraid of nuclear wastes. U.S. scientists had better get moving, Schmitt warned, and fulfill their responsibility for educating the population on nuclear power.

### *Ask Mobilization*

Both the Chicago conference and Schmitt's statements indicate that certain segments of the country's industrial establishment are beginning to grasp the fact that the only way to recover from the current worldwide economic collapse is to rally the American people around a program of expanded industrial and agricultural production, hard-commodity exports, and development and expansion of nuclear energy resources.

This realization is being accompanied by a significant step-up of interest in the proposal put forth by U.S. Labor Party chairman Lyndon H. LaRouche for transforming the U.S. Export-Import Bank into a de facto Third National bank, authorized to draw in the mass of Eurodollars now destabilizing the world monetary system and divert them into funding a huge expansion in U.S. high-technology exports, most emphatically nuclear plant and equipment to the developing sector.

An impromptu presentation by U.S. Labor Party senatorial candidate Gerry Rose to the Chicago conference on the LaRouche proposal was warmly received. The ExIm bank proposal has subsequently become a topic of intense interest and discussion at the top levels of leading U.S. industrial corporations, several of which are now circulating it to their government contacts. "This is exactly what we've been looking for," remarked one vice-president of a major southwestern construction company.

Reflecting these significant developments in the industrial sector, the major media have been devoting an unusual amount of space lately to the problems of industrial research-and-development and related questions. The *Chicago Daily News*, for example, greeted the Chicago Capital Formation session with a front-page business section feature calling for the U.S. to accept the Shah of Iran's recent offer to purchase approximately \$36 billion in U.S.-manufactured nuclear plants. This would mean \$9 billion in immediate orders for U.S. industry, the newspaper noted, and concluded by proposing that the economy be retooled to handle vastly expanded exports.