

## Carter's 'guns, not butter' budget

In the month of November, the Carter Administration has announced through official statements and semi-official leaks to major newsmedia the following budgetary measures:

- A fiscal 1980 approximately \$136 billion, including \$123.8 in actual budget outlays (payments). This latter figure represents an increase of approximately \$12 billion over fiscal 1979 outlays — a 3 percent increase in real dollars on top of a built-in inflation escalator of 7 percent.

- A supplementary budget for fiscal 1979 of \$2.2 billion, including funds for full-speed-ahead development of the MX mobile missile and the Trident submarine missile. Both are regarded as major new weapons systems. The MX program, expected to cost at least \$30 billion by the mid-1980s, is widely regarded as a potential "destabilizing" element in future arms control negotiations. Mobile missiles may prove difficult to identify and count according to presently known verification procedures, especially if they are deployed in

underground silos or trenches, plans consistently favored by Pentagon planners in both the Ford and Carter Administrations.

- A \$2 billion civil defense program to be completed by 1985, expenditures by the Civil Defense Preparedness Agency and possibly boosting civil defense budgets to the level of \$1 billion a year thereafter. Administration officials have emphasized that the decision to pursue a high-profile civil defense effort "represents a significant turnabout in American strategic policy," according to Richard Burt of the London-based International Institute of Strategic Studies, who reported the civil defense story in the Nov. 13 *New York Times*. Since the early 1960s, U.S. officials have held the view that no affordable civil defense effort could conceivably protect the bulk of the U.S. population from full-scale nuclear attack. In contrast to previous fallout shelter construction programs, the Carter Administration's effort is premised on plans to evacuate tens of millions of Americans from urban centers.

doubting the need for the United States to meet its commitment to NATO," editorialized the *Times*. "Soviet forces in Europe have been improved dramatically, not so much in numbers as in their ability to wage short, intense non-nuclear campaigns using large, modernized forces with relatively little advance preparation. Surprise attack has become more feasible. . . ."

Should Carter fail to make a U.S. war buildup credible, the *Times* continued, "Washington would lose any capacity to press the NATO allies to do their part. . . ."

But the *Times* thereupon criticized the Administration for "wasting defense billions" and "policy confusion." A followup editorial complained that "a President saying 'I have decided' decides nothing for this huge society. A prescription of pain is not heeded until the patient accepts the diagnosis."

To the end of convincing the U.S. population that austerity and war danger are its inevitable lot, the diet of "Soviet threat" scare stories was supplemented this week with a new "Cuban missile crisis."

Meanwhile, Carter was threatened with a

"resurgence on the right" in his own party, as the Zionist lobby-Cold War crowd around Senators Henry Jackson and Daniel P. Moynihan were touted as the new powers in a British "political realignment" scenario.

The game began with a broadside from Institute for Policy Studies cofounder Marcus Raskin, who suggested that the total annihilation of Vice President Walter Mondale's liberal faction in the 1978 elections meant that Mondale would have to be replaced on the 1980 ticket with a "Solzhenitsyn Democrat," Pat Moynihan. On Nov. 21, both the *Washington Post* and *New York Times* ran columns by Moynihan accusing the Administration of being insufficiently anti-Communist in its language and insufficiently Zionist in its Mideast policy.

Almost simultaneously, New York Governor Hugh Carey, politically close to Moynihan and Jackson, suggested that the 1980 Senate race in his state should be fought out between Henry Kissinger and Bess Myerson, advisor to New York City austerity mayor Ed Koch and a member of Paul Nitze's anti-Soviet Committee on the Present Danger.

— Don Baier