

ENERGY

Commission to investigate Three Mile Island sabotage

An independent Commission of Inquiry, announced April 7 at a well-attended press conference at Washington, D.C.'s Madison Hotel, will begin immediately to investigate the evidence that last month's "nuclear accident" at the Three Mile Island plant near Harrisburg, Pa. was the result of sabotage.

The work of the new commission was presented to the press by spokesman Jon Gilbertson, Director of Nuclear Engineering for the New York City-based Fusion Energy Foundation.

Gilbertson outlined for the press five primary areas of investigation to be undertaken by the commission.

"Given that the probability of the sequence of failures at Three Mile Island being purely mechanical is about one part in one billion," Gilbertson said, "and given that the most basic operating and safety procedures were systematically violated contrary to all training and regulations, the most important question to be answered is: Was the shutdown the result of sabotage?"

"Given that the media and local officials were under top-down control of the National Security Council under the just-instituted Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)," said Gilbertson, "a second key question for probing is whether NSC Director Zbigniew Brzezinski and Energy Secretary Schlesinger expected such an incident beforehand?"

The Commission will also investigate the following:

- Given Carter's April 5 announcement of support for Schlesinger's "energy" austerity program, which includes a ban on nuclear breeders, drastic oil consumption cuts, and brute-force energy price inflation, the plant failure, and the implementation of the FEMA "crisis management," foreseen as a means of instituting unpopular energy austerity? Should Schlesinger and other top officials therefore be removed from office for gross malfeasance?

- Given the distortion by the national press and government officials of the alleged dangers of "meltdown," were these stories consciously meant to provoke the population into panic in order to permanently discredit nuclear energy development and prepare the U.S. for nuclear war confrontation through civil defense-type conditioning?

- Finally, given the role of key antinuclear organizations, especially the cult and Rand Corporation-linked Union of Concerned Scientists in promotion of policies of shutting down nuclear plants, and creation of the "China Syndrome" film and its public release only two weeks before the Three Mile Island incident, what is the relation of the foundations and financial backers of these antinuclear groups to the economic policies of austerity advocated by Schlesinger et al?

Case for Foul Play

Prior to the press conference, the FEF's Executive Director Dr. Levitt was interviewed on ABC radio. The interview, aired several times nationally, is drawing strong interest in the formation of the group.

"We are finding a distinct shift in the national response to our allegation of deliberate sabotage and the role of the National Security Council's FEMA and Schlesinger in this whole situation," Levitt told NSIPS in a subsequent interview. "We are getting increasing affirmation of the overwhelming case for foul play at Three Mile Island," he stated. "Even sources within the Nuclear Regulatory Commission are willing to admit to us the strong possibility that such occurred, especially around the shutdown of the two backup valves 48 hours prior to the incident, something which is a Class A NRC safety violation."

Levitt added that the commission will now draw on the advisory expertise of a broad layer of scientific, engineering, and counterintelligence and security expertise both inside and outside government to assist in the commission's investigation.

Further corroborating the analysis of the "crisis management" role of Brzezinski's FEMA, one well-informed NRC source stated that FEMA has launched "interdepartmental warfare" to take control over such nuclear accidents away from the NRC. The Three Mile Island case is being used as the foot-in-the-door to press their move to centralize under direct Brzezinski-NSC control all such "disasters."

—William Engdahl