

MANSFIELD EMERGES AS SPOKESMAN FOR ROCKEFELLER'S "NEW DEAL"

May 24 (IPS)—As the governmental vacuum in Washington expands under pressure from an economy falling into ruin, Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield is emerging as spokesman for Rockefeller's fascist "New Deal" now in the works. Mansfield is a member of Nelson Rockefeller's planning agency, the Commission for Critical Choices. As in the last great depression, this labor-intensive austerity program is being ushered in, not by conservative rightwingers, but by the left and center of the Democratic Party.

May 20 Mansfield and Secretary of the Treasury Simon announced the formation of a "Temporary National Commission on Supplies and Shortages," which will include members of the Executive, Congress, and the private sector. The commission, which grew out of meetings of an "unprecedented joint Executive-Congressional leadership group," is preparatory to Mansfield's stated goal of establishing a permanent national economic planning commission.

Mansfield, from the Rockefeller-owned state of Montana, is also a prime mover in Rockefeller's regional development plans designed to turn the states of Montana, Colorado, Wyoming and Utah into a vast slave-labor camp oriented to energy production (IPS, this issue).

Hanging The Depression On Nixon

When Nixon counterattacked his Rockefeller-allied enemies with the release of the transcripts, Mansfield signalled a change in tactics. His economic efforts, and the CIA publicity accorded them, laid the basis for destroying Nixon by associating him with the depression and for unifying the population around liberal/Democratic Party/trade-union-led fascism.

May 15 CIA columnist James Reston of the *New York Times* praised Mansfield's move: "Mansfield is looking beyond the present turmoil in Washington. He fears the nation would be deeply divided if President Nixon were forced to resign by political or newspaper pressure." May 21 Reston's colleague Joseph Kraft in the *Washington Post* declared that the country was "ready to live with impeachment," as long as someone stepped forward with a clear economic policy, "a steady policy

not subject to the interplay of personalities [i.e., Schultz, Stein, Ash et al.] as advanced or rebuffed by the rapidly changing moods of the President and General Haig." The same day Rockefeller man "Scoop" Jackson, Democratic Senator from Washington, opined that with the President so obviously occupied with Watergate, he should appoint an "economic czar" from the private sector to deal with current domestic problems.

Self-Sufficient Suicide

Mansfield is developing the background necessary to fascist economics of the type implemented in Roosevelt's corporatist New Deal and Hjalmar Schacht's Nazi "economic miracle" by focusing Congressional attention on U.S. dependency on foreign countries for energy and raw materials. His Commission on Supplies and Shortages not only provides the basis for Rockefeller-controlled rationing and industrial reorganization, but also is directed to a national drive for self-development of energy and raw materials—a "self-sufficiency" impossible in modern industrial society.

Mansfield's thrust for national development of domestic energy resources, specifically in the Montana slave-labor project, coincides conveniently with the depression demand of the CIA-controlled "social democratic left" for "full employment through public works projects." Leon Keyslering voices this in the November 1973 issue of *Social Policy*, whose editorial board includes such State Department socialists as Michael Harrington, Nat Hentoff, Frank Reissman (one of the creators of the CIA's countergang incubator at New York City's Lincoln Hospital) and assorted operatives working out of the CIA-sponsored Institute for Policy Studies.

Bigger and Better Than The New Deal

In just three months FDR was able to move 300,000 workers into 1350 army-built work camps. With the destruction of Nixon and conservative rightwing layers who would ideologically oppose a 1970's New Deal, with the backing of Mansfield and his fellow Democrats and social democrats, and with the crush of six to seven million unemployed, Rockefeller hopes to move *one million people* into Montana and Wyoming work camps just as fast.

NEW DEAL PUBLIC WORKS 1974: THE ROCKIES' ROAD TO RUIN

May 24 (IPS)—A major resettlement slave-labor project quietly being planned for the sparsely populated Rocky Mountain states region has been uncovered by IPS research. The plans include:

- The exploitation of the largest coal reserves in the world;
- The construction of the largest single concentration of power plants in the world (all to be coal-burning);
- The diversion of large rivers, including the Yellowstone, to provide vital water supplies;
- The development of uranium deposits;
- The construction of significant numbers of coal gassification plants to produce natural gas;
- Oil shale development projects of the type of the notorious Athabasca project in Alberta, Canada;
- Most importantly, the resettlement of more than one half million people.

Sponsored by Rockefeller planners and their Congressional allies and implemented through Rockefeller-controlled oil and gas companies, the plan represents a public works employment project that dwarfs even the model fascist Tennessee Valley

Authority (TVA) of the last depression in the savagery of its conception.

From a technological standpoint, the entire project represents a pyramid of junk built with the slave labor of the continent's working class. Fusion power technology makes such projects obsolete before they are begun—a fact which Rockefeller's Zero Growth planners assiduously cover up.

Final Solution

The current context in which this resettlement plan is presented to the public is one of induced hysteria around the energy crisis hoax. The plan will become a focus for the social fascists, particularly those farsighted planners around Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield: the ultra-liberals of the Democratic Party (IPS, this issue). These forces have been pushing for an escalation of public works employment programs—the fascist solution to burgeoning unemployment.

As early as 1970, Rockefeller-supported fascist planning groups such as the Council on Economic Priorities and the Conservation Foundation proposed the development of huge coal and oil reserves in the Rocky Mountain states to be leased to the large coal and oil

New Deal Public Works 1974 (continued)

cartels. Additionally, their reports called for the expansion of natural gas supplies through coal gassification. The public was not interested. Simultaneously, lobbyists for the coal and oil companies, particularly those controlled by the Rockefeller-Mellon axis, such as Consolidated Coal, applied pressure on the Department of the Interior, particularly Nixon man Rogers Morton, Secretary of the Interior, to formulate a policy on the so-called Western Reserves.

Rockefeller forces eventually gave up on these bureaucrats and began to draft proposals themselves. Using the Bureau of Reclamation as a base and Assistance Secretary of the Interior for Water and Power Development as an operative, they put together a coordinating committee composed of the Bureau of Reclamation and 30 major private and public electrical utilities, from Illinois to Oregon. Most of the companies are controlled by Rockefeller banks or owned outright by Rockefeller interests.

Concerned Development

When the first draft of the proposal was finished in October 1971, it was obvious that other sectors of the Rockefeller planning apparatus had been consulted. The proposal, entitled "North Central Power Study," proposed transforming the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and North Dakota into a series of concentration-camp-like work sites.

Atop the Fort Union Formation (in the Powder River Basin of Wyoming and Colorado and the western part of the Williston Basin of Montana and the Dakotas), the richest known coal deposit in the world — over 1.5 trillion tons — more than 40 mine-mouth power plants producing upwards of 200,000 megawatts of electric power would be constructed. This figure exceeds the output of any country in the world with the exception of the U.S. and USSR. Electricity would be sent east to St. Louis, Twin Cities, Des Moines, Omaha, and Kansas City, and west to Seattle, Spokane, and Portland. At least 13 of the power plants would be nearly five times larger than the largest generating plant now operating in the United States. By contrast to these grandiose but obsolete plans, fusion power facilities could provide sufficient power for the entire North American continent!

Water Diversion

To supply the water necessary simply to cool the plants, the study proposed that the rivers of the Yellowstone Basin be diverted through a complex system of dams, storage reservoirs, pumping heads, pipelines, and aqueducts. Other rivers would similarly be diverted to feed the proposed coal gassification and liquefaction plants, uranium processing complexes, and petrochemical facilities, to be located near the strip mining and power plants. Yearly total water requirements would reach a staggering 2.6 million acre feet. Still other studies projected the development of the oil shale reserves in the Green River Basin of Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado.

The projected population resettlement for just one part of the project is 500,000 people — an increase of nearly 40 per cent over the present populations of Wyoming and Montana!

Rockefeller forces are moving full speed ahead with implementation of these plans. A foundation supported by Atlantic Richfield and coordinated out of the University of Wyoming at Laramie developed a psychological profile of the region which confirmed the

original tactical estimate. Most of the "natives" would welcome the development project, provided they could be convinced of its environmental soundness. Rockefeller's publicists working through the power companies began a campaign to "soft sell" the project. Regardless of the eventual outcome of the environmental dispute, they are succeeding in selling *resettlement* to the confused population.

The environmental dispute now heating up over the project is interesting but essentially staged. There are minor snags in the plan: The size and number of the power plants may have to be reduced. The project also fails to take into account the effect of pollution from the coal-burning plants. Most of Wyoming, particularly the area around Gillette, would become uninhabitable. Clouds carrying pollutants would ruin crops and possibly cause deaths as far east as Kansas. Mike Mansfield has raised his voice in limited "opposition" to the project speaking from an environmentalist standpoint. Mansfield objects that coal strip mining would be a crime. Otherwise, he has expressed admiration for the scope of the planning, especially the public works (slave labor) aspects.

Upstream water rights in northern Wyoming and parts of Montana have been bought up by Texaco and other Rockefeller-controlled companies. While area ranchers protested that water diversion would put them out of business, the planners have proceeded to plot the exact route of the new aqueducts.

A Project Made For Bechtel

Currently only one of the power plants proposed in the study is under construction — the "small" 1000 megawatt Jim Bridger plant, 35 miles outside of Rock Springs, Wyoming. The plant is being built by the CIA-linked Bechtel Construction Corporation (see IPS, No. 1), which is involved in the parallel Canadian Northern Development projects, especially James Bay Hydroelectric. Bechtel and other CIA construction companies are in line to build most of the project.

There is no housing in the area. Desperate workers sleep on the foothills in shacks, in tents, trailer homes, or even sleeping bags. Driven by fear of unemployment, they work themselves to the bone. They work without a trade union (Wyoming is a "right-to-work" state). Working conditions include brutally cold winters, extremely high winds, and average temperatures of 95-100 degrees in the summer. The work day is 10-12 hours long. Wages and expense money are eaten up by exorbitant rents and food costs.

The workers are not surviving. Although there are no figures on the death rate available, alcoholism, heroin addiction and venereal disease are rampant. Many workers travel hundreds of miles to spend a weekend with their families, returning in a drunken stupor "ready" for work Monday morning.

Foremen report that productivity rates are high, pointing out that workers know that plenty of men are "itching" for their jobs. Broken down into small work groups and parallel living "cells," workers can't even tell how many workers are on the site (an arrangement designed to prevent organizing against the intolerable conditions).

One former worker from a nearby construction site described how after only three weeks he was driven to the brink of insanity. Despite his college education, he had to struggle to read a book. Finally the tension became so great that he left. Other more desperate less educated workers are trying to hang on to their jobs at all costs.