

## **Special Report :**

# **Rockefeller Revives Drive To Sabatoge Fusion Program**

Oct. 13 (IPS) — The Rockefeller Administration has revived the spectre of the McCarthy witchhunts in the scientific community in order to sabotage controlled thermonuclear fusion (CTR) research, the U.S. Labor Party revealed yesterday. Targeted for harassment are plasma physicists and bureaucrats in the government energy umbrella agency, the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA).

At the same time, the Administration has ordered ERDA to produce immediate "results" in its existing CTR program while it simultaneously narrows the research to the point that no such "results" are possible. In particular, the magnetic confinement program for the development of fusion has been limited to research on only the tokamak type of reactor, while laser and electron beam pellet fusion was once again put under absurd security wraps.

The Labor Party has fully documented the facts in this two-pronged Rockefeller attack (presented below in summary form), and a campaign statement on the Rockefeller sabotage was released to the press yesterday by USLP Presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. In addition, the Labor Party is re-introducing in Congress an updated version of the USLP Fusion Technology Bill, first submitted in June 1974. The core of the USLP program is an estimated \$6 to \$1 billion yearly expenditure to expand the scope of fusion research and fully develop all promising lines of investigation — exactly the opposite of Rockefeller's suicidal course. Fusion potentially can provide cheap, clean and virtually unlimited energy.

"The Labor Party is calling for an immediate Congressional investigation of Rockefeller's criminal sabotage," a USLP spokesman said today. "There is no objective capitalist interest in continuing to stymie fusion power development since the Soviet Union has completely adopted the brute force fusion research policy adopted by the USLP. The USLP fusion bill necessarily includes the fullest possible cooperation of all advanced sector countries with the Soviet Union to have the first fusion reactors operational in the 1980s."

The science division of the USLP discovered that ERDA has already begun limiting the scope of fusion research under the guise of accelerating the

achievement of an actual tokamak fusion power reactor. ERDA's policy has always been to "select" one promising approach for further development, but the decision on fusion was supposed to wait until the next series of crucial experiments had been completed in 1977-78. The tokamak choice, moreover, will not work.

All but one of the four major ERDA-funded National Fusion Labs and the three main-line approaches to magnetic confinement of fusion plasmas are being shifted into vague "technology" development projects:

\*When its Ormak tokamak is turned off in the near future, the Oak Ridge lab in Tennessee will deal almost exclusively with engineering for tokamak reactors: producing magnets, materials, and neutral beams for plasma heating.

\*The Los Alamos lab in California was warned that Scyllac, the high beta toroidal theta pinch (a confinement scheme which makes efficient use of magnetic field energy) faces an immediate shutoff of ERDA funds.

\*Despite major experimental breakthroughs recently achieved with the magnetic mirror machine at Lawrence Livermore lab in California, this device and the theoretical teams working on it are slated to become mere technology development adjuncts to the tokamak.

\*Even in the case of significant frontier secondary efforts such as the Bitter Magnet lab's high field tokamak, the Alcator, there are no plans to turn this project over to the CIA-controlled Massachusetts Institute of Technology, downgrading work on this device to mere "educational" activities.

Although these policies are not yet fully implemented, the threatened and operational cutbacks have been sufficient to limit main-line research to one laboratory — Princeton — and one approach — the tokamak.

At the same time, auxiliary experimental work designed to thoroughly examine theoretical hypotheses has been almost totally gutted over the last five years in order to make room for tokamak development; research in new, exploratory approaches has been severely cut back in this period.

As for laser and electron beam pellet fusion, the inertial confinement of fusion plasmas, Livermore Lab suddenly reversed the stated ERDA policy and refused to make available — even to other government labs with security

clearance (in this instance, Los Alamos) — copies of LASNEX, the most advanced computer code for simulating laser pellet fusion.

### **McCarthy Tactics**

To curtail the kind of atmosphere necessary for the development of ideas, the Administration has arbitrarily "classified" research and terrorized individual scientists. The originator of many of the concepts used for designing electron beam pellet fusion systems, for example, just had his work classified "top secret" by the ERDA Division of Military Applications. When the Division authorities informed this researcher of the "national security" reasons for this action, the fusion researcher replied: "Well, why don't you people just get the CIA to shoot independent scientists like me, and then cut us up and feed us to the scientists at your weapons labs so they could more readily duplicate our work?"

Scientist Vincent LoDato has also been threatened with classification of his ongoing theoretical investigations. Simultaneously, he lost his teaching position at the small college where he was forced to move when his work was first "classified" in 1972.

To add to this manufactured atmosphere of paranoia, the CIA makes official visits to the major magnetic confinement research labs, ostensibly to obtain information on the Soviet magnetic confinement program. Since the Soviet research has been completely open since 1956, and more than a score of U.S. scientists will take up residence at all the major Soviet labs this year in an official exchange program, it is obvious that these "official" visits are a throwback to the red-scare days of the 1950s.

In addition, ERDA officials have been spreading slanders about the Fusion Energy Foundation, an independent group initiated by the Labor Party. The FEF is an agent of a foreign power, the slander goes. An agent not of the Soviet Union, for as scientists well know, the Soviets are far ahead of the U.S. in fusion; but of Iran. The FEF, the CIA says is attempting to "tease" out information on construction of H-bombs.

The Soviet designed and Soviet developed tokamak is accepted as the most successful approach to efficiently confine thermonuclear grade plasmas. There is little doubt that within the next year, Soviet scientists working on the T-

10 model at the Kurchatov Institute in Moscow will demonstrate that the tokamak is scientifically capable of achieving "breakeven" energy production, producing more energy than is required to construct the system. But, as the Soviets note, the situation is paradoxical.

#### **Dirty Plasmas Won't Work**

The tokamak produces what is best described as "dirty plasma," so called because of impurities from the tokamak walls, and poorly understood microprocesses. On the basis of existing experimental and theoretical knowledge, the tokamak will not be able to proceed much beyond a break-

even point. The current behavior of tokamak plasmas is unpredictable, and the situation is sure to worsen as previously uninvestigated phenomena such as trapped mirror modes and synchrotron radiation appear when fusion conditions are achieved in the tokamak.

#### **Rockefeller's Pathology**

The underlying pathology which the Rockefeller fusion sabotage aggravates in the American science community is the belief that a crucial breakthrough can be accomplished by one individual or a single team led by one individual. By multiplying the same kind of experiment, this phony theory goes, computers can process numerical data and

obtain the magical optimal conditions for a power reactor.

This kind of thinking, as the Labor Party has fully explained in the 1976 Presidential campaign platform, obstructs breakthroughs in science. The main-line approaches to CTR must take the form of experiments designed to push the boundaries of basic science, developing an atmosphere of creative work that allows for creative breakthroughs.

Rockefeller and his ERDA dupes know that by limiting CTR to one approach and virtually one laboratory, the program is assured of failure.

## **Special Report:**

# **Capitalists Coalescing To Oppose Rockefeller**

Oct. 15 (IPS) — On Oct. 12, the Chicago Sun-Times, a leading press conduit for the Chicago-based industrialists who oppose Nelson Rockefeller, named the Vice President and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger as the key figures controlling the American "intelligence community."

"Rockefeller, Kissinger's original patron," Sun-Times reporter Thomas Ross writes, "has declared publicly that he believes revelations and investigations (into the intelligence operations) have gone far enough. Kissinger who controlled the CIA's operations through the super secret '40 Committee' has made it perfectly clear in private that he agrees."

The article has since been conduited to major papers from coast-to-coast, including the San Francisco Examiner, the Detroit Free Press and the Boston Globe.

#### **Behind the Attack**

This attack on the heart of the Rockefeller's invisible government — the super-secret "40 Committee" — comes as open factional warfare has broken out in the executive branch. The cabinet disintegration has come a long way from fights among the departments and secretaries to "guerilla warfare" in the hallways, the bathrooms and watercooler areas of the executive buildings.

Underneath these developments is a coalescence of a broad anti-Rockefeller capitalist coalition. This group consists of the Chicago-based industrialists and their conservative spokesmen, both in the press and in political office, and the Kennedy-Stevenson wing of the Democratic Party, with the Chicago machine of Mayor Richard Daley as a bridge between the two groups. This coalition is now preparing to move in for the kill — to force Rockefeller and his chief henchman Kissinger from office.

Fearing a potential labor upsurge around the Labor Party program, capitalist elements within this coalition are consciously maneuvering to make sure that the Labor Party Program does not gain hegemony among the anti-Rockefeller opposition. These elements are attempting to clamp down with an austerity program of their own.

In this period, no political spokesman fronting for the anti-Rockefeller capitalists can successfully emerge mouthing a program of austerity. Such a figure can count on no working class support whatsoever. If it pursues this austerity course, the coalition will quickly dissolve, leaving Rockefeller mortally wounded and the Labor Party his sole major opposition.

As this coalition begins to take shape, the U.S. government has become so factionalized that it has virtually ceased to function. Various press accounts paint the following lurid picture: the White House no longer functions as a policy making institution; President Ford controls nothing — he is caught in a crossfire between feuding anti- and pro-Rockefeller advisers who in turn give him such bad advice that no coherent policy can possibly emerge.

At the moment, the only government of the U.S. is the super-secret government of Nelson Rockefeller and Henry Kissinger's "40 Committee," and hence its exposure by the anti-Rockefeller forces.

Columnist Joseph Kraft points out the difficulty in coming up with foreign economic policy: Right now, Ford "must thrash out policy in a kind of guerilla warfare with his Secretary of State and his Secretary of the Treasury (William Simon)."

#### **The Coalescence**

Speaking before the Chicago International Trade Club — an institution controlled by the anti-Rockefeller Borg-Warner interests headed by James Ingersoll, Congressional leader Rep. John Anderson (R-Ill) delivered an attack on Kissinger and Rockefeller flunkey Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash)