BR-350. But a wealth of experience has already been obtained from the construction and repair work done on the BN-350, and this is a reliable indication that the future problems can also be solved on schedule. Along with the construction of the new breeder, new industrial centers will spring up, which will alter the Soviet landscape even more than did the BN-350. This latter reactor was set up in Shevchenkov, in the middle of the desert bordering the Caspian Sea. In addition to electricity, it also currently produces 50,000 cubic meters of distilled water per day for the population of the desert city, which makes its per capita water consumption higher than it is in Moscow. "For nature-lovers," magnificent city parks are irrigated with the water distilled by the BN-350, as was emphasized by Mr. Trojanov at the end of his speech, followed by a prolonged ovation! Even the majority of the United States representatives, who do not want Carter to send them back into the technological desert, applauded enthusiastically.

For Third World It's Nuclear Power Or Death

The Third World's urgent need for the most advanced nuclear technologies was stressed by representatives of the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission at the recent conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Salzburg, Austria. These brief excerpts from a Bengali spokesman's presentation to the conference indicate Third World nations' turn from merely negative resistance to the Carter Administration's anti-nuclear stance toward an aggressive policy of rapid, well financed nuclear power development in the underdeveloped sector.

The accompanying diagram, also presented at the conference, counters "zero growth" rhetoric by showing the relationship between energy consumption and infant mortality and longevity for 130 countries.

Problems Faced By Bangladesh In Introduction Of Nuclear Power Program (Excerpts)

Bangladesh has one of the lowest per capita (levels of) energy resources and consumption of energy. The per capita GNP of Bangladesh is also one of the lowest in the world. With a population density of 1,380 persons per square mile, it is one of the most densely populated countries of the world. Population is growing at an average rate of 3 percent per annum. The dominant sector of the economy is agriculture, contributing about 60 percent of the Gross Domestic Product. (And) Bangladesh is very poor in indigenous energy resources.

It is obvious that if Bangladesh is to grow economically and to build up a modest industrial base to improve its standard of living, it will require much greater energy resources than are now available locally.

In view of the limited indigenous energy resources of Bangladesh, nuclear power as an alternative source for power generation has been considered since 1961. However, the attempts to procure financing for the project were not successful. The oil crisis and the economic upheaval in 1974 played their deadly role in compounding the post-independence troubles of Bangladesh.

The growth of opposition to nuclear power in developed countries, particularly in Sweden and the U.S., has had its adverse affect on the public in Bangladesh. The views of anti-nuclear lobbies abroad tend to be accepted as the "truth." The slow-down in ordering for nuclear stations in the USA, Britain, and Sweden has been taken to mean that there are as yet unsolved problems in the utilization of fission power.

The sooner nuclear power receives wider public acceptance in the developed countries as a method of power generation, the better it is for Bangladesh in breaking the ground for its first nuclear power station.