

Brzezinski, the National Security Advisor, is a very dangerous man for the period ahead. His well-known short temper, low tolerance level, and proclivity to chew on White House carpets do not qualify him for the job. Throughout the past month, not only has he been attempting to manipulate President Carter into confrontation postures, but his advice to the President on

such key issues as the Middle East crisis, the Rhodesia situation, SALT and Western Europe, has invariably been warmed over from the editorial pages of London's Daily Telegraph. He must be contained.

Unfortunately, for this country to be saved, it must be treated on the assumption that it has been left virtually ungoverned, in the sense that its present Administration is incapable of adequately responding to the perils ahead. Responsible forces in the American business community, in government, and in private life must shape a national policy "counterpole" together with the U.S. Labor Party's leadership to fill the vacuum during the crisis. These efforts domestically, coupled to similar announced policies of key western European government, business, and religious forces, have a modicum of chance for success.

Soviets:

N-Bomb Outrages World

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko said in a speech in Helsinki, Finland April 4 that the neutron bomb is "not the private affair of a certain country but a question of mankind as a whole." He said that the Soviet Union expects "a reasonable attitude" from the United States and its allies on the neutron bomb, according to the London *Guardian* April 5.

Soviet Ambassador to East Berlin Pyotr Abrassimov said in a press conference April 4 that Moscow is prepared for negotiations with Washington over the neutron bomb, reported the London *Financial Times* April 5. He said that talks "can take place between those who maintain they have a bomb and those who could produce it quickly... If one assumes realism and common sense will prevail in the U.S., then I firmly believe it will not affect relations between our two countries." Abrassimov said that Soviet President Brezhnev is likely to raise the issue during his meetings with West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in May.

The "International Week" column by Vladimir Bol'shakov in *Pravda* April 2 reported:

"The past week was full of contradictory reports from the U.S. First, the American papers wrote that President Carter had supposedly renounced plans for production of neutron weapons. Then, it was reported that circles close to the President did not confirm this information. It was suddenly declared that the White House will start up neutron production in the middle of April. So then there appeared 'verified rumors' from the NATO headquarters, that in the middle of April the NATO leadership would officially call upon the President of the U.S. to begin neutron bomb production, not waiting for agreement from West European governments.

"Evidently all these 'trial balloons' were sent up in the pages of the newspapers in order to test the reaction of the world public whether it would reconcile itself to the barbarous Pentagon plans.

"The reaction of the world public, and particularly West Europeans, is unambiguous on this count — all the peoples are saying a decisive 'No!' to neutron death.... It is typical that the Vatican came out with an anathema against the neutron bomb, and this has exerted a definite influence on the thinking of believers in Western Europe. It is not only Catholics who do not want to pray for the neutron bomb, but also Protestants, Orthodox and even Carter's co-religionists, the Baptists...."

Press 'Leak' Used To Run U.S. Foreign Policy

New York Times columnist Richard Burt, a former associate of London's International Institute for Strategic Studies, revealed in a front page story April 4 that President Carter "had decided against producing the controversial neutron bomb" because he feared its development "would harm disarmament prospects." Washington observers immediately concluded that the President's decision had been leaked to preempt it. Declared one well informed Capitol Hill source, "I think you can assume the story was reported by people who want the bomb."

The effort to force Carter's hand on development and deployment of the neutron bomb is part of a larger British effort to provoke a U.S.-Soviet confrontation. Proponents of the neutron bomb are trying to sell it in the West on the basis of its limited destructive powers, and thus its suitability in a limited confrontation.

The Soviets have warned Carter that development of the neutron bomb would be taken as an antagonistic act against the Warsaw Pact, and view the weapon as evidence that the U.S. believes that a limited nuclear war can be fought in Europe — a doctrine originating with Henry Kissinger and promoted by James Schlesinger when he was Defense Secretary. Rejecting Kissinger's scenario as insane, Soviet officials have repeatedly stated that once forced into a war, they will go all out to win it.

Neutron Press Bomb

The Burt announcement was carefully timed to undermine Administration efforts to improve US-Soviet relations, released on the heels of Secretary of State Vance's announced plans to meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko in Moscow in April. The Burt piece also coincided with statements by U.S. SALT negotiator Paul Warnke that "90 percent of the problems" between the United States and the Soviets on SALT had been settled.

The article was in print on the eve of a trip to Washington by West German Foreign Minister Gen-

sch, who had come to the U.S. to discuss Carter's intentions on the bomb. Burt's article preempting Carter's negotiations, also made exaggerated claims that the Germans particularly want to see production of the bomb at some point.

Many Europeans, particularly in Belgium and West Germany, have opposed the bomb, fearing it would make nuclear war more likely and an intense debate is raging in Europe on this issue. Because the Federal Republic of Germany is in a delicate position as a frontline state, officials there have left the decision about production of the bomb officially up to the U.S., indicating that they would then decide about its deployment on their territory.

As a result of Burt's article, the neutron bomb issue became a major topic at White House press briefings throughout the week, and was a major theme in the east coast press. Burt declared on April 5 that he had been successful in getting Carter to reverse his decision. In

another *New York Times* story, Burt wrote that "Carter is reported reconsidering a ban on the neutron bomb." Bernard Gwertzman, also a *New York Times* reporter praised Burt for making Carter's decision very difficult. In a companion piece appearing under Burt's April 5 article, Gwertzman gloated, "Even under the best of circumstances, decisions on the way such an announcement should be made and what it should say, would be difficult. But the Administration's problems were compounded by an article in the *New York Times* today reporting that Mr. Carter had decided against the neutron bomb."

The *Washington Post* was even more blunt in congratulating Burt's efforts to reverse Carter's policy. An article by Walter Pincus April 5 declared, "Proponents of the weapons within the Administration tried to get Carter to reverse his latest position. Disclosure by The New York Times of Carter's decision may have accomplished that. Yesterday, the decision was described as still not final."

The Carter Trip:

Brzezinski's Quest For A 'Missile Crisis'

The net result of the just-concluded four-nation tour by President Carter is that Zbigniew Brzezinski came dangerously close to engineering a "geopolitical axis" that would have led the United States straight into a new Cuban missile crisis faceoff with the Soviet Union. Only last-minute resistance from the Obasanjo government in Nigeria and from circles associated with U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance fended off a complete foreign policy triumph by the National Security Council Advisor in his quest for a superpower "incident" over Cuban involvement in Africa.

As developments now stand, however, Brzezinski has dramatically improved his position in the ongoing battle within the Administration for control over U.S. foreign policy and over the President himself.

Brzezinski's primary objective on every stop of the tour — Venezuela, Brazil, Nigeria and Liberia — was to create the sort of anti-Cuban hysteria that would give a veil of legitimacy for confrontation with Moscow. On the Latin American leg of the trip, Brzezinski was successful, as evidenced by significant anti-Cuban foreign policy shifts in both Caracas and Brasilia. Analysis of the communiqués, Carter's speeches, and principal press coverage shows that during this half of the tour, Brzezinski was in almost complete control of U.S. foreign policy.

Brzezinski's biggest problems were encountered in Nigeria. Carter arrived in Lagos reading from the same National Security Council (NSC) guidelines he followed in South America regarding U.S. "concern" over Cuba's presence in Ethiopia. The Obasanjo regime, however, simply refused to play along, telling Carter that it is up to the sovereign Ethiopian government to decide to whom it will turn for military aid. It was also in Nigeria that

Andrew Young was able to regain the President's ear to a certain extent, as Carter denounced the British-authored "internal solution" for Rhodesia — a scheme that would heighten tensions throughout the southern portion of the continent — as "illegal".

Nonetheless, such steps merely stall the Brzezinski strategy. As long as Vance and Young fail to articulate a positive, global development policy for Africa, while Brzezinski and his allies remain in office, the imminent danger of a U.S.-Soviet confrontation remains.

The front page editorial in the semi-official Brazilian daily *O Globo* on April 3 is a clear sign that Brzezinski intends to step up the pressure against Cuba regardless of Nigeria's refusal to endorse his aims. If not in Africa, then in Latin America — particularly as a counter to Mexico's prodevelopment influence.

"Soviet expansionism in Africa," *O Globo* said, "puts the Atlantic coast of South America under the gun." Signaling a complete turnaround in Brazilian foreign policy, the editorial went on to suggest breaking relations with Angola and embarking on an "intensive joint effort with the other Latin American foreign ministries and with indispensable U.S. participation to find common ways and means of confronting and deterring the latent menace.... Tomorrow, the Americans will be in danger."

Cuba was first fingered as the prime Brzezinski target behind the Carter tour in an article in London's *Daily Telegraph* on March 27, the day before Carter arrived in Caracas. Under the heading "The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1978," Robert Moss wrote that "Soviet strategic missiles" are being "smuggled back to Cuba," and directly goaded Carter by suggesting the Soviets rightly doubt his "will to respond" to the USSR's "notable strategic advances in Africa." (For fuller excerpts, see below.)