

resign if the bill is defeated, he replied, "Senators have to consider the constituency, and the benefit of the country first. If Schlesinger can do the job, he should be able to work with them; if not, he must decide for himself what to do."

A southern border-state Senator, generally regarded as a swing vote:

This Senator was asked in a half-joking manner whether he would like to become a national hero by coming out on the fusion issue. He astutely responded: "For or against? — For? Sure."

Informed of Schlesinger's hints at resignation, the Senator equated killing the energy bill with terminating the DOE Secretary's tenure.

A Midwest Senator:

When informed of the Princeton fusion breakthrough, the Senator asked what the President had thought of it. Told that the President found out about it on TV, he said: "Aha! Schlesinger didn't tell him." Aware of Schlesinger's sabotage of advanced energy technologies, he stated he would be "glad to see him go." He said he will be voting against the natural gas bill.

An Aide to a Western Senator:

"The leadership will try to postpone the vote, because the thing is in bad shape," the aide reported. He further indicated that Schlesinger and the Senate leadership had met. "The plan is to back it up to recess, try to break the filibuster, since Congress will be aching to adjourn."

Senator Henry Jackson's office:

Jackson's office claimed they hadn't heard of Schlesinger's threat to resign and refused to discuss the chances of the energy bill.

However, Platt's *Oilgram News Service* of Aug. 21

quotes Senate Energy chairman Jackson to the effect that while there were enough votes to kill the filibuster, the actual support for the bill was "razor thin." If gas deregulation fails now, according to Jackson, it will not be attempted again next year. He further asserted that support for the bill was based primarily on the realization that the lack of an energy program was hurting the dollar, even though "all of us have reservations about the bill."

Representative Hansen (R-Wyo.):

Hansen, an opponent of the bill, has been quoted elsewhere as "decrying the pressure" from Carter, who met late at night with House-Senate conference members Rangel and Corman, to force the gas bill out of committee. He indicated that conference committee members have still not been given the final copy of the bill and said: "It seems quite anomalous that men who would not sign a check or a contract in blank for a few dollars will essentially sign a bill in blank affecting several billions of dollars." Responding to the pressure exerted on Rangel and Corman to obtain their signatures, Hansen stated: "I personally consider it outrageous that a carefully constructed agreement designed to facilitate careful consideration of this most important legislation should be abrogated under White House auspices in the dead of the night."

An aide to Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.):

The aide stated that the bill would pass the Senate and the House would take it up later. He said: "It's a lame duck session — there's lots of time later. Abourezk and Metzenbaum will lead a filibuster — call them for strategy."

When asked how the failure of the natural gas bill would affect the energy bill, he nervously replied: "Won't be too good, would it?"

McGovern Charges Cambodia With Genocide

Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) charged the Cambodian government with perpetrating "genocide" against its population and called for an international military force to "knock this regime out

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of power," during Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee hearings Aug. 21.

"Cambodia is the most extreme I've ever heard of...Based on the percentage of the population that appears to have died, this makes Hitler's operations

look tame. I find it very hard to believe a murderous gang that may have killed in three years as many as one-third of the people of that country is very popular. There is no excuse for us to ignore the systematic slaughter of people by their own country."

McGovern's statement is the first outcry by a high-ranking American official against the wholesale slaughter being conducted by China's puppet state Cambodia. Over the past three years of Maoist policies of resettlement of the cities, starvation, slave labor programs and outright executions of anyone who protests these brutal conditions, the Peking-backed Khmer Rouge have murdered between 1 and 2 million of its 7 million population.

Brzezinski: Card

McGovern's attack is a first step in outflanking National Security Director Brzezinski's policy for an alliance with China against the Soviet Union. After Brzezinski returned from China several months ago, McGovern in a television interview repudiated the "China card," warning that it was an extreme danger to world peace.

Senator Ted Kennedy, one of Brzezinski's staunchest Senate allies in supporting China, hastily tried to discredit McGovern's demand for international action. Kennedy charged McGovern with planning unilateral U.S. military action in Cambodia.

The State Department nervously responded that they were not planning to initiate military action against Cambodia but would work with other governments and the United Nations on this "inhuman situation" and "monstrous human rights violations" in Cambodia.

In his statements to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, McGovern said that since such a ruckus had been made against the Soviet Union for two Jews, he expected action when millions were killed. But what McGovern didn't do was link his human rights campaign on Cambodia to the underwriters of the Cambodian enterprise — Peking. Already, in Britain, outcries against Cambodia have been used to brand "communist" rather than "Maoist" nations. Any more of that press barrage could undermine McGovern's hopes for a SALT treaty (see below) — and end up helping Brzezinski.

The makings of a development-oriented U.S. policy for Asia were detailed the day after McGovern's charges by a Senate-sponsored group just back from Vietnam, which is enduring a Chinese-sponsored border war with Cambodia. The group, under Senate Judiciary Committee auspices, was sent by Kennedy, but it declared that U.S. security interests in Asia would be secured through economic development. "We have arrived at an historic decision-point in our foreign policy...where we now have an opportunity to do through peaceful means what we sought to do so long through war: protect U.S. national interests in Southeast Asia by assuring Vietnam's independence from domination of any outside power."

Yesterday Vietnamese officials told a group of U.S. congressmen, led by conservative Rep. Sonny Montgomery (D-Miss.) that they were eager for full relations with the U.S., and the Vice-Foreign Minister accepted an invitation to visit the United States. "They want us on their side against the Chinese, that's the bottom line," declared one of the congressmen in Vietnam.

Sen. McGovern has been actively involved in the SALT negotiations as well as against Brzezinski's war-provoking activities, especially in Africa. Now with the expectation that a SALT treaty will be signed before November, McGovern is also planning hearings on the Soviet Union's foreign policy, in an effort to prove that the Soviets do not want to fight a

nuclear war. Hearings will coincide with other hearings he plans on dismantling the powers of the National Security Council.

— Barbara Dreyfuss

McGovern Associate: Brzezinski "Contained"?

In an interview this week a source close to George McGovern discussed the Senator's Cambodia remarks in the light of his public confrontation with Zbigniew Brzezinski.

Q: Senator McGovern made several important criticisms of NSC director Brzezinski a while back and said that he will hold hearings into the role of the NSC. Are these hearings still planned?

A: Yes they are. They have been moved back until next year however.

Q: Is that because you feel that Brzezinski has been contained?

A: Well it is not yet a settled issue. It is clear that Brzezinski has been told to shut up publicly because he is still dangerous in public. In private, though, he might be useful.

Q: One of the key issues you differed with Brzezinski on is the SALT question. What are the prospects for that?

A: They are quite good. Warnke has been briefing people on the Hill. They have made good progress and will probably have a treaty to sign by the election. The Soviets have made a number of concessions. They agreed to a data base which one Soviet official said overturned 400 years of Soviet history. It probably will surface as an agreement before the election and then be given to the Senate in January. It will be a good agreement. Even Jackson (Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash. —ed.) in the end will probably support it as he won't be able to politically oppose it.

Q: The President said last week that he will make a major lobbying effort to get the SALT agreement through the Senate; have you seen signs of it? And are you planning to make a major effort to get support for the treaty?

A: The ACDA (Arms Control and Disarmament Agency — ed.) and State Department have been holding information sessions — they have already held them in Wisconsin and Hartford. More are planned — for example there will be one in Pennsylvania, before the election... and I don't think that the announcement of the SALT treaty will hurt Carter and the Dems for the elections. We will start a public information program for the Senate, McGovern will be active. We will have a staff study on the Soviet Union — the nature of their society and their doctrines and how real the danger of their cheating on a SALT treaty is — in light of their concerns about war.