

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.