

Editorial Comment

by Nora Hamerman

Kissinger's consensus

For more than one reason, it is useful in these days of grave international crisis to reflect back on the United States presidential election in 1976. At that time, this publication presented the clinical evidence showing that Jimmy Carter, who became the Democratic Party's presidential candidate, was insane. And we warned that the policies of the men controlling the Georgia peanut farmer would lead to nuclear war.

Jimmy Carter won in 1976, in part through vote fraud—which we documented. But his victory was assured by the fact that President Ford refused to dump the most hated man in America, Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. Many Americans understandably believed that simply getting that particular lunatic out of the button room would assure national survival—not realizing that Kissinger's and Carter's backers were the same people.

The nasty irony is that today Henry Kissinger enjoys as much if not more power in Washington than in his days at Foggy Bottom. He is going around, from the OpEd page of the *New York Times* to the Sunday television interview shows, advertising his offer to build a "national consensus" around what he likes to describe as a "bipartisan" foreign policy. In Western European capitals, the peripatetic Kissinger calls himself the leading member of the "shadow government."

What Kissinger means by "bipartisan" and "consensus" is given away by the story of how the Carter administration's "Carter Doctrine" was actually formulated—a story you will read in the *EIR's* national report this week and nowhere else in the U.S. press. Imagine 45 of the most discredited old fools in U.S. policy making over the past 30 years. Picture these disreputable old men—the individuals who brought you the Bay of Pigs, the Suez Crisis, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War; the men who have conspired to enforce International Monetary Fund "conditionalities" and World Bank "appropriate technologies"

throughout the developing sector, turning it into a nightmare of genocide and war "hot spots"—at a special briefing session for President Carter on the current U.S.-Soviet crisis.

Democrats and Republicans, "hawks" and "doves," decided there that Carter should pursue a showdown with the U.S.S.R. in precisely that area of the world where Soviet conventional military strength is overwhelmingly superior—leaving the Soviets with no choice but to conclude that the United States plans a tactical nuclear strike against the Warsaw Pact. What the Soviet General Staff will do in response is clear to anyone who is not blind or totally out of his mind.

That lunacy is Henry Kissinger's "consensus." On Jan. 9, Kissinger flew to Washington for private consultations with self-styled foreign policy experts. According to a close associate, he advocated a "definitive show of force" in Iran by the U.S.—even if it is not effective. Days later, policy shifted abruptly from making a "deal" with the Khomeini regime into pressing for United Nations sanctions against those erstwhile Islamic fundamentalist allies, and threats to mine the Persian Gulf.

Henry Kissinger in the past has, not jokingly, declared his ambition to become emperor of the United States. What became clear during his NBC television appearance last Sunday was his conviction that the vaunted "consensus" cannot emerge unless the U.S. Constitution is thrown away, particularly the electoral process. Nothing could more demonstrate the flagrant contempt with which the faction behind Henry regards the American voter, Democrat or Republican, than last week's secretive White House meeting of hoary oligarchs, conspiring to blunder into World War III.

All the more reason why the U.S. 1980 presidential campaign must be used as the major forum for debating and challenging those policies: there is very little time to undo the terrible mischief that was done in 1976.