

National News

Compromise plan for India fuel sales

Congress has postponed consideration of nuclear fuel shipments to India until after the Democratic Convention. Most observers agreed that the sale would have been defeated in the House had it come to a vote, although the Senate outcome was unclear.

Rep. Jonathan Bingham of New York, Democratic sponsor of a resolution disapproving the sale, agreed to postpone the issue pending study of a proposal made to the House Foreign Affairs Committee by Joseph Nye, Jr., a Harvard University political scientist and former Undersecretary of State.

Nye proposed that Congress allow the administration to proceed with a first shipment of enriched uranium to India's Tarapur facility, but delay a second sale for about two years, when India will need replenishment of the fuel. Before the second shipment the administration would have to certify to Congress that it had no evidence that India was preparing new nuclear explosions or attempting to build nuclear weapons.

Congress has 60 days to override presidential authorization of the sale, made June 19 under the State Department verdict that otherwise India will turn to the U.S.S.R., France, or its own reprocessing.

Right to die case spurs lawsuit

An \$80 million lawsuit was filed July 31 in the Superior Court of Franklin County, Mass. against Lyndon H. LaRouche, two medical professionals, and eight employees and two administrators of the Holyoke Geriatric Authority. The suit stemmed from the defendants' efforts to save 83-year-old Earle Spring, a resident of the Holyoke center, from court-ordered euthanasia.

The case made national headlines in

January when attorneys for LaRouche, a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, rallied international pressure and overturned a Jan. 19 Massachusetts probate court order terminating kidney dialysis treatment for retired pharmacist Spring. Spring's treatment was restored and he lived until mid-April. On May 13 the State Supreme Court upheld the original order that Spring "die naturally" of uremic poisoning.

In a statement following the announcement of the lawsuit by attorneys on behalf of Mrs. Spring, LaRouche said that no invasion of privacy had occurred through his involvement in the case, since it was already a news feature in the press, and that more importantly, he intervened after Spring had clearly stated that he wanted to live. LaRouche added that the new lawsuit challenges the right-to-life principles shared by the U.S. Constitution and the Catholic Church.

Billygate heats up again —against Jimmy

Attacks on Jimmy Carter's role in the Libyan scandal were renewed Aug. 13, partly motivated by an attempt to undercut the Democrats as well as the President. In a *New York Daily News* column, syndicated muckraker Jack Anderson charged that Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti "stepped back, withheld funds that had been requested for the Libya investigation, and rejected a proposal to appoint a special prosecutor to conduct fullblown investigations. . . .

"The Justice Department had a team of undercover agents working on the Libya investigation" who accumulated stacks of incriminating evidence showing Robert Vesco and Mansur Kikhia, Libya's U.N. ambassador, "secretly recorded as they engaged in conspiratorial discussions with middlemen about multimillion-dollar payoffs for members of President Carter's inner circle, including Billy Carter, Hamilton Jordan, and Democratic Party Chairman John White." All are charged with accepting payoffs from Vesco and Libya in connec-

tion with Billy's Charter Oil Co. dealings.

ABC-TV reported Aug. 13 that Vesco may be extradited from his Bahamas retreat to testify against the Carter White House. ABC also reported that Libya's Qaddafi government was caught funneling large amounts of money to unnamed administration officials to "halt the influence of American Jews over U.S. Middle East policy." Such charges will not endear Carter to megastate voters in New York, Illinois, or California.

'Dump Brzezinski' pressure grows

Leslie Gelb, former head of the State Department's political-military affairs bureau under Cyrus Vance, told the *Baltimore Sun* Aug. 12 that he and Vance tried "more than a dozen times" to join nuclear targeting discussions but were excluded by Zbigniew Brzezinski. "It's a very serious matter when the President is denied possible alternative points of view."

Another senior official said he hopes the U.S.S.R. will not view the new Presidential Directive 59 doctrine of limited nuclear war as a first-strike doctrine. "We have to watch out for the kind of Soviet miscalculation that led to their invasion of Afghanistan."

Gelb told a reporter that one of the big problems with PD 59 is that "this kind of decision ought to result from discussions with our European allies, and I'm virtually certain we have not consulted with them on this one."

A growing "dump Brzezinski" move includes pro-Kennedy elements from the American Committee on East-West Accord.

Committee member Meyer Berger, a top Kennedy fundraiser, told a reporter that the group is circulating a petition against Brzezinski. "PD 59 is a crazy doctrine to begin with," he said. "There is no such thing as limited nuclear war. And we make a big mistake forcing the Europeans to replace the nuclear missiles in Europe—it just provokes the Soviets and alienates Eastern Europe."

Briefly

House narcotics panel threatened

The House Select Committee on Narcotics may not survive as a committee after this year, Capitol Hill sources report. The five-year-old panel, which does not have permanent status and therefore requires House approval for its continued funding every two years, does not have enough votes lined up to ensure operations beyond this year.

According to staff members, the Select Committee may be killed by the Democratic Caucus between August and December. If the Democratic majority refuses to include the committee in its list of items to be brought to the floor of the next session, it will not even be brought up for a vote of the full House. This will automatically abolish the committee.

House speaker Tip O'Neill and New Jersey Rep. Peter Rodino, also a Democrat, are quietly telling colleagues that while they are not "against" the continuation of the Select Committee, "budgetary" considerations may make this impossible. They argue that narcotics matters can instead be handled by the House Judiciary Committee.

Armed forces aptitude results revised

A Department of Defense study submitted to the House Armed Services Committee reveals that the number of least qualified recruits in the U.S. armed forces during the last fiscal year was far larger than originally estimated. Fully 30 percent of recruits scored in the lowest category of aptitude ratings, as compared with the 5 percent figure originally announced.

The study showed that 46 percent of Army recruits were in the lowest category, not 9 percent. The Marine Corps had 26 percent, not 4 percent; for the Navy, an 18 percent figure replaced 4 percent, and in the Air Force, which had reported

no recruits in the lowest category, the new result was 9 percent.

The Department of Defense has ordered such test scores deleted from servicemen's records, arguing that they do not adequately predict performance. The quality of recruits in the armed forces has been the subject of several House and Senate hearings, with Sen. Sam Nunn, Democrat of Georgia, particularly outspoken on the need for upgrading.

NASA spokesmen assail Carter space program

Past and present administrators of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) took issue with the Carter administration's lack of long-range policies and goals for the nation's space program in hearings held July 24 by the Space Science and Applications Subcommittee of the House Committee on Science and Technology. Speaking for the administration, presidential science adviser Frank Press stated that no \$25-100 billion Apollo-style space programs would be initiated until "well into the next century."

Current NASA director Dr. Robert Frosch dissented, calling himself "not as pessimistic"; former NASA chief Tom Paine testified that "we are on the threshold of a new era in space made possible by the space shuttle," but "the bold initiatives of the 1960s stand in stark contrast to today's irresolution and drift." Former NASA administrator Pocco Petrone attacked as "self-defeating" those who fail to arouse public support and then blame the lack of program goals on Americans' indifference. The NASA administrators stressed that the program's main problems are not simply budget-cutting sprees but the lack of such long-range goals.

GOP candidate Ronald Reagan has made no firm or specific comments on his plans for NASA. On the campaign trail, George Bush commented earlier this year that if elected he would not increase NASA funding but review every part of it.

● **JOHN WHITE**, Democratic national chairman, was asked on his way out of New York's Sheraton Centre Hotel this week about his strategy for preventing heavy Democratic congressional losses this autumn. "Strategy for congressional races? There is no strategy. It's every man for himself."

● **STU EIZENSTAT** top White House domestic adviser, was rushing around Carter headquarters when *EIR* inquired about the prospects for a Carter win in November. Caught off guard, he muttered, "Things are bad—really bad."

● **A BRITISH M.P.**, his bony knees showing beneath his green and orange kilt, watched the assembled delegates to the Democratic Party's national convention during a morning reception for President Carter. He turned and began a lecture on the advantages of the British parliamentary system over the American presidential system. Asked why he, a member of the Tory Party, would attend a Democratic convention rather than the Republican one, he grinned. "We have a lot in common with the Democrats," he said "After all, we are not extreme fascists."

● **HENRY KISSINGER**, in New York during the Democratic Convention, spent time hobnobbing with well-placed Chinese officials who accompanied the Peking Opera troupe.

● **HUGH CAREY**, governor of New York, told Walter Mondale Aug. 13 that the Carter administration should declare a battle against drugs, which he claimed are being shipped through Afghanistan by the U.S.S.R. to destroy American society. A crony of the Bronfmans and a former executive of the Carey family's oil company, the governor knows who really runs Dope, Inc.