

On-the-scene report

Cover-up at Three Mile Island

APRIL 10, 1979

25 CENTS

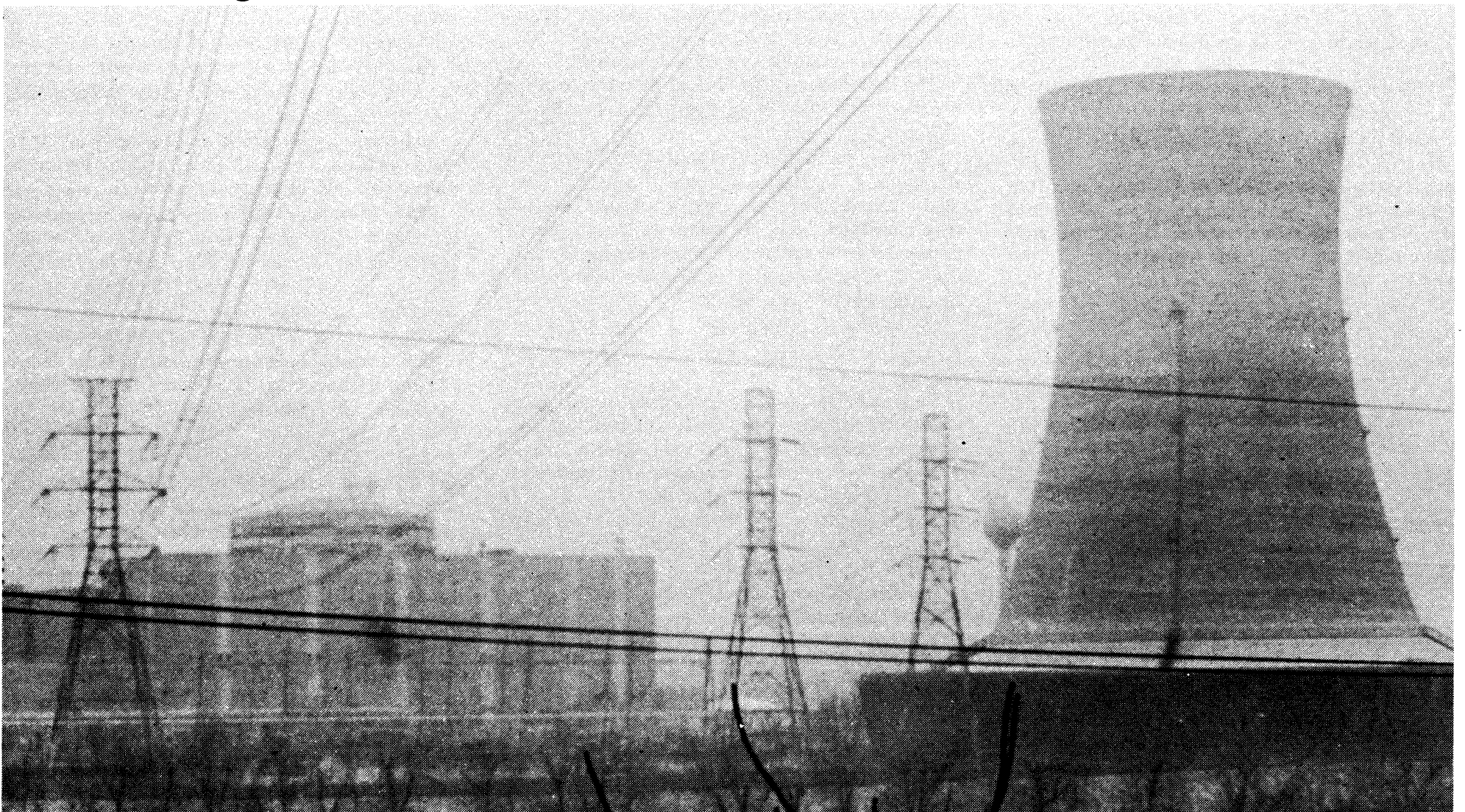
SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY/PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Stop Carter's nuclear time bomb

Why labor should take the lead



Three Mile Island

Militant/Arnold Weissberg

The following statement was released April 1 by Andrew Pulley and Nora Danielson. Pulley is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Chicago and a member of the United Steelworkers of America Local 1066. Danielson, SWP mayoralty candidate in Philadelphia, is a member of the Brotherhood of Railway and Airline Clerks Lodge 518.

The Carter administration and the Democratic and Republican parties bear full responsibility for jeopardizing millions of lives in the Three Mile Island nuclear accident.

Government inspectors knew months ago about problems in the cooling systems of Babcock and Wilcox reactors, including the

one at Three Mile Island. But the administration did nothing—except to hush it up. Just as the government has hushed up and lied about the hazards of nuclear power for decades.

So now the accident the public was always assured was “impossible” has happened. The horrible possibility remains that a meltdown or explosion could still send deadly clouds of radiation over the surrounding cities and countryside.

Even if this most terrible outcome is averted, no one knows how many people, including workers exposed in the plant itself, have been harmed by the radiation that has already escaped.

On April 1 Carter flew into Middletown, Pennsylvania, just long enough to proclaim

that radiation levels are “quite safe for all concerned” and that the top priority of the authorities is “the health and safety of the people.”

Yet the day before, speaking in Wisconsin, Carter vowed that nuclear power plants “will be continued.”

The disaster at Three Mile Island proves that nuclear energy is totally unsafe, that “Atoms for Peace” is a myth, and that all nuclear reactors and processing plants, both commercial and military, should be closed down immediately.

As one worker who lives in the shadow of the Three Mile Island plant said, “It’s like living with a rattlesnake. Sooner or later it’s

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...time bomb

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going to bite you. You just don't know when."

State and federal officials; the Metropolitan Edison Company and its owner, General Public Utilities; the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and the scientist-hirelings of the employers have lied from the beginning about what is happening.

They are lying now. They contradict each other, they contradict themselves, and they refuse to give the American people straight answers. Scarcely a person now believes a word they say about this accident.

Thousands who live near the crippled reactor are showing how much confidence they have in the official promises of safety—they are fleeing the area.

From its very beginning in the 1940s, the development of nuclear energy has been cloaked in secrecy. The dangers have been either denied or downplayed.

Why the secrecy? Why the lies?

The capitalist class doesn't dare tell the truth about nuclear energy any more than they do about how they plan shortages and fix prices. To tell the truth, they would have to say:

"We took billions of dollars from taxes paid by working people to finance the research and development of nuclear weapons and nuclear energy.

"We knew all about the hazards. But we suppressed or censored reports on the likelihood of catastrophic accidents, cancer epidemics, birth deformities, and other consequences we didn't want the public to know about.

"We fired scientists who got too nosy. We didn't hesitate to kill people like Karen Silkwood who threatened to blow the whistle on the nuclear danger.

"We need nuclear weapons to police the world for U.S. corporate interests.

"And there are big profits to be made from nuclear energy."

This is what the employers and their bipartisan representatives in Washington would say if they told the truth. But they don't.

In his Middletown speech, Carter declared he would take personal responsibility for "thoroughly informing the American people" about the lessons of the disaster. Democrats and Republicans in Congress are already talking about a blue-ribbon investigation.

We have no reason to trust those who have covered up the nuclear danger for all these years.



CARTER: Tells Middletown residents not to worry, while he pushes for more nukes around the country.

At the same time he promises to keep us informed, Carter has imposed an unprecedented censorship order barring the *Progressive* magazine from printing an article about the hydrogen bomb. The Democrats and Republicans are desperately pushing for more secrecy, not less.

The Socialist Workers Party says that the entire record from both government and private industry on nuclear energy—every secret study and hearing, every technical and financial detail, every medical record—should be opened up for public scrutiny and debate.

The labor movement should take the lead in fighting for this. Meanwhile nuclear power should be stopped cold.

Just as the doubletalk about what happened at Three Mile Island reveals the destructive and antidemocratic nature of capitalist rule, so do the disastrous implications of the accident. Three Mile Island is not an exceptional incident. It epitomizes the nightmarish prospects of capitalist society today.

The employing class and its insatiable drive for profits are taking us down a road to catastrophe:

Runaway inflation and mass layoffs can overnight shatter the lives of millions of working people.

Monopoly-rigged shortages of key commodities can trigger price explosions.

Young workers will be sent to die in other lands—not to defend their own interests, but those of the bosses.

Imperialist wars threaten to lead us to a nuclear holocaust.

This threat of catastrophe is sharpened by the fact that the capitalists in this country face stiffer competition from their counterparts in Western Europe and Japan. Since the 1974-75 depression, they have been on a stepped-up

campaign to improve their competitive position by squeezing more profits out of workers in this country.

As every worker knows, they have launched a war on many fronts to accomplish this. It includes speedup, reversing on-the-job health and safety rules, forced overtime, higher taxes, and cutbacks in social services.

Wages are held down by Carter's 7 percent guidelines while prices soar at 15 percent a year.

Laws protecting the environment are rolled back under the pretense of fighting inflation.

The employers are out to weaken and if possible destroy the unions—the chief obstacle to their goals.

Part of this offensive is the rulers' attempt to prepare us to accept the use of American military might to defend *their* interests in other countries—especially where they are under attack now by the workers and peasants of Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East.

The nuclear industry is part of the employers' war drive from top to bottom. The nuclear industry originated with the race to develop and use the atomic bomb during World War II. Today it services the entire nuclear arsenal, which the Pentagon sees as essential to its war aims.

So we are faced with seventy operating commercial reactors—each capable of repeating the crisis of the Three Mile Island plant—along with scores of processing plants, reactors, and waste depots directly related to military purposes.

The disaster at Three Mile Island will give tremendous impetus to the rapidly developing antinuclear movement—not only in this country but throughout the world. Millions, maybe tens of millions, more people are now convinced that nuclear power should be stopped.

Protests have already begun, and we can be sure the actions planned for later this spring will be much larger than originally expected.

The Socialist Workers Party is participating in and helping to make these actions as successful as possible. The solidarity the German antinuke demonstrators expressed this week in their slogan, "We all live in Pennsylvania!" should be the watchword for all of us.

The key to success for the forces organizing against nuclear power is to link up with those in the labor movement who are opposed to nuclear power and to win the entire labor movement to this fight. That's where the strength lies to make this fight victorious.

The antinuke resolutions adopted by Meat Cutters District 2, by the United Auto Workers in Ohio, by Steelworkers District 31 in Chicago-Gary—along with the formation of antinuke committees in some unions—show the growing sentiment inside the labor movement.

The struggle against nuclear power and all its hazards is part of the overall struggle against the capitalist catastrophe that threatens the entire working class.

That catastrophe can be prevented only if the working class organizes itself and its allies to take political power away from the capitalist rulers, who are willing to risk the fate of humanity in their drive for profits.

To carry out this struggle for power the working class will have to break from the war parties, the nuclear energy parties, the capitalist parties—the Democratic and Republican twins.

We need a labor party based on our own organizations, the unions. A labor party will be an antiwar party, an antinuclear party, a party that fights for the rights of Blacks, *latinos*, and women.

There is a force greater than nuclear power: the political power of the labor movement.

That is the power and authority of the overwhelming majority of the American people. Once it is mobilized to take control out of the hands of the profit-hungry minority, it can immediately close down all the nuclear plants and dismantle all the nuclear weapons.

Three Mile Island shows the urgency of the task. Nothing less than the survival of humanity is at stake.



DANIELSON

PULLEY

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Steelworkers explain

Labor's stake in fight against nuke threat

By Dick McBride

Workers exposed to radiation at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in New Hampshire die from leukemia more than four times as frequently as the national average. They die from all cancers at twice the national average.

In the western United States, uranium miners suffer disproportionately from lung cancer and related diseases.

The Karen Silkwood case is revealing how nuclear workers risk their lives daily in unsafe plants.

Now the Three Mile Island nuclear accident threatens the lives and property of thousands of working people and their families throughout southeastern Pennsylvania.

On April 1, four days after the accident at Three Mile Island began, I talked with Norton Sandler and Geoff Mirelowitz. Both work at Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point plant in Baltimore—the nearest metropolitan area to Three Mile Island.

"I had my radio on at work Thursday night when they announced that they were considering evacuating a million people from around Harrisburg," Sandler said.

"The first reaction was jokes—which way is the wind blowing, is your car gassed up, and so on. But as the news kept coming in, people got more serious."

"What came up over and over in the plant," Sandler said, "was the need for workers to regulate and control things like nuclear power—take them out of the hands of the rich. Because the people who own these power plants now are willing to sacrifice a million lives rather than tell the truth."

Mirelowitz told of a discussion some three weeks before the Pennsylvania accident. "One person had a friend or a relative who worked at a nuclear plant and had told him how safe they are. So his idea was that nuclear power is OK."

"I was on with the same crew Friday night [March 30—two days after the accident] and someone said to the guy who had been talking about how safe the plants are, 'Now look!'"

"And he answered, 'Yeah, we ought to just shut them all down.'"

Mirelowitz said Baltimore steelworkers are fast becoming aware of two things: "First, everybody knows that the Susquehanna River flows into Chesapeake Bay. And the other thing

Dick McBride is a member of United Steelworkers Local 1010 at Inland Steel in East Chicago, Indiana.



Big business reaps huge profits from dangerous nuclear plants. Steelworkers are joining the fight to 'just shut them all down.'

everybody knows is that there's a nuclear plant right near Baltimore at Calvert Cliffs."

"People laughed when the radio announced that Carter was in contact

with the governor," Sandler said, "and that the governor had said things were under control. Then everybody was really ready to head for their cars and get out of town!"

My union, Steelworkers Local 1010 at Inland Steel in East Chicago, Indiana, has filed a petition with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to deny a permit to the Bailly nuclear plant that is under construction near Gary. We expect to be joined in this by the steelworkers of Local 6787 at Bethlehem's Burns Harbor plant, which is right next to the Bailly site.

Local 6787 is also considering filing a lawsuit challenging the Bailly evacuation plan—which would require that some steelworkers remain at Burns Harbor to keep the blast furnace going if there was a nuclear accident!

Last year USWA District 31, which represents 118,000 steelworkers in the Chicago-Gary area, went on record opposing the development of nuclear power. District 31 Environmental Director Mike Olszanski told me April 1 that the Three Mile Island accident "is all anybody is talking about" in the steel plants around Gary and Chicago.

"People are coming back and saying 'Hey, you were right,' when the district took its antinuclear position last year. There were a few people around who were skeptical at that time, but now it's clear that an overwhelming majority of people feel we were right."

Other unions have also gone on record against nuclear power in recent months.

On March 5 the executive board of District 2 of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen unanimously voted to oppose "the construction, manufacture, operation, exportation or proliferation of additional nuclear power plants."

Meat Cutters District 2 includes the state of Pennsylvania and seven other mid-Atlantic states, as well as Puerto Rico.

Last October a United Auto Workers Community Action Program convention in Ohio adopted a motion citing the dangers of nuclear power and calling on state officials to "enact an immediate moratorium on licensing and construction of nuclear power plants in Ohio, if definite scientific safeguards cannot be provided, and implement a procedure for phasing out all existing facilities now operating or under construction in the state."

These and similar resolutions mark a welcome break from the pronuclear, pro-employer positions expressed by George Meany and the AFL-CIO hierarchy. They point the way toward increased involvement by organized labor in the movement to end nuclear power and nuclear weapons.

Tragedy from 1950s Utah nuke tests

By Ed Berger

SALT LAKE CITY—Authorities are telling the people of Pennsylvania not to worry, that fallout from the Three Mile Island plant isn't dangerous. Radiation levels are low and harmless, industry-paid scientists say on TV.

Try telling that to the fallout victims in Utah.

Between 1951 and 1958 the U.S. military set off at least ninety-seven atomic explosions above ground in Nevada. The radioactive debris fell on Utah, Arizona, and Nevada.

Children born in southern Utah during those seven years died from leukemia two and a half times as frequently as children born before or after. Throughout Utah, approximately fifty children died from leukemia who otherwise would be alive today.

This was one of the grisly findings of a study conducted by Dr. Joseph Lyon, a University of Utah epidemiologist, and three associates.

The Lyon study confirmed a suppressed 1965 government report that

found the leukemia death rate in southern Utah between 1950 and 1964 was 50 percent higher than expected.

The 1965 Utah leukemia studies were hidden from public view for fourteen years. Federal agencies also conspired to keep other evidence out of the spotlight.

In 1953, for example, 4,300 sheep that had been grazing downwind from atomic tests in Nevada died. Some of the animals had been as far as 120 miles from the test site.

The sheep received a dose of radioactive iodine up to 1,000 times greater than the maximum allowable for humans. Ewes had spontaneous abortions and showed burn-like lesions on the face, neck, and ears. The majority of lambs were born dead or stunted, and ewes died either during lambing or a few days later.

The Atomic Energy Commission said the sheep died of natural causes.

Dr. Stephan Brower, a Brigham Young University professor, charges that the federal government sought to

buy the silence of the sheep ranchers by offering to set up a desert range nutrition research project. Brower was a county agricultural agent in the area at the time.

One young woman in southern Utah told Brower her hair fell out after a radiation cloud passed over her home. She also developed lesions that healed only slowly.

Dr. John Gofman, once the AEC's leading expert on the biological effects of radiation, says that the government canceled atomic tests if the wind was blowing toward Los Angeles or Las Vegas—but not if it was blowing toward sparsely populated areas of Utah and Nevada.

As recently as 1974 the plutonium level in Utah topsoil was found to be 3.8 times higher than anywhere else in the country. Plutonium, one of the most fiercely radioactive of all elements, is a byproduct of atomic explosions and certain types of reactors. It is used in the production of nuclear weapons. A speck of plutonium dust

will cause cancer if inhaled.

Other shorter-lived radioactive elements were also found in the soil. Officials sought to minimize the dangers of these poisons by saying they were now far less radioactive than when they were first found.

That means, of course, that Utah residents have been subjected to abnormally and dangerously high levels of radioactivity all these years.

More than 400 people—surviving cancer victims and relatives of those who have died—have filed claims against the federal government.

Pam Burchett, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Salt Lake City, is demanding full compensation for all the fallout victims.

"The government should provide free, lifetime medical care for those whose lives it has so callously blighted," she told the *Militant*.

"The cover-up of the effects of the atom tests must end," Burchett said.

"The time is long overdue to open up all the records of the federal atomic agencies for public inspection."

Cover-up at Three Mile Island

By Nancy Cole
and Arnold Weissberg

MIDDLETOWN, Pa., April 1—Fear and disbelief grip central Pennsylvania as the possibility of a devastating core meltdown at a nuclear plant several miles from here has yet to be ruled out.

And anger. No one told people here that anything like this could happen. And now that it has, no one is telling them what is going on.

All they really know is that at any time they may be evacuated from their homes on two hours' notice. Thousands have already fled, in addition to several hundred pregnant women and children staying in nearby evacuation centers.

The federal government has refused to take any steps to prevent a recurrence of the Three Mile Island accident. There are now seventy-two nuclear power plants licensed to operate in this country, many of them of a type similar to Three Mile Island. Six are identical to it.

Both President Carter and Nuclear Regulatory Commission Director of Operations Harold Denton have refused to order the immediate shutdown of a single reactor.

'Postpone the question'

Denton, responding to a reporter's question at a news conference, said he wanted to "postpone the question of the other six [identical] operating reactors until I have a better feel for what happened here."

How long it will take Denton to acquire "a better feel" remains unknown. Meanwhile, another Three Mile Island could happen any time.

Seeking to shore up Washington's rapidly waning credibility, President Carter visited the facility April 1 and then held a short, no-time-for-questions

news conference at Middletown's Borough Hall.

It is "quite safe for all concerned," he told townspeople, who have suffered through a mire of confusing reports and outright lies from plant and government officials.

Unabashedly taking the side of the nuclear industry, Carter proclaimed it "too early yet to be making judgments about the lessons of this nuclear incident."

"Well, the people of *this* town are passing judgment," Middletown resident Darlene Snyder told the *Militant* shortly after Carter's appearance here.

"And so are the ones over in Royalton, especially the ones in the five-mile [radius of the plant]—let alone my mother down in York County and people all over the world."

'He didn't say anything'

As for Carter's assurances of safety, Snyder declared, "That's about all he *did* say. He didn't say anything about what's happening up there. He could have stayed and answered some questions, but he rushed right out."

Snyder, wearing a T-shirt saying, "Middletown Is Where It's At," is "scared the thing's going to blow up" but reluctant to pick up and leave because of the disruption for her family and her husband's job.

"I think they ought to shut them all down," Snyder firmly said. And if they try to open up Three Mile Island again, she says, they're going to have trouble from Middletown residents.

That is the prevailing view here, where few people paid much attention to the four gigantic towers that loom over the surrounding community—until the March 28 bulletin informed residents of a general emergency at the plant.

"We'd drive by and not even notice



140,000 people live within ten miles of runaway nuclear plant

the plant," a resident told the *Militant*. "This really woke up everybody."

"Seems like they didn't take anybody into consideration," Christine Cox said. Cox lives in Steelton, a town adjacent to a giant Bethlehem Steel mill within ten miles of Three Mile Island.

"Get rid of it," said Middletown High

School student Ann Chapman. "I don't want them to open any of them. And I don't think they're telling us all that's going on."

Plain speaking and truth disappeared long before Three Mile Island began leaking radioactivity.

The cover-up

The cover-up began three months ago, after a Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspector filed a report on the Three Mile Island plant's cooling system—the failure of which would lead to the present disaster.

The NRC inspector recommended that problems with the cooling system be brought to the attention of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. He was overruled by his superiors.

So, early on the morning of March 28, a steam pump apparently failed triggering the failure of another pump that circulates cooling water to the reactor's core.

At 6:50 a.m. Metropolitan Edison declared a "general emergency." The state police relayed the declaration adding that no radiation had been released.

At 9 a.m., Met Ed also said there had been no radiation leak.

An hour later, "no leak" became "a small leak."

Carter censors nuke data

By Dick Roberts

On March 26 a federal district judge in Milwaukee granted a government motion for an injunction prohibiting the *Progressive* magazine from publishing an article on the hydrogen bomb.

This sweeping denial of freedom of the press—unprecedented under the U.S. Constitution—is intimately linked to the disaster at Three Mile Island. For it is the government's policy to envelop in secrecy all that has to do with the production of nuclear power and weaponry.

This is passed off as keeping secrets from foreign powers. But that is clearly absurd. Foreign governments that themselves manufacture sophisticated nuclear weapons do

not need second-hand information gathered by a reporter.

Governments that do not manufacture nuclear weapons have ruled this out for political and financial reasons. They also are not going to learn anything from a magazine article that the government itself admits has no secret or classified information in it.

The real target of this kind of secrecy is the American public. In the government's view, working people are not to be trusted with the facts about nuclear production. We might learn too much about the hazards involved.

In defending itself, *Progressive* magazine emphasizes this aspect of the case. According to the March 24

New York Times, the magazine "argues that the information in the article is needed by the American public to permit intelligent discussion of policy issues pertaining to the possible dangers to the environment of nuclear production and underground testing, health hazards to workers in nuclear plants and issues in the strategic arms talks."

The democratic rights of working people—to free speech, a free press, access to the truth, and the freedom to organize and act in our own interests—are more and more intolerable to the capitalist government.

But as Three Mile Island shows, these are exactly the rights we must have to prevent a future nuclear catastrophe.

Help spread the truth...

The big-business news media have joined with the Carter administration and the nuclear industry to conceal the facts about the Three Mile Island crisis. It's part of their ongoing cover-up of the deadly hazards posed by the entire nuclear industry.

The *Militant*—which doesn't have the backing of big business or millions in advertising revenues—is making every effort to get out the truth. Our team of eyewitness reporters in the Harrisburg area is exposing the government-industry lies and telling what workers there are thinking and doing about the disaster.

This special effort places a big financial burden on a working-class weekly. We need your donations. And we need your help in getting out the *Militant* to working people from coast to coast. Won't you give us a hand?

The *Militant*, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014

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how we can fight back**
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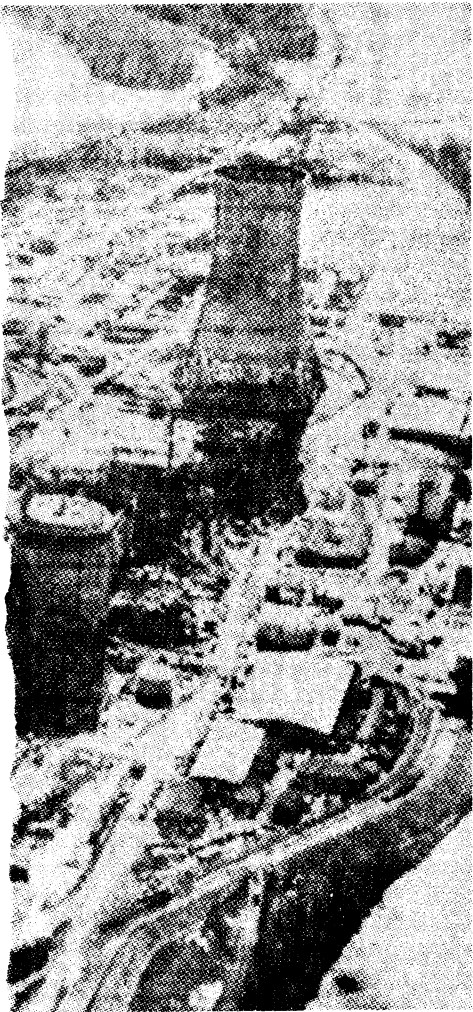
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and: on-the-scene report



Forty-five minutes later, Lt. Gov. William Scranton, Jr., joined the cover-up. "There is and was no danger to public health and safety . . . there was a small release of radiation to the environment. All safety equipment functioned properly," Scranton asserted.

Fifteen minutes after that, the Three Mile Island plant began automatically venting radioactive steam to the out-

side. The venting continued for ninety minutes.

Thursday night the Nuclear Regulatory Commission chimed in. "The danger is over for people off site," the NRC declared.

But the next morning, an NRC spokesperson admitted there remained a "potential" for a disastrous core meltdown.

Meanwhile, Thursday night, Met Ed dumped 400,000 gallons of radioactive water into the Susquehanna River without telling the public. Just hours earlier, the NRC vigorously denied the dumping would take place.

'Why should we tell you?'

When asked by reporters Friday why there had been no public announcement, Met Ed Vice-president John Herbein arrogantly declared, "I don't know why we need to tell you everything we do."

That has served as the motto for both government and Met Ed officials during the entire crisis.

On Friday the cover-up fell apart. Met Ed officials vented radioactive steam several times, driving radiation readings above the plant up to 1,200 millirems an hour.

Gov. Richard Thornburgh "advised" everyone within a ten-mile radius to stay indoors and keep the windows shut. He also "advised" pregnant women and young children to leave the area.

Also on Friday, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission announced that there was, indeed, a risk of a fuel meltdown.

The effort to keep "the Harrisburg Syndrome" under wraps had failed. But the government still won't talk about the long-term health hazards from the radioactive emissions.

How much radiation have area residents been exposed to? What effect will it have on them? It's impossible to get a straight answer.

Nobel Prize-winning biologist George Wald, speaking at a Harrisburg news conference Thursday organized by the Mobilization for Survival, explained that "every dose of radiation is an overdose. A little does a little harm, and more does more harm."

Federal standards require that average yearly exposure for the entire population be limited to 170 millirems. With Three Mile Island emissions being measured in adjoining Goldsboro at 20 millirems an hour, the potential for dangerous exposure is high.

Keith Kirk, a West Virginia physicist who came here at the request of antinuclear power activists, took his own readings on Friday morning and found some as high as 7,000 times the normal levels.

But Saturday morning, top NRC official Harold Denton reassured that the odds against anyone getting cancer were "five to one."

Unless, of course, there's a meltdown. Then, Denton said, "a certain number" of cancers could be expected.

Antinuke activists

That the cover-up failed is due in large part to the efforts of the antinuclear activists in the Harrisburg area and their success in bringing the nuclear power issue before the public.

"This is the last nuclear accident the American people will tolerate," Chauncey Kepford of the Environmental Coalition on Nuclear Power told a news conference March 30.

Kepford's group has petitioned the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to close all pressurized water reactors—about half of all U.S. nuclear reactors. The group charges that the Three Mile Island accident showed that these reactors all violate federal safety standards.

At another news conference on March 29 sponsored by the Mobilization for Survival, radiation expert Dr.

Ernest Sternglass lashed out at the government's and Met Ed's efforts to minimize health hazards of radioactive emissions.

"The community should stand up and scream," Sternglass said. "This is a long-term, creeping thing. People don't just fall down like flies."

A group called Three-Mile-Alert is tentatively planning a demonstration for Sunday, April 8, at 2 p.m. on the steps of the state capitol in Harrisburg. For more information call (717) 233-3072.

Last year, Three Mile Island was cited seventeen times for safety violations. None were deemed "serious" by federal officials.

So now at least 140,000 people—the number living within a ten-mile radius—face a nuclear disaster.

As disabled steelworker Edward Keitch commented, "We'd better straighten this out before we get killed."



Nuclear refugees—angry and scared

HERSHEY, Pa., Apr. 1—The Hershey Arena is usually the home of a professional hockey team. But since last Friday, it's the home for hundreds of refugees from nuclear radiation.

Last Friday, Pennsylvania Gov. Richard Thornburgh "suggested" that pregnant women and young children living within five miles of Three Mile Island leave the area.

Young and old people are especially sensitive to radiation. So are fetuses.

The two communities nearest the plant are Middletown and Goldsboro, both small, populated mostly by poor and working people. Both are within five miles of Three Mile Island.

The state set up emergency facilities for the evacuees at the Hershey Arena.

It's a makeshift arrangement down on the hockey rink, leaving no privacy for the refugees. Families sleep side by side on cots. "Home" is a small area separated from other "homes" by cartons.

The Red Cross serves meals. Showers and the toilets are in the locker rooms normally used by the hockey teams.

Today there were about 100 people using the emergency facilities. Red Cross volunteers said there is a constant turnover as refugees seek better accommodations.

The people who remain are the ones who can't afford to go anywhere else.

The people I talked to were angry and frightened. No one had ever

suggested to them that Three Mile Island might put their lives, their children's lives, and their homes in danger.

Many of the refugees fled homes in Harrisburg, more than ten miles from the reactor.

"I've got two children, and I'm not taking any chances," a seven-months-pregnant Black woman from there told me.

"I'm thinking of them." She added that she was nervous about the idea of ever going back to where she had lived.

Truck driver Roberto González lived thirteen miles from the runaway reactor. But he and his wife and three children are going to stay in Hershey, he said.

González believes the situation at Three Mile Island is worse than Metropolitan Edison and the government have admitted.

González is not the only man in the place. Many fathers and husbands came to Hershey with their families.

One of them was a man with three children, who had worked on construction at the Three Mile Island plant.

"They tell you it's safe, but this makes you wonder," he said. His family left their Middletown home Friday at Thornburgh's suggestion.

"We're scared," his teen-age daughter said. "Even before they told us to leave. Then we got more scared."

Families will continue to sleep under wool emergency blankets, on emergency cots, till someone decides it's OK for them to go home.

They will always worry now about the children, and never know if it can all happen again.

—A.W.

Middletown youngsters learn fast

MIDDLETOWN, Pa., April 1—When residents of this town of 10,000 picked up their Sunday papers at Judy News this morning, they were handed a notice from Mayor Robert Reid.

"In the event of an evacuation, these are the pick-up points for people who do not have transportation to leave the borough!!!" Eight sites around town were listed.

Behind the news counter, a woman was explaining over the phone to a customer why his paper hadn't been delivered. "All the kids left town," she said. "You'll have to come in and get your paper."

Three miles from the Three Mile Island nuclear plant, Middletown has become the focus of international attention during the past week.

One-third to one-half of the townspeople have already left. Most churches didn't open their doors this morning. A 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. curfew has been in effect since Friday night.

Those left on the streets are ceaselessly approached by reporters—who outnumbered visible residents today by about five to one.

Plans for President Carter's news

conference brought more people out into the streets this afternoon.

"Is the community invited?" asked a resident in the drug store. "I didn't get my engraved invitation."

They weren't.

Across the street from borough hall, residents gathered on the roped-off sidewalk. The crowd grew to several hundred by the time Carter arrived.

"We're just here to see the president, and after that we're getting the hell out of town," a woman told her child.

One child who hasn't left town is nine-year-old Brent Burger. "We're all ready," he told the *Militant*. "Our car is packed, shoes and everything."

Disasters have a stark way of raising consciousness. And that includes children in this situation.

"You've got to be crazy to work in that place," commented Brent, who reels off terms like "meltdown," "contamination," and "gas bubbles" like his multiplication tables.

He watches TV a lot lately to learn the latest news.

"Yesterday I was watching 'B.J. and the Bears' when a news bulletin about [Gov. Richard] Thornburgh's latest evacuation orders came on," he said. Brent's mother works in a clothing factory nearby, his father in a garage.

"Me and my whole family think the plant should be shut down for good," he declared.

And what about the other seventy-one in other parts of the country?

"They should all be shut down, all of them!"

—N.C.

Can nuclear power ever be safe?

By Fred Murphy

The accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear plant has millions of people across the country asking, "Can the nuclear industry ever be made safe?"

Our answer is, "No." To see why, let's start with how nuclear plants work.

Atomic power is based on a unique natural process called *fission*—the splitting of atoms. When a sufficient quantity of a radioactive fuel—usually uranium or plutonium—is brought together under the proper conditions, this fission becomes self-sustaining and generates large amounts of heat.

How reactors work

Water is pumped through the hot, fissioning fuel of a reactor to generate steam. The steam drives a turbine to produce electricity.

The fission process is halted by inserting special rods into the fuel core. As the rods are pulled out, the reactor heats up and power production can begin.

Once a reactor has been in use for a certain period of time, however, inserting the control rods does not lead to a complete cooling down of the core, because of the radioactive waste products that accumulate there. Reactions in the wastes keep them so hot that they must continue to be cooled for months after being removed from the reactor.

So whether the reactor is in operation or not, if the flow of cooling water through the core is blocked—perhaps because of a broken pipe or a pump failure—the fuel and wastes can overheat and melt.

Nuclear plants are equipped with several kinds of emergency core cooling systems to guard against such an event. But as the Three Mile Island accident shows, their reliability is highly questionable.

Pa. accident not the first

Three Mile Island is not the first major accident or near-miss at a nuclear plant:

- December 1952: Partial fuel meltdown and release of more than 1 million gallons of radioactive water inside the NRX experimental test reactor at Chalk River, Ontario.

- October 1957: Uranium fire in the British government's weapons-production reactor at Windscale, England. Farmlands were contaminated over a 200-square-mile area; more than a half-million gallons of milk poisoned with radioactive iodine had to be dumped.

- January 1961: U.S. government test reactor at Idaho Falls, Idaho, went out of control. Three workers were killed, one of whom was impaled on the reactor ceiling by a control rod.

- October 1966: Partial meltdown at the Fermi breeder reactor near Detroit. Nuclear explosion was narrowly averted.

- March 1975: Fire at Browns Ferry plant in Alabama destroyed control cables for many safety devices, including emergency core cooling system. By rigging up a makeshift cooling apparatus, operators managed to avert a meltdown.

These are some, but not all, of the most dramatic nuclear mishaps. In a recent two-year period, there were some 2,000 "reportable" accidents at nuclear plants in the United States alone.

If the melting is not stopped, the hundred tons or so of intensely hot fuel and waste can cause a steam explosion, bursting the concrete-and-steel containment building around the reactor.

Meltdown

If this is somehow avoided, the fuel can still burn straight through the bottom of the building. In either event, huge quantities of radioactive debris are spewed into the environment, contaminating a wide area as wind and water carry the deadly materials away.

A long-suppressed 1964-65 report by the Atomic Energy Commission found that the consequences of such a "meltdown" accident could amount to 45,000 deaths, 100,000 injuries, long-term contamination of an area the size of Pennsylvania (!), and up to \$280 billion in damage.

The Three Mile Island accident proves beyond doubt that such catastrophes can and will happen. Indeed, Carter energy adviser Jack O'Leary told a 1977 conference in Washington that "between now and the year 2000 there would be a serious core meltdown of a nuclear reactor."

Yet the Carter administration has continued to press for stepped-up use of nuclear power.

Fuel cycle

Nuclear dangers are by no means limited to catastrophic accidents at operating plants. Other parts of the "nuclear fuel cycle" also present grave threats to human life.

The cycle begins with the mining and processing of uranium.

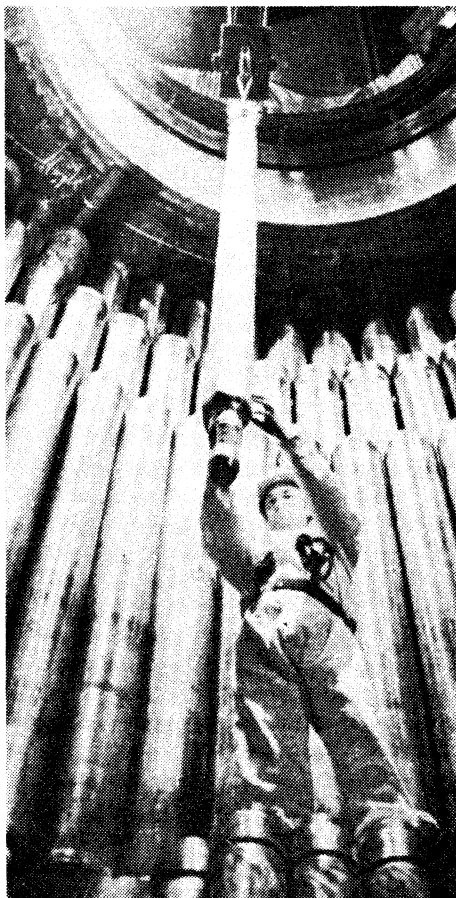
Mining releases radioactive radon gas into the environment, with deadly effects. An estimated 16 percent of U.S. uranium miners who worked underground between 1946 and 1968 will develop lung cancer as a result of the radon they inhaled in the mines.

Radioactive residues, called tailings, are a waste product of uranium milling. Some 26 million tons of these tailings are piled up at twenty-two sites throughout the western United States. Gamma rays from the main radioactive component of these wastes, radium, can cause cancer.

In a number of areas, the sand-like tailings have been used as building materials. In Grand Junction, Colorado, for example, an estimated 300,000 tons of uranium tailings were used in the construction of more than 700 homes, businesses, churches, and schools.

Colorado Health Department statistics show that residents of Grand Junction have an acute leukemia rate that is twice the average for the state as a whole.

As milled uranium is further processed into fuel, highly radioactive matter may be accidentally released. Even the most complex procedures have proven insufficient to isolate



Inside the reactor. Once in operation, this core must be continually cooled or a meltdown will occur.

these poisons completely from the environment.

The normal operation of nuclear reactors in power plants results in releases of low-level radiation. There is growing evidence that the effects of this have been gravely understated by the government.

A recent study by Dr. Thomas Mancuso of the University of Pittsburgh showed that the incidence of cancer and leukemia among workers at the government's Hanford, Washington, nuclear weapons complex was considerably higher than the national average. These workers had been exposed to small doses of radioactivity for extended periods of time.

Wastes—eternal nightmare

The most mammoth nuclear problem of all involves the intensely radioactive wastes that come from spent nuclear fuel and from the government's bomb-building industry.

Millions of gallons and tens of thousands of cubic feet of these deadly substances have been produced since the beginning of the Atomic Age. More and more scientists are coming to agree that there is no way to store them safely and permanently.

The most fiendish waste product of all, plutonium, remains radioactive for half a million years and must be kept isolated from all living things during that entire time.

The government and the nuclear industry once had high hopes that the plutonium could be removed from reac-

tor wastes and reprocessed into fresh fuel elements. But the few reprocessing plants that were built failed miserably, and it is unlikely that more will be tried in the near future.

Because there are no reprocessing plants, each nuclear reactor must store its own spent fuel on site. The deep pools in which the wastes are kept are fast filling up.

But even if the fuel could be reprocessed, the waste problem would remain unsolved.

What cannot be reused must be buried. None of the various proposals for this have in any way been proven effective for the extremely long-term isolation required.

So even if the whole nuclear industry were shut down today, the huge quantities of wastes already produced will pose an enormous problem for generations to come.

Government bail-out

The only "solution" the Carter administration has come up with is a plan for the federal government to buy used fuel rods from the power companies and take responsibility for disposing of them. This lets the industry off the hook and forces working people to foot the bill with our tax dollars.

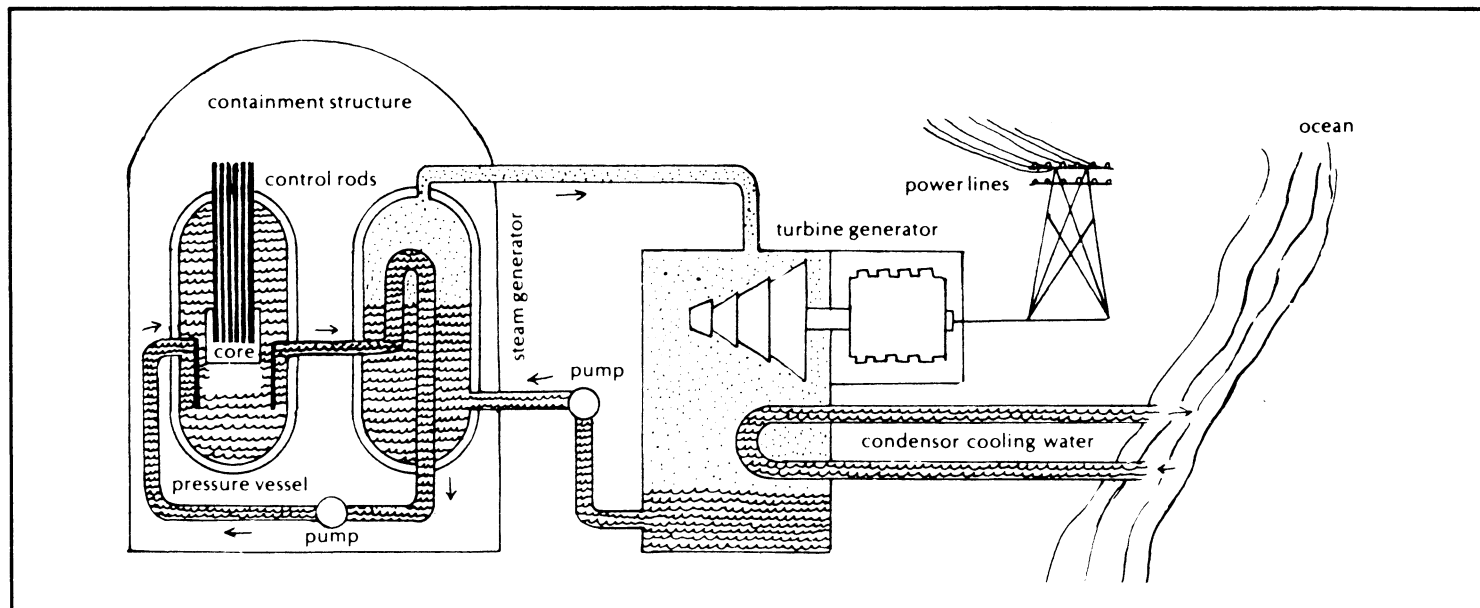
Nor has the government proven any more capable of handling wastes than private industry. In fact, the worst accident involving high-level wastes occurred at the military's nuclear complex in Hanford. In 1973 a tank leaked more than 100,000 gallons of its fiercely radioactive contents into the soil only a few miles from the Columbia River. That was in addition to some 300,000 gallons that have escaped in other accidents at Hanford. The Columbia River has been labeled "the world's most radioactive river."

Shut them all down!

All the dangers described here—from mining, milling, reactors, and wastes—accompany not only the nuclear power industry but also the Pentagon's far-flung apparatus for producing atomic bombs and missile warheads. And in that lies the danger not only of some catastrophic accident but also of the deliberate, calculated use of nuclear weapons by this country's rulers. That could bring about the total destruction of life on this planet.

Perhaps someday human beings will achieve such giant scientific advances as to make possible the safe use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. But it is more likely that a rational, socialist society will concentrate instead on harnessing safer, simpler, and cleaner energy sources.

For the present, our survival requires that all nuclear plants be shut down, that the production of nuclear weapons be halted and the present stockpiles destroyed, and that the entire government/big-business nuclear complex be dismantled.



Pressurized water reactor, similar to the one at Three Mile Island

Susanna Natti

ENERGY PROFIT DRIVE

Why Washington pushes nuclear power

By Dick Roberts

As word of new radioactive leakage at the Three Mile Island plant came over the wires March 30, Energy Secretary James Schlesinger was presenting the Carter administration's viewpoint on nuclear power to a congressional committee in Washington.

Nuclear power "continues to be an essential element" in the nation's drive for energy independence, Schlesinger said. He declared that the "historic record" of nuclear power was "excellent." He said the risks in light-water reactors like that on Three Mile Island were "relatively trivial" when compared to coal or oil generating plants.

Just before the Three Mile Island disaster began, the Carter administration was evidently planning to launch a major offensive in favor of nuclear power production. The cover was to be the new "energy crisis" scare Washington has tried to whip up around the Iranian revolution. Major articles in the business press outlined the need for such a campaign.

"One by one, the lights are going out for the U.S. nuclear power industry," *Business Week* magazine complained in a special report December 25. "Reactor orders have plummeted from a high of 41 in 1973 to zero this year."

Fortune magazine began a series of articles with the headline: "It's time to end the holy war over nuclear power." "Today," said *Fortune*, "the U.S. gets 12½ percent of its electric power from seventy-two nuclear generating plants. This is already enough to make a vital difference when foreign oil supplies are pinched or when coal miners stage a lengthy strike."

Carter plan

From the beginning, the Carter administration has been trying to steamroller the growing opposition to nuclear energy. The appointment of James Schlesinger showed where the White House stood. Schlesinger was previously head of the Atomic Energy Commission, then secretary of war, and always an outspoken advocate of nuclear power.

In his first major energy address in April 1977 Carter made it clear that nuclear power production had a green light: "We must . . . increase our capacity to produce enriched uranium fuel for light-water nuclear power plants," he said.

"We must also reform the nuclear licensing procedures," Carter maintained. He complained, "It should not take ten years to license a plant." "Reform" meant making it much more difficult to press questions about safety and environmental hazards during the licensing process.

Washington's concern for nuclear power stems from both military and economic necessities of American capitalism. The momentum for nuclear power initially came from the production of atomic weapons. The "Atoms for Peace" program was launched by the newly founded Atomic Energy Commission in the early 1950s to promote nuclear development.

Its very name betrayed one of the purposes: production of nuclear power for energy could help distract attention from the relentless production of nuclear weapons for the Pentagon's deadly arsenal.

Nuclear reactors had to be built to supply plutonium for atom bombs. If they could also be sold to the public as a miraculous new energy source, so much the better. Under this guise the AEC poured massive subsidies into such corporations as General Electric and Westinghouse for nuclear research.

Secrecy

From the beginning this process has been shrouded in secrecy. The government, the corporations making nuclear reactors, and the utilities conspired to conceal the dangers of nuclear production.

When Schlesinger headed the AEC, for example, in 1971-73, it conducted a survey of safety problems in nuclear reactors. "The large number of reactor incidents, coupled with the fact that many of them had real safety significance . . . raises a serious question regarding the current review and inspection practices both on the part of the nuclear industry and the AEC." The AEC kept this report secret. It came to light through the efforts of the Union of Concerned Scientists in 1974.

Meanwhile nuclear energy became a growing factor in the production of electricity. Why? Because of a shortage of other energy sources? Or because of the immense profits U.S. capitalism stands to gain



JAMES SCHLESINGER

from nuclear energy production?

At the center of this process are two of the main bastions of American industrial capitalism: Westinghouse and General Electric, the corporations involved with the AEC's development of nuclear technology from the beginning.

From the 1890s GE and Westinghouse were key sectors of the financial empire of J.P. Morgan and Company. This powerful banking group, now centered around the Morgan Guaranty Trust, also controls AT&T, U.S. Steel, and a number of railroads. As well, it controls a host of electric generating companies.

Westinghouse and GE themselves sell three-fourths of the reactors produced in this country. They sell nuclear reactors abroad. And they control a considerable amount of the uranium necessary for nuclear production.

The other two companies that manufacture nuclear reactors are the Babcock and Wilcox division of the J. Ray McDermott, and Combustion Engineering.

Profits

These monopolies stand to gain immense profits from the continued construction of nuclear power stations. This flows from the huge amount of capital involved in the production of nuclear plants. Today a 1,000-megawatt unit costs close to \$1.5 billion.

According to *Business Week*, the "most hopeful" industry and government projections for nuclear growth in the next decade call for 180 new plant orders. That is some \$270 billion worth of plants!

It is this enormous potential investment and potential profit that keeps the pressure on for the development of nuclear power—not the supposed running out of fossil fuels in the United States.

In fact the continental United States is abundantly rich in energy sources, above all in coal and natural gas.

The energy shortage myth has been drummed up to aid Washington in removing price controls on domestic oil and natural gas. The oil companies have deliberately cut back U.S. oil production, hoarding the oil for a time when they can sell it at deregulated world market prices.

Despite their flag-waving calls for U.S. "energy independence," the U.S. oil giants reap vast profits from the import of oil from OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) producers. These U.S. corporations—along with a handful of European oil trusts—control the distribution and sale of OPEC oil.

Through their manipulation of world oil supplies during the Iranian oil strikes in the last quarter of 1978—in which they promoted an oil "shortage" scare, although the evidence is that no shortage ever existed—the five top U.S. oil companies reaped the following profit increases: Exxon, up 48 percent; Gulf, up 45 percent; Mobil, up 10 percent; Standard Oil of California, up 33 percent; and Texaco, up 72 percent.

The oil companies have another reason to foster massive oil imports at this time: they want to pump this oil out of the Middle East before more revolutionary upheavals like in Iran threaten to take it out of their control.

As to reserves in the United States, in 1974 the Ford Foundation's "Energy Policy Project" calculated that there are 200-400 billion barrels of undiscovered recoverable onshore and offshore oil here in addition to what is already known. The upper figure exceeds the entire known reserves of the Middle East.

For natural gas, the Ford Foundation's figures were much higher: 1,000 to 2,000 trillion cubic feet. Present U.S. natural gas production is less than 1 percent of the upper figure.

Coal

In addition, there are immense reserves of coal. In fact the oil companies themselves have bought up some of the largest coal companies, as well as much uranium, in order to extend their control of energy resources. Today oil companies mine 17 percent of the coal and 25 percent of the uranium in the United States.

The railroad companies also own large amounts of coal.

Continental Oil owns Consolidation Coal, the second-largest coal producer. In 1976, a year of major coal output, Consol produced 50.6 million tons of coal. Yet Consol's reserves in the same year were listed as 14.3 billion tons of coal.

There are enormous reserves of coal. But the American ruling class refuses to invest in the pollution-control equipment needed to convert coal safely into energy, and in the upgrading of the railroads necessary to transport coal.

There is plentiful natural gas and a considerable amount of oil. But these are kept in reserve to a greater or lesser extent as the companies strive to raise gas and oil prices to the limits.

Finally, nuclear energy—the most dangerous industrial enterprise today—is promoted because of the vast profits that lurk in this industry.

Contrived shortages, soaring fuel bills, hazards to workers in the industry and the public at large, and now the ultimate threat of nuclear disaster—this is what capitalist control of the energy industry has brought us.

It is time that energy production was reorganized from top to bottom—under the control of working people, not the private profit drive.

Lessons for the fight against nukes

Out Now! A Participant's Account of the American Movement against the Vietnam War

By Fred Halstead. The dramatic story of the antiwar movement, told by one of its central leaders and organizers. Monad. 759 pp., cloth \$30, paper, \$8.95.

And for reading on the hazards of nuclear power . . .

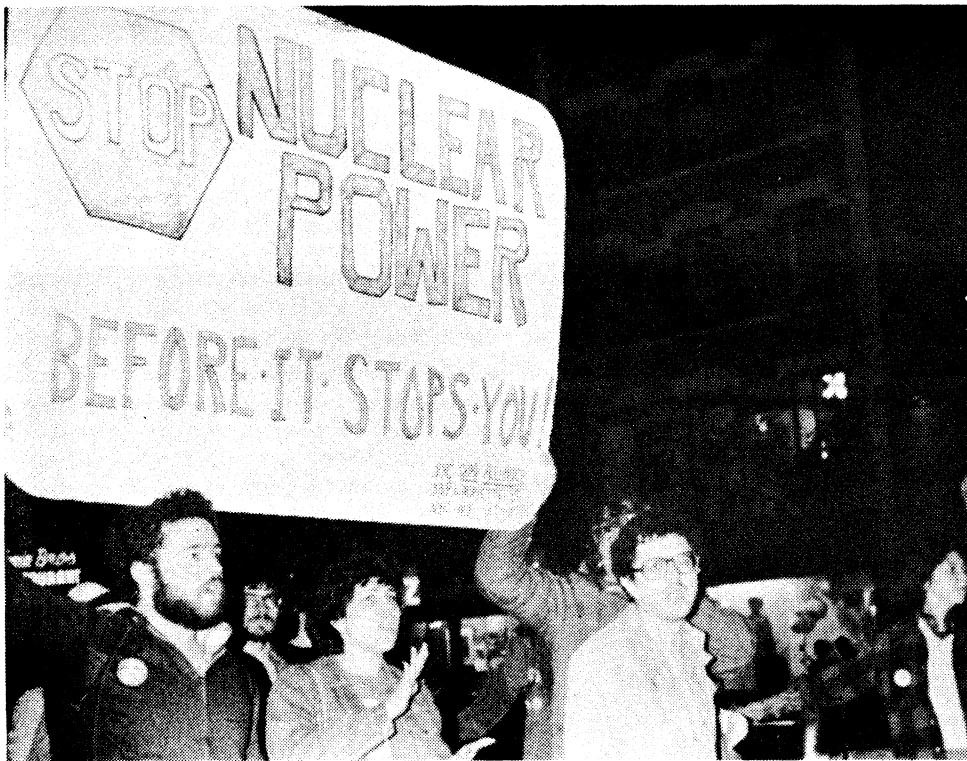
Nuclear Power by Walter Patterson. Penguin Book, 302 pp., \$3.50

The Poverty of Power by Barry Commoner. Bantam Books, 297 pp., \$2.75.

The Silent Bomb, ed. Peter Faulkner. Vintage, 382 pp., \$3.95.

We Almost Lost Detroit by John G. Fuller. Ballantine, 288 pp., \$1.95.

Order from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, New York 10014. Please include \$.50 for postage, \$.75 if order for more than one book.



New York, March 30

Militant/Anne Teesdale

By Osborne Hart

"We all live in Pennsylvania!" chanted 50,000 antinuclear demonstrators at a rally in Hanover, West Germany March 30.

The protest was organized against plans for a nuclear waste dump, but the nuclear accident at the Three Mile Island plant in the U.S. became the automatic focus for the action.

In the United States, antinuclear activists and organizations mounted a rapid response to the events in Pennsylvania. Quickly organized demonstrations and emergency meetings were held in cities across the country.

Antinuclear activists mobilized to express their outrage and to organize immediate actions against nuclear power. Profit-gouging utility companies owning nuclear plants have become targets for protest actions. Activists are also leafleting and holding impromptu rallies at showings of the antinuclear film *The China Syndrome*.

As we go to press, antinuclear activists have organized news conferences, demonstrations, and meetings in more than twenty-five cities in opposition to the continued use of nuclear energy.

• **Connecticut**—On April 7 a major demonstration is planned in Groton, the launching site of the Trident nuclear submarine (the largest nuclear sub in the world).

• **Boston**—The Clamshell Alliance and others mobilized a demonstration of 3,000 on the Boston Commons and marched to the governor's house April 1. The Student Coalition Against Nukes plans an April 4 demonstration.

• **Philadelphia**—A daily vigil at the Philadelphia Electric Company (PEC) will continue until the crisis at the Three Mile Island plant is over. Two hundred demonstrated at the PEC offices on March 30 demanding that PEC shut down its nuclear plants. The Keystone Antinuclear Alliance will picket the PEC board of directors April 4. On April 8, demonstrators will

march on the federal building. On April 22, protesters will rally at the PEC Limerick nuclear power plant in Limerick, Pennsylvania.

• **Chicago/Gary**—One hundred people, including members of United Steelworkers of America locals 1010, 1066, and 6787 participated in a picket on March 31 demanding a halt to construction of the Bailly nuclear power plant. Another action is planned for April 7 at the Bailly site, which is located near the Bethlehem Steel plant.

• **Minneapolis**—150 picketed Northern States Power, calling for the closure of two nuclear power plants.

• **Raleigh, North Carolina**—An emergency meeting of the Kudzu Alliance was held April 1 to plan a picket and other actions against nuclear power.

• **St. Louis**—A demonstration was held at the Callaway nuclear power plant on April 1. A debate on nuclear power April 5 will pit Union Electric (owners of the Callaway plant) against antinuclear activists at Washington University. April 24 St. Louisans for a Safe Environment will protest at Union Electric's stockholders' meeting.

• **Phoenix**—Mobilization for Survival is organizing for an April 7 demonstration at the state capitol demanding that Arizona Public Service stop construction of the power plant outside Phoenix.

• **Detroit**—The Arbor Alliance will picket Detroit Edison April 5.

• **Louisville**—Two hundred demanded a halt to the construction of the Marble Hill nuclear plant March 31. An emergency meeting was held to plan further actions.

• **San Francisco Bay Area**—More than 300 demonstrated March 30 and 31 at Pacific Gas & Electric Company. Activists are demanding shut-down of the Rancho Seco plant.

• **Kansas City, Missouri**—The Kansas City People's Energy Project

Thousands protest 'We all live in Pennsylvania'

picketed the federal building, calling for the closing of the Wolf Creek plant.

Protests are also scheduled this week for: Denver, Toledo, Cleveland, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Albany, Amherst, San Diego, Milwaukee, Albuquerque, New Orleans, and Washington, D.C.

By Bennett Satinoff

NEW YORK—The news March 30 of increased danger at Three Mile Island brought out a quickly built protest of 1,500 people in Washington Square Park.

The protesters held a rally in the park and then marched to the showing of *China Syndrome* in Times Square. Chants of "No more nukes! Shut them down!" and "No more Hiroshimas! No more Harrisburgs!" attracted many onlookers to join the march.

From Times Square, 200 people marched to the TRIGA nuclear reactor at Columbia University. There hundreds of people leaving a campus concert and others from nearby dormitories joined a picket line.

The president of Columbia University, Dr. William J. McGill, was forced to announce that he would "go to the faculty of engineering with a very strong request to not go forward with the reactor—to terminate this development."

TRIGA may be the first nuclear reactor that is a casualty of the Three Mile Island disaster. Students vowed to continue fighting TRIGA until it is dismantled.

The rally and march coincided with a highly successful weekend conference here of the New York SHAD Alliance.

There were over 400 people at the Saturday educational and organizing workshops of the conference. They called a demonstration against Con Edison's nuclear power plant at Indian Point.

The demonstration will take place Friday, April 6, at the headquarters of Con Edison at 14th Street and Irving Place. It will be cosponsored by the New York Mobilization for Survival.

The numbers to call for further information are: NYC SHAD Alliance (212) 533-0796; NYC Mobilization for Survival (212) 673-1808.

Antinuke forums

DETROIT

NO NUKES: AN ACTION PERSPECTIVE. Speakers: Stan Hills, Arbor Alliance and Young Socialist Alliance; Marvin Fried, Safe Energy Coalition of Detroit. Fri., Apr. 8, 7 p.m. 6404 Woodward. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (313) 875-5322.

LOS ANGELES: EAST SIDE

NUCLEAR POWER: WHAT IT IS AND HOW TO STOP IT. Speakers: Dr. Irving Lyon; Lou Martin, South Coast Alliance for Survival; Jim Odling, Alliance for Survival, Socialist Workers Party. Thurs., Apr. 12, 7:30 p.m. 2554 Saturn Ave. Huntington Pk. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (213) 582-1975.

NEW YORK

SOCIALISM AND THE ANTI-NUCLEAR POWER MOVEMENT. Speaker: Paul Mailhot, Young Socialist Alliance National Executive Committee. Wed., Apr. 18, 7 p.m. NYU Loeb Student Center Room 411, 566 LaGuardia Pl., Washington Sq. South. Ausp: YSA. For more information call (212) 533-2902.

OAKLAND-BERKELEY

NO NUKES! A PANEL DISCUSSION. Fri., Apr. 6, 8 p.m. 3264 Adeline St., Berkeley. Donation \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (415) 653-7156 or 261-1210.

PHILADELPHIA

NO TO NUCLEAR POWER: THE THREE MILE ISLAND DISASTER. Speaker: Arnold Weissberg, staff writer for the *Militant*; others. Fri., Apr. 6, 8 p.m. Univ. of Pennsylvania, Houston Hall, 3417 Spruce Street. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (215) 927-4747.

PITTSBURGH

THE CASE AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER: LESSONS FROM HARRISBURG. Speakers: Brian Bergen, Mobilization for Survival; Brett Merkey, USWA Local 12046 and former radiation control technician at the Shippingport nuclear plant; Mike Kocak, member of *Militant* reporting team in Harrisburg. Fri., Apr. 6, 8 p.m. 1210 E. Carson St. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (412) 488-7000.

Against Nuclear Power?

NOW AVAILABLE—A special 'Young Socialist' supplement featuring a report given to the Young Socialist Alliance National Convention on the

dangers of nuclear power and the movement to halt all nukes. Also a statement by the YSA on the Harrisburg disaster. The April 'YS' includes an article on the struggle to get the University of California to sever its ties with the Livermore Labs, where the neutron bomb is being developed.

young socialist
No to nuclear power and weapons!



- ☐ Send me a copy of the *Young Socialist* (30¢ each, 25¢ for bundles).
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The vast majority of people are against the use of a technology that threatens the very existence of human life.

If you want to join the struggle for a nuclear-free world, a world where health and safety are not sacrificed to capitalist profit, you should join the Young Socialist Alliance. For more information, return this coupon to: **YSA National Office, Box 471 Cooper Station, New York, New York 10003.**

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