U.S. Steel, the Saboteur

This newspaper service has received reliable information from veteran UMW negotiators that the U.S. Steel Corporation is leading the "rejection front" inside the BCOA. U.S. Steel, which is said to also be pulling Bethlehem Steel along with it, couldn't give "a good goddamn about coal production, the BCOA or the country...they are purely out for themselves..." Their plan, these sources report, is to prolong the strike to "string out some of the smaller, marginal people in the BCOA" and drive them under. This "British" outlook coheres with U.S. Steel's expressed policy of consorting with the traitors in the Treasury Department to cartelize the shrinking steel industry — the biggest consumers of coal.

On a second level, U.S. Steel is seeking a "show of strength" by business against the labor movement and means to crush the UMW as a lesson for all labor.

"If the BCOA follows U.S. Steel's lead, they are stupider than I thought," said one source. "Half of them would be wiped out...and if they succeed in destroying the UMW, they will destroy coal production in this country."

This isn't the first time that U.S. Steel has conspired with Energy Secretary Schlesinger to help shut down the nation's industrial heartland. The corporation was the biggest booster of Schlesinger's pilot energy conservation project, Operation Pacesetter, in Pittsburgh. Designed as a vehicle to condition an industrial population to drastic conservation of energy, the program has been a failure despite the best efforts of U.S. Steel Board Chairman Edgar Speer.

The White House apparently understands the "U.S. Steel-BCOA problem." According to sources in Congress, Carter's Special Trade Negotiator Robert Strauss has led a "high pressure-high stakes" deployment against the

Rage Against Schlesinger Grows

The growing crisis over the coal strike and collapsing dollar have evoked extreme anger against Energy Department Secretary James Schlesinger and secondarily against Treasury Secretary Werner M. Blumenthal, from prodevelopment spokesmen in Congress, industry, political parties and states hit by the strike. Republican spokesmen told this news service, "Schlesinger and Blumenthal are saboteurs and should be impeached," but followed this with, "Don't quote me on this," indicating that while the sentiment to oust the two British-linked cabinet members is there, the fighting determination to follow through with political action has not yet materialized.

Reflecting the anti-Schlesinger sentiment in Congress, Sen. Harrison Schmitt (R-N.M.) attacked Schlesinger and the Department of Energy (DOE) for attempting to stop technological growth and that this has led to an end to economic growth, in Congressional testimony on Thursday. From the industrial community, John Swearingen, President of Standard Oil of Indiana, similarly attacked Schlesinger for his no-growth policies before a recent conference of the National Association of Manufacturers in Washington D.C. In addition, Schlesinger's role in the coal strike evoked the following response from an energy official from a coal state: "Schlesinger's office is giving us nothing but useless and incorrect information. The DOE has played nothing but a negative role in the crisis."

The pro-growth anti-Schlesinger sentiments are also beginning to surface in the nation's regional press. *The Chicago Tribune* on Tuesday printed an attack on the "New liberalism" by *Tribune* writer Andrew Greeley which praised the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for "Dealing itself out of the no growth liberalism of James Schlesinger and the Department of Energy." "The overwhelming majority of the American people reject quotas, zero economic growth, and the legalization of marijuana," said Greeley, who then described Schlesinger, Warnke and Califano as "Bright-eyed zealots with their body count quotas."

In addition, the St. Louis Globe Democrat published an editorial supporting the Japanese and West German disdain for the economic and energy policies of Blumenthal and the liberals who "want to play out the funny-money game to the end until the bubble bursts and their game destroys the value of the dollar."

Meanwhile rumors are circulating on Capitol Hill that President Carter may be preparing to fire Schlesinger, according to a recent column by Larry Kramer which appeared in the Washington Post. "Some of the more liberal members of the House have been dropping hints that Department of Energy boss James Schlesinger may be on the way out, at the invitation of the White House," Kramer wrote. While Kramer indicated that the reason is that Schlesinger has been secretly lobbying for deregulation, Kramer quoted a White House staffer who said that the White House is upset with Schlesinger for the opposite reason. "Although Powell said that Carter has been pleased with Schlesinger, other White House staffers contradicted that analysis," Kramer wrote. "Said one, privately, 'We are uncomfortable with him. He still hasn't changed his views and doesn't seem willing to compromise.' "