ing foreign markets by a variety of controls imposed by foreign governments to protect their own industries. This situation has reached a point of crisis.

Last year, approximately 93 million tons of residual oil in coal equivalent entered the United States. This total represents a 12.1-percent increase from 1967 and a 125-percent increase from 1959 when import controls were first introduced.

Because of the policies surrounding the administration of the residual oil import program, there is in fact no program. The result has been the accelerating loss of markets for coal along the east coast of the United States. Each day we hear of other consumers who have switched from coal to imported residual and each day the danger of even more conversions becomes more and more acute. The result of this invasion has been twofold:

(*a*) It has reduced the ability of coal to compete along the east coast.

(*b*) The east coast is fast becoming a captive of foreign nations for its fuel supply.

But, there is another and perhaps more dangerous implication behind the increase in foreign oil imports. That is the effect which such imports have on the over-all oil import program and thus the fullest development of our own national resources, especially our coal resources.

It is well known that coal is the basic energy reserve in the United States. It is also well known that coal can be made into oil and other hydrocarbon products.

However, we are at the moment of decision in this area. We can proceed to develop our coal resources for such uses and reap all of the advantages of such development. Or, we can kill the fledgling coal-to-oil industry by overdependence upon cheap foreign oil.

America in her infancy faced a similar dilemma. At that time she chose to develop her own industries rather than to rely solely upon the good will of foreign nations. Such a choice must be made today and the same decision should also be made.

Other nations have learned this lesson well. In nation after nation restrictions have been raised against the import of American goods in favor of domestic industries. To prove our point, we have only to look to the experience of coal which is barred from at least one major industrial nation and restricted in many others. The moral is obvious. We must protect ourselves as other nations are doing, or we will soon lose that strength which flows from our industrial economy.

Finally, there is the question of energy policy.

America is both a major producer and a major consumer of energy. Coal, oil, natural gas and electric energy constitute four of the major industries in our Nation. Each are expected to continue to grow as the energy demand of the nation expands.

America consumes tremendous amounts of energy. The United States consumed in 1967 (the latest year for which figures are available) 2.2 billion tons of energy in coal equivalent. Of that total, 21.9 percent was in the form of coal. The bulk of the energy consumed in this country is produced within our borders. But, in recent years an ever-increasing amount has come from abroad.