

## Campaign 1980 by Kathleen Murphy



### Reagan cancels tour of Europe

Republican presidential candidate Ronald Reagan has suddenly called off a scheduled trip to Europe this month, which was supposed to convince allied leaders that, contrary to rumor, he is a qualified world statesman.

According to campaign sources, Reagan cancelled the tour when top advisors told him "it would take too long" to brief him on what he would need to know to suitably convince European leaders of his competency.

Since his much-publicized gaffe last fall, when he was unable to name the President of France, Reagan's ability to grasp the intricacies of foreign affairs has been widely doubted in European circles.

Some people close to the Reagan campaign report that the real reason behind the cancellation is the bitter fight over foreign policy

now being waged among factions in the Reagan camp.

In fact, in deciding not to go to Europe, Reagan overruled the advice of his main adviser, Richard Allen, who had been deep in preparations for the trip. Allen has become the focus of attacks from Reagan supporters who fear that his views—including support for a military alliance between the U.S. and China—will mean a continuation of Zbigniew Brzezinski's insanity, should Reagan be elected.

These sources tell us that Allen, on a just-concluded trip to Europe, so alienated highly placed officials by condemning Europe's recent Mideast peace initiative that a major effort to retool Reagan along more acceptable lines—including possibly dumping Allen—is now in the works. One group of Reagan advisors is urging him to endorse the European initiative, call for a Palestinian state, and disown the present Israeli government led by Begin. One member of this group recently confided: "Look, there are some real nuts telling Reagan what to do about the Mideast. Edward Teller, for example. He thinks Israel should simply own the Mideast—even if that means goodbye Arab oil."

### Anderson: Queen for a day?

Though John Anderson may ultimately fail in his quixotic quest for the presidency, he sure looks like a leading contender for the "Honorary Gay of the Year" award. The Illinois Congressman, who claims to rely on God's advice for his political policy, wooed gay activists in San Francisco recently while soliciting support for his campaign. Leonard Matlovich, the for-

mer Air Force sergeant discharged from the service for homosexuality, introduced Anderson to the crowd of thousands as a man of "courage in the face of antigay prejudice."

"Never before in United States history has a major candidate for President had the courage to stand up for gay rights," said Matlovich.

Keeping up his image, Anderson told the gays, "Equality extends not only to the question of sex, but it extends to affectional preferences as well."

### Conyers calls for open convention

Michigan Congressman John Conyers, a prominent black Democrat, has added his name to the long list of party members who want to see an open convention this August. Appearing on Atlanta television June 15, Conyers said he "was going to the convention uncommitted for the first time ever, whatever that means, and I support an open convention, whatever that means."

Stating that Carter hasn't lived up to his promises to the black community, Conyers said he will not support Ted Kennedy either. "An open convention would give the Democratic Party a tremendous opportunity" to elect an alternative candidate, Conyers said, with his preference being Fritz Mondale. Asked what he would tell his friends to do in the event of a Carter-Reagan race, Conyers said he'd advise them to back the Citizens Party candidate Barry Commoner. "The party is a new force," he said. "They support economic democracy . . . they're a non-Marxist alternative."