

National News

GOP powwows with Jackson supporters

Republican presidential nominee Ronald Reagan held an extensive foreign policy meeting July 28 in Los Angeles with members of the "hard-line" Committee on the Present Danger (CPD). Those present included Eugene Rostow and Paul Nitze, who are also members of the Coalition for a Democratic Majority and top supporters of a presidential bid by Washington Democratic Senator Henry Jackson.

Rostow and other CPDeers reportedly told Reagan that the United States must have "an unquestioned second-strike capability."

Also present were Reagan's Sinophilic senior foreign policy adviser, Richard Allen, and military adviser Fred Iklé, an advocate of limited nuclear war.

Mr. Rostow, who recently joined the Committee for an Open Convention to promote Jackson's candidacy, told Reagan he is "pleased by both the tone and the substance" of the Republican Party's 1980 platform, and indicated he is keeping all his options open.

League of Women Voters shapes campaign debate

The League of Women Voters has appointed a special panel to decide the criteria for determining which presidential candidates will be invited to participate this fall in its nationally televised debates. Headed by former HUD Secretary Carla Hills and Newton Minow, Federal Communications Commissioner under President Kennedy, the committee is to report to the League's board of trustees Aug. 9. The League will not announce its list of candidates until after the Democratic Convention, however.

Sponsored by the nominally non-partisan League, the debates are the brainchild of the Aspen Institute and

Twentieth Century Fund, two think tanks which have been instrumental in divesting U.S. political campaigns of political substance.

The two collaborated recently on a project on the media's role in the presidential selection process and recommended elimination of the federal law providing equal time for candidates on national broadcasts.

The League's debate committee is composed primarily of individuals affiliated with Aspen and the Fund, including Aspen chairman Robert O. Anderson, Aspen executive Douglass Cater, co-chairman of the Aspen-Twentieth Century project Lee Mitchell, and James Barber of Duke University, who directs a new Center for Communications Policy aimed at training journalists how to increase their influence over politics.

House Dems defend grain embargo

A bipartisan effort in the House of Representatives to overturn President Carter's embargo on exports of U.S. grain to the Soviet Union was defeated July 23 at the hands of powerful House Democrats led by majority leader Jim Wright of Texas, Agriculture Committee chairman Foley of Washington, and Foreign Affairs Committee chairman Clement Zablocki.

Congressmen led by Iowa Democrat Tom Harkin and the rest of the Iowa delegation proposed an amendment to the State, Justice and Commerce Departments' funding authorization bill that would have withdrawn funds for enforcement of the embargo, which began in January. "The grain embargo has not worked," said Harkin. "It has leaked like a sieve." Meanwhile, Harkin declared, U.S. farm income has plunged and the country is on the verge of "economic suicide." The amendment was defeated 279-135.

In a second attempt, Representative Thomas Coleman (R-Mo.) proposed that enforcement funds be cut off unless

the President reestablished the embargo by Oct. 1 on the grounds of national security. It too was defeated. Less than a month ago, President Carter formally granted the giant grain trading companies' overseas branches approval to sell foreign grain to the Soviets.

In arguing against the amendments, Zablocki said that interfering with the embargo would give the impression of "a weak-kneed America" to the Russians. Agriculture Committee chairman Foley called the effort to dismantle the embargo a "fraud on farmers of this country."

Carter campaign makes legal error

A political tract prepared by the Democratic National Committee to discredit John B. Anderson is being distributed to federal employees by Carter administration officials in violation of federal election law, according to an Associated Press story last week.

Federal campaign law prohibits the distribution of political literature advocating the election or defeat of any candidate unless the document states who paid for it.

AP was told that middle-level federal employees were given copies and told to feel free to make photocopies and pass them along to colleagues.

Democratic spokesman Robert Newman, who acknowledged that the material was prepared by the National Committee with the aid of the Carter-Mondale reelection committee, said it was intended as an "internal document" only and characterized the lack of the legally required disclaimer as an "error."

Federal attorney charged with 'conspiracy'

Connecticut Citizens for LaRouche chairman George Geller has charged that state's U.S. Attorney Richard Blu-

Briefly

mental with taking part in a "nation-wide conspiracy against organized labor," according to a July 24 article in the *New Haven Register*.

The Connecticut daily reports that "Geller said the scope of the investigations leading to the indictment of Albert Inorio of Laborers Local 475 was 'so massive' it indicates that 'if the government wants to make a case against someone and is willing to commit money and manhours, they can get you.'"

"Also citing grand jury investigations of Operating Engineers Local 478, Geller said the Justice Department's commitment is to go after labor leaders nationwide to find convictable offenses.

"The Carter policy of credit restriction and no nuclear power has meant widespread opposition to the President's reelection from organized labor and urban political machines," Geller charged. "In response, his Justice Department is probing and indicting every labor leader it can get its hands on. . . ." Geller said, "In every case of the Abscam investigations," another part of the alleged conspiracy, "the victim was a political powerbroker traditionally allied with the labor movement."

Justice Department role in Tennessee riots?

The U.S. Justice Department is implicated in the recent racial violence in Chattanooga, Tenn., according to *EIR's* special weekly publication *Investigative Leads*. The Justice Department has worked through its Community Relations Service division, which has sponsored a Black United Front coalition of "not nonviolent" militants there.

In April the riot potential began with a shotgun assault on a group of black women by the head of the Chattanooga Justice Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, William Church, and two of his followers. The three were immediately arrested by local police.

Tensions turned to riot potential when they were acquitted, despite having

been identified as involved in the shooting. The same method was used to spark the riots in Miami, Florida.

Twenty-four hours later, Jesse Jackson, a federally funded national black leader, and several specialists from the Justice Department's Community Relations Service arrived to begin "crisis mediation" talks with local police and community leaders. An agreement was reached to contain the rioting to a single area of the city, with a tight ring of police and local residents supervising the perimeters.

This arrangement failed to cool the rioting, but it gave the Justice Department a chance to set up local self-policing under crisis conditions. According to *Investigative Leads*, the department's goal is to use racial disturbances as a pretext for imposing federal control on local police agencies and weaken state and city political machines.

Reagan: 'bind the Democratic Convention'

Republican presidential nominee Ronald Reagan told a Los Angeles press conference July 28 that "freeing the delegates to the Democratic National Convention to vote for the nominee of their choice would be unfair to voters who participated in the Democratic primaries."

"It's easy enough to talk about freeing the convention," Reagan said, but those who would do so "ignore one fact. These delegates were chosen in primaries. When you free the delegates, what you are in effect saying is that the people who voted that way have lost their franchise."

Washington sources suggest that Mr. Reagan's sudden pious regard for the "tradition" of Democratic binding rules—which were jerry-rigged by Jimmy Carter's Democratic National Committee in 1978 and have never been voted up by the party as law—have to do with the fact that Mr. Reagan very much wants Mr. Carter as his opponent. Bound delegates would ensure that situation.

● **HENRY JACKSON** met with Ted Kennedy this week to discuss the prospects for an open convention. Sources close to Kennedy who regard Jackson very highly hope a deal can be struck for a Jackson-Kennedy ticket. Kennedy also met secretly with Walter Mondale at the home of New Jersey Governor Brendan Byrne.

● **LYNDON LAROCHE** gave the first of four nationwide pre-convention TV broadcasts the evening of Aug. 1, with a half-hour policy statement on CBS. Larouche stressed the need for a President who, in the Franklin Delano Roosevelt tradition, can genuinely present national problems to the citizenry and hammer out solutions with them. The broadcast also featured American Agricultural Movement president Marvin Meeks' explanation of why farmers' prosperity is in the consumer's interest.

● **PRESIDENT CARTER** told a group of 20 congressmen this week that if they do not want him to help them campaign he will stay away from their electoral activity. All he asks in return is that they give him the Democratic nomination.

● **FORMER SDS** leader Kirkpatrick Sale, author of the book *The Southern Rim*, a polemic against Sunbelt conservatives, is now backing his former nemesis Ronald Reagan. Sale told the Toronto conference of the World Futures Society last week that Sale's soulmates will be part of any Reagan administration. He lauded John McClaughry, a member of the Institute for Liberty and Community, and a Reagan adviser, as an example.

● **EDMUND MUSKIE** should replace Jimmy Carter as the Democrats' 1980 nominee, editorialized the July 29 *London Times*.