

Elephants & Donkeys by Kathleen Klenetsky

Vets jeer Democrats

The hostile reception which Democratic vice presidential candidate Lloyd Bentsen got at the Veterans of Foreign Wars convention Aug. 26, just might erase the smirks which he and Mike Dukakis have been sporting ever since the flap over Dan Quayle's National Guard duty erupted in the media.

Veterans loudly booed and jeered Bentsen when he tried to present Dukakis to them as pro-defense and pro-vet. The hissing—which interrupted Bentsen's speech at least four times—began when he tried to tell his audience that Dukakis is committed to keeping American strong, and got even louder when he claimed that former President Jimmy Carter, rather than President Reagan, had initiated the defense buildup of the early 1980s.

To make matters worse, the booing was initiated by a delegation of veterans from Dukakis's home state of Massachusetts.

Did Dukakis avoid combat duty?

The veterans had every reason to jeer. Not only does Dukakis's position on national defense issues reek of McGovernite liberalism, but he himself was able to avoid possible combat duty during the Korean War through student deferments.

Rep. Gerald Solomon (R-N.Y.), ranking minority member of the House

Veterans' Affairs Committee, has disclosed that Dukakis received three educational deferments, one of which took place eight months before the Korean War ended. Dukakis subsequently enlisted in the Army, and was sent to Korea as part of the United Nations peacekeeping force, but only after hostilities had ceased.

Obviously irritated by Solomon's revelations, an irate Dukakis responded that he had "served his country proudly," but friends and associates have said that Dukakis made it quite clear that he enlisted because he believed that he needed military service on his record to further his political career. Dukakis biographers have commented that he did not appear to like the Army, and that, despite his well-known ambition, he never rose beyond the rank of private.

LaRouche charges on Dukakis hit the press

A Louisiana newspaper has prominently reported charges by *EIR*'s founder, Lyndon H. LaRouche, that Michael Dukakis is a fascist in the Mussolini mold.

The Aug. 18 Shreveport *Journal* carried a page-one story entitled "LaRouche Forces Assail Dukakis at Convention," which reported on the contents of a special *EIR* supplement, "Dukakis: An Objective Assessment," which was circulated at the Republican convention. The supplement was also published as the *Feature* in the Aug. 19, 1988 issue of *EIR*.

The *Journal* noted that in the pamphlet, "LaRouche compares Dukakis with the late Italian dictator Benito Mussolini, saying, 'In the strictest sense of the term, Michael Dukakis is a fascist.'

"He goes on to say, 'The comparison of Mussolini and Dukakis, in these

terms of reference, is notable. Dukakis' policies originated with the same Venetian 'Lombard' circles which assisted in the 1917 Russian Revolution and put Mussolini into power in Italy.' "

The Shreveport paper also reported *EIR*'s assessment that Dukakis is mentally unfit to become President.

Dukakis holds confab with AIDS lobby guru

Governor Dukakis invited a leading sodomy advocate to share the dais with him at a press conference he called in Boston in mid-August to lay out his plans for "fighting AIDS" in Massachusetts.

Larry Kessler, president of the AIDS Action Committee, stood by Dukakis's side as the governor stressed his commitment to barring "discrimination" against persons diagnosed as having AIDS.

Dukakis—who opposes mandatory AIDS testing except in very limited cases—said that the state's anti-AIDS effort will include a rap song, "Stop the Madness," and distribution of T-shirts and buttons featuring the slogan, "AIDS: It's no joke."

Praising the governor's plans, Kessler declared: "A lot of what we have achieved was without federal support. Imagine what we will do with federal support."

Boston's daily press blacked out this display by the Duke of one of his more unholy alliances, but it was reported by the *Boston Ledger*, a pro-AIDS lobby weekly.

Kessler is part of the most radical faction of the friends of sodomy. After legislation to supply drug users with "clean needles" was defeated in Massachusetts, Kessler called for supporters to defy the state's laws and provide the needles themselves.