

Trudeau Outflanking Rockefeller — So Far

Former Progressive Conservative Party leadership contender Jack Horner crossed the floor of the Canadian House of Commons this week to join the ruling Liberal Party. According to press reports, Prime Minister Trudeau lauded the move as a significant strengthening of the Liberal Party's relationship to western Canada and indicated he would award Horner a cabinet post as Minister without Portfolio.

Trudeau has been on a "national unity" organizing tour of the western provinces in an effort to outflank Rockefeller-Trilateral Commission organizing to balkanize Canada. Horner, until now an Alberta-based Conservative MP, is a longstanding opponent to zero-growth Joe Clark, the head of the PC, and led the PC opposition to Robert Stanfield, who elbowed former

Prime Minister John Diefenbaker out of the party's top post in 1967.

The Trudeau tour and Horner's appointment mark a significant shift in focus in Canada's fight for "national unity" — away from Quebec and toward the western provinces — which took shape in the weeks following the Toronto Liberal Party conference. Trudeau is demanding that Parti Quebecois (PQ) be turned away by provincial leaders unless the provincial leaders agree to frame discussions within a context of a united Canada. Trudeau's tour follows an adjacent tour through the Western provinces by PQ spokesman Morin who promised PQ support to western francophones demanding language rights and independence. Morin's address to one Manitoba group prompted a demand for an official

CSIS: Terrorism Could Bring Canadian Unity

The following is an exclusive interview with a representative of the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies Canada desk.

Q: What do you anticipate developing out of the current situation around Quebec?

A: I never talk about Quebec! Actually each side, Ottawa and Quebec, are waiting for the other side to trigger the confrontation. Quebec can find nothing in the November vote to indicate strong support for separation and Ottawa isn't biting. The language policy has upset a number of people, but Levesque, in order to win the referendum must first have the confrontation.

Q: But has there not been concern within the Liberal Party ranks that Trudeau was not flexible enough in his response to the Quebec situation?

A: There was some concern that his speech in Washington would be used to lay down the gauntlet, but in fact there is nothing which Trudeau can gain by the Quebec issue. Also, the Progressive Conservatives really have no alternative to what Trudeau is putting forward.

Q: What about the possibility of someone like John Turner taking over the reins from Trudeau?

A: Liberal Party people will tell you that the best course of action for Trudeau is to resign now and let the party select a leader to run in the next election. On the other hand there is no indication that he will do this. He showed that in one visit to D.C. he could raise his popularity by 8 percent — if he can do that then — well, the situation may be much more flexible than we anticipated!

Q: What if Levesque holds back — will he lose control?

A: The popularity of the PQ currently depends upon Levesque's personal appeal and will dip if extreme elements come to the fore.

Q: What about the possibility of a Belfast-type situation developing, independently of the PQ per se?

A: Terrorism would be the best of all circumstances for Ottawa — then Ottawa *has* to act to reinstate the 1970 war measures action. There is always the possibility of radical elements — but that could be the thing that moves Quebec and Ottawa back together. It is a qualitatively different situation now than in 1969-70. A number of conservatives would like to see such an eventuality — a reinstatement of military rule unifying the country.

Q: If not Quebec, what *is* the most important problem in connection with the Canadian dollar?

A: There are many factors: inflation, the number of strikes, the labor movement, the growing U.S.-Canadian gap. The latter is a psychological problem, in great part due to the perceived needs of "sovereignty" some years ago, but "sovereignty" has a high cost! You may find a greater push for autonomy in the western provinces than in Quebec in the near term. You have the possibility of the "Ottawa-provincial-Washington triangle confrontation." No one wants to talk about it here. If you do, you are accused of interfering into the internal affairs of Canada or of advocating separation!