

'Truman Project' Outed at DLC Confab

by Anton Chaitkin

The Democratic Leadership Conference (DLC) put on display, for a limited audience at its national convention, its pro-fascist initiative: Use Harry Truman's image to crush Franklin Roosevelt's legacy in the Democratic Party.

This was the notorious July 24 Denver meeting, which the media reported only as the place where Hillary Clinton called for "tuition credits," in her speech on "The American Dream," while avoiding any discussion of the world or national crises. A dismal air hung over the meeting. No one was talking politics, or about much else. And while the DLC claimed that "more than 374 state and local elected officials from around the country are attending the Democratic Leadership Council's annual conference," spokesmen for the Denver Hyatt Regency hotel said there were no more than 200-250 attendees.

The meeting's crucial first panel, its policy presentation on the current war rampage, went unreported.

Former DLC chairman Sen. *Evan Bayh* (Ind.) gave the keynote, entitled, "With All Our Might," to frame the discussion on the need for Democrats to outdo Bush-Cheney in extending the global war against Islam. Responding to Bayh were *Rachel Kleinfeld*, founder of the Truman National Security Project (exposed in the July 21 *EIR*: Jeffrey Steinberg, "DLC Neo-Cons Spit on Franklin Roosevelt's Grave"), and another speaker on war against jihad.

This panel, and the title of Bayh's speech, reprised the book that the DLC published earlier this year, *With All Our Might: A Progressive Strategy for Defeating Jihadism and Defending Liberty*. The DLC published the book through its Progressive Policy Institute (PPI), whose most important director is Felix Rohatyn.

The book, the conference panel, and the Truman Project are one and the same initiative.*

Buckleyites: Youth are Truman Democrats

That book's final chapter, "The 9/11 Generation," was written by Rachel Kleinfeld and Mathew Spence, the two co-directors of the Truman National Security Project. The authors claim that the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks shaped the views

* The moderator of the Bayh-Kleinfeld panel was PPI president Will Marshall, who edited the book; Marshall is a board member of the Truman National Security Project, as is Ann-Marie Slaughter, who co-authored the book. Editor Marshall thanks PPI foreign/security-studies director Steven Nider for "helping inspire and shape this book"; Nider is a Fellow of the Truman National Security Project.

of today's young adults, making them so right-wing, that Rooseveltian ideals are gone, replaced by permanent war and the economics of pure selfishness. In a startling conclusion, they hail the guidance to political youth of the Synarchist fascist William F. Buckley—by no coincidence the most important early sponsor of DLC star, Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman.

Here are excerpts from that chapter:

"[T]oday's young . . . are more concerned about . . . security threats, more comfortable with the use of force, and more in favor of free trade than their elders. . . . [H]alf say that free trade has . . . helped their personal financial situation—indicating a personal stake in free trade that is likely to last. . . . This generation knows it cannot expect job stability—instead, they value options. Expanding trade means more options and lower prices as buyers. And . . . they know that they will be steady consumers throughout their lives. Thus, the effects of trade on prices are likely to affect young people more than the effects of outsourcing on any particular job they might hold. . . .

"Their views resemble . . . the muscular, values-driven policies of our Greatest Generation leaders like President Harry Truman. The natural home for a new generation of young people with a world-view similar to President Truman's should rightfully be in Truman's party. But Democrats have drifted. . . . To return our party to its own traditions, a group of young Democrats have joined to form the Truman National Security Project. . . .

Down on the 'Raunch'

"How can Democrats offer a national security message to inspire and tap into the enormous political power of voters under thirty? In the late 1960s, when liberalism seemed to be the dominant ideology of the future, a group of young dissidents gathered on William F. Buckley's ranch [in Connecticut] to hammer out a credo of conservatism. They articulated guiding principles—lower taxes, limited government, and strong defense—that sustained the movement for years. We now face this situation's mirror image: and it is time for young progressives in the September 11 Generation to do the same.

". . . What would the September 11 Generation's ideology look like? The polling data about specific issues—from free trade to the military—may paint a discouraging picture of a conservative generation soon to be lost to the Democratic Party. . . . The September 11 Generation is coming to political power. . . . The Truman Democratic movement is creating a new home for this new set of beliefs within the Democratic Party."

Lyndon LaRouche remarked that this DLC initiative is a "Tween jump." Instead of dancing by jumping on their legs, they "bounce on the top of their skulls." As for William F. Buckley's ranch, LaRouche said "he does have a lot of *raunch*. He is steeped in it. It is an antedeluvian version of Crawford ranch, which is a desert. This is a swamp version."