

# Mondale Moves To Sabotage Camp David, Carter-Congress Relations

Once again, Vice-President Walter Mondale has been caught red-handed in a conspiracy to undermine the Carter presidency. According to reliable sources, the Minnesota Fabian is not only chiefly responsible for manipulating his boss into the weird "get tough

## THE ADMINISTRATION

with Congress" campaign, a campaign that is already bringing the President into sharp conflict with some of his most important allies on the hill, but Mondale is also collaborating on an almost day-to-day basis with the Zionist Lobby to sabotage next month's fateful Camp David summit.

The first maneuver could destroy the President. The second could destroy the world.

### *Carter "Gets Tough"*

Carter's new "Operation Hardline," no doubt undertaken in a misguided effort to counter his "soft and ineffective" image, was announced last week by Agriculture Secretary Robert Bergland, a long-time crony of Mondale's. At a breakfast meeting for reporters, Bergland vehemently attacked Democratic Congressmen who oppose the President's proposals, calling them "bed-wetters" and "cheap-shots"; he then declared, "I think Carter will take on Congress." "This must be done," he added. "Absolutely yes, there is no question of it."

According to Godfrey Sperling, chief Washington correspondent for the *Christian Science Monitor* (whose ties to the British Round Table are a matter of public record), Bergland also announced that the White House was considering political reprisals against such Congressmen, including patronage and campaign-funding cutoffs. Moves of that type would guarantee a possibly irrevocable split between Carter and Congressional Democrats.

An aide to Bergland subsequently informed this newsservice that the Agriculture Secretary had made his remarks without prior White House approval or even knowledge. The aide also reported, however, that Vice-President Mondale enthusiastically favored such

an approach, and in fact had already been attempting it himself.

The Washington Post moved immediately to support the Mondale-Bergland strategy of setting Carter on a collision course with Congress. In its August 17 edition, it ran a pair of editorials: the first congratulating Carter for "getting tough," the second outlining a scenario for a knock-down, drag-out battle over the Administration's energy and other legislation which would necessitate a post-election "lame-duck" session of Congress.

### *Carter Falls Into Trap*

Carter and his loyalists on the White House staff appear to have fallen straight into the trap. At his Aug. 17 press conference, the President announced he would veto a \$36 billion weapons appropriations bill because it allocated \$2 billion for a nuclear aircraft carrier the Administration opposed. Carter also threatened to veto other Congressional legislation, including the tax bill; roll back approval of public works-funded water projects; and impose import quotas on oil if the universally detested, Schlesinger-audored energy program is not passed.

Meanwhile, the Aug. 23 *Washington Post* quoted officials at the Office of Management and Budget saying that at least 30 bills, including appropriations covering the departments of Health, Education, and Welfare; Agriculture; Interior; and Transportation are in danger of being vetoed by Carter unless they are substantially altered to conform to the Administration's "budget restraint" policy.

So far, the "get tough" program has worked just as Mondale and his cohorts intended. The President's veto of the arms bill immediately drew an angry response from Senate Armed Services Committee chairman John Stennis (D-Miss.), who said the President had been fed "false facts" by his advisors, and vowed a Congressional override.

Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D-W. Va.) — whose support and cooperation are crucial to maintaining a working relationship between Carter and Congress — was also forced to publicly caution the President against the folly of his new approach.

Nevertheless, a special task force headed by

Mondale's chief of staff, Richard Moe, is now meeting daily, ostensibly to map out a strategy for rounding up votes to sustain Carter's defense appropriations veto. But sources say that Mondale and national security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski will play leading roles in "selling the Administration's case" — casting the White House in as provocative a posture as possible. According to the *Washington Post*, Mondale has already gotten into the act, hosting 150 businessmen at the White House Aug. 23 to garner their support for the veto.

The chief irony of the situation is that the issues on which Carter has chosen to act aggressively are either irrelevant in the long run — like the \$2 billion aircraft carrier appropriation — or, like the energy program, completely inimical to the nation's vital interests — and wildly unpopular to boot.

#### *Mondale Vs. Mideast Peace*

Mondale's attempt to disrupt Carter's already fragile relations with Capitol Hill is no mere matter of political infighting, but part of a broader attempt by London-centered forces to prevent movement by Carter in a positive policy direction. This is nowhere more clear than in the case of the Camp David summit whose failure would constitute not only a mortal blow to Carter's prestige, but would lead almost inevitably to a major new conflagration in the Mideast and probable world war. Yet Mondale is working zealously to doom the summit before it begins.

According to Burton Josephs, executive director of the Anti-Defamation League — the foremost British-run "Zionist Lobby" organization — he has been meeting with the Vice President on a frequent basis to discuss the Mideast situation. The Vice-President, Josephs enthusiastically told an interviewer (see below), has been having "a lot of input" into the Administration's Mideast policy, and is determined to achieve two goals: getting the Administration to back off from its commitment to the October 1977 U.S.-Soviet joint communiqué and its related support for an independent Palestinian state. If Mondale and his Zionist Lobby cronies are successful, the Mideast will go up in flames.

—Kathleen Murphy

## ADLER: Mondale's Role: In Mideast Policy

*The following interview with Burton Josephs, executive director of the Anti-Defamation League, was made available to the Executive Intelligence Review this week.*

*Q: I understand that you are a good friend of Vice-President Mondale. I would like to know, in that light,*

*what you think about the role he has played in shaping Administration Middle East policy?*

A: Oh yes, indeed, he is a good friend of mine, a longtime friend, it goes back to when he was Attorney General of Minnesota. As to his Middle East policy, well of course it is the government's policy. But I believe that it has been influenced in a major measure by Mondale. Mondale has better relations with the Jewish community, he handles those relations with a great deal of skill. As a protégé of Hubert Humphrey, he understands the intricacies of the problem. Jimmy Carter had few relations with the Jewish community when he got into the White House and he has limited contact with them now.

*Q: What role is Mondale playing in regard to the Camp David meeting? And to what degree is Carter going to support Sadat there?*

A: He is having an increasing role. The comments from the Jewish community warning that Carter is backing Sadat are alarmist. I think there is a far greater degree of even-handedness from the Administration. The administration made some bonefaced policy statements that they are now revoking. The joint statement with the Soviets was a bonefaced statement. The statement on a Palestinian homeland was a bonefaced statement. Now they have learned to handle themselves better.

*Q: Do you think that Mondale played a major role in changing this policy from the administration?*

A: Yes I do. He very much was a part of it. The State Department did the joint statement, there was no reason to bring the Soviets in. Mondale made himself felt forcefully. Mondale is part of the upper counseling group. For the Camp David meeting he will not have an outfront role, when the president is there he sits back and lets him have the stage. But privately . . .

*Q: What do you think about the way that Mondale has been campaigning all over the country? Do you think he will help the administration get support — and what about his own presidential ambitions?*

A: He will definitely be a campaign strength. He handles himself with graciousness. In fact he is a better campaigner than the President.

I don't expect him to run for the presidency in 1980 because the President will run. Of course if the President decides not to run . . .

*Q: How long have you known the Vice-President?*

A: I know him even from before he was campaign manager for Humphrey. His destiny was stamped . . . he is a great guy. He was at a reception I was at last week; he pulled me aside because he had several important things to discuss. The time before that that I saw him we spent much more time together, an hour and a half. He will be coming out here the weekend before Labor Day again and I will see him then.