

had also received funding from World Jai-Alai, a "legalized gambling" operation that is one of Meyer Lansky's better known fronts.

Timilty made a great show of returning all these funds, to little avail. From the very outset of the campaign, his "image" had been connected to organized crime, Kennedy-machine elements in a variety of different ways.

At the start of the campaign, legislation to legalize gambling in the state had been introduced by Kennedy associate Sam Vitale. Timilty simultaneously called for a luxury hotel project in Boston, a transparent call for a casino complex. The charges to this effect by candidate Sherman, in particular, caused Timilty to make a public statement opposed to legalization of gambling.

Later in the campaign, a bill stipulating stiff penalties for drug users went to the floor of the legislature. Timilty publicly opposed it. Sherman did not fail to point out that his U.S. Labor Party had drafted the bill.

The state legislature was reflecting the political mood of the voters in other ways. Graham Lowry, a colleague of Sherman's in the U.S. Labor Party, and Lucy Forti, who heads the Massachusetts Concerned Citizens Against Drugs, submitted legislation requiring every school to conduct surveys on the extent of drug use in the school; to submit regular progress reports on drug-use; and to institute antidrug curricula in every school. The bill was overwhelmingly passed by the state senate, even as the state's foremost representative in Washington, Edward Kennedy, was introducing legislation that would make drug-use no longer a crime.

In a similar way, the Massachusetts legislature sent a resolution to the President and Congress condemning the efforts of the International Monetary Fund to force Third World nations to produce marijuana and other drugs as "cash crops" for export. In Colombia, the nation first on the IMF target-list, advocates of the drug-export economy are open about Massachusetts Senator Kennedy's collaboration to legalize "drug-imports" to the U.S.—the very program that elected Massachusetts lawmakers denounced officially.

The handwriting was already on the wall for Kennedy-man Timilty when reports came in that a Kennedy-backed Hartford slate had been defeated badly. Timilty, when he hears of the Hartford and New Haven victories by anti-drug forces, was heard to exclaim to another candidate: "Geez, what heppened? We were smashed!" A few days later, in Boston itself, Timilty was "smashed."

### Test of strength that failed

## Cleveland machine can't get out votes

In April of this year, the Cuyahoga County (Cleveland) Democratic Party leadership committed an extraordinary political blunder that would bear its fruits six months later. During that month, the Cuyahoga County Democratic Committee held a convention under the chairmanship of county Democratic leader Tim Hagan and became the first in the nation to endorse a presidential bid by the still unannounced Senator Edward Kennedy.

That announcement proved not to be the political boon it was expected to be for the primary campaign of Kennedy supporter and Mayor Dennis Kucinich. In spite of the full backing of the core of Cuyahoga County's Democratic machine—the most powerful in the state of Ohio—and the regional leadership of the United Autoworkers, Kucinich was trounced by a Republican in the Oct. 2 nonpartisan primary race—the first test of strength for the Kennedy machine in a major U.S. city.

In a city with a seven to one registered Democratic majority among voters, Kucinich took a bare 28.7 percent of the vote in the four-man race, losing to Republican George Voinovich, Ohio's Lieutenant Governor, who polled 37.5 percent. These results were almost precisely the reverse of the expectations of the Kucinich poll takers.

The two candidates will face off in the November general elections. Voinovich is favored to win.

As in other setbacks for the urban machines behind Ted Kennedy, the Kucinich defeat was the result of a de facto coalition between the white ethnic and black communities unhappy with the mayor's urban policies—policies that have pushed Cleveland to the brink of collapse.

Across the board, the primary results show an erosion of liberal support from all voting blocs in Cleveland. Among the white ethnic community of primarily East European ancestry—hitherto the strongest Kucinich supporters—the mayor lost some 25 percent of his support. Among the black community, the drop was nearly 40 percent.

The black vote went to Basil Russo who waged a strictly anti-Kucinich campaign. Although Russo did not win a place on the general election ballot, his primary returns are a clear black vote of no confidence in the Democratic machine and its mayor. Russo's

campaign was endorsed by every black leader in the city—with the sole exception of Congressman Louis Stokes, brother of former Mayor Carl Stokes.

### Who backed Kucinich

What makes the Kucinich defeat most striking is not the lop-sided vote totals. Defeated was the Ohio Kennedy machine which, with the reported assistance of organized crime elements, had thrown its “vote-getting” weight behind the incumbent.

Ohio Senator Howard Metzenbaum, a public backer of a Kennedy presidential bid, was pivotal in Kucinich’s victory in the 1977 mayoral race with his political endorsement. Word has it that Metzenbaum’s own road to the top was greased by friendship with Detroit’s Max Fisher, who began his own career with the rum-running “Purple Gang,” and other alleged Midwest drug and pornography figures.

Metzenbaum’s political machine includes the most corrupt elements in the city. Among his associates, contributors and close personal advisors are Claude Blair, director of the First National City Bank of Cleveland. Blair shares—with Max Jacobs, a known associate of racketeers and drug traffickers, and Mossad agent General Julius Klein—ownership of Airborne Airfreight Company. That company recently became embroiled in a scandal when charges appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* that the airline company which handles so-called time-sensitive documents for regional banks and the Cleveland Federal Reserve was also involved in the shipment of narcotics.

A major stockholder in Airborne Airfreight, J. M.

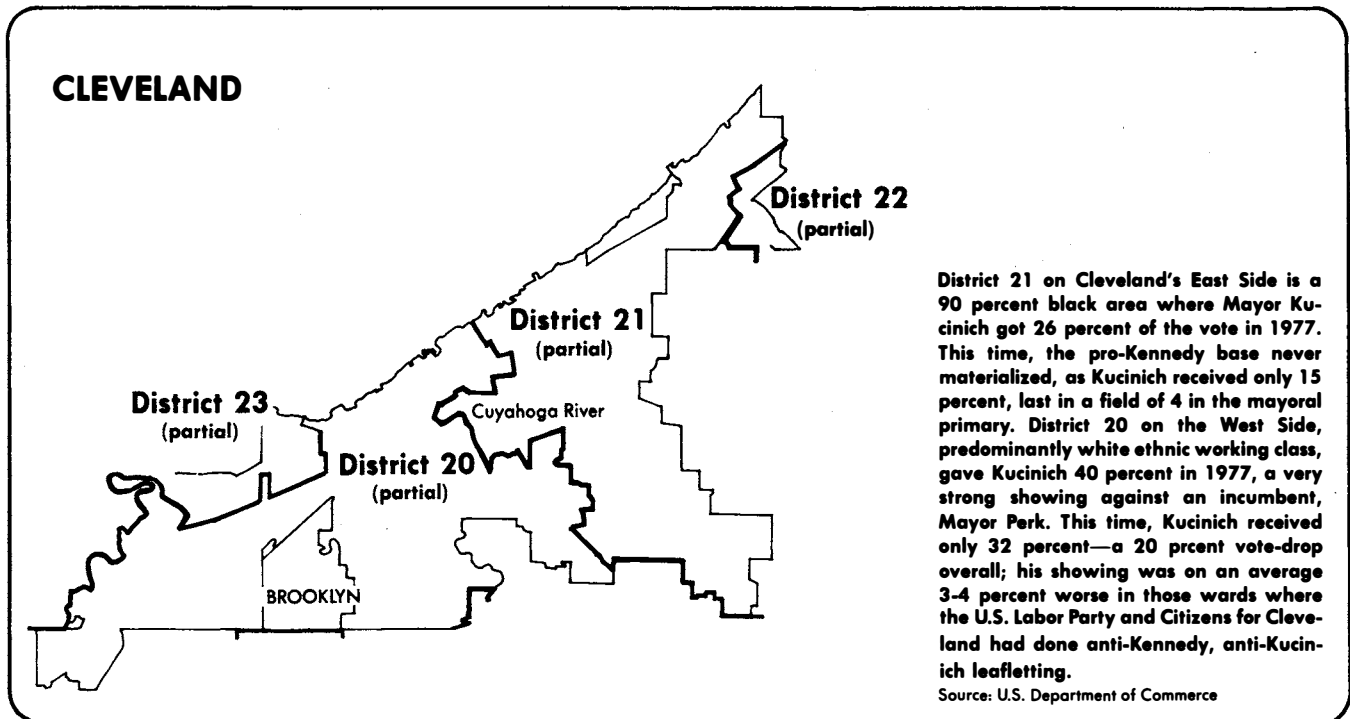
Kaplan, is another of Metzenbaum’s associates. He is the director of the tax-exempt J. M. Kaplan Fund, the “radical-liberal” financial agent for the “left” side of the Kennedy machine, including the terrorist linked Institute for Policy Studies and the “Clamshell Alliance,” planners of the recent Seabrook antinuclear demonstration.

Another associate is Ruben Sturman, who is the director of Sovereign News Service, Inc., reputedly the largest distributor of pornographic material in the world, operating in 40 countries and every U.S. state. Not the most reputable of associates.

### How Kucinich was brought down

With the sheer weight of the Kennedy machine behind him and the overwhelming number of Democrats in Cleveland, Kucinich would have won the nonpartisan primary—were it not for a very well organized campaign against him by Citizens for Cleveland. This nonpartisan group, bringing together traditional Democrats, Republicans, the U.S. Labor Party, and independents, circulated throughout the city the documentation of Kucinich’s organized crime connections. This documentation will be included in a pamphlet scheduled for release before the November general election.

During the primary campaign, Citizens for Cleveland precinct workers reached tens of thousands of Clevelanders through three leaflets on just who is behind their mayor. The single most effective leaflet, a spokesman for the group told this magazine, was the one which detailed Kucinich’s role in a major municipal scandal. A garbage collection contract had been ille-



gally awarded to a private company which was not authorized by the state to process garbage into Cleveland's own dump and which charged the financially strapped city \$2 million more than estimated.

The issue is not one of "cost efficiency" or better municipal services per se. The garbage scandal became a rallying point for Clevelanders angry at policies that netted the city a \$10 million deficit and nearly drove the city over the brink of bankruptcy. Like his cohort in Chicago, Mayor Jane Byrne, another Kennedy backer, Kucinich opened Cleveland's door to organized crime, drugs and pornography. To Clevelanders, garbage is what their city would become if Kucinich and his policy were not stopped.

The illegal contract award resulted in the reshuffling of garbage from one municipal storage site to another. Garbage traveled through the streets of Cleveland and the neighboring suburbs without coming one step closer to final disposal or processing.

Citizens for Cleveland precinct workers took the leaflet, titled "Dennis Kook-cinich—Candidate of the Fat Cats" and featuring a cartoon of the mayor reclining on a pile of rat-infested garbage grasping \$100 bills, into the neighborhoods where the mayor's support had been the strongest. The message:

"The kook is dumping a pile of garbage on the citizens of Cleveland again ...

"Dennis is responsible for Cleveland's fiscal crisis and we have the facts to prove it. He has siphoned off millions of dollars from Cleveland's budget....

"Thousands of rats are pouring out from the Ridge Pond area ... the city is paying close to \$8 million to Ohio Refuse Company, when last July 9, Judge Angelotta ruled that the contract was illegal....

"Dennis Kucinich is the candidate of the Fat Cats."

Citizens for Cleveland spokesmen report that upwards of 80,000 copies of this leaflet—released only four days before the election—were distributed in Kucinich strongholds. These areas, chiefly white ethnic working class neighborhoods, have supported Kucinich on the basis of his nominal opposition to busing, an issue into which Kucinich ward-healers injected explicitly racist overtones.

Many now-former Kucinich supporters said "no more" when Citizens for Cleveland workers told them that radical liberal Kennedyites Tom Hayden and Jane Fonda energetically endorsed Kucinich's "good positions"—an endorsement that launched the campaign slogan: "Kucinich is in bed with Hanoi Jane."

Citizens for Cleveland received calls from 600 Clev-

## Cleveland

Percent of vote, selected wards

	Ward	Voinovich 1979 primary	Kucinich			
			1979 primary	1979 recall vote	1977 primary	1977 mayoral election
<b>West Side</b>	2	39	41	64	46	67
	4	60	22	42	28	49
	5	40	47	50	43	63
	6	42	38	64	48	67
	7	40	43	62	47	64
<b>East Side</b>	9	39	43	62	46	64
	14	37	45	69	57	69
	15	32	45	65	28	64
	22	45	39	57	43	62
	23	37	44	72	42	66

elanders who wanted the straight facts on Kucinich. On the day of the primary, support for Kucinich in these areas dropped by one-quarter to one-third below pre-election estimates and even below the results in similar neighborhoods not reached by Citizens for Cleveland.

#### **Total rout**

The Oct. 2 primary has left the Cuyahoga County Democratic machine in a shambles. Leading Democratic city figures are jumping from Kucinich's "bandwagon." Even the pro-Kucinich *Cleveland Plain Dealer* reported on Oct. 3 that Democratic County Commissioner Sweeney and Sheriff McFaul will cross party lines and vote for Republican Voinovich in the November general election. Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakes will "probably" endorse Voinovich as well. County Treasurer Gaul and Commissioner Feighan will remain neutral. Even the man whose early endorsement of Kennedy was to translate into electoral rout, party chairman Hagan, dubbed Kucinich "not a Democrat."

With a seven to one Democratic Party edge and with a well-established network of UAW regional political operatives and shady dealers behind the local machine, we are forced to ask: if the Kennedy machine couldn't carry Cleveland, what city can they win?

### Where it all began

## Connecticut launches anti-Kennedy backlash

Voters in Connecticut's two largest cities repudiated pro-Kennedy candidates that local media had dubbed "heavily favored" in primary elections Sept. 11. In both cases, the winning candidates represented a majority coalition of anti-liberal white ethnic strata and black and Hispanic citizens who solidly oppose drugs, related organized crime activity like "legalized gambling," and the "pick and shovel" remedies for urban decay and unemployment advocated by the Kennedy supporters.

Voters in Hartford, a city of 150,000 which is the state capital and often called "the insurance capital of the world," turned back an attempt by Deputy Mayor Nick Carbone to unseat Democratic Mayor George Athanson in the primary election. Carbone had been

In the Oct. 2 nonpartisan primary race for mayor of Cleveland, Mayor Kucinich was trounced by George Voinovich in the mayor's voter stronghold in the west side: 39 percent to 46 percent. The west side of Cleveland is predominantly East European, largely employed in the auto and steel industries of the Cleveland area.

The trend line of the chart above shows the collapse of Kucinich's support over the last two years—from the 1977 primary and mayoral election to this year's recall vote and primary. Kucinich's vote—from primary to primary—fell substantially in every white ethnic ward but one.

This trend is made more dramatic by the fact that where Citizens for Cleveland leafleted door-to-door, Mayor Kucinich received 10 percent fewer votes than in wards, demographically similar, where no leafleting was conducted.

Wards 4, 6, 7, 9, and 22 (Kucinich strongholds) were targeted for door-to-door leafleting; wards 2

and 5 were more sporadically leafleted. Kucinich lost approximately one-sixth of his projected vote total in those wards targeted by Citizens for Cleveland, averaging 37 percent of the vote. In those wards not targeted, Kucinich averaged 44 percent.

A similarly significant pattern emerges from an analysis of the returns in Cleveland's east side. Of the four white ethnic wards in the east side, only ward 22 was targeted and it was the one ward where Kucinich lost to Voinovich.

In the predominantly black wards of Cleveland, Mayor Kucinich came in a poor third. Capturing 43 percent of the vote in these wards was Basil Russo, the candidate of the anti-Kucinich, Forbes City Council black political machine. Behind Russo, with an amazing 25 percent of the black vote, is George Voinovich, a candidate relatively unpopular in the black wards. Kucinich, meanwhile, polled 15 percent of the black vote, a 40 percent drop from his 1977 returns.