

nications Act that *all* candidates for the presidency have 'equal time' ... has served to reduce the opportunity of the public to see and hear the most significant candidates." (Emphasis in original.) That is, candidates designated "insignificant" by Aspen should not be nationally televised, and therefore not be national candidates. Federal law be damned.

Citizens for LaRouche reported this week that *Des Moines Register* executive editor James Gannon, when a Democratic debate in Iowa was still scheduled, told them, "I am not going to put Mr. LaRouche on the debate, I do not recognize him as a significant candidate," even though the Iowa debate was to have been the only nationally-televised debate of the campaign and LaRouche has just become only the third candidate to receive Federal Matching Funds. Gannon cited the so-called "Aspen ruling" of the FCC, in which the Aspen Institute "in the public interest" in 1976 won from the FCC the right of the national networks to broadcast presidential debates *without* being subject to federal "equal time" provisions if the debate is being sponsored by some other organization—like Gannon's *Des Moines Register*.

### Extent of the corruption

The Task Force's tainting of the presidential election process may extend well beyond the networks and disparate candidates' campaign committees. Both the Republican and Democratic National Committees were involved in the Task Force's 1973 report "Presidential Television," a book authored by Newton Minow, the Task Force's first report on the subject. Advisors to Minow on the project included Joseph Califano, then General Counsel to the Democratic National Committee, until recently Carter's Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, and now rumored to be joining the Kennedy Campaign. Also an advisor was Lyn Nofziger, then Deputy Chairman of the Republican National Committee and until recently, with the Reagan presidential campaign. The two national committees are still reported to be in touch with the Task Force.

Also influenced by the Task Force apparently is the prestigious League of Women Voters, whose Chairman and Vice-Chairman Ruth Hinerfeld and Elizabeth Dribben were consultants to the Task Force's "With the Nation Watching." Indeed, the League had been receiving funding for its presidential debates program from the Twentieth Century Fund and the Markle Foundation, the two main financial backers of the Aspen-Twentieth Century Fund Task Force, since they funded the League's 1976 Carter-Ford Debates. Task Force Chairman Aspen's Douglass Cater told EIR this week that he is directly in touch with the League through Ms. Hinerfeld, who he noted is not planning any nationally-tele-

vised presidential primary debates that would counter the Iowa-centric *Des Moines Register* affair. Now that the Democratic side of that debate plan has been cancelled—President Carter withdrew—what the League will be told to do by Cater is unclear.

Also involved with the Task Force is the FCC itself, the mandated "fairness" arbiter in the case. Henry Geller, then the General Counsel of the FCC, was on the 1973 advisory board to the Task Force when it produced Minow's "Presidential TV." Less directly but significant is the FCC interface with another Aspen "sister" task force, the Aspen Task Force on Communications Policy, which is also headed by Douglass Cater, and which elaborates Aspen's more general communications programs. Members of the Communications Task Force include Stanley Besen, the Co-Director for Network Study of the FCC; Henry Geller, the FCC General Counsel mentioned above who is now U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications; and Forrest Chisman, Leland Johnson, and William Lucas, all currently officials of the U.S. Department of Commerce National Telecommunications Information Administration.

## New Hampshire's primary blacked out

The New Hampshire primary, traditionally the earliest significant presidential primary, scheduled for Feb. 26, 1980, has always been a leading national political event. As a result, the voters of the state have traditionally viewed it as their duty to go out, educate themselves in detail as to the programs and moral quality of the candidates, and vote. This primary, however, the Aspen Institute-Twentieth Century Task Force on the Presidential Debates is planning to deemphasize and virtually black out. They have the collaboration of the national networks CBS, ABC, and NBC.

It is the judgment of this publication that the only possible reason the Aspen Institute and collaborators could have for this unprecedented action is that their rabidly environmentalist directors abhor the campaign of Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, the nation's leading pronuclear, protechnology candidate, who has made the state the centerpiece of his national campaign.

The news that the New Hampshire primary is not important began to break in the *New York Times* in late September. Just after the LaRouche campaign gathered

steam, an op-ed by Aspen seminar-frequenter Tom Wicker stated that the New Hampshire primary is "insignificant and overated." On Dec. 2, the *Times'* Tom Reston added that "Both President Carter and Senator Kennedy have tagged Iowa as their first real test ... The Carter camp has already sought to discount the significance of New Hampshire."

Interviews by EIR (see issue Dec. 11) substantiated this line's general circulation. "New Hampshire is just important traditionally, but not this time," said a Carter spokesman. "Every delegate in every state is now of equal importance ... New Hampshire is no more important than any other state," said a Kennedy campaign spokesman.

### **The Aspen angle**

Aspen collaborator Walter Cronkite, under the direction of former CBS president Frank Stanton, leader of the Aspen Task Force, announced to the press on Dec. 9 that his "Campaign '80" show will focus national news on the Iowa caucuses through the months of December and January almost until the eve of the New Hampshire primary. While quite important, the Iowa caucuses have never had the national significance of the New Hampshire primaries, a vote by the entire registered-voter population. By contrast, the Iowa affair involves more closely-circumscribed attendance at party caucuses. Cronkite gave as his rationale Ted Kennedy's earlier announcement that (since he had lost roundly in the fall Florida straw poll) Iowa would be the "first real test" with President Carter. Cronkite has begun five and ten minute, nightly Evening News Campaign '80 spots focusing entirely on Iowa.

This was to have led up to full CBS-ABC-NBC national coverage of the Des Moines Register presidential debates. Until President Carter dropped out, forcing the Democratic debate's cancellation, the Iowa debates were scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 5 for the Republicans and Monday Jan. 7 for the Democrats. Lyndon LaRouche, though admitted by debate sponsors to be a "bona fide" candidate, was pointedly excluded. Between the remaining Republican debate and the Iowa caucus vote itself on Jan. 21, Cronkite and the other networks have planned to carry expanded Iowa coverage, hour specials, and so on.

There are no nationally-televised Democratic debates scheduled during the presidential primary campaign. New Hampshire has been, and will continue to be, blacked out of national TV coverage. The state has gone completely unreported upon since Carter and Kennedy first visited there in early November, and neither candidate plans to set foot in the state until February at the earliest.

Not even the New Hampshire League of Women

## **Aspen's Slater on 'governance'**

*Following are excerpts from the February 1979 Aspen Occasional Paper "Governance," by Joseph E. Slater, President, Aspen Institute.*

The issue of 'Governance' has become the overarching theme of the Aspen Institute...

... Failures of policymaking result not merely from the shortcomings of the policies or the policymakers, but from the very *process* by which policy is made...

Conflicting responses to the world crisis of governance are leading to sharp confrontations between ... those seeking to turn back the clock, and those betting on more and better technologies ... The debate misses the essential point: the central condition for the shaping of alternative futures is neither material resources nor technical skills but redefined values ... Questions involving demands for a "new economic order," the creation of a new monetary system, ... and other world issues can only be considered intelligently in the context of ... the interdependent character and the inexorable links in the destinies of nation-states and an emerging global system.

### **An agenda for acceptable governance**

We now face ... the need for clear statements of principles for the reorganization of governmental structure at national and international levels.

*The redesign of planning and decision-making instrumentalities.* Clearly national governments will need to be restructured. ... If international organization and transnational imperatives are increasingly important, what attitudinal and institutional changes will be necessary?

*The strategy of science.* Many contemporary problems are the result of charging ahead with scientific discovery and technological innovation without timely thinking about institutional requirements and human consequences. How can we surround these technological processes with ... administrative control—before beneficent potentials turn into malevolent realities?

Voters plans a nationally-televised presidential primary debate of any sort. Its national chairman, Ruth Hinerfeld, is in close contact with Aspen Task Force Chairman Douglass Cater.

### “Iowa: New Hampshire of 1980”

Although the Iowa debate is defunct, it is an exemplary instance of the broader Aspen attempt to rig the elections. Des Moines Register editor James Gannon worked for the Aspen Task Force in 1976 on their sponsoring of the 1976 League of Women Voters Carter-Ford debates. He was then a *Wall Street Journal* reporter on the question panel. He was ecstatic about the shift. “More than 900 journalists have written for press credentials ... we’re deluged” with press coverage, he told *Editor and Publisher* December 15. “Most people have been delighted (here) because the state becomes a kind of New Hampshire of 1980,” he said before the cancellation. “To my knowledge its the first time a newspaper has sponsored a presidential debate during a pre-convention period.”

Gannon widened his new national spotlight in November when he refused (deliberately) to let California Governor Jerry Brown participate on the grounds that Brown “is not running an Iowa campaign.” Gannon, as has been mentioned elsewhere in this series of articles, then cited the Aspen ruling of the FCC, saying “FCC equal time laws don’t apply here. This is a legitimate news event we’re carrying. TV is not running it, I am.” After Brown went out and hurriedly bought an Iowa campaign set-up, Gannon, his Aspen ruling point made, allowed Brown into the debates.

But, as reported above, he refused LaRouche coverage.

During the same period, Citizens for LaRouche, the campaign committee, reported that CBS News Executive Producer Donald Hewitt, a close collaborator of Frank Stanton who has run not only Walter Cronkite’s Evening News but all of CBS’ presidential campaign coverage since 1960, is personally directing a team of “60 Minutes” reporters under Mike Wallace and Morley Safer to “get the real story” on “how LaRouche is financing his presidential campaign.” “60 Minutes” has already contacted the Federal Election Commission to see if they can hunt up any irregularities in LaRouche’s financing, and is planning to send a team to surveil his New Hampshire campaign.

Similarly, ABC’s “20-20” sent a team of TV reporters into the LaRouche headquarters earlier this month to try to prove the LaRouche campaign is committing other illegalities.



## What is the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies?

But for the Official Secrets Act which makes it a criminal act to reveal information relating to British intelligence operations, the directors of the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies and its leading associates would all long ago have been incarcerated or deported from American shores as agents of a foreign power. From its inception in 1948, Aspen, based in Colorado, has been a high level arm of the British intelligence services for “epistemological warfare” directed especially against the United States and West Germany.

In the more recent period, the Aspen Institute’s operations have expanded to give it a key role in formulation and implementation of all essential policies of the British oligarchy and their European allies.

Among the major operations to be credited to Aspen are:

- **Watergate** The overthrow of the U.S. presidency, beginning with President Nixon and his administration, was planned at a secret, spring 1970 meeting in Aspen, Colorado under the institute’s program-director, Douglass Cater.

- **Islamic Revolution** The key members of the current Khomeini government of Iran, as well as other international leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood—the British intelligence front operating behind Khomeini—were trained for their current activities at “seminars” conducted at the Aspen Institute under the rubric: “Islam, Past, Present and Future.”

- **Environmentalism** Under Robert O. Anderson’s personal direction, the Aspen crowd created and funded the “Friends of the Earth,” a key international “environmentalist” organization, and in 1972, created the United Nations Conference on the Environment,