

# National News

## Reagan calls for arms buildup?

GOP frontrunner Ronald Reagan has spent the past week in the East, where he met with top Trilateral Commission media operatives from *Time*, *Newsweek*, the *New York Times*, and the Hearst media chain. Reagan called June 18 for a rapid U.S. arms buildup in order to strain the Soviet economy and force the Soviets to the arms control bargaining table. "The very fact that we would start would serve a notice on the Soviet Union," Reagan said in an interview with the *Washington Post*. "I think there's every reason to believe that the Soviet Union cannot increase its production of arms. . . . They've diverted so much to military that they can't provide for the consumer needs. . . ."

Reagan also told the *Post* he favors a constitutional amendment to limit government spending to 19 percent of GNP. But he added that if he were forced to choose between a balanced budget and one that was unbalanced because of necessary military expenditures, he would choose the latter.

## Brilab victim issues defense

The Carter administration's Brilab/Abscam witchhunt against labor-based Democrats expanded substantially this week with indictments issued against targets in Louisiana, Texas, New York, and New Jersey.

One of those indicted was International Union of Operating Engineers regional director L. G. Moore of Deer Park, Texas. Unlike most of the other targets, Moore publicly insisted on the nature of the case. In the pages of the *Houston Chronicle*, he was quoted as stating this week: "I'm guilty of being a political person. That's my only crime in this case. . . . This is really scary. Do you realize what happened to me can

happen to you and anyone else? They can tap your phones, record all your conversations. How safe is anyone today from such tactics by the government?"

Moore's lawyer Mike Ramsey was even more explicit: "The heart and soul of the matter is that Joe Hauser [the FBI setup man], a twice convicted criminal, worked as a government agent to get credit and stay out of the federal slammer. Once the tape recordings are played, it will become evident that all this was caused by Hauser, and all evidence will point to the intent of the government in causing what it now calls a crime.

"When the federal government donates money to Billy Clayton [Texas House Speaker, indicted along with Moore and two others] and calls it a crime, then something is wrong with the U.S. government."

## Senator Jackson attacks administration Middle East policy

In Senate Armed Services Committee hearings this week, Senator Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) lambasted the Carter administration's Mideast maneuvers as "an adventurist policy." "Any undue action could bring the Soviets into Iran," Jackson said.

In an interview with the *Washington Star*, Jackson also said: "Clearly Mr. Begin, as far as his standing with the U.S. is concerned, had been hurt by coming on the tube and taking an intransigent position on the settlements. I've told Begin this. Although juridically he's right, it is not politically sound, and people in this country resent it. . . . He is not discussing the right issue, which is pinpointed to the question of defensible borders. . . . There's no way the state of Israel can survive unless there's an agreement by which they can defend the West Bank. . . . That means that the West Bank can be turned over into an autonomous state, except for foreign policy and national security.

"It is regrettable that the issue has been clouded over by the issue of the settlements."

## Kennedy spokesman calls for open convention

Minnesota Congressman Richard M. Nolan addressed the agricultural caucus of the Texas State Democratic Party Convention in San Antonio, Texas on June 20. Speaking on behalf of Presidential aspirant Ted Kennedy, Congressman Nolan said, "I'm for 100 percent parity and an open convention."

The Minnesota representative was referring to Carter's refusal to guarantee U.S. farmers fair market prices to ensure continued production. Nolan's call for an open convention was the first explicit endorsement from the Kennedy camp for an open democratic party national convention in New York City next month. Nolan was well received by the agricultural caucus on both issues.

Between 400 and 500 members of the agricultural caucus listened to Nolan go after Carter's farm policy. "Farmers are caught in the worst possible crisis," Nolan said. "The reasons for these problems are not Carter's fault. Carter's fault now is that he refuses to do anything about it."

Nolan was also critical of Carter's interest rate policy. "Raising interest rates to cool inflation is deliberate," Nolan said. "It's Republican policy. If you raise prices with interest rates and inflation rising, then you put people out of work and out of jobs."

Congressman Nolan, who is a member of the House Agricultural Committee, said he supports Senator Kennedy because he has a proagricultural record on every issue.

Sentiment for an open convention was very strong at the agricultural caucus. The caucus voted, almost unanimously, for an open convention and mandated their delegation to go to the August National Convention and uncommitted. The rural caucus later endorsed a similar resolution.

Dave Samuelson, national spokes-

man for the American Agricultural Movement (AAM), also stated at a press conference June 20 that the AAM will go uncommitted to New York in August, and until then work for an open National Democratic Party Convention. The press conference was held jointly at the Alamo in San Antonio with Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche and Marvin Meeks, national president of the AAM.

## CFL calls for impeachment of Civiletti

Citizens for LaRouche this week issued a resolution calling for the impeachment of Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti. Widely circulated among trade-union and Democratic Party leaders, it reads in part: "Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti's administration of the U.S. Department of Justice has been characterized by 'judicial tyranny' . . . laying the foundation for a dictatorship. This new 'code of law' protects the 'rights' of the drug pusher, the terrorist, and the gangster, while the legitimate trade-union official, the businessman, or the police officer is being framed and indicted. . . ."

The resolution lists the grounds for Civiletti's impeachment, including his refusal to prosecute the treasonous activities of Ramsey Clark and Lenox Hines in their recent Iran trip, his freeing of terrorists from jail, his incitement of race riots under the guise of "human rights" probes of local police forces, his rejection of any kind of war on drugs, and his advocacy of marijuana decriminalization, and his conducting of partisan witchhunts through his Brilab/Abscam operation.

The resolution concludes: "We, the undersigned, being patriotic Americans committed to the idea of progress, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as set forth in the U.S. Constitution, call on the Congress of the United States to initiate immediate and vigorous action to investigate and impeach U.S. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti and reorganize the corrupted agencies of the Department of Justice."

## Reagan submarine in the Carter campaign?

Tim Smith, the General Counsel for the Carter-Mondale campaign, may well be working too close for comfort with the Republican campaign of Ronald Reagan, according to sources close to the Carter-Mondale campaign. Smith has been, and is, a partner in the Washington, D.C. branch of New York's prestigious Republican Rogers & Wells law firm. Founding partner William Rogers was Secretary of State in the Nixon administration. The other leading partner is *William Casey*, the new campaign director of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Committee.

## A manic obsession?

The following is excerpted from the transcript of the regular White House background press briefing June 16.

**Q:** I'm quite struck with your whole presentation.

**A:** Thank you very much. (Laughter.)

**Q:** You've got quite a manic obsession with the Soviet Union.

**A:** Do you have a question or do you plan to make a speech?

**Q:** My question is the following: Given the fact that your administration has undercut the strength of the U.S. economy, in particular in the whole high-technology and scientific area, how do you expect the rest of the world to respect the United States when you yourself are putting forward such a completely defensive posture and didn't indicate any role for world leadership that the U.S. could play—

**A:** I assume when you are describing the administration as my administration that you are using a shortcut in terminology. I consider myself part of it. I don't feel that possessive about it or in control of it. . . .

## Briefly

● **DAN RATHER**, Walter Cronkite's heir apparent as CBS's news anchorman, has tried shooting heroin, according to a recent interview with the *Ladies Home Journal*. But that's not all; "as a reporter—and I don't want to say that's the only context—I've tried everything. I can say to you with confidence, I know a fair amount about LSD," Rather said. He added that he has smoked pot as well, and said he told his son and daughter that if they wanted to smoke pot, they should do so at home, "in the company of people who care about them."

● **JERUSALEM** should be the capital of Israel, and the United States should move its embassy there, according to official spokesmen for the Ted Kennedy campaign. They tried to have this statement inserted in the Democratic Party platform, but failed. Kennedy also proposed that the platform commit the party to eventual reunification of Ireland; they did not indicate whether Ireland was to become part of Israel.

● **URBAN LEAGUE** leaders who have assumed that some shameless "red neck" racist shot Vernon Jordan, the organization's leader who remains in critical condition, are beginning to have second thoughts about who the culprit might be and what the objective of the near-assassination was. One leader stated: "The national press has painted us as being apathetic because we didn't riot when Vernon was shot."

● **THE SOUTH BRONX** may be rebuilt by the Soviet Union, in the absence of Carter administration action on the devastated area of New York City. A 9-member delegation from the Soviet Peace Committee was guided through the area to the spot where Jimmy Carter pledged federal support three years ago that never came. Said the councilman, "I am asking the Soviet government for \$5 billion in foreign aid."