

Since the White House still can toss some weight around, such remarks are generally confined to private meetings.

It is at the nomination level that the brawl is most apparent and most misleading. The fight over the nomination is absolutely not between Jimmy Carter and Senator Edward Kennedy. It is between Jimmy Carter and the Democratic Party. The Carter camp may very well be correct in asserting that Ted Kennedy will not get the Democratic Party nomination. But our reports indicate that Carter people—despite their threats against delegates—are

With the clear recognition that nominating Jimmy Carter is a losing proposition, a scramble is underway to avert the disaster. The fight centers around keeping the convention “open.” Contrary to some press reports and to lying assertions by the Carter campaign organization and the DNC, the convention delegates are not currently bound to any candidate. Carter campaign officials, however, will attempt to ram through the floor of the convention a proposed rule—the so-called rule 11-H—that will bind delegates on the first ballot to vote for the candidate whom they were chosen to represent. A combination of forces inside the party, including some elements of the Kennedy camp, some conservative Democrats associated with such Senate leaders as Scoop Jackson and Robert Byrd, and various urban machines, farm-based delegates, and dark horse candidate Lyndon LaRouche are now moving to make sure that the convention stays open. Much of this activity has been taking place behind the scenes and has in general been kept out of the eye of the press. At this moment there is no consensus choice for a replacement candidate for the lame Jimmy Carter, though several names including Jackson and Walter Mondale have been prominently mentioned. Should the convention open up, no choice—except Carter—can be ruled out.

As one source put it, many of the people who “fixed” the Democratic Party nomination for Carter in 1976 are putting in a counter “fix” to deny him the nomination this time around.

Whether the press reports these facts or not, they are nonetheless known by the Carter camp. It is for that reason that many knowledgeable political sources, including most interviewed for this report, fear that the desperate Carter will launch some kind of international crisis to give him the nomination. Carter, they say, will stop at nothing to keep the White House—even risking the nuclear incineration of the nation. There is “dispute” as to whether the crisis will be launched before or after the GOP convention July 14.

It is impossible to say what the outcome of this struggle between the Democratic Party and the Democratic President will be. But as the report that follows shows, there is a great deal at stake.

## The regional picture

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# Carter's prospects not very bright

by Kathy Burdman

*Interviews with Democratic Party state chairmen and other Democratic officials this week showed tremendous concern across the country about a Republican sweep in the fall, should Carter take the Democratic Party nomination. The following are EIR's regional estimates, together with comments by Democratic leaders. We have concentrated on the contested areas of the South, Midwest, and Northeast, since sentiment in the Great Plains and Pacific Far West is so overwhelmingly pro-Reagan, or at least anti-Carter.*

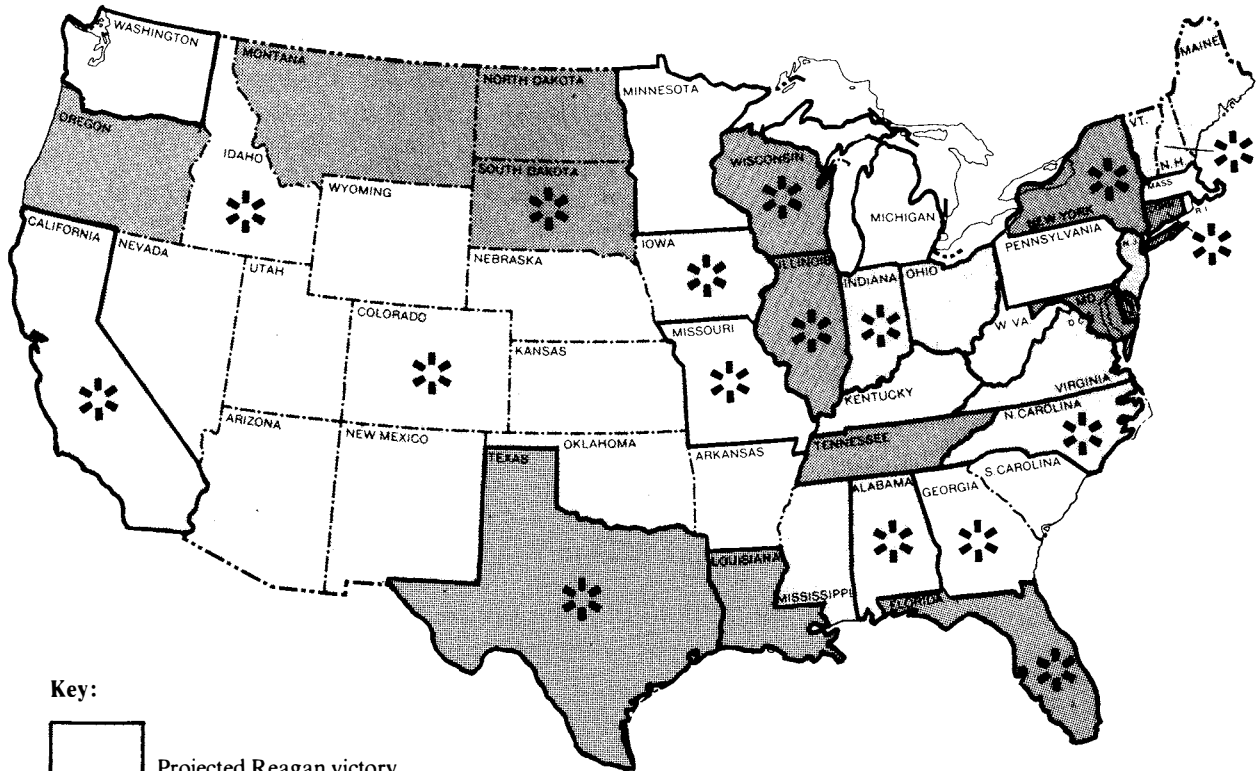
### The South

The consensus is that “Jimmy Carter will be fighting for his life in the South,” as a top Democratic source on Capitol Hill summarized it this week. Carter is certain to lose Alabama and Virginia, two of his priority “key states,” as well as Mississippi, North Carolina, and Kentucky. In the South, Carter's supposed home base, local Democratic machines are furious with the President because their constituencies of conservative labor and blacks are leaving local Democrats in what one Democrat called “the Carter dust.” “We have senators and congressmen who are going to lose their jobs,” Alabama Democratic chairman George Bailes, Jr. complained to the DNC recently. “We have Democrats running campaigns up and down our state who intend to dissociate themselves fully from the Carter-Mondale campaign.”


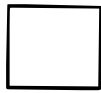
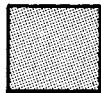


In Senate races, for example, Alabama's Democratic freshman Senator Donald Stewart is a national-priority target for the Fund for a Conservative Majority candidate, Armisted Selden. In Carter's home state, veteran Democratic Senator Herman Talmadge is in trouble with Democratic challenges and a heavily favored opponent, former GOP State chairman Mack Mattingly.

On the Democratic House side, Texas veteran Jim Wright is a target for Republican conservatives, who are also making Democrats feel threatened in North and South Carolina and Louisiana.

## The Reagan sweep of November 1980



**Key:**

-  Projected Reagan victory (includes Alaska)
-  Projected Carter victory
-  Contested
-  Local Democratic candidates threatened
-  Heavily outlined states signify the Carter campaign's "Key States"

The map shows a projected sweep by Gov. Ronald Reagan of major regions of the nation, including the Far West, the industrial Midwest and the South. Included are many states which President Carter is counting on to win—identified as "Key States" by the Carter campaign. The more liberal Northeast is largely "contested" at this time, but could very well swing to Reagan, in part due to the Anderson factor. Notable are those states that are starred, where local Democrats—governors and senators on down—also face a serious threat of defeat if the Democrats go with a Carter ticket.

*William W. Farris, Tennessee Democratic Party chairman, comments as follows:*

**Q:** If President Carter is the nominee, can he take your state?

**A:** It will be a hard-fought battle. If Reagan chooses Howard Baker as Vice-President, that's it, it's over. . . .

**Q:** How do you feel about opening up the convention?

**A:** I'm pledged to Carter, I think the delegates should be bound, I'll go Carter on the first ballot. Carter took 75 percent in our primary.

**Q:** Would you rather see the election thrown to the House than Reagan?

**A:** Sure, it's a Democratic House. . . . I have no doubt that the Democrats would choose the best man—and not necessarily Carter.

**Q:** Not Carter? Do you mean Kennedy?

**A:** Hell no . . . Mondale, perhaps, or Jackson. I was Jackson's West Tennessee campaign manager in 1972.

*A ranking Texas Democratic official told a reporter the following:*

**Q:** What is your expectation for November, if Carter is the nominee?

**A:** If the race is Reagan versus Carter, it will be a tough race. Texas is always close. It will be a tough race because of two factors—the right-conservative elements are a strong factor here. Also the Republicans are spending like crazy. I predict that Carter will carry the state.

**Q:** What about the large uncommitted vote you had there?

**A:** There is a traditional group of people who vote Democratic for sheriffs, etc., but in the presidential race they go Republican. There is also some problem with the farms—traditional Dems went uncommitted. . . .

*Jessie Bankston, Louisiana Democratic chairman, made these comments:*

**Q:** If President Carter is the nominee, can he take your state?

**A:** Four years ago at this time Carter was down 20 points in the polls below Ford and on election day he was still behind 47 percent to 53 percent, but he took the state by 53 percent.

**Q:** Why was that?

**A:** Well, it's hard to poll the blacks and labor in this state; they're very decentralized, and they don't show up in the polls and then they always go Democrat. . . .

*Other Democratic officials' comments included those of Mississippi Governor William Winter: "Carter is in trouble—it will be close"; North Carolina State executive director David Price: "The Carter ticket is in great difficulty"; and Kentucky State Democratic chairman Robert Cobb: "It's the lesser of two evils . . . it's disheartening, the alternative of Carter versus Reagan."*

## **The Midwest**

Because Carter is in deep trouble in the electoral-vote megastates of the industrial Midwest, he is certain to lose Indiana and Ohio and could easily lose Illinois and Wisconsin. Rocketing unemployment, heaviest in this area of the nation, has labor, minority, and even industrialist Democratic constituencies furious with

their local Democratic leaders. Only some serious Reagan mistake on labor issues, such as strong advocacy of his right-to-work position, could help Carter here.

In Democratic senatorial races, Indiana's fourth-term veteran Birch Bayh is rated as a top, "very vulnerable" target by the National Republican Senatorial Committee. Illinois veteran Adlai Stevenson's seat is up for grabs on his retirement, and Democrats are worried. Missouri Senator Thomas Eagleton has already distanced himself from Carter.

*An official of the Illinois Democratic State Central Committee told a reporter:*

**Q:** Will Democrats in your state suffer from a Carter ticket?

**A:** Look! I'm the lawyer for the UAW in this state, you don't think I'm not aware of this, do you? I'm trying to run the Dixon for Senate campaign down here and we're in real jeopardy with Carter at the top of the ticket. I'm very upset about this. We discussed a total Republican sweep of senatorial and other local races in Illinois at one of our meetings recently.

**Q:** Is this what Senator Byrd meant by saying he has to deal with reality and the President does not?

**A:** Byrd was right. This is reality. We're going to have to pick up the pieces of a destroyed Democratic Party in November. Jimmy Carter is a mean man, he doesn't care what he has to do to win this election, and he doesn't care what the end result is on the party.

**Q:** Would you like to see an open Democratic National Convention?

**A:** Certainly, but the delegates are already bound to Carter.

**Q:** Aren't you aware that Rule 11-H will not be binding until it is ratified by the convention itself?

**A:** No, I didn't realize . . . you have to understand that anyone who isn't staunchly for Carter is totally out of the information picture out here at this point. The entire regular Illinois Democratic Party either lost or decided this year not to run as delegates although they traditionally run. The party is being broken up.

*Olivia Maynard, Michigan State Democratic chairman, made the following comments:*

**Q:** If President Carter is the nominee, can Reagan take your state?

**A:** Now, yes. We hope not in the fall. This is not a Reagan state, and luckily not a state in which even Republicans like Reagan. . . . Reagan is very simplistic. He has no way to deal with the economy or with foreign

policy.

Of course, frankly, the question is not so much that people would be supportive of President Carter or pleased by his foreign policy, either, but the prospect of a person *even less capable* would terrify many voters in this state. . . .

*An Ohio Democratic leader said: "If the economy doesn't turn around, if the auto industry is still sagging and barring any dramatic good news in foreign affairs, Carter is not going to carry Ohio." An Indiana Democratic leader stated bluntly: "Anderson will have little effect here, but Reagan will carry the state."*

## The Northeast

Carter would probably take organized-labor-dominated Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and also liberal Rhode Island and Massachusetts—unless the Anderson or LaRouche campaigns break through in this traditionally Democratic area.

But the rest of the region's megastates are a battleground or worse for the Democrats. Reagan could well take New Jersey, with labor swinging conservatives on the Midwest pattern, and also take the traditionally Republican Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, all small in electoral votes. New York and Connecticut are shaping up as two of the biggest national battles with a possible Liberal Party swing to Anderson in New York that would easily put Reagan over the top. Maryland is a battleground.

*Dominic Baranello, New York Democratic Party chairman, commented as follows:*

**Q:** If President Carter is the nominee, can he take your state?

**A:** Things are very close in New York if the election were held today. Of course, there is every prospect the President will put some things in order by November, with tax cuts, other economic resolutions. And when the electorate realizes that Reagan is simplistic, has no

## 'Congressmen worried—the DNC won't help'

*The following interview with a leading Democratic Party official on Capitol Hill was conducted July 2.*

**Q:** What is your perspective for the Congressional races? How many seats do you anticipate that the Democrats will lose and the Republicans will gain or vice versa?

**A:** There are 36 open seats where people are retiring, which we are fearful about. Probably there are 10-20 Republicans who have strong Democratic challengers, which could mean Democratic gains. There are over 40 Democrats who have tough Republican challengers. The Republicans who stand to win are in Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Texas, two in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio, and four in California.

The Democrats we are worried about include the following states and districts: Arizona, district 2; California districts 5, 21, 35; Colorado district 3; Florida, 12; Indiana, 2, 6, 10, 11; Iowa, 4, 5; Louisiana, 4; Maryland district 8; Massachusetts, 6; Michigan, 3, 10, 12; Missouri, 10; Nevada, the at-large seat; New Jersey, 3, 4, 7; New York, 2, 3, 24, 27; North Carolina, 5, 6, 11; Oregon, 2, 4; Pennsylvania, 1, 3, 7, 8, 12; Rhode Island, 2; South Carolina, 6; South Dakota, 1; Texas, 5, 8, 12, 24; Utah, 1; Virginia, 10; Washington, 5, 7; Wisconsin, 2.

Jim Wright is in a tough race. His challenger has raised over \$100,000; they are pouring in money. The national conservative PAC [political action committees] are helping. I think they don't think they can defeat Wright, but they want to keep him home and not campaigning for other Democrats.

**Q:** What about Carter heading the ticket? Aren't a lot of Congressmen worried about that?

**A:** Most Congressmen will keep their distance from him. They will hope that their constituents remember their Congressmen and take out their frustrations on the top of the ticket, that is, with Carter. Carter will hurt a lot of Senators.

In states like Indiana there are a couple of Congressmen who have a tough race, especially if Reagan wins big. Bayh is up for reelection and he will have a tough time. For people on the fence, Republican tide won't help. If the vote is for Reagan, they they will vote the Republican ticket. If Anderson is on the ballot it will help us—he will bring out Democratic voters.

Jimmy Carter will be fighting for his life in the South. The Moral Majority organization has registered two and a half million people to vote, largely in the South.

The Jewish vote is no longer Democratic. The Republicans have spent a quarter of a million dollars for trips to Israel and ads in Jewish papers. The DNC is not doing anything to help us.

answers, and is not a viable President, whereas the President is trying hard—

**Q:** Do you see the possibility for an open convention?

**A:** Well, I do anticipate a rules fight. I certainly anticipate the people who don't want Carter getting at least a minority report out of the Rules Committee this week onto the floor of the convention. But I'm a Carter delegate and I'm committed to Carter, and I think if you run for a candidate, you've made a commitment to your electorate.

**Q:** But I've heard a lot of local Democratic candidates fear being swept away by a Reagan landslide.

**A:** Is that what people are saying nationally? Well, you're absolutely right. We're biting our nails here in New York. Our entire U.S. congressional delegation, as well as our State Senate and Assembly, are up for reelection. Losses could be very significant. . . .

**Q:** What effect will Anderson have on your state?

**A:** If he runs on the Liberal Party—devastating. If I were [Liberal Party leader] Ray Harding, and my party was at the lowest ever and I saw an opportunity to revive it, I'd look very hard at Anderson.

**Q:** What have the Liberals gotten from Carter, anyway?

**A:** That's what everyone would like to know. For that matter, I don't know what my party has gotten from him in New York, either.

**Q:** Are you saying the DNC isn't running the campaign well in New York?

**A:** Are you kidding? I'm terribly concerned. Right now the DNC has maybe three people in New York who constitute the Democratic effort. The Carter people have nothing going. I told them the time has come to get off their butts and start pulling it together. . . .

**Q:** What about some dramatic diplomatic crisis to rescue Carter?

**A:** Yes, yes. I'm hoping for that, that's the tremendous power of the incumbency.

*Notable also are the comments of Democratic State chairman James Fitzgerald about Connecticut: "About as close a state as there is in the nation." He predicted a Democratic victory "by an edge," assuming the Anderson factor is "minimized by November." One Maryland Democratic leader said that "Economic issues are starting to take root much more strongly in the state. . . . The Democratic Party has to sell a very difficult case and a very difficult set of policies." New Jersey State Senate president Joseph Merlino said simply: "Reagan would win."*

## White House strategy

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### Carter's plumbers hit the 'key states'

The Democratic National Committee, nominally the executive body of the Democratic Party, has been recently transformed into a sub-branch of the Carter/Mondale election campaign. The DNC doesn't care about, and won't be supporting, Democratic senators, congressmen, any major part of the party's apparatus, or even the party's survival. The DNC will only be supporting Jimmy Carter.

That is the successful result of the Carter/Mondale campaign's creation of a "plumbers unit" within the DNC to ensure that, even before Carter really has the nomination, all party resources will be at the Carter campaign's disposal—thus ensuring that he does get the nomination.

The unit, known as Campaign Support Services, is headed by DNC Executive Director Les Francis, until recently the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Carter/Mondale Campaign.

Francis has used his control to designate 25 "Key States" or "battleground states" upon which the DNC will concentrate resources. The Key States are in the South, the industrial Midwest, and Northeast—where Reagan is expected to reverse Carter's 1976 vote. Accordingly, these states are where Democratic machines are rapidly falling away from Carter, enough of them that by August 11, the President could lose the nomination, or if he gets it, face masses of local candidates disassociating themselves from his national ticket.

To ensure against both developments, Les Francis has sent CSS "Coordinators" into each of these states. The coordinators, all former Carter campaign organizers, are now on the DNC payroll, and have orders to take over the state party machine to control local Democrats. States not designated "Key" will get no financial or other support from the Democratic National Committee.

For local congressional and other Democratic candidates, already very nervous about running under a Carter ticket, no Democratic National Committee support exists. "The DNC isn't giving the Senate Campaign Committee a red cent," said a Washington source famil-