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## Profile: Sen. Alan Cranston

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# 'Fruitfly' Democrat setting 1984 issues

by Freyda Greenberg

*Below EIR inaugurates a series of profiles of presidential aspirants.*

**Born:** Palo Alto, California, June 19, 1914.

**Education:** Pomona College, 1932-33; University of Mexico, 1935; Stanford University, 1936.

### Political offices and affiliations:

- Controller, State of California, 1959-67; U.S. Senator, California, 1968 to the present.
- United World Federalists, founding member and president, 1949-52; California Democratic Council, president, 1953-57; California Democratic Central Committee, 1954-60; The Draper Fund.

### Business:

Real estate: Ames-Cranston Company, Palo Alto, 1947-58; Carlsberg Financial Corporation, Los Angeles, 1968.

### Policy profile:

Advocate of global disarmament for past 30 years; environmentalist; anti-war activist in the 1960s. Senate initiatives have included: denying underdeveloped nations nuclear technologies; the nuclear freeze; domestic content legislation; Credit Control Act.

### Campaign advisers:

His \$500,000 Senate staff: Gerald F. Warburg, Cranston's top adviser on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Marshall D. Shulman, Special Adviser to the State Department under Jimmy Carter, director of Averell Harriman's Russian Institute at Columbia University; Sidney Drell, Stanford University; Paul Warnke, Carter Administration arms control negotiator and leader of the nuclear freeze movement; Jessica Tuchman Mathews, served on Jimmy Carter's NSC with Zbigniew Brzezinski, daughter of Barbara Tuchman, prominent author and advocate of turning modern civilization into a new feudal age.

The significance of Alan Cranston's bid for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination goes beyond the level of consideration of "can he win against Ronald Reagan?" Cranston, a sophisticated professional in mass media and polling, is setting the issues for the campaign; Cranston has decades of experience organizing "grassroots" efforts against "establishment" issues; and Cranston may be an option for a vice-presidential slot.

### The campaign strategy

Cranston began his efforts as the 1984 "peace candidate" at the May 1982 Democratic Midterm Convention in Philadelphia. The result was the passage of a nuclear freeze resolution at the convention. While courting his favorite constituencies—the feminist, environmentalist, and "gay" caucuses—Cranston has put significant efforts into labor.

The AFL-CIO leadership has traditionally maintained some semblance of a pro-defense posture, but the Cranston candidacy has exposed how lacking in content that posture is. Cranston is reported to be the closest of all the candidates to the Lane Kirkland leadership of the labor federation, although by no means the most "salable" to their members. Cranston's sponsorship of "domestic content" legislation in the Senate, anomalous for the "supra-internationalist"-oriented Senator, was the result of a Kirkland-Cranston arrangement. A top Cranston adviser is Kirkland confidant Victor Kamber.

In January 1982, following a straw poll victory at the California Democratic Convention which was only won after imposing gag rules against dissenting Democrats, Cranston toured 54 cities in 22 states. At his Feb. 2 announcement of candidacy, he established the nuclear freeze as the main issue. Since then, the other Democratic contenders, including the supposedly more moderate John Glenn, have followed suit.

It is anticipated that the national convention in 1984 will be brokered, i.e., a bargain will be struck between blocs of delegates pledged to a variety of candidates. With this in mind, the delegate selection plan for California proposed by Democratic National Committee chairman Charles Manatt's law partner Peter Kelley calls for an outright reversal of previous reforms and the reinstatement of a "winner-takes-all" primary—an obvious boon to Cranston. Throwing aside the proportional representation policy where a candidate receiving more than a certain threshold, say 15 percent, gets some delegates, the Kelley plan would give the primary winner 209 California delegates.

In addition, in true California fashion, the candidate would have the option of replacing an elected delegate with a more colorful personality, such as a movie actor.

The black and women's caucuses have responded by filing a minority plan to retain proportional representation and prevent "bumping," which will be decided on June 4. Tom Hayden, husband of a "colorful personality" (Jane Fonda)

and head of the radical environmentalist Committee for Economic Democracy (CED), who had previously denounced the winner-takes-all primary as anti-democratic, is supporting the Kelley plan because "that's what Cranston wants." The CED has become the on-the-ground forces for Cranston's campaign, and not only in California. The CED deployed heavily in advance of the Massachusetts Democratic Convention this March.

## The Cranston record

Alan Cranston, now in his third Senate term, began his political career when, from 1936 to 1938, as foreign correspondent for the International News Service in England, Italy, and Ethiopia, he traveled through Europe producing sophisticated profiles of the German and Italian populations under fascism. In 1940-1941, Cranston worked for the Common Council, one of the first official groups to develop techniques for polling and mass-propaganda. Next he went into the Office of War Information (OWI) which worked closely with the FBI, OSS, and British Operations Executive. Cranston specialized in Italian affairs, serving on the Council for American-Italian Affairs Inc. in 1945-46. After the murder of Carlo Tresca, the editor of the anti-fascist and anti-communist *El Martele* in 1943, Cranston was accused by an associate of Tresca's, V. Montana, of doing the bidding of the Soviet KGB in the shaping of the Italian post-war regime.

His "freeze" politics go back to his participation in the founding of the World Federalist movement following World War II. Cranston served as president of the United World Federalists (UWF) from 1949 to 1952. From this and kindred movements came the roots and the personnel for the freeze effort today. During the March 1983 freeze debate in Congress, Rep. Jim Leach (R-Iowa) added to the freeze resolution an amendment given him by the World Federalists which called for the eventual elimination of nuclear and non-nuclear weapons and standing armies! (See *EIR*, March 22, 1983.)

In a recent interview, Cranston insisted that though he was with the UWF, "I do not feel that world federalism is a realistic objective."

## Confrontation politics

The elected career of Alan Cranston has been based on what the 1960s student movement called "confrontation politics"—mobilizing fringe grassroots campaigns as the "backbone of the Democratic Party." Today, Cranston is attempting to consolidate the Democratic Party as an environmentalist/disarmament battering ram. Beginning in 1952, Cranston ran a similar crusade in the California state Democratic Party through the vehicle of the California Democratic Council—using civil rights activists, then peace activists, then environmentalists to battle moderate and conservative Democrats.

In every race Cranston won, beginning with his victory

in 1957 as the first state Democratic controller since 1866, his opponent has been an extremist. In 1957, a neo-Nazi group emerged to attack him. In his 1968 Senate victory, Cranston became the nation's first successful "peace candidate," against an opponent who wrapped himself in an American flag in support of the Vietnam War. By the time of Cranston's election to the U.S. Senate in 1968, moderate Democrats like San Francisco mayor Joseph Alioto and state Democratic leader Jesse Unruh had been driven out of politics or brought under the sway of the "fruitfly Democrats" such as Cranston himself and former governor Jerry Brown.

Yet, as late as 1968, at the height of his anti-establishment Senate candidacy, Cranston became a director, unsalaried vice-president, and salesman for Carlsberg Corporation, one of California's largest real estate companies. In conjunction with Eli Broad and Donald Kaufman, among the nation's largest homebuilders, and with Las Vegas casino owner and St. Louis mob attorney Morris Shenker, Carlsberg engineered a "development" scheme in the Roseville, California area which resulted in the local price of land jumping from \$200 per acre in 1970 to \$30,000 per acre by 1980. Cranston continued selling Carlsberg offerings as of 1969, after his election to the Senate; Arthur Carlsberg served as finance chairman of his 1968 campaign.

## Freezing to death

While many congressmen have voted for the nuclear freeze, a core group, led for the most part by Alan Cranston, want to freeze far more than nuclear weapons.

Cranston is a member of the depopulation lobby's core institution, the Draper Fund, and is an endorser of the Carter administration's *Global 2000 Report*, which calls for the reduction of the world's population by 2 billion by the year 2000.

In an April 1982 article in the *Washington Post*, Cranston called for a freeze on all nuclear technologies. He targeted the "volatile regions like the Middle East, South Asia, or Latin America" (not the U.S.S.R.) for monitoring. In a Senate speech in March 1981, Cranston accused Iraq of "blackmailing" oil-dependent Western European nations to acquire nuclear technology, and of beginning a "Manhattan Project-type" program to become a nuclear power, although he noted there was "no evidence that Iraq had designed a bomb." Ignoring Israel's development of nuclear weapons systems, Cranston called for the United States to cut off nuclear technology assistance to France and Italy, who were assisting Iraq. In 1980, Cranston and his aide Jerry Warburg (a member of the banking and British intelligence Warburg family) sabotaged the U.S. agreement to reprocess fuel for India's Tarapur nuclear installation.

A study by the Fusion Energy Foundation in March 1982 concluded that as a result of the Cranston-promoted reversal of the "Atoms for Peace" policy, some 115 million people have died in the space of 10 years in the Third World.