

Harriman Democrats blind to Labour Party downfall in British elections

by Graham Lowry

In the wake of Averell Harriman's meeting in Moscow with Soviet President Yuri Andropov, the Harrimanite stable of U.S. Democratic presidential candidates is now running hard to the left, in suicidal pursuit of the policy course set at the June 14-15 Central Committee plenum of the Soviet Communist Party.

This pathetic attempt to demonstrate to Moscow Harriman's influence in the Democratic Party is rapidly converting its presidential sweepstakes into a contest over who can be the next Michael Foote—the British Labour Party leader who took his party charging over the cliff to a crashing defeat campaigning for “peace” and disarmament against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

The signals that went out to step up the Harrimanites' campaign for the Soviet-backed nuclear freeze and related disarmament schemes first surfaced June 11 in the Democratic presidential straw poll in Wisconsin. There aging one-worlder Sen. Alan Cranston, described by one party insider as “commanding the overwhelming support of 2 percent of the American people,” was handed a first-place finish, outpolling the “consensus” front-runner Walter Mondale, virtually in Mondale's back yard, with a unilateral disarmament, hard-line nuclear freeze pitch.

Mondale was then hauled into an “emergency” campaign strategy meeting, and surfaced in Maine June 13 to announce that he now considered a mutual and verifiable freeze on nuclear weapons to be the “first priority” for the United States.

Following the Soviet Central Committee plenum, Mondale appeared on national television June 19 to echo Moscow again on the nuclear freeze, and on an arms control package including tougher controls over nuclear proliferation and ensuring there be no tampering with or circumventing of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty—which both Moscow and the Harrimanites falsely claim bans development of the defensive beam weapons ordered by President Reagan.

As a final contribution to American political debate, Mondale predicted an outcome for the ongoing Central American crisis identical to the one scripted in Moscow—direct U.S. military intervention, with the hope of dragging

the United States into a disastrous “new Vietnam” within its own hemisphere.

Political insiders admit that Mondale's campaign is washed up, but the rest of the Democratic presidential field is going on the same Harrimanite “peace” profile. This was much in evidence at the Alabama Young Democrats convention June 18, where the Young Democrats' straw poll gave World Federalist Cranston 53 percent, and Mondale received but 7 percent of the vote. The effort to emulate the British Labour Party seemed particularly incongruous in Alabama, a conservative state heavily dependent on military research and development centered around Huntsville, including research on laser beam weapons. Alabama is also the home state of the only Democratic Senator, Howell Heflin, who has seriously backed President Reagan's defensive beam weapons policy.

The Michael Foote look-alike contest continued when Democratic presidential candidates Cranston, Sen. Ernest Hollings, and Sen. Gary Hart, along with declared non-candidate Sen. Edward Kennedy, spoke at a rally in front of the Capitol June 14 calling for the defeat of the MX missile when it comes up for a crucial vote on funding for procurement. Ironically, their anti-defense chorus line act followed by less than 24 hours authorizations by wide margins in the House for the B-1 bomber and the ASAT (anti-satellite) program.

Sen. John Glenn, the horse of alleged centrist color in the Harrimanite stable, steers clear of such obvious Moscow follies as the MX rally on the Hill. But Glenn was recently endorsed by Kennedy's fellow senator from Massachusetts, Paul Tsongas, a leading backer of the nuclear freeze and the initiator of a Senate resolution that would ban the deployment of the space-based defensive beam weapons the President has decided to develop. Tsongas is a sustainer of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, a key component of the Eastern religious networks now directing Moscow's “Holy Mother Russia” drive for empire as the “Third Rome.” Glenn, the former astronaut who frequently appears lost in mental space, has been packaged to appeal—as Tsongas emphasized in his endorsement—to Americans' “traditional values.” Glenn's

value to Tsongas is weighed in relation to stopping President Reagan's beam weapons program.

As an aide to Tsongas explained to a reporter recently, Glenn's "strong point" is his "credibility on the space issue." Having the former astronaut campaign for "peaceful uses of space," and against its "militarization," is perceived by the Harrimanites as the only effective way to outflank the President on his new strategic defense doctrine. "That's Glenn's usefulness to the peace movement."

As the Harrimanite run of candidates covers the spectrum of Moscow's policy agenda, with no prospect of developing a controlling national base of support, the 1984 Democratic convention is virtually programmed for a deadlock, with none of the existing candidates able to emerge the winner. Democratic Party strategists also openly admit that any chance of success against Reagan is dependent, as one Harrimanite consultant in Washington put it recently, on "economic collapse or war."

In the wings is Ted Kennedy, who appropriately played master of ceremonies at a June 16 political "roast" that included five of the six declared presidential candidates. Kennedy, who had ruled out his own 1984 candidacy in an announcement late last year, quipped from the dais, "The last time there was this much presidential ambition in one room was the last time my staff sat down to lunch." The same day

the Harrimanite *New York Times* ran an analysis raising the prospect of a deadlocked convention, and pointing to Kennedy as the man best positioned to take the nomination in that event. In a recent radio interview, Sen. Daniel Moynihan of New York, an Averell Harriman protégé since 1954, offered the same scenario.

Kennedy himself is fully positioned on the "loser" left with the declared Harrimanite candidates, and has been a leading propagandist echoing Moscow's line on the nuclear freeze and its opposition to what Kennedy has also attacked as President Reagan's "Star Wars" beam weapons for missile defense. Therefore, speculation on a Kennedy draft by a deadlocked convention necessarily includes an additional consideration which should give patriotic, mainstream Democrats pause: the political feasibility of a Kennedy nomination through means of a deadlocked convention *presupposes* a financial blowout and/or a devastating strategic humiliation in the interim, collapsing the re-election prospects of Ronald Reagan.

The same conditions apply with greater force respecting the prospects of the meandering "clones for peace" already in the race. Thus it is Moscow's objectives—wholesale military and economic reduction of the United States—which constitute the Harrimanite Democrats' strategy for "winning" the White House.

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