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## Profile: Jesse Jackson

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# Doing the establishment's dirty work: Is Jackson a spoiler for Bush?

by Kathleen Klenetsky

Jesse Jackson's overwhelming victory in the Michigan Democratic caucuses March 26 catapulted him into the national limelight. The pundits suddenly decided that he was a force to be reckoned with, a serious politician with a growing mass base who could, possibly, march into the Democratic convention this summer armed with the most delegates and demand the presidential nomination. That prospect, which would guarantee yet another smashing defeat for the party in November, set party leaders' eyes to weeping and teeth to gnashing.

Jackson's subsequent loss to Mike Dukakis in Wisconsin has quieted the hysteria somewhat. But the Jackson threat—to the party and to the American people, black as well as white—remains.

It has long been rumored among Washington's cognoscenti, that Jackson is an asset of the George Bush apparatus, and that his assigned role in the 1988 campaign is to turn the party into a shambles. That is precisely what Jackson is doing. Even if he doesn't win any of the upcoming major primaries in places like New York or California, he will almost certainly continue to amass a large portion of delegates, which will give him even greater bargaining power at the convention.

Much to the delight of Republican politicians and commentators, the Democratic leadership now finds itself caught between a rock and a hard place. It can either accord Jackson the rewards his primary victories demand—a place on the ticket being the most obvious—or it can mount a “stop Jackson” movement, which will rip the party apart. Either way, the party stands to lose—and George Bush stands to gain.

### Creating a fascist movement

In the meantime, Jackson is serving his masters by transforming his “Rainbow Coalition”—that motley assortment of gays and lesbians, nuclear freezeniks, Qaddafi and Hitler admirers, ecology freaks, prototerrorists, and other perverts which served as the vehicle for his 1984 presidential bid—into a mass fascist movement, modeled on the SA, the left

wing of the Nazi movement, and their modern-day heirs, the Soviet-controlled Greens of West Germany, whose American branch has been claiming Jackson as their great hope since the 1984 presidential campaign.

Their hopes are not misplaced. Assisted by a gaggle of high-level advisers, Jackson has worked on broadening his appeal beyond the radical fringe, through a variety of tactics. He has taken great pains to cool down his formerly hot relationship with Black Muslim leader Lewis Farrakhan (who created an uproar—and a host of political problems for his pal, Jesse—in 1984 when he called Hitler a “great man” and labeled Judaism a “gutter religion”), and has replaced his standard diatribe against white America, with a demagogic, populist pitch directed to white farmers, industrial workers, and others who have been impoverished by the Reagan recovery.

(He has not by any means abandoned his Rainbow Coalition constituents, a fact underscored by, among many other things, his continued courting of the gay lobby. Jackson staunchly opposes mandatory AIDS testing, contact tracing, and other standard public health measures, and has also gone on record endorsing a proposal that the government recognize homosexual marriages, and endorsed “the rights of lesbians and gay men to child custody.”)

Despite the rhetorical appeal which Jackson's attacks on the multinationals, defense of the family farms, and tough talk on drugs may have, the program which his “experts” have created, could not pose a greater threat to the well-being of the very people, black and white, whose defender he purports to be.

### Austerity at home

Just take a look at the roster of his chief policy advisers and campaign strategists, beginning with national campaign manager **Willie Brown**. Jesse has said repeatedly that eradicating illegal narcotics is one of his top priorities, and has castigated the Reagan administration for failing to wage an aggressive war on drugs. But Brown, the speaker of the California assembly, has been doing the drug lobby's dirty

work for decades. He has not only served as the chief lobbyist for the the mob's Atlantic City casinos, and a representative for Seagrams and Cadillac Fairview, both key links in Dope, Inc.'s global chain of money laundering and drug distribution, but also sits on the board of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), the chief institutional promoter of drug decriminalization in the United States. Brown has also sponsored his own drug decrim legislation. And Jackson claims he's committed to fighting drugs?

Worse, Brown is scheduled to keynote a major international conference in San Francisco in mid-April convened by two leading pro-euthanasia groups, the Society for the Right to Die and the Hemlock Society, to promote euthanasia as an alternative to "costly" medical treatment for AIDS victims. And just where is AIDS hitting hardest now? America's minority communities, the people Jackson claims to represent, but who will be subjected to Nazi-like extermination, thanks to people like campaign manager Brown.

It's only fitting that Jackson's economic program has been crafted by one of the biggest austerity mongers in the United States: **Felix Rohatyn**. A partner in the international investment bank of Lazard Frères, Rohatyn is perhaps best known as the architect of "Big Mac," the bankers' dictatorship which "solved" New York City's mid-1970s financial crisis through a combination of pension swindles, wage cut-backs, and wholesale destruction of city services. This is the fellow whom "friend of the worker" Jackson calls "one of the great minds of our day," and wants to name to a top cabinet post, most likely Treasury. It is from Rohatyn that Jackson has obtained his proposal for a "Third World Marshall Plan," which, despite its promising title and talk about debt relief and development, was designed for the express purpose of propping up Rohatyn's friends in the bankrupt money-center banks.

Rohatyn may be the most prominent of Jackson's advisers, but the others share his commitment to making the American population pay for the stupidity of the Eastern Establishment. Jackson's top day-to-day economic adviser is **Carol O'Cleireacain**, an economist with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. Trained at the London School of Economics, O'Cleireacain helped cook up the Big Mac swindle. Her main contribution to Jackson's program is a proposal for taking hundreds of billions of dollars in workers' pensions and putting them in a federal investment bank, which would ostensibly finance infrastructure projects.

On the advice of these experts, Jackson has embraced a farm bill sponsored by Sen. Tim Harkin (D-Iowa) and Rep. Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.), which proposes to ameliorate the terrible crisis afflicting the American farm sector, and especially family farmers, by drastically limiting agricultural production, and raising food prices to consumers by a whopping 25% minimum.

## Appeasement abroad

The situation gets worse in the foreign and strategic policy realm: The Jackson campaign's chief foreign policy adviser, **Robert Borosage**, founded the notorious Institute for Policy Studies, the Washington-based left-wing think tank which has been in the forefront of the "disarm America" movement. IPS's co-founder, **Marcus Raskin**, also pitches in. Jackson gets additional input on foreign policy from **Norman Birnbaum**, a professor at Georgetown University, who is on intimate terms with the leaders of the West German Greens, and wants to create a Green movement in the United States.

But his most important foreign-policy mentor has been **Hunter Pitts "Jack" O'Dell**, executive director of Jackson's PUSH (People United to Save Humanity) organization, who, according to *Commentary* magazine and other sources, has long-standing ties to the Communist Party USA and its various fronts, and was believed to have been elected a member of the CPUSA's National Committee in 1959.

This gang has charted what the candidate calls the "Jackson Doctrine," which, in line with his previous statements hailing Fidel Castro and Mikhail Gorbachov, call for:

- pulling American troops out of Western Europe and sharply reducing all American military commitments abroad;
- terminating all aid to countries which export drugs to the United States, even though this would play directly into the drug lobby's hands. Most of the countries which export drugs have simply been overwhelmed by the power of the narco-terrorists, and desperately require additional American assistance to defend themselves.
- imposing a unilateral nuclear freeze: "We must suspend deployment of new nuclear weapons," then "challenge the Soviets to do the same."
- slashing the defense budget by 25%;
- cancelling the B-1 bomber, the MX missile, the Trident submarine, and the Strategic Defense Initiative.
- cutting off assistance to UNITA in Angola and the Afghanistan resistance, but aiding the terrorist African National Congress, which savagely murders moderate black Africans by placing a tire around their necks and setting it on fire;
- overthrowing U.S. allies in strategic places. Jackson enthusiastically supported the Reagan administration-backed coup against Ferdinand Marcos, and just recently sent a letter to Manuel Noriega demanding that he step down.
- blocking exports from any country which are produced under substandard labor conditions;

Jackson's general campaign strategy is being managed by **Anne Lewis**, the ultraliberal former political director of the Democratic National Committee, and sister to Rep. Barney Frank, an ultraliberal Democratic congressman from Massachusetts who recently "came out of the closet" with great fanfare. Another campaign elder statesman is **Bert**

**Lance**, a key member of the machine which elected Jimmy Carter, and which is now rallying behind Jackson.

Although Carter has not personally endorsed anyone, his brother Billy and daughter Amy have both given their enthusiastic support to Jackson. Apparently not in the least fazed by Carter's role in promoting genocide against people of color generally, and black Africa in particular, through his administration's infamous Global 2000 report, which called for eliminating 2 billion "excess" people in the Third World by the year 2000, Jackson has said that Carter would make an ideal Secretary of State.

### **Jackson: opportunist par excellence**

Being both a boundless opportunist, and a shrewd manipulator of the public, Jackson makes an excellent candidate to run as a "spoiler," as well as to figurhead a national fascist movement.

His ability to channel popular discontent into an irrational, jacobin movement, was honed at the University of Chicago's cult-formation and mass-brainwashing center. Jackson attended Chicago Theological Seminary, one of the "cluster" of divinity schools associated with the University of Chicago, which churns out dozens of gnostics and mother-goddess worshippers, and gives them "field training" by deploying them to Chicago's black ghettos.

While in Chicago, Jackson picked up the finer points of counterinsurgency organizing from Saul Alinsky. A key founder of the American New Left, Alinsky pioneered the idea of community control and played a singular role in creating Chicago's gang structure, notably, the Black P-Stone Rangers, now known as El-Rukn, leaders of which were convicted in Chicago last year for conspiring to assassinate "enemies" of Muammar Qaddafi.

As part of his training, Jackson helped organize the P-Stone Rangers into an organization called Black Men Moving, which attacked white policemen and whites in general. In the 1970s, the *Chicago Defender*, a black-owned newspaper, published a series of articles by Roy Harvey, later reprinted in *EIR*, which documented that the gangs were being used to burn down homes in black neighborhoods to permit real estate speculators to purchase the property so that the University of Chicago could expand.

In the mid-1960s, Jackson deployed into Dr. Martin Luther King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Initially impressed with the young Jesse, King named him director of the SCLC's economic arm, Operation Breadbasket. But Jackson's opportunism and overweening personal ambition proved too much for even King, who, five days before his assassination, basically told Jackson to leave the SCLC because his pragmatism and constant criticism was interfering with its mission. "Go ahead, Jesse," King said, after Jackson at one point refused to stop criticizing King's tactics, "If you want to carve out your own niche in society, go ahead. But for God's sake, don't bother me. Don't bother me."

This falling-out did not prevent Jackson from exploiting

the assassination to grab King's mantle for himself. King's closest allies in the SCLC, including Dr. Ralph Abernathy, who has repeatedly charged that Jackson's main problem is that he is "overly ambitious," bitterly recall Jackson's actions immediately after King's assassination on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis. Jackson, who was in the courtyard at the time, somehow managed to smear blood on his shirt, and then, after telling other members of the SCLC not to speak to the press, arranged, through Chicago "fixer" Don Rose, to go on television himself, where he claimed that he was the one who cradled King's head as he died, and to whom King uttered his last words.

For this cynical act of self-aggrandizement, which gave him the leverage he needed to position himself as King's heir apparent, Jackson earned himself the undying enmity of many black leaders, including Dr. King's widow.

Unfortunately, their protests were not sufficient to prevent the Establishment from dubbing him the new leader of America's black community.

In December 1971, the SCLC board suspended him for "administrative impropriety" and "repeated violation of organizational discipline." Jackson resigned, and, with the encouragement of Chicago's most important financial and political interests, among them the Field family, Playboy, et al., promptly set up PUSH (People United to Save Humanity).

What could have been a useful vehicle for advancing the civil rights struggle, was instead used by Jackson to further his own ambitions. According to various sources, Jackson employed PUSH as a virtual extortion racket. He would threaten to lead a boycott of a certain company's products, unless the company agreed to hire more blacks, or do business with more black firms. That's all well and good. But when the target agreed, Jackson or one of his minions would present a list specifying which people should get jobs, and which black entities should business. Does it come as a surprise to learn that many of the designated beneficiaries were personal friends or supporters of Jackson, including his half brother, Noah Robinson, who received lucrative contracts from Coca-Cola and Heublein after PUSH boycotts. White firms weren't the only targets of Jackson's inventive schemes: Local black businessmen and leaders were also hit for contributions.

Despite its reputation, PUSH raked in huge grants from such groups as the Ford Foundation, and the Carter administration, whose HEW Secretary, Joseph Califano, saw to it that federal funds kept flowing Jackson's way. And PUSH did exactly what Jackson wanted it to do: It gave him national political clout, money, and a staging ground for his 1984 presidential bid.

Dr. King's death deprived black—and white—Americans of a great leader. The Establishment's subsequent coronation of Jackson not only represents a gross insult to Reverend King's memory, but a serious setback to King's vision of a better, more prosperous, and more just America.