

As GOP 'Contract' falters, Kissinger jumps on board

by Edward Spannaus

There was a time when Henry Kissinger was detested by the more conservative elements of the Republican Party. When he was belatedly brought into the Reagan administration in 1982, many considered it the death knell of the "Reagan revolution." Now, again today, we see the apparently paradoxical situation of Henry Kissinger—the supposed nemesis of the GOP's right wing—being welcomed with open arms by the "Conservative Revolution" crowd led by House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) and Sen. Phil Gramm (R-Tex.). Strange? Not really.

While Kissinger is embracing the "Conservative Revolution," more and more Americans, and even representatives in Congress, are moving away from it. Gingrich's "Contract with America" is running into more difficulties on Capitol Hill, and Gingrich's own popularity is plummeting. As Reuters put it on March 8: "The more Americans see of Newt Gingrich . . . the less they like him." A poll taken by NBC and the Wall Street Journal Poll showed that Gingrich's disapproval rating shot up 11 points, to 43%, since a similar poll in January.

The defeat of the Balanced Budget Amendment in the Senate on March 2 appears to have marked a turning point, with the Gramm-Gingrich gang now backing off of many of their campaign promises from last fall. Most notable is the embroglio over term limits in the House, where politicians who were elected on promises of strict term limits find the idea less appealing once they get settled in on Capitol Hill.

But these same pseudo-populists have no problem in handing Wall Street a bonanza in the form of "litigation reform," which is designed to virtually bar the courthouse door for aggrieved citizens who want to avail themselves of their traditional right to sue for damages in cases of personal injury, product defects, or fraud and misrepresentation by securities dealers (see p. 59). As Rep. Edward Markey (D-

Mass.) said on March 8, "This is Congress operating at its worst. This is overturning 200 years of American jurisprudence."

But the phony populism of the Conservative Revolution crowd is nowhere more apparent than in their obscene embrace of the detested Kissinger, which became obvious about the same time that the Balanced Budget Amendment was going down to defeat. The crucial event was a conference on post-Cold War foreign policy sponsored by the Richard Nixon Center for Peace and Freedom, and held in Washington on May 1 and 2. Gingrich gave the afternoon keynote on the opening day; he was introduced "in glowing terms" by conference chairman Henry Kissinger—according to a description of the event in the London *Financial Times*.

'I would have gone anywhere'

Gingrich recounted his reaction when he learned that he would have the opportunity to be introduced by Kissinger, and to be thanked by former Nixon and Carter administration official James Schlesinger: "As a mere assistant professor at a state college, the idea of being flanked by two eminences of that caliber, I would have gone virtually anywhere for the opportunity."

While the overawed Gingrich addressed the audience in the manner of a college lecturer, babbling on about the "Third Wave" information age theories of Heidi and Alvin Toffler, the Aztecs and Incas, Adam Smith, Pitt the Younger, and so on, Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft were "sitting in the front rows like dutiful students," remarked the *Financial Times*.

Newt's alter ego on the Senate side, Phil Gramm, is also a big fan of Kissinger and Scowcroft, according to a March 1 column in the *Washington Post* by Lally Weymouth, in which she said that Gramm had solicited advice from Kissinger and Scowcroft, and revealed that "Gramm says Scow-

croft would be part of his team" if elected. Scowcroft was Kissinger's deputy in the mid-1970s, and later ran the Washington office of Kissinger Associates. "I learned everything I know from Henry," Scowcroft told the conference.

There should be no surprise in any of this. In *EIR*'s Feb. 17 *Feature*, "Phil Gramm's Conservative Revolution in America," Lyndon LaRouche traced the Venetian model of feudalist reaction—the prototype of today's Conservative Revolution—from the opposition to the Council of Florence, through the collaboration of Prince Metternich and Lord Castlereagh, up through today's Gramm-Gingrich gang. In the course of this, LaRouche noted that the views of the "fascist forerunners Metternich and Castlereagh" have been devoutly admired for more than 40 years by Henry Kissinger.

Henry rides the 'Third Wave'

Chairman Kissinger tapped himself to give the luncheon keynote the next day. He couldn't help but remark a number of times as to how "eloquently" Gingrich had presented certain ideas the day before. Kissinger's speech was an incoherent synthesis of the Gingrich's Third Wave-Information Age drivel, combined with Samuel Huntington's "clash of civilizations" thesis. Huntington's contention, that the fundamental conflict in the post-Cold War era is between cultures, especially between Christianity and Islam, fits right into Kissinger's portrayal of a world of conflicting geopolitical blocs, which must be played off one against another.

Then, so as to inflict his ravings on a wider audience, Kissinger used his March 5 internationally syndicated column to endorse Gingrich's "Contract with America" and its so-called National Security Revitalization Act. What Kissinger especially professes to admire about the bill, which passed the House on Feb. 16, are the provisions which restrict U.S. involvement in United Nations peacekeeping, its call for the immediate expansion of NATO, and its creation of a bipartisan commission to define an overall national strategy.

Kissinger's sly advice to the Clinton administration, is that rather than rejecting these provisions, and regarding them as an intrusion, it should use them "to try to achieve a new bipartisan consensus on the nature of post-Cold War foreign policy."

What Kissinger is probably referring to is that, while the National Security Revitalization Act was being debated in the House, two top administration officials—Defense Secretary William Perry and Secretary of State Warren Christopher—held a joint press conference to denounce the proposed bill as an unconstitutional infringement on the power of the President over the Armed Forces of the nation. Perry had earlier threatened to resign over the proposed creation of a blue-ribbon commission to oversee defense policy—something not very different from the bipartisan commission created by the Revitalization Act as passed by the House.

Kissinger's repeated praise of the national bipartisan commission just might lead one to suspect that he is wran-

gling for appointment as its chairman. Remember the great job Henry did last time, with the National Bipartisan Commission on Central America (the "Kissinger Commission")—which gave us drugs, terrorism, the "black economy," and Oliver North?

The Anglo-American alliance

Much of Kissinger's March 5 column is devoted to an attack on the alleged passivity and "multilateralism" of the Clinton administration, which is the cover under which Kissinger bemoans the decline of the "Atlantic Alliance"—by which he means the British-U.S. "special relationship." Kissinger accuses the administration of putting too much emphasis on "placating Russia"—this from someone who used to profess that the dynamics of history were with the Soviet Union, and that the United States should make the best deal with the Soviets while there was still time!

Henry's attacks on Clinton administration foreign policy as undermining U.S. national interests, are pure hypocrisy. It was Kissinger who, on May 10, 1982, gave an address at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London, in which he admitted that throughout his career, he had been serving the interests of British intelligence. While he was national security adviser, Kissinger told his British controllers, "I kept the British Foreign Office better informed and more closely engaged than I did the American State Department."

Kissinger has been fulminating for months against President Clinton for breaking the "special relationship" with Britain. In his columns following Clinton's establishment of a new partnership with Germany last summer, Kissinger blasted Clinton for abandoning the "special relationship" and assigning a special role to Germany in dealing with eastern Europe and Russia.

Kissinger's ideal world is one in which Britain leads the United States around on a leash through the geopolitical sandbox. Clinton has broken the rules of the game, and Kissinger is counting on the Conservative Revolutionaries of the Gramm-Gingrich stripe to get the United States back in line.

Clinton's latest affront to the "special relationship" was his March 9 decision to grant a visa to Northern Ireland's Gerry Adams and to invite Adams to the White House. The British press on March 10 was full of reports of "fury" and "dismay" on the part of British officialdom, and a Conservative Party parliamentarian was quoted in the London *Guardian* as calling Clinton's move "a stab in the back from our closest ally."

A senior Conservative parliamentarian told *EIR* that what Clinton has done "undermines the British government" and lets down Prime Minister John Major, and that Major's government could fall in the near future. His only hope, he said, is that Gingrich and crowd would "keep Clinton on the rocks," and neutralize the President's actions against the U.K. "Gingrich and friends are doing a great job," he blurted out.