

north america

Press Begins to Watergate Haig

Sept. 21 (IPS) — The international press already has begun the process of “Watergating” Alexander Haig, the new delegate for NATO’s Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR) — even before the General has begun his tenure, scheduled for December 15. The first broadside — in what IPS estimates will be a massive onslaught — was delivered by the CIA-linked *Daily Express* of London which ran a “Political Commentary” column by Derek Marks Sept. 18 labeling President Ford’s appointment of Haig “bizarre.”



Gen. Haig is as expendable as Nixon, Brandt, Kissinger, Ford, et al. His days are numbered.

Haig, a West Point graduate whose highest combat command was a brief tour in Vietnam in 1966 as a Colonel leading a battalion, began his rapid rise in rank only after he became associated with Dr. Henry Kissinger, then a Special Security Advisor to the President in 1969. In the first four years of his collaboration with Kissinger, Haig moved from Colonel to a four-star General post as Vice-Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, while hundreds of other officers were passed over in the process.

Haig’s only apparent qualification for the SACEUR post is his ability to be dumped at a moment’s notice. Deeply implicated in the CIA’s cover-up of the Watergate Affair, in the growing controversy over Dr. Kissinger’s illegal “de-stabilization” of the Allende government in Chile, and in the phony “Pardon Affair” presently pushed by Rockefeller Congressional agents, General Haig could be destroyed politically and subjected to criminal charges at any time. Obviously, the appointment of the doomed Haig to the high NATO post, which has always been held by American officers, indicates an attempt by the CIA and the Rockefeller interests to discredit “American dominance” of the Atlantic Alliance.

The bitterness of the *Daily Express*’ criticisms at this early stage in the process indicates the phony “anti-Americanism” which the Rockefeller forces wish to foment around the dumping of Haig. “When the Emperor Caligula appointed a horse as Consul of Rome,” writes columnist Marks, “it was at least his own favorite animal and not somebody else’s rejected mount.”

Labor Party Files 40,120 Signatures for N.Y. Ballot

NEW YORK, Sept. 19 (IPS) — Successfully winding up its six-week “Stop Rockefeller” New York State petition drive, the U.S. Labor Party filed 40,120 signatures last Friday — more than twice the number needed to qualify for the ballot — for Tony Chaitkin, U.S. Labor Party candidate for Governor and four other candidates for statewide office.

The Labor Party also filed petitions for two Congressional candidates, Christina Nelson in the 20th Congressional District and Ira Liebowitz in the 37th Congressional District; a candidate for the New York State assembly, Jennette Washington in Manhattan’s 69th Assembly District; and a candidate for City Council in Syracuse, Janine Skolnick.

Meanwhile in Seattle yesterday, more than 100 persons attended an all-day Labor Party convention which nominated Pat Ruckert for U.S. Senator, and Evelyn Olafson and Pat Dolbeare as Labor Party candidates for Congress. The Labor Party had no trouble drawing the required attendance to the convention, despite police harassment of candidate Ruckert who was arrested that morning under an anti-noise ordinance last enforced in 1956.

Earlier this week Sandy Roberts, a Labor Committee organizer running a limited campaign for Seattle City Treasurer, received more than 13 per cent of the vote (7,000 votes). Although he was not listed as a Labor Party candidate on the ballot, Roberts had been identified in major newspaper articles immediately prior to the election as a socialist running to stop Rockefeller's slave-labor programs.

Massive Fraud

Today the Labor Party learned that its New York statewide slate's petition signatures had been challenged by persons as yet unknown. Congressional candidate Liebowitz's petitions also were challenged. Hearings will be held on the challenges next week, at which time those seeking to keep the working class off the ballot must identify themselves publicly.

While the Labor Party's nominating petitions have been challenged here and on absurd grounds in Philadelphia, the highly suspect New York petitions of the CIA counter-gang, the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) and the wretched Socialist Labor Party (SLP) remain unchallenged. Apparently both groups copied hundreds of signatures directly from 1973 voter registration books, evidenced by the fact that many petitions bore no signs — fingerprints, wrinkles, etc. — of ever having been

carried on the street. Moreover, the Assembly Districts and Election Districts were uniformly correct for 1973 and wrong for 1974 only in those areas which have been redistricted!

The Labor Party petitions are challenged because the Rockefeller forces correctly fear the threat posed by a **real** communist electoral campaign, while welcoming the phony left alternative offered by the SWP/SLP counter-gangs.

Former CPers Support Labor Party

The pathetic Communist Party (CPUSA) has failed to qualify for the ballot, although they may file late and pay a penalty. It hardly matters, however, since the CPUSA has lost most of the meagre working-class base it once had in New York City to the Labor Party in last year's mayoralty election. Since then, scores of old Communist Party members have told Labor Party organizers that they now support the Labor Party.

Labor Party Penetration

Petition gathering has actively organized workers, farmers, and unemployed into motion with the U.S. Labor Party and the National Caucus of Labor Committees. The extent of this impact was clear last week when Senatorial candidate Zeke Boyd discussed the Labor Party campaigns on Syracuse, N.Y. radio. The station was deluged with calls for at least **four hours** after the show — as workers called to express their support for Labor Party organizing to Stop Rockefeller and build a working-class political machine. Increasingly, worker study groups around *New Solidarity* are replacing Democratic Party clubs as the focus of working-class political life.