

# It's Rough Being A Democrat

Few people are finding the Democratic Party a good investment these days. There weren't many takers for the Democratic National Committee's gala \$1,000-a-plate fundraising dinner at New York's plush Waldorf Astoria June 23 until the dinner chairman, United Artists board chairman Arthur Krim, put out the word that Hollywood was coming to the rescue. Robert Redford reportedly paid \$10,000 for a table, and Andy Warhol was resurrected to attend. Observers noted that no list of party attendees was ever printed — apparently no one wants to be listed as a Democratic Party contributor...

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Redford couldn't bring himself to attend and is said to have sold his ten seats to friends. The dinner itself, touted as a gourmet feast followed by dancing to Peter Duchin's orchestra, degenerated into a two-hour handshaking tour of the guest tables by President Carter, while the band intoned "Happy Days are Here Again." The press pool, hanging over the balcony watching this floor show, decided in consensus, that the most exciting part of the evening was timing how long Carter inspected the décolletage of each woman he kissed. Chuckled Carter, "I'm filled with lust but I don't discriminate." But the "gay lib" demonstrators thronged outside were not allowed in...

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Rumors were flying in Washington the next day that Vice-President Mondale was furious over Carter's lampooning of him during Carter's Henny Youngman-style address to the Democratic dinner. Carter told the dinner that he had tried hard to find jobs for "Fritz" — the Concorde issue, Northern Ireland policy, and the \$50 tax rebate that failed in Congress. Mondale, reportedly dissatisfied with the way Carter and his National Security Council Advisor, Zbigniew

Brzezinski, have handled foreign policy, apparently did not take kindly to being the butt of Carter's jokes.

In fact, Mondale was scheduled to introduce Carter at the dinner, but never even went on the podium. Alice Mason, who sat next to Mondale at his floor table during Carter's remarks, nervously told the press over and over, "It's not

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true — It's not true that Mondale was angry. He laughed at everything Carter said." The lady doth protest too much...

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Strikingly absent from the Democratic Party fundraiser were any Kennedy family intimates. Declared Mrs. Thomas K. Finletter, wife of the famous FDR advisor, "The Kennedys wouldn't have come — they voted for Ford." And an angry Arthur Krim declared, "The Kennedys never make contributions to the Democratic Party..."

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Observers are speculating that a major rift has developed between the Kennedys and Nelson Rockefeller and Henry Kissinger over how to handle U.S.-European relations. An angry associate of former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger noted that Senator Ted Kennedy's one-time foreign policy advisor Robert Hunter, now with the National Security Council, is in Europe attending the Belgrade Conference. "He's a dangerous man," the Kissinger associate said indignantly. "He's telling Europeans to make their own decisions about things"....

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Ted Kennedy himself will make one of his few major speeches to

Congress on Monday June 27. The speech, on "human rights in the context of detente," will call for a more muted defense of human rights than the Carter Administration has followed, with a pointed warning that the most "fundamental human right remains the freedom from fear of war."

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The rift between Carter and Congress is wide indeed. Leading conservative Senator Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz) was overheard telling leading liberal Senator George McGovern (D-ND) that he couldn't find any friends of the Administration on his side of the aisle. "Can you on your side?" Goldwater asked McGovern. "I'm not sure" was the reply.

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But hoary Humbert Humphrey is still behind Jimmy Carter. All of Capitol Hill is amazed at Hubert's energetic work for the Carter Administration, and Senator McGovern believes only the ailing Humphrey's love for the Oval Office spurs him on. Humphrey has been mediating between the White House and (especially) Congressional conservatives on such key foreign policy issues as troop withdrawals from Korea. Carter paid tribute to his one remaining supporter at the June 23 fundraising dinner, calling Hubert the "greatest Democrat living." Rhode Island Senator Pell was the only other Congressman who showed up at the dinner...

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Congressional sentiment toward Carter was succinctly expressed by one member of the House Ways and Means Committee after the Committee breakfast with Carter this week: "On the one hand he lies, on the other I don't think he knows what he's talking about. They just feed him things and he passes it along."...