

EXCLUSIVE

Carter Candidates For FBI Chief Are Fabians In Conservative Clothing

Reflecting the ongoing wheeling and dealing spurred by Nelson Rockefeller's as yet unconsolidated "Pocantico" deal, President Carter's nine member citizens committee, headed by Irving Shapiro, announced on June 15 a list of supposedly "conservative" nominees for the politically coveted post of FBI Director. Omitted from the Shapiro panel's "top five" choices were frontrunning "liberal" Fabian favorites John Doar, Patrick Murphy, Robert Morgenthau and Richard Thornburgh, all of whom were endorsed by such forces as the *New York Times*, which wants the Bureau put under total Fabian control.

At stake is the Justice Department's control of policy determinations affecting the U.S. Labor Party, election fraud, dirty tricks and watergating operations, and drug decriminalization. The Shapiro committee's selections are not binding on Carter, and it has been mooted that new names will be added before current FBI director Clarence Kelley vacates the post on January 28, 1978.

The five candidates now officially in the running will be represented by the media as dyed-in-the-wool conservatives. Four are nothing of the sort. The material in the following biographies, compiled from sources not normally accessed by the press, reveals they are up to their ears in Fabian counter-insurgency operations.

****Neil Welch**, who along with William Lucas received the unanimous approval of the selection committee, is the present FBI Special Agent-in-Charge (SAC) of the Philadelphia office and former SAC for the Bureau's Buffalo and Detroit field operations. Welch is being promoted as an "independent" law and order man, and is getting press endorsements for his alleged refusal to conduct Cointelpro operations while in charge of the Buffalo and Detroit FBI offices.

But the U.S. Labor Party has procured FBI documents showing Welch heavily involved in the Bureau's Cointelpro and harrassment campaigns against the party's electoral candidates and organizers. Highly placed sources report as well that Welch is extensively involved in FBI-infiltrated Bucks County, Pennsylvania Ku Klux Klan activities, including fomenting race riots, and issuing bombing and death threats. He is also implicated in blocking the investigation of Reading, Pa.-based weapons and explosive trafficking linked to the Pontiac, Mich. Klan Klavern, responsible for the 1971 school bus bombings. It is doubtful, however, that the FBI's routine background investigation into Bureau "insider" Welch will reveal these facts.

****William Lucas**, Wayne County, Mich. Sheriff and LEAA operative, appears to have been dropped as a

viable contender by the Bureau agents investigating his background. On June 24, the investigators leaked to the *New York Post* Lucas' admission of accepting free gambling junkets to Las Vegas and of having as his traveling companion alleged Detroit racketeer Ernest Anastas. Lucas' candidacy may also have been checked by a public endorsement from the American Civil Liberties Union.

Lucas, an FBI agent from 1963 to 1968 was a central figure in the FBI-LEAA coordinated operations against local police forces, operating under the jurisdiction of FBI former fellow travellers Detroit Police Commissioner Philip Tannian, Wayne County Prosecutor William Cahalan and former Wayne County Sheriff Roman Gribbs. From 1969, this FBI crew systematically used extensive LEAA monies to reorganize the police forces, creating the Detroit killer STRESS squads which were used to provoke racial confrontations in the inner cities. As Detroit is a key conduit for drugs in the Midwest, they seized control of organized crime and drug running operations as well.

Lucas was an assistant U.S. attorney and an investigator of the Civil Rights Commission, and served as a detective and patrolman in the New York City Police Department prior to his appointment as sheriff. He was re-elected to the post in 1973. He is co-chairman of the Wayne County Organized Crime Task Force, vice-chairman of the Wayne County Coordinating Council for Criminal Justice, and serves on the boards of the Detroit Urban League, the National Advisory Council for Law Enforcement, National Council on Crime and Delinquency, National Sheriffs Association and was a member of the LEAA's Task Force Report on Civil Disorders and Terrorism.

****John J. Irwin**, associate justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Court and *John K. Van de Kamp*, are two Kennedy-linked candidates, molded in the traditional "law and order" posture. Irwin has already been given the Kennedy benediction and Los Angeles County D.A. Van de Kamp, dubbed a "Beverly Hills liberal," is a political leftover of Robert Kennedy's 1968 campaign apparatus.

Irwin has made his way up the state's criminal justice ladder via his affiliation with Kennedy clan cronies such as John Droney, prosecutor of Middlesex County. Prior to his appointment to the State's Supreme Court in August 1976, he was an assistant District Attorney for Middlesex County, heading the Criminal Division of the State Attorney General's office.

Van de Kamp was an assistant U.S. Attorney under the

Kennedy Justice Department, and stayed on through successive administrations until 1969, when he ran a California congressional campaign against Barry Goldwater, Jr. His political aspirations were renewed in 1970, when he was the campaign coordinator for Jesse Unruh, who opposed Ronald Reagan for governor. Van de Kamp has had extensive dealing with civil disorders; he was part of the special Justice Department teams dealing with the 1968 riots following the Martin Luther King assassination, in conjunction with Ramsey Clark, Cyrus Vance and Joseph Califano. He also served on the 1970 Scranton Commission dealing with campus unrest, and the 1971 anti-war March on the Pentagon — all part of the Operation Garden Plot program for a domestic police state. In 1971 he became the Los Angeles public defender, and was appointed by the county's Board of

Supervisors to replace the outgoing District Attorney in 1975. He was elected to that position in 1976.

***Harlington Wood* is the only Shapiro panel nominee without overt Fabian connections. Wood is a registered Republican and former member of the Ford Administration's Justice Department. Wood was a special assistant attorney general of Illinois from 1954-58, and U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois from 1958-61. He then went into private practice in the law firm Wood and Wood, until 1969 when he replaced Van de Kamp as Chief Executive Officer of the Justice Department's U.S. Attorneys. He was an associate deputy attorney general from 1970-73, until his appointment to the position of judge of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago.

— Marilyn James