

hideous educational programs he developed for Rockefeller—including using the schools as the kernel of communitywide blockwatching networks, modeled after the Nazis' gauleiter system—were implemented in California.

Many conservatives became disillusioned with Reagan's performance in short order, and several withdrew from his administration in protest. But these screams of protest from the very conservative layers who put him in office did not sway Reagan from his liberal path. By this time, Friends of Reagan had expanded to include such bigwigs as movie producer Armand Deutsch; Alfred S. Bloomingdale, head of Diner's Club; William French Smith, a partner in the wealthy law firm of Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher and Reagan's personal attorney; Leonard Firestone, president of Firestone Tire and rubber Co.; and Justin Dart, president of Rexall Drug and Chemical Co. This "Millionaire's Club," as it was known, was calling the shots in the Reagan Administration.

Sears: Electing Presidents is "peculiar"

In the same New York Times article in which he called on President Ford to declare Henry Kissinger "the most knowledgeable man on foreign policy today," Reagan's campaign manager John Sears revealed contempt for the office of the presidency and the U.S. political system generally. We quote:

That we elect our Presidents is really an accident of our peculiar political history. Having made a revolution because of the supposed excesses of kings, and having written a declaration of independence that drew heavily on the inviolate rights of man, the Founding Fathers realized that a new office must be created; and, after some trial and error, considerable uncertainty about the powers of such an office and 200 years of constitutional pettifoggery by the Supreme Court, we have evolved the modern American Presidency. That Presidency, at any given time, is an accumulation of the fears and inadequacies of the American people. The people expect the President to lead. Since we live in a democratic society, leadership means absorbing the national anxieties and proving either that there is less to worry about than the people thought or that there are ways to solve the problems that do exist. Presidents themselves cannot really solve anything, but they can serve as a point of focus for the problems that do exist. Presidents themselves cannot really solve anything, but they can serve as a point of focus for what is bothering the country...

Reagan's refusal to dump Sears and his collaborators from his campaign underscores the unhappy fact that the Californian is as manipulable today as he was as governor.

Reagan for President?

Reagan's increasingly liberal posture on certain key issues is compounded by his irresponsible failure to speak out on others. In the midst of the greatest crisis facing the country since World War II, Reagan—a man who has aspired to the presidency for 15 years and claims to speak for the "silent majority"—has been strangely silent. When he has condescended to comment, his statements have either been startlingly liberal, or stock "conservative" assaults on big government, the Soviet menace, etc.

Take the energy question, for example. Reagan has not only failed to put forth a viable program for expanding low-cost energy supplies—a goal easily within reach if nuclear fission and fusion power were properly encouraged and funded—but has endorsed the supposed need for conservation and costly synthetic fuels and currently harbors a leading antinuclear lobbyist, Rep. John Hinson, on his campaign steering committee!

On the economy, Reagan's record is no better. With the country facing the worst industrial production crisis since the 1930s, Reagan has merely called for tax cuts and reduced government spending, as though these measures by themselves would miraculously spur an economic recovery. Moreover, Reagan has said nothing about the European Monetary System—the Franco-German initiated plan which could, with U.S. backing, initiate a new, gold-based development-oriented world monetary system to replace the industry-killing International Monetary Fund.

On drugs, Reagan hasn't let out a peep. And on the rapidly spreading moves to make homosexuality an acceptable "life style" Reagan—who once tolerated a homosexual orgy ring in the highest levels of his Sacramento administration—has lined up with William F. Buckley and the liberals in opposing attempts to restrict California homosexuals from openly flaunting their perversions.

At the same time, Reagan may also be steered into an ultra-hard-line Genghis Khan role, to make Connally and Haig appear "moderate." Reagan was quoted as saying this week that the U.S. should break off all contact with the Soviet Union until an alleged Soviet "combat brigade" is withdrawn from Cuba. Reagan's stance drew from the Connally campaign the response that "Connally would never say anything that stupid."

Is this the man conservatives really think can beat the CFR, or don't they deserve better?

—Kathleen Murphy