

## Campaign 1980 by Kathleen Murphy



### Kissinger offers services to Reagan

Fresh from his aborted attempt to propel Gerry Ford into the Republican presidential race, Henry Kissinger has turned to greener pastures: Ronald Reagan.

Kissinger—whose undisguised desire to become secretary of state again has even Washington's jaded political community scandalized—is putting out the word that he is perfectly willing to run Ronald Reagan's foreign policy should he be elected. Kissinger made his generous offer at a March 29 speech at Baltimore's Jesuit Loyola College. Humble Henry told his 1,000-plus audience that "I have made it a policy not to refuse Presidents. I think if one is asked to serve as secretary of state, one has an obligation to the President to take that very seriously."

Kissinger also said that he had been advising Reagan on foreign policy matters for some time. "I have not consulted with his campaign," he said, "but I met on seven or eight occasions before the primaries started with Governor Reagan, and have had rather ex-

tensive conversations about the substance of foreign policy. And I was impressed with my meetings with him."

Kissinger told a rather skeptical audience that he was not seeking a position.

### Kennedy: "a national consensus for economic controls"

Ted Kennedy wants to build "a national consensus for economic controls ... a national unity movement built around the question," said aide Hank Banta. Banta told an interviewer that Kennedy's private thinktank—which includes economists Barry Bosworth of Brookings, Felix Rohatyn of Lazard Freres and New York City's Big MAC, Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers, Bruce McLaury of Brookings, and John Kenneth Galbraith—an avowed enthusiast of E. F. "Small is Beautiful" Schumacher—is preparing a comprehensive "anti-inflation package" which he will introduce into the Congress in the near future. The package will include the following items: a full freeze on prices, wages and interest rates for six months; mandatory gas rationing aimed at reducing consumption by 25 percent over two years; and certain structural reforms in government economic policymaking and implementation. According to Banta, these "structural reforms, while not yet fully worked out, would be similar to those now being pushed by Wisconsin Congressman Henry Reuss. These would establish the Federal Reserve Board as a Big Brother over nearly every aspect of U.S. economic policy. Banta said that Kennedy is "fully supportive" of Reuss's Omnibus Banking Bill.

The admiration is mutual. Reuss recently endorsed Kennedy's presidential bid on the grounds that the Massachusetts Senator is the only man capable of leading the nation through the current economic crisis. According to an aide, Reuss is particularly impressed with Kennedy's "willingness to take advice from outside experts."

### Convention bombshell

The Kennedy campaign has dropped a bombshell into the Democratic presidential race. Capitalizing on the Massachusetts Senator's unexpected defeat of President Carter in the March 25 Connecticut and New York primaries, Kennedy's chief political strategist, Paul Kirk, has announced that the candidate may wage a rules fight on the floor of the Democratic nominating convention this August. The target: getting rid of the rule that binds delegates to a particular candidate on the first ballot, a rule which favors the candidate who has accumulated the most delegates.

Claiming that any rule could be overthrown at the convention, Kirk told reporters that "the convention is the final authority on what they're going to do in the rules process." Kirk pledged a similar fight over the party platform.

While the Kennedy forces are clearly aiming at giving their man a chance for the nomination, even with a small minority of delegates, overthrowing the first-ballot rule could open up the convention to other dark horse candidates. With Carter's popularity falling precipitously, and Kennedy gaining support purely on the basis of the population's disgust with Carter, an open convention could provide some very startling surprises.