

Mayor Edward Koch and his backers

The people who are particularly pleased at the job Koch has done as mayor of New York are those who put him into power in 1977, and those who have benefited most from his reign.

Koch, while in Congress, was, along with Jacob Javits, one of the chief congressional champions of marijuana decriminalization. According to National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) founder Keith Stroup, Koch was instrumental in the creation of the Shaefer Commission, a federal blue-ribbon panel set up in 1970 to investigate the marijuana issue. Headed by ex-Pennsylvania Gov. Raymond Shaefer, the commission recommended some form of decriminalization, claiming that scientific and medical evidence against marijuana was inconclusive.

Although President Nixon rejected the recommendation, Stroup says the commission's findings were invaluable to NORML's drive to decriminalize marijuana on a state-by-state basis. "Without the Shaefer Commission, and without Ed Koch, there probably would be no decrim laws anywhere," he asserts. George Furnham of NORML enthused recently, "Koch has turned New York City into a model for drug decriminalization."

In addition, Koch has a hard-core group of real-estate speculators among his supporters, including Cadillac Fairview, Olympia and York, and Trump Management, representing Canadian and British interests.

Among Koch's biggest financial contributors in 1977 were:

- Edgar Bronfman, director of the American branch of Seagram's, the Canadian distillery that has documented ties to the international drug trade. The Bronfman family has major interests in Olympia and York, Cadillac Fairview, and Trizec, three of the Canadian-based real-estate concerns that have bought up big chunks of New York real estate, thanks to Koch's generosity.

- Donald Trump, the 33-year-old owner of Trump Management Co., whose multibillion-dollar real-estate

empire includes the newly converted Grand Hyatt Hotel and Trump Towers cooperative which, when completed, will command minimum prices of \$5 million per apartment. It is rumored that purchasers will include the Prince and Princess of Wales. Trump's lawyer is Roy Cohn, attorney for a host of organized crime interests.

- A number of other major real-estate and banking interests including Harry Helmsley; Lew Rudin; such Wall Street firms as Kuhn Loeb, Euro-American Bank, and the Hong Kong-linked Bear, Stearns. Steven Ross, head of Warner Communications; Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney; and Occidental Petroleum's Armand Hammer, patron of Libyan strongman Col. Muammar Qaddafi.

Most of these individuals and organizations are joined by Citibank, Hilton Hotels, Time, Inc., Bear Stearns, David Rockefeller, IBM's Thomas Watson, Felix Rohatyn, and *Screw* magazine publisher Al Goldstein—throwing money into Koch's campaign this time around, a reward for a job well done. Koch's 1981 campaign apparatus is also indicative.

Sitting on his finance committee are former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, an author of the Carter administration's *Global 2000 Report* that calls for eliminating 2 billion people from the earth over the next 20 years; conservative Republican William Simon, a former secretary of the Treasury and now a Wall Street banker; and the heads of Equitable Assurance, Colt Industries, AT&T, and Chemical Bank.

An instrument of the liberal Village Independent Democrats against the city's Democratic machine, Koch was also a dogged congressional opponent of NASA as a member of the House Science and Technology Committee. He had first been picked up as an asset in much the same way as the nonentity Henry Kissinger had been: Koch served as a denazification bureaucrat in postwar Germany, under the direction of Gen. Julius Klein and of Fritz Kraemer, the notorious Kissinger stringpuller and Pentagon mole on behalf of London and the Hapsburgs, who is avowedly dedicated to "postindustrial" policies.