

## Elephants and Donkeys by Kathleen Klenetsky

### The man Ronald Reagan used to be

President Reagan's recent personality transformation, first brought to public attention by Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, is causing increasing concern to his political supporters. Stalwart Reagan-aunts say they are "confused, angry and bewildered" by the President's obvious pandering to the Eastern Establishment, epitomized by Henry Kissinger's ascendancy in the administration.

"If you had told me six months ago that Kissinger, the guy Reagan campaigned against in 1976, could be the next Secretary of State, I would have said you were nuts," one Reagan loyalist told *EIR*. "I'm flabbergasted by what's going on. The Reagan I knew and supported has nothing in common with the Reagan sitting in the White House right now."

The first Reagan he's talking about was the Reagan who won support from American voters by attacking Henry Kissinger. Reagan made Henry Kissinger's sabotage of U.S. foreign and defense policy the major issue of the 1976 presidential campaign. He attacked Kissinger for allowing the Soviets to gain military superiority over the United States, for plotting to "sell out" the United States by handing over the Panama Canal, and for trying to institutionalize U.S. strategic inferiority.

American voters were so receptive to Reagan's remarks that President Ford and Dr. K. were constantly forced on the defensive. Even Jimmy Carter picked up on some of Reagan's charges.

The high point of Reagan's anti-Kissinger crusade came on March 31, 1976, when the candidate bought a half-hour national TV spot to air his charges. In the broadcast, Reagan said: "Kissinger is quoted as saying that he thinks of the U.S. as Athens and the Soviet Union as Sparta [and] 'the day of the U.S. is past and today is the day of the Soviet Union.'" Reagan also quoted Kissinger as stating, "My job as Secretary of State is to negotiate the most acceptable second-best position available." Reagan attacked Kissinger protégé Helmut Sonnenfeldt for advocating a policy that "the captive nations should give up any claim of national sovereignty and simply become a part of the Soviet Union." He blasted Gerry Ford for being a man "who places his faith in the Washington establishment" and for signing the Helsinki accord, which, Reagan said, "put an American stamp of approval on Russia's enslavement of the captive nations."

The speech caused a furor. On April 1, the State Department issued a 10-page point-by-point rebuttal of Reagan's charges, a highly unusual move that reflected Kissinger's extreme vulnerability on the issues Reagan had raised. Kissinger urgently denied that he had ever used the Sparta-Athens analogy or had said that the United States would always be "number two," and he ordered State Department counselor Lawrence S. Eagleburger to release a statement claiming that these quotes in particular were "pure invention and totally irresponsible."

But on April 2, former Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Elmo Zumwalt confirmed to reporters that he was the source for the quotes. They are accurate, said Zumwalt, and they came

from conversations he had had with Kissinger in the early 1970s. Zumwalt reported on these discussions more fully in his book, *On Watch*.

On the same day, Reagan was asked by reporters if Kissinger were the primary target of his campaign. The candidate replied: "I've used him as an example of what I think is wrong with [U.S. foreign] policy, but I think the President of the United States is responsible for foreign policy, and he seems to be upholding the positions taken by the Secretary of State."

On April 3, Rep. William Steiger (R-Wis.), a Ford booster, told the *New York Times*: "If you wanted to find an issue that brought together the Reaganites, it would be Kissinger and the whole issue of détente."

Steiger was absolutely on target, and Reagan—who has succeeded Richard Nixon and Gerry Ford as Kissinger's pet President—is paying the same political price Ford did in 1976 by keeping Dr. K. in power.

### Jackson targeted by JDL assassins?

Israeli intelligence-linked sources are warning that Jesse Jackson could be targeted for assassination by Meir Kahane's Jewish Defense League fanatics.

Kahane arrived in New York April 26 to kick off a four-week tour of the United States. *EIR* has been informed that he intends to instigate a wave of terrorist provocations against Islamic networks in the United States. The key target will be Louis Farrakhan of the Nation of Islam, the Jackson campaign bigwig who has gained wide notoriety for his attacks on Jews and defense of Adolf Hitler.

The scenario now unfolding has all the earmarks of a bloody "chaos and confusion" situation in which a hit on Jackson looms as a possibility. Walter Mondale would stand to reap the greatest political benefit from a Jackson assassination.