

## Kissinger Watch by M. T. Upharsin

### 'Bring back Henry. . . .

"An intense lobbying effort would be negative!"

"It's a good idea—as long as it doesn't come from me!"

"I like the conception, but if I recommend it, it will backfire."

According to reports received by Kissinger Watch in the United States and Western Europe, these are among the characteristic responses of individuals approached to associate themselves with an informal committee of influentials now taking shape to re-install Henry Kissinger in a prominent policy position in the next U.S. administration.

For the scribes and oracles of the oligarchy, Henry Kissinger appears to be some kind of combination of folk hero and Typhoid Mary. They need him as the unique individual capable of arranging the transfer of world power to the Soviet Empire, but they don't want to catch the disease of too-intimate association with him.

Fat Henry, after all, is not the most popular man in the U.S.A.

The idea for the committee, from information received by Kissinger Watch, began with leading officers of the Pugwash Conference, the entity established by Lord Russell and Leo Szilard to decapitate the military-industrial power of the United States, which had its annual conference in Sweden July 9-15.

Speaking in Göttingen, West Germany, after a KGB-endorsed conference against President Reagan's beam weapons policy, Pugwashite Victor Weisskopf of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology told reporters that Kissinger "is the only man the Soviets would trust" under conditions of a sec-

ond Reagan administration. "But Kissinger is very unpopular in the U.S.," Weisskopf warned, advising the journalists to begin a behind-the-scenes campaign on Henry's behalf.

One of Washington's leading liberal commentators was approached on Weisskopf's suggestion. "I've been discussing this 'bring back Henry' idea with various people over the past days," he stated. "I like the idea, but a press campaign, I fear, would backfire, especially if I were involved in it." He identified one Washington columnist who was prepared to launch the campaign, but then backed off, "fearing that he would be *terrifically* exposed."

He was nonetheless filled with advice: "For this to work, we have to make sure Shultz stays in as Secretary of State, and to bring Henry in to handle arms-control negotiations, talks on space weapons. He's best for the job, but Shultz has to stay in there, or else [Defense Secretary] Weinberger will take over at State, and there will be an even stronger tilt against arms control than there is now."

He advised that "it might require a Republican Senator, perhaps Howard Baker of Tennessee, to get this going, but it's going to be very, very tough."

### . . .but don't let anybody know!

A Washington influential close to the Willy Brandt-Olof Palme wing of the Socialist International also demurred. "Look, the idea is sensible, we need an authoritative figure from the traditional foreign policy elite in there, if not Kissinger, then Brent Scowcroft or Donald Rumsfeld. But coming from Weisskopf's mouth, this will only backfire, given how Weisskopf is viewed in this town. If Henry were here, I'm sure he would recommend that Victor *denounce* him, since that

would help Henry rather than hurt him.

"Somebody like Tom Watson of IBM would have to push the idea for it to work, that would get Reagan's ear. That's the kind of quarter to look for to get a consensual current going. Some of the columnists, like Joe Kraft of the [*Washington*] *Post* and James Reston of the [*New York*] *Times*, should be brought in. They could start a 'bring back Henry' drumbeat in the press, as long as they got a good dinner invitation in return."

Policy influentials in a range of quarters, from Vienna, Austria, to Venice, Italy, to London and New York, are musing over how the best means can be found to get their would-be Count Metternich back into the policy driver's seat, whichever administration emerges.

One of Kissinger's New York intimates, now advising the Mondale campaign, suggested, "Kissinger might be useful even in a Mondale administration, to deal with some combination of arms control and the Middle East, the two places he's best. . . . To get this going, [former Democratic National Committee head] Bob Strauss and [AFL-CIO chief] Lane Kirkland would have to be approached. Publicly, of course, neither would touch the idea of a pro-Kissinger committee with a ten-foot pole. But, privately, both could serve as the bridges between Mondale and Kissinger. Bob Strauss is close to both Mondale and Kissinger, and Kirkland worked with Kissinger on the Central America commission."

On July 18, in the midst of the Democratic Party convention, Strauss demonstrated that he is operating on exactly such a wavelength. He praised the (Democratic) Roosevelt and the (Republican) Nixon administrations as models to be looked at for a future administration. The latter, he said, mastered the art of foreign policy.

Under whom?