

staff had shut him out. He said that he had only recently heard of my involvement and did not know me at all. But, he said, *'We need a change around here, a big change, and I'm hoping and praying that you're the man to bring it.'* *We shook hands on our alliance*" (emphasis added).

In his book, Morris confesses that he did tell Lott that, with the support he now had in the White House, the right-wing Republicans might successfully push what became the Welfare Reform Act without fear of a veto, which, Morris said, is exactly what the Congressional Republican leadership did.

'The deal' goes into effect

In his book, Morris describes the Mutt-and-Jeff routine that he and the Vice President carried out against the beleaguered President Clinton. At one point, Morris describes a meeting where he was screaming that the President must "triangulate" upon the Congressional Republicans, i.e., break with the traditional Democrats, or else face a "pile of vetoes" as the legacy of his administration; the Vice President played the "soft cop," pretending to calm Morris while also supporting Morris's argument. The confrontation became so heated that a stunned Clinton warned Morris that, if he did not stop shouting, the Secret Service would believe that he was assaulting the President. And, after Gore left the room, that is exactly what Morris did: He grabbed the President, shook him, and shouted at him to "get some nerve!" and make the break with the traditional Democrats in Congress—i.e., his closest allies.

But, according to Morris, the real breakthrough came when, with the support of Gore, he got the President to agree to accept Republican "voodoo economics"—by giving a "balanced budget speech." Morris describes how he and Gore led the President to that point. In March 1995 (pp. 117-119), over the objections of nearly every other White House aide, Morris and Gore got Clinton to give his "pile of vetoes" speech: "The struggle to rescue the President from his staff began in earnest and in the open in March. . . . On March 16 I suggested that the President deliver what I called the Pile of Vetoes speech. It would be an overall response to the Republican agenda and would feature a disclaimer by the President that 'I didn't come to Washington to issue a pile of vetoes' in response to partisan confrontation. And in the speech he would reach out to the Republicans and urge that they join him in finding common ground. . . .

"I pressed this idea on the President in ever more urgent tones during the strategy sessions at the White House residence on March 23 and April 5.

"The April 5 strategy session was the genuine turning point in the President's move to the center. I harshly criticized our position: 'The vast bulk of our rhetoric is anti-Congress and anti-Republican. Getting involved in a zero-sum game with Congress is a very bad idea. Congress is

Dick Morris and Roy Cohn

To understand "Dirty Dick" Morris, you must begin with one simple fact: He is a political protégé of the filthiest, most corrupt figure of postwar American politics: Roy Marcus Cohn. Mob lawyer, Sen. Joe McCarthy's chief witch-hunter, blackmailer, tax evader, FBI snitch, and pervert, disbarred New York lawyer Roy Cohn was at the center of everything sleazy in the Democratic and Republican parties from the early 1950s until his death of AIDS in 1986 at the age of 59.

The Morris-Cohn relationship is familial: Dick Morris's father, Eugene J. Morris, was Roy Cohn's first cousin. The elder Morris spent his entire life working within the Cohn machine, and Dick Morris got all of his political connections through these channels.

What does the Roy Cohn machine look like today? Start with New York Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, until his defeat in November 1998, the key Senate witch-hunter against President Clinton in the ongoing assault on the Presidency. D'Amato was installed in the Senate in 1980, courtesy of Roy Cohn and the East Side Conservative Club of New York City, a collection of right-wing, mob-linked politicians. When he moved to Washington, D'Amato brought along only one adviser: East Side Conservative Club head Thomas Bolan, Cohn's law partner.

winning the public relations war. . . . I criticized our rich-versus-poor rhetoric and our almost total absence of any attempt to carve out a Clinton position that was separate and distinct from that of the Congressional Democrats. 'The new Clinton positions are receiving short shrift and getting submerged in a two-way Democrat vs. Republican fight,' I complained.

"More strategically, I warned that . . . unless the President articulates third-way solutions in the crucible of the current controversies, he will become irrelevant."

"Panetta argued strenuously [that] . . . the President should not break ranks with Congressional Democrats, he said, when they were beginning to make progress in sully the Gingrich image and blunting the offensive.

"I argued that . . . we needed to strike out and fight for a triangulated third way.

"Vice-President Gore, who had recently joined the meeting, sat in silence, as did the President, while Panetta and I argued. Finally, the President turned to Gore and said, 'What do you think, Al?'

Chief publicist for the Cohn crowd to this day is William Safire of the East Side Conservative Club, the resident Clinton-basher for the *New York Times*.

When FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover “leaked” a 100-page confidential dossier on alleged Communist infiltration of the government to a group of Cohn patrons, known as the Jewish American League Against Communism, Cohn and company recruited Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wisc.) to take up the cudgels against the Red Menace. Cohn became McCarthy’s chief of staff and ace Red-hunter. Along with “bosom buddy” G. David Schine, Cohn ran Hoover and McCarthy’s Red Scare, until the sheer insanity of McCarthyism forced the U.S. Army, President Eisenhower, and a group of Senators to bring about Cohn’s ouster and McCarthy’s political destruction.

Cohn returned to New York, where he took up the cause of the city’s top mobsters, becoming their intermediary to the Democratic and Republican parties—at a handsome profit, which he usually hid from Uncle Sam.

One of the biggest skeletons in Roy Cohn’s closet was his suspected link to the British-Permindex apparatus behind the assassination of President Kennedy. In 1959, Cohn engineered the takeover and asset-stripping of the Lionel Corp., which, according to several investigations, would be used four years later as a front and payoff conduit for the Kennedy murder.

Conveniently, the general counsel and staff director for the Warren Commission charged with investigating the JFK assassination, was J. Lee Rankin, an associate of

Eugene Morris and others in Cohn’s circles. Rankin would later serve as Mayor John Lindsay’s New York City Corporate Counsel.

Cohn targets LaRouche

Cohn’s last big assignment, beginning in approximately 1979, for the British-American-Canadian dirty money mob, was the attempt to eliminate independent political figure and Democratic Party Presidential primary candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. The operation, which included attempted assassinations of LaRouche, used massive press barrages through organized-crime-linked publications; connections to the corrupt “Gay” Edgar Hoover networks in the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and Zionist mafia terrorist groups, such as Meir Kahane’s Kach Party and the Jewish Defense League networks.

Cohn’s last campaign failed miserably, in that, by 1983, LaRouche’s ideas had successfully bypassed the George Bush-James Baker III “palace guard” at the White House, and, to the horror of Cohn’s neo-conservative ideologues, in March 1983, President Ronald Reagan announced the policy for the Strategic Defense Initiative, developed by LaRouche. The “Get LaRouche” operation was moved up to a “higher class of thugs,” and into the salon of international financier John Train. Cohn was soon thereafter disbarred as a lawyer on years-old charges, audited by the IRS and fined a sizable sum of money, and generally tossed aside by his controllers.

“Gore spoke as if he were writing an opinion for the Supreme Court. He reviewed the recent history since the ’94 defeat and then made an exaggerated bow to Leon’s position: ‘I fully realize how important it is for us to listen to Leon and not break ranks with the rest of the party, and I fully appreciate how concerned Leon is that such a course might lead us to disaster and even greater trouble than we have now.’ Then came the long-awaited *but*: ‘But I have to say that, on balance, I agree with Dick’s point that we need now to emerge from the shadows and place ourselves at the center of the debate with the Republicans by articulating what we will accept and what we will not, in a clear and independent way.’

“Bravo!”

According to Morris, he and Gore pressed their offensive by pushing for the President to give a “balanced budget speech.” Gore argued that if it were not done, as Morris puts it, “We would have no standing in the current debate and no way to prove our fiscal moderation to swing voters” (p. 163).

Gore and Morris pushed and pushed on this issue until May 25, 1995, when the President made the tragic mistake of once again capitulating to his “Rasputin” campaign strategist and his Vice President. According to Morris: “On May 25, we canvassed our weekly strategy meeting, reopening the whole issue of whether he could give the balanced budget speech. . . .

“Determined to press my case, I argued long and hard for the President to give the speech. Such a speech, I said, not only would be a good political move but would announce the start of a transformation of the Democratic Party from big-government liberalism to policies that met the needs of the people within realistic constraints—an endorsement in other words, of the takeover of the moderate wing of the Democratic Party. . . .

“Panetta and Ickes led the opposition. Stephanopoulos had not yet been admitted to these meetings, but Panetta in effect spoke for him. After all had spoken, the President turned to Gore, as he often did, and said, ‘What about it, Al?’

“Gore, again as if issuing a Supreme Court opinion,