

Behind Haig's bid for a 'co-presidency'

by Kathleen Murphy

In what one Capitol Hill source characterized as "a replay of the 'coup at the Hotel Pierre' "—the late-1968 meeting where Henry Kissinger successfully plotted his seizure of Nixon administration foreign policy making—Alexander Haig launched a series of maneuvers last week designed to establish himself as virtual dictator of U.S. foreign policy.

The echoes of Ronald Reagan's inaugural address had barely faded from the Washington air Jan. 20 when Haig, whose confirmation as secretary of state was still pending in the Senate, presented the new President with a sheaf of executive orders for his signature.

The orders would have given Haig's State Department effective control over many aspects of international economic policy now handled by the Treasury Department and other branches of the executive. They would have put under Haig's authority several interagency committees dealing with international economics and crisis-management. And they would have placed Haig in charge of nearly all the U.S. foreign assistance programs, including Food for Peace and the American components of the IMF/World Bank and various independent development agencies.

Additionally, Haig proposed to Reagan that most of the substantive powers acquired by the National Security Council under the tenures of McGeorge Bundy, Henry Kissinger, and Zbigniew Brzezinski be transferred to the State Department on the grounds that this would reduce

the rivalry that has developed between the two units.

Although this so-called reorganization plan was almost immediately blocked through the forceful intervention of White House Chief of Staff James Baker and Counselor to the President Edwin Meese, there is every indication that it was simply one aspect of Haig's scheme to bring all U.S. foreign policy under his thumb on behalf of the powerful political faction he represents.

The vicar

In a briefing to State Department employees Jan. 22, Haig bluntly announced that he would be running foreign policy—no matter what the U.S. Constitution might say about presidential authority in this area. "I know we all recognize the Constitution of the United States provides that it is the President who is ultimately responsible for the conduct of American foreign policy," Haig conceded, only to add hastily: "But I'm extremely pleased that President Reagan has clearly enunciated his intention to make the secretary of state the vicar of American foreign policy, and by that I mean the delegation of the general managership, if you will, for the formulation, for the conduct, and indeed for the articulation of American foreign policy to the Congress, to the American people and indeed to the world at large."

Earlier that day, Haig had privately arranged a secret, rush swearing-in ceremony for himself to ensure,



*Secretary of State
Alexander Haig.*

as one reliable informant put it, that he would have “a head start in his race to grab power.”

Although Haig, like his mentor and former boss Henry Kissinger, has a strong megalomaniacal streak, his recent actions stem not from personal ambition, but from the fact that he is a frontman for the most corrupt faction operating in the world at present. According to highly informed sources, Haig’s push to set himself up as the new administration’s pope is being engineered by Max Fisher, the notorious Detroit-based kingpin of the multi-billion dollar international drug empire known as Dope, Inc.

A key controller of Republican Party operations, particularly in the Midwest, Fisher was the evil genius behind the scheme put forth at the Republican National Convention last July to make poor, pathetic Gerry Ford Reagan’s “co-president.” Although Reagan shot that scheme down, sources report that Fisher promised to deliver vital Midwest and Northeastern states to the Reagan column in the general election if Reagan agreed to make Haig his secretary of state. With appropriate flanking maneuvers, Fisher was confident that Haig could systematically bring all relevant aspects of U.S. foreign policy under his direct and total control.

If Haig is successful in implementing the Fisher scheme, the policy ramifications for the country and the world will be calamitous. The oligarchical faction which runs Dope, Inc. (and Max Fisher) is committed to

heading off industrial and technological development at all costs.

To do this, they are prepared to provoke wars, trigger Jacobin insurgencies, and overthrow industrial-oriented governments. Should Haig manage to steer the Reagan administration in this direction, not only would Reagan’s dreams of reviving the American economy be shattered, but a superpower confrontation would become all but inevitable.

Haig’s statements over the recent period amply document his commitment to this policy orientation. During his confirmation hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the former NATO supreme commander hinted strongly that he would be prepared to intervene militarily in Latin America—a move that would guarantee a rapid escalation of the “left-right” destabilization which is already threatening to turn that continent into a devastated wasteland. Under those circumstances, Dope, Inc.’s plans for turning Latin America into one vast marijuana-growing plantation could be easily implemented.

In this context, it should be noted that Haig’s éminence grise, Max Fisher, is chairman of the board of United Brands (formerly United Fruit), a British-Zionist controlled entity that has acted as one of the the primary looting agencies in Latin America during the 20th century, and is now a key advocate of dope cultivation.

The fact that Haig had particularly targeted the U.S. foreign assistance programs for State Department takeover is a dead giveaway. According to one source familiar with Haig’s thinking, the new secretary of state “wanted to get all these foreign aid programs under his control so he could use them as a weapon of foreign policy.”

The Kissinger-Carter reshuffle

Although Haig’s reorganization plans have been shelved for the time being, he has been hard at work on other fronts. This is especially true in the area of personnel selection, where Haig has been attempting to stack the State Department with his cronies. Nearly every one of Haig’s known choices worked either for Kissinger or Carter or both. They include:

Lawrence Eagleburger: Haig’s choice for undersecretary for affairs, Eagleburger’s extensive foreign policy background includes a stint as Kissinger’s adviser at the National Security Council and later his principal assistant at State. He was Carter’s ambassador to Yugoslavia.

Chester Crocker: Haig’s nominee to run African affairs at State, Crocker worked directly under Kissinger at the NSC and now operates out of Georgetown University’s Center for Strategic and International Stud-

ies. His prospects for a job with the Reagan administration were nearly dashed when Kissinger began openly lobbying for him shortly after election day.

Richard Burt: The man Haig picked to run the bureau of politico-military affairs, Burt is a "spook" operating under journalistic cover. A member of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies and the New York Council on Foreign Relations, Burt has been the New York Times' military correspondent and earned a well-deserved reputation as Zbigniew Brzezinski's chief press outlet.

Brent Scowcroft: Haig's choice for Ambassador to Moscow, Scowcroft served on Henry Kissinger's NSC staff and then succeeded him as national security advisor in 1975.

Haig is reportedly trying to extend his influence into other key departments, including the NSC, the Defense Department and the CIA. In addition to his plans for taking over NSC's policy-making functions, Haig has installed two former underlings, Major Schweitzer and Admiral Nance, on the NSC staff. He is also reported to be collaborating closely with Vice-Admiral Bobby Inman, recently appointed to the powerful number-two spot at the CIA. As for the Department of Defense, the fact that both Secretary Caspar Weinberger and Deputy Secretary Frank Carlucci lack any significant defense background "has opened the door wide to a Haig policy takeover," as one source put it. Furthermore, reports are circulating that Haig collaborator Fred Iklé will be named to the number-three spot at the Pentagon as a means of mollifying Helms and other conservatives. Iklé is a psychological warfare expert and futurist kook who masquerades as a hard-line realist on defense matters.

Containing Haig

Haig's power grab has met strong resistance from Reagan loyalists. Although the media have been insisting loudly that Haig has been Reagan's first choice for secretary of state for a year, Washington observers now acknowledge that "Reagan doesn't like Haig, and he sure doesn't trust him."

One telling indication of President Reagan's real attitude is the appointment, officially announced Jan. 23, of William Clark as deputy secretary of state. The man who will be holding that powerful position which controls the day-to-day function of State was Reagan's chief of staff in Sacramento. Reagan later appointed him to the California Superior Court and then to the state Supreme Court. Clark was also responsible for bringing Ed Meese into Reagan's California gubernatorial administration.

Whether Reagan loyalists like Meese, Baker and Clark can contain Haig from repeating his inside role in the Watergating of Richard Nixon is still an open question.

Who's mapping out 'Reagangate'

by Scott Thompson

Months before the vote in the 1980 presidential election, a series of slanderous "exposés" had been nearly completed which link Ronald Reagan to "organized crime figures."

The news agencies that prepared these icebox pieces—including the *New York Times*, the NBC-RCA constellation, the *Washington Post*, and the Institute for Policy Studies-linked radical press—are precisely the same that were behind the Watergate coup against President Nixon. And, it was these same news agencies, acting in collusion with a corrupt "old boys circuit" in the Justice Department, that were responsible for railroading thousands of local constituency leaders through a series of "trial by press" smears that made Abscam-Brilab possible.

The decision to release these icebox pieces was not, in fact, made until the pre-inaugural fight over Cabinet appointments was underway. A flurry of cut-and-paste slanders followed the appointments of William French Smith and Raymond Donovan, respectively, as Attorney General and Secretary of Labor. Both represent constituency machines targeted for destruction by Abscam-Brilab.

A still heavier barrage of slander is planned as part of the blackmail to assure that Secretary of State Alexander Haig, the notorious "Deep Throat" of the *Washington Post* during Watergate, be named "dual president." Through this barrage Reagan is to be watergated before he even has a chance to do anything.

A trail of lies

Within days of William French Smith's appointment, *New York Times* columnist William Safire, the self-proclaimed paragon of journalistic ethics during Watergate, served as the conduit for a slander that was hatched by McCarthyite attorney Roy Cohn and *Washington Post* publisher Katherine Graham. It was Graham who, according to eyewitness accounts, called for Nixon to be watergated at a secret meeting held before the 1972 election.

Perhaps the crowning irony of Safire's charge that Smith's friendship with Frank Sinatra left him hopelessly tainted by organized crime is the fact that Roy Cohn and his East Side Conservative Club associates who