

Eye on Democrats by Anita Gallagher

Manatt, Mondale could be knocked out now

Democratic chairman Chuck "Banker" Manatt and Walter Mondale could both be finished off now if Democratic and Republican "little shots" across the country would wake up and act.

So-called Democratic frontrunner Walter Mondale will see his campaign staff face charges on Dec. 13 for assault against Michael Gelber, a candidate for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts backed by the LaRouche-founded National Democratic Policy Committee. The Mondale staff, including former AFL-CIO official Paul Eustace, gave Gelber a concussion by slamming him against the wall, when Gelber publicly referred to the scandal involving Robert Pastor, the Mondale adviser who also worked for the KGB-backed Austin-Coard regime in Grenada.

Queried about this at New York's Summit Hotel on Nov. 29, Mondale turned purple despite his newly prepared answer, "I'm against extremism of any kind." The questions ended rather quickly after that; the Nov. 30 *New York Times* reported how Mondale's press conference ran into a tight spot. And on Nov. 29 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, it was NDPC questioner Bill Ferguson, and not Walter Mondale, whose picture was on page one of the *Portsmouth Evening News*.

Mondale's lead in the polls is already crumbling against movie-flop John Glenn, and Mondale has said he's taking nothing for granted in the New Hampshire vote. Despite the media's claim that the Glenn's late-November assault on Mondale's defense record was a failure, the evidence is to the contrary. It is no secret that nuclear freeze candidate Walter Mondale has opposed virtually every defense pro-

gram to come down the pike throughout his political career.

Enter Democratic National Chair Chuck Manatt, who has the greatest talent in Democratic memory for transforming every tiny disagreement into a bitter feud. At Fordham University on Nov. 30, Manatt became totally flustered when introduced as "a prominent Democratic banker." Manatt shocked the mild-mannered academic audience when he refused to answer this reporter's question on whether the Democratic Party will support laser beam defense in the face of escalating Soviet provocations. Manatt later admitted that both he and Mondale are "shaken" by the NDPC's charges.

On Nov. 30, at a Georgetown University debate on the Soviets' first-strike intentions between *EIR's* editor-in-chief and a no-show Soviet representative (see article, page 58), the DNC's College Young Democrats passed out a leaflet stating that the NDPC "certainly should not be regarded as representative of the views of the Party"!

Manatt adamant on the primary dates

Manatt has remained intractable on the dates for the early Democratic primaries, and opportunist presidential candidate Alan Cranston has moved in to take advantage. Cranston's campaign manager Sergio Bendixen wrote Manatt on Nov. 22 that Cranston was pulling out of the DNC's five-city "presidential sweep" fundraisers on Dec. 5-6 to protest Manatt's handling of the Iowa and New Hampshire date disputes.

Bendixen's letter said that "nearly every Democratic presidential candidate has agreed" to the Feb. 20 date for Iowa and Feb. 28 for New Hampshire. . . . There is no reasonable explanation why our national party has refused to recognize the legitimacy of

their agreement."

Cranston's pullout followed the DNC's Nov. 21 announcement that the DNC was dropping its St. Louis stop, due to precious little interest in a \$500-a-plate luncheon there. The DNC has officially downgraded the amount it hopes to raise on the swing from \$2.4 million to \$1.9 million.

Cranston may hope to ambush Mondale in Iowa, where Mondale's people on the State Democratic Committee fought for the Manatt date and lost, or even in New Hampshire. Both the New Hampshire and Iowa chairs have claimed that Manatt's feud is hurting Democratic campaigns to defeat Republican Sens. Gordon Humphrey (N.H.) and Roger Jepsen (Iowa).

Jackson trying to pull blacks behind Mondale

The only question about Jesse Jackson's campaign is how soon it will move into Mondale's offices. These suggestions enrage Jackson, another proof that they are true.

Jackson fits today with Mondale just as well as he did during the Carter Administration. During the Billygate affair, Jackson interceded with Qaddafi's Libya for the Charter Oil Company, and was told by governmental authorities to register as an official agent of Libya. KGB puppet Qaddafi is currently engaged in killing black Africans in Chad who are trying to defend their national sovereignty.

There are many unanswered questions about Operation PUSH's finances. When Jackson's PUSH sued the *St. Louis Sentinel* for charging that it had a "kickback" approach to black contracts, the suit was quickly settled out of court after a federal judge ruled in October that PUSH had to hand over its financial records. Finally, Jackson's promised Nov. 15 date to "open the books" on PUSH has come and gone without that momentous event, and no new date is scheduled.