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July 11, 1983

I am delighted to send my warmest greetings to those who gather for this convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Since 1847 this sector of the Lutheran Church has worked diligently to help forge a nation from a wilderness. Through the years, your church has grown and prospered, and you have shared the fruits of success with others. Today there are active congregations in all 50 states, and you operate over 1,500 parochial schools. The influence of the Missouri Synod is felt all across our land.

Your adherence to the traditional moral values upon which America was founded has been a great help in our efforts to make America great again. I know you share my belief that we in this nation have been blessed by God, but we must be worthy of his trust.

You have my very best wishes for a productive and enjoyable conference and for the future.

SENT TO:

SPECIAL DELIVERY

RONALD REAGAN

Mr. Marvin Siebels
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
1333 South Kirkwood Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63122

RR:HODGE:plr-7livin
cc: K.Osborne/D.Jepsen/D.Livingston/M.Shortley/CF
EVENT: JULY 8-15



Scattering the Darkness

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

1333 South Kirkwood Road, Saint Louis, Missouri 63122
Telephone: 314-965-9000

Board for Parish Services

call him
+ ask
for
copy
MB

August 4, 1983

Mr. Morton Blackwell
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

MB- There was
no letter to RR
enclosed in this
package. (A)

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Dr. Ralph Bohlmann, president of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod encouraged me to send you a blind copy of my letter to President Reagan. Dr. Bohlmann indicated that he had met you on a number of occasions and that you have been most kind in assisting him in making important contacts in the White House.

Anything you can do to encourage President Reagan to respond favorably to our invitation will be appreciated. I would be most pleased to provide you with additional information if it will be helpful to you.

I am also enclosing a set of the materials I included with my letter to President Reagan.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

H. James Boldt, Secretary
Elementary and Secondary Schools
The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

HJB/11

Enclosures



Scattering the Darkness

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

500 North Broadway, Saint Louis, Missouri 63102
Telephone: 314-231-6969

June 13, 1983

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
For Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of the report, "A Time for Candor: ..." from the Institute on Religion and Democracy. I am very much aware of the tension that exists in the churches of America today on the questions of philosophy and direction. While it may be that the report contributes to that tension, that in itself suggests a measure of vitality in the religious community today.

Thank you, again, for sending the report on to me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ralph A. Bohlmann". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Ralph A. Bohlmann, President
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The American Lutheran Church

Office of Church in Society



422 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415
612-330-3100

17 August 1982

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, DC

*Shall we
take the
American Lutherans
off to Christian
M & L 21 215*

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you for the latest mailing concerning the School Prayer Amendment. I believe it is the third or fourth mailing the White House has sent us on the subject in three months.

We are honored to have such regular attention. But we are also troubled. Let me try to explain why.

First, the White House is clearly lobbying the religious bodies of the United States on this subject--far more, it seems to us, than on matters that are much more consequential for the well-being of our nation and of the global community. We wonder why such an investment of energy goes to this particular matter just now, when there is no clear evidence of support from the religious bodies of the country.

Second, the White House seeks our support but never seems able to take the time to respond to our reservations. I sent a response to Elizabeth Dole* expressing our concerns when the first mailing arrived in late May. I felt those concerns were expressed with respect and in a way which deserved comment. But we have received no word, except the continuing flow of general mailings repeating the same positions. (*copy enclosed)

That is not sufficient to bring us on board. I share with you again a copy of our church's position on the subject, articulated in some detail and developed carefully over a period of many years. I believe the points we are raising deserve to be dealt with.

In addition, could you please tell us why the White House believes this issue has taken on such importance for the life and welfare of our nation at this time, when matters of nuclear arms restraint and economic justice seem so pressing as moral issues within our common life in the U.S.?

Sincerely,

Charles P. Lutz

Charles P. Lutz
Director

The American Lutheran Church

Office of Church in Society



422 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415
612-330-3100

1 June 1982

Ms. Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Ms. Dole:

We wish to thank you for sending the material related to "The Administration's Proposed Constitutional Amendment Relating to School Prayer."

In response, I send to you a collection of materials concerning the subject which express the position of The American Lutheran Church, "Public Schools and Religious Practices." Let me also summarize the problems we continue to see in any proposal such as the one being offered by President Reagan.

1. Genuinely voluntary prayer by individuals is always possible, in public schools or anywhere else. What is neither permitted now, nor desirable in our view, is group prayer sponsored by government. Once sponsored by a school board and administered by an employee of a local government agency, prayer is no longer "voluntary," nor would it be truly optional. The practice would inevitably place government in the role of sponsoring corporate religious activity. It strikes one as ironic that this Administration, with its strong support for limiting the role of government in the everyday lives of the citizens, should champion a proposal for public-school prayer which moves in precisely the opposite direction!

2. What is the intended value of government-sponsored school prayer? The document you provide argues that such prayers should not be understood as "non-denominational" or least-common-denominator expressions, but should be framed in relation to local religious climates. That implies that a majority view would prevail, meaning that Buddhist theology would characterize school prayer in Hawaii, Mormon theology in Utah and Idaho, Lutheran theology in North Dakota and Minnesota, Jewish theology in metropolitan New York City. Will such praying accomplish other than local resentments and community-threatening struggles to find acceptable wordings? Can school boards welcome the prospect?

3. There is danger that government-sponsored prayer will stress nationalism, an uncritical view of country, which would be offensive at least to the biblical tradition which warns against linking religious faith to the interests of any one political entity.

We urge the President and the Congress to leave the situation precisely where it now is. While not an ideal solution for anyone, the consequences of the 1962-63 Supreme Court decisions are fair to all in our society of great diversity. There is no way that same fairness could be retained by any revival of government-sponsored prayers.

Sincerely,


Charles P. Lutz, Director

April 26

TO: Mr. Vipond

We have attached request from Lutheran Brotherhood for message for their 21st Quadrennial convention to be held in Minneapolis MAY 7.

In 1981 we sent message to Mr. Bjella - who was then President of National Fraternal Congress of America on their 95th annual convention in San Diego.

We would be interested to know what your recommendations would be on message to Lutheran Brotherhood - and affiliation between the two organizations.

Thank you.

V. Schmitt
for Dodie Livingston

MORTON- COMMENTS?

LUTHERAN
BROTHERHOOD

Arley R. Bjella
Chairman

ask
Dr. Bohlmann
of Missouri
Synd
136033

April 6, 1983

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Lutheran Brotherhood, the nation's second largest fraternal benefit society, will hold its twenty-first quadrennial convention May 7, 1983.

We would like to request an appropriate message of greetings from you to present to the 265 delegates from throughout the United States of America who will gather to conduct the business of the Society and elect four members to its board of directors. Your message would be read to delegates at the opening session on Saturday, May 7.

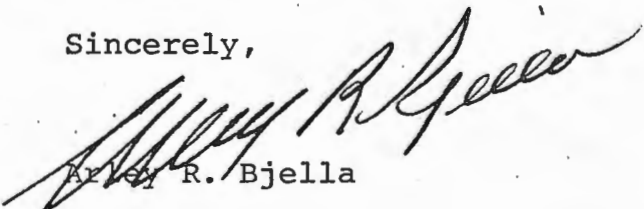
The convention will be held in the new 17-story Lutheran Brotherhood Building, a distinctive structure in the architecture of downtown Minneapolis.

The Society serves its nearly one million Lutheran members through life and health insurance; other financial services; and a generous program of fraternal benefits to home, community and church. As a fraternal society, Lutheran Brotherhood derives its strength from its members--organized into over 1,000 local branches--and returns benefits to them in the form of insurance dividends, matching grants, scholarships, and other resources. While it is not formally affiliated with any church body, Lutheran Brotherhood makes available programmatic and financial support to Lutheran churches, their congregations and institutions.

I am enclosing a copy of our latest Bond magazine, which will give you a better perspective on our mission, character and organization. This issue also contains our 1982 annual report.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let me know if you need further information or clarification.

Sincerely,


Arley R. Bjella

RALPH BOHLMAN

314-965-9000

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

500 NORTH BROADWAY · SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102

OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT



231-6969
AREA CODE 314

July 19, 1982

National Day of Prayer for Nuclear Disarmament
c/o Rabbi David Saperstein
2027 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C. 20036

COPY

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your June 29 invitation to attend an important meeting on July 22 and to consider adding my name to the list of sponsors for the major event you are planning.

I will not be able to attend the July 22 meeting and I must decline your invitation to become a sponsor for this event.

The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod does not identify as a church body with such undertakings, preferring to give guidance to its membership that will enable individual Christians to carry out their responsibilities as Christian citizens to the best of their insight and ability.

I would appreciate your thoughtfulness in keeping me informed of developments.

Sincerely,

Ralph A. Bohlmann
President

RAB/mh

McMahon and Associates

1828 L. Street, Northwest
Suite 1000
Washington, D.C. 20036
202 965-4170

July 26, 1982

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Morton:

Attached is the proposal I talked with you about with respect to ensuring that the Churches are engaged in a fair and two sided discussion on the B-1 Bomber (it should also apply to the MX missiles).

While Rockwell has not made any definite decisions on this, I have just learned that a high level DOD meeting took place last week and this and other strategies to ensure production of the B-1 Bomber were discussed.

I'll follow through on calling the other people you suggested and look forward to getting together soon with two leaders of the Lutheran Church of America who are in accord with the views of the Administration.

Thanks for our meeting, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

With all best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



Joseph E. McMahon
President

Enclosure

file
✓

May 19, 1982

Mr. Mark Harroff
Smith and Harroff, Inc.
916 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Mark:

Focusing on the specific efforts necessary to ensure that the American Church bodies are networked into the the nuclear freeze and related issues, I am enclosing a strategy outline of work to be carried out over the next six months, starting June 1.

Having just returned from a two day Lutheran Church Conference on Business and the Church, I can tell you that Church professionals have already begun to formulate views in response to the nuclear freeze activities of last April — thus, as I see it, time is of the essence.

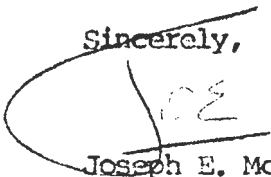
Well organized, vocal, and posturing themselves as the defenders of the poor and needy, Church professionals can be expected to take early and visable positions which will both demonstrate their concern for the poor and their overwhelming desire for peace discussions a la Billy Graham.

Nevertheless, I believe, there is a reservoir of support among a good number of Church professionals, which, when combined with the potential power of the pew, and equipped with facts and a strong defense/Reagan reduction strategy, can serve as the core support for fair and balanced discussion, favorable decisions at church conventions, and ultimately, a majority resolve to ensure U.S. deterrence capability.

With all of this in mind, I have prepared the attached strategy, and I look forward to discussing it with you.

With all best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



Joseph E. McMahon
President

Enclosure

Monitoring the Defense Debate within the American Churches

June:

- * Identify and schedule interviews with up to 20 chaplains and others, representing different denominations within the Armed Forces. The interviews will ascertain the best way of presenting our position within each denomination.

- * Identify and subscribe to the most important of the periodicals and communication organs within each of the denominations, and summarize, on a bi-weekly basis, editorial and reporting comments garnered from these periodicals, and

- * Identify the dates of up-coming national and regional church body gatherings and conventions, and determine when the pre-convention decisions might be made regarding agenda.

July:

- * Meet with and interview the chaplains, and from these interviews, obtain names of members within each denomination, who are perceived as the most thoughtful and influential decision makers;

- * Meet with and interview these decision makers, ascertaining the best way of presenting our position within each denomination, and

- * Attend those church gatherings which are identified as having a session planned which will deal with defense matters.

August and September:

- * Have designed and distribute materials to be used by those leaders speaking at these church gatherings.

- * Prepare written analysis of the interviews of the church leaders, showing an overall perspective of how the churches look at the defense options;

- * Identify and speak with national political leaders who are recognized as leading laymen and laywomen within each denomination who could be networked into the debate (i.e. Senator Dick Lugar for the Methodists, Ed Meese for the Lutherans, etc.)

Monitoring the Defense Debate within the American Churches
Page two

October and November:

- * Identify and meet with representatives of church groups which are organized along other than denominational lines, such as womens groups, youth organizations, and other such ecumenical groups, and

- * Schedule identified representatives to participate in the various convention dialogues, providing them with necessary briefings and support material, and

- * Continue identifying and meeting with lay Church leaders to ensure a continued participation in the debate within their denominations.

STRAIGHT WIRE - JULY 28, 1982

Mr. Melvin M. Stueve
District President
Southern California District
Lutheran Laymen's League
c/o Mr. Don Anderson
Convention Chairman
Post Office Box 1398
Chula Vista, California 92012

file

I am delighted to extend my warm greetings to all those gathered for the International Lutheran Laymen's League 1982 International Convention.

This special occasion presents me with an opportunity to express my high regard for the work of your organization. You play an important role in promoting the foundations of faith throughout the world. Through such efforts as your "This Is the Life" program on television and the Lutheran Hour on radio -- both of which are the longest running programs in their respective mediums, you have helped further Christian ideals throughout our nation and the world.

You have my best wishes for an enjoyable and productive convention.

RONALD REAGAN

RR:LIVINGSTON:--

cc: K.Osborne/J.Wells/M.Rawlins/M.Blackwell/CF
EVENT: July 31-August 4

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 25, 1981

TO: Woody Jenkins
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell
RE: Guilt by Association

Attached is correspondence to Diana Lozano of the Office of Public Liaison from Charles V. Bergstrom of the Lutheran Council in the U.S.A.

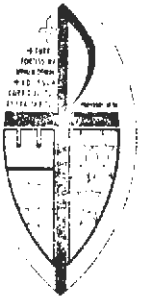
This mail arrived while I was on vacation.

Reverend Bergstrom is one of the leaders of the religious left's opposition to the President's legislative program. I thought you might be interested in how they are attacking me.

Their information, of course, is wrong with respect to the claim that I am an active member on the Council for National Policy. Their information came from the June 26 Group Research report, which they included in their letter. Any idea where Group Research got their information?

LUTHERAN COUNCIL IN THE USA

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Suite 2720
Washington, DC 20024
202 / 484-3950



July 31, 1981

AUG 03 1981

Ms. Diana Lozano
Old Executive Office Building
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Diana:

Thank you very much for the time you gave the officers of the Washington Interreligious Staff Council (WISC), and for the opportunity of learning first hand about the staff responsibilities in your office, and also for our telephone conversation which followed the meeting. I am sending a copy of this letter and a summary of the discussions with you and Mrs. Dole to all of those who were at the meeting so that the results of our telephone conversation may be shared in that manner.

We hope that the information which we provided about the Washington Interreligious Staff Council was helpful. We reported back the following day to the July 15 meeting of the plenary session of WISC, and you have probably seen President Paul Kittlaus' letter to Mrs. Dole. Please let me know if you detect any inaccuracies in the enclosed summary of our meeting. It seemed to us a good learning experience for all concerned.

I am including a copy of the officers of the Washington Interreligious Staff Council. You will be hearing from Rev. Kittlaus about specific issues that we feel will be helpful in briefing your office. There are issues, such as Supreme Court jurisdiction, prayer in the public schools, voting rights, capital punishment, and similar legislative proposals that are very important to us and on which Mr. Morton Blackwell's political organization and Moral Majoritarians will very probably support the opposite view.

We are the official government advocates for our denominations, and I do want to remind you of our request that there might be some discussion of some of the institutional issues of church and state, particularly the issue of integrated auxiliaries and what is the advocacy ministry of the Church. I am enclosing some material that will be helpful in that regard. In regard to our request for a meeting with President Reagan, please note that the national Bishops and church leaders will next meet in Washington September 30 and October 1. I am appreciative of our telephone conversation and we agree you would best serve as our contact in Mrs. Dole's office.

Previous administrations have had clergy persons as religious liaison, and they have not been officially officers or leaders of political action lobby groups. Our tax exempt status would be endangered by our

participation in support of political candidates; we serve as advocates for issues voted by our national bodies. Therefore we feel that there is much that your staff might learn about the work of the church which clergymen would know but which would not be included in the experience of Mr. Blackwell, with his active membership in The Council for National Policy and other groups. I am enclosing also a copy of Group Research's summary of the political organization called "The Council for National Policy," a new coalition following a series of previous coalitions of political action groups, especially of the conservative right wing.

As we indicated in our conversations, the Moral Majority is a political organization and is not representative of any church body, even though it is headed by Rev. Falwell. He himself is an independent religious preacher. I think the reaction to the criticism of the announcement given by President Reagan about the appointment of Mrs. O'Connor as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court is indicative of the questions about political action groups such as Moral Majority and NCPAC who use religious terminology. Most important, we hope there can be a growing acceptance of differences between religious and other groups. We hope that our relationship with you will be helpful to your office as well as to us. We look forward to being of service to you in every way possible.

Thank You.

Very sincerely yours,



Charles V. Bergstrom
Executive Director
Office for Governmental Affairs

CVB'RLB
Enclosures

cc: Elizabeth Dole
Paul Kittlaus
Mary Jane Patterson
David Saperstein
John Baker
Jim Robinson
William Thompson
John Houck

LUTHERAN COUNCIL IN THE USA

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Suite 2720
Washington, DC 20024
202 / 484-3950



Outline of the meeting with representatives of WISC with
Mrs. Elizabeth Dole and Ms. Diana Lozano, July 14, 1981

The Rev. Paul Kittlaus, United Church of Christ, together with Ms. Mary Jane Patterson, United Presbyterian, Rabbi David Saperstein, Union of Hebrew Congregations, Attorney John Baker, Baptist Joint Committee, and Dr. Charles Bergstrom, Lutheran Council, met with Mrs. Elizabeth Dole, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, and also with her deputy, Diana Lozano. James Robinson, government liaison representative of the U.S. Catholic Conference had planned to meet with the WISC officers, but was unable to do so because of illness. He has sent his letter of regret to Mrs. Dole's office.

The meeting included a description of the Washington Interreligious Staff Council (WISC) by its president, Paul Kittlaus, followed by an exchange of questions and answers. WISC includes 38 religious offices here in Washington--the official government liaison offices of corporate religious bodies. Secondly, Rabbi David Saperstein, chairman of IMPACT, described that organization and its work. It is the network from the Washington offices to people in various parts of the country. Mary Jane Patterson described the quarterly meetings of the national bishops and church leaders which is held here in Washington with members of Congressional committees and subcommittees in the capitol building.

There also was discussion of the organization of Mrs. Dole's office and the present division of contacts with religious organizations between Mr. Jack Burgess, Mr. Jack Stein, and Mr. Morton Blackwell. The WISC representatives made clear that they work together as religious organizations and in most instances would want to meet with Administration representatives as one group rather than three religious organizations divided.

A request was made that the office of Mrs. Dole arrange for a meeting between President Reagan and the national church leaders and bishops. The WISC organization would help to arrange such a meeting. (Since this meeting, Rev. Paul Kittlaus has written a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Dole.)

It was also agreed that WISC contact Ms. Lozano concerning briefings on particular issues or legislation of interest to the church offices. John Baker described some of the church-government areas of concern and the consultation on church-state in February of this year. This consultation involved nearly 90% of religious groups in the USA.

During the discussion the importance of the mainline church and synagogue organizations expressing their views at every occasion possible was pointed out. It was also pointed out that the approach of many of these organizations would differ quite often from those taken by the right wing fundamentalist organizations.

The WISC group itself does not always agree on all issues, but has developed a mutual respect for one another and member offices participate together as authorized on given issues. Issues of present concern include voting rights and the cutbacks on funding for the poor.

After the meeting with Mrs. Dole, the WISC officers had a very helpful meeting with Diana Lozano who reviewed the organization's structure with herself as a deputy to Mrs. Dole. The request for a meeting with President Reagan and the national church bishops and leaders was repeated.

Thank You

OAB

WASHINGTON INTERRELIGIOUS STAFF COUNCIL (WISC)

1981

OFFICERS:

Chair	Paul Kittlaus, United Church of Christ	543-1517
Vice-Chair	Louise Bowman, Church of the Brethren	546-3202
Rec. Secretary/Treasurer	Martin Rock, ITF on US Food Policy	543-2800
Issues Chair	June Totten, American Baptist Churches	544-3400

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Louise Bowman, COB, 546-3202	Paul Kittlaus, UCC, 543-1517
Betsy Beyler, MCC, 544-6564	Dick Sternberger, UAHC, 232-4242
Jane Leiper, NCC, 544-2350	June Totten, ABC, 544-3400

TASKFORCES:

CHAIRS:

MEETINGS:

Civil & Religious Liberty

Mary Cooper, 544-2350
Esther Herst, 543-7659

1st & 3rd Tues.
12-2:00, NCC

Native American WG

Steve Linscheid, 547-6000

4th Thurs.
2-4:00, NCC

Energy & Ecology

Martin Sovik, 484-3950

2nd & 4th Tues.
2-4:00, NCC

Foreign Policy/Military Spending

Gretchen Eick, 543-1517
Bob Tiller, 544-3400

2nd & 4th Mon.
2-4:00, NCC

Immigration & Refugee WG

Marie Hellinger, 462-7008

As announced.

Health & Human Services

Bob Barrie, 543-1126
John Lillie, 484-3950

1st & 3rd Thurs.
2-4:00, NCC

Interreligious TF on US Food Policy

George Chauncey, 543-1126
Janet Vandevender, 543-2800

3rd Mon.
1:30-4:30, UCC

Agricultural Policy WG

Don Reeves, 543-2800

2nd & 4th Wed.
10-12:00, UMC

Domestic Nutrition WG

Kathleen Daugherty, 484-3950

1st & 3rd Tues.
9:30-11:30, UCC

International Development Assistance Policy WG

Carol Capps, 484-3950

1st & 3rd Mon.
11:30-1:30, UMC

International Economic Policy WG

Anita Anand, 488-5647

As announced.

Public Policy Affecting Women

Chris deVries, 544-2350

3rd Fri.
10-12:00, NCC

WISC PLENARY Meets Every 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10:00-12:00, UMC Conf. Room.

WASHINGTON INTERRELIGIOUS STAFF COUNCIL (WISC)

ORGANIZATIONAL LISTING

1981

- * Head of Office
- + Receives Mailings
- WISC Member

-AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES, USA
110 Maryland Avenue, NE, #511
Washington, DC 20002
544-3400

+*June Totten
+Robert W. Tiller
Monique Bailey

-AMERICAN ETHICAL UNION
4242 East-West Highway, #1018
Chevy Chase, MD 20015
652-0020

+*Raymond Nathan
Marina Haldane

-AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
1822 R Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009
483-3341

+*B. Tarrt Bell
Damu Smith

-AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
818 18th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
298-8787

+*Hyman Bookbinder
Howard Kohr

-AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
1522 K Street, #636
Washington, DC 20005
(7/1/81: 2027 Mass. Ave, NW)
638-3999

+*Marc A. Pearl

-BAPTIST JOINT COMMITTEE
ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS
200 Maryland Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
544-4226

*James M. Dunn
+Victor Tupitza

-B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
857-6545

+*Warren Eisenberg

-B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN
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Washington, DC 20036
857-6628

+*Brenda Levenson

BREAD FOR THE WORLD
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Washington, DC 20002
544-3820

+*Barbara Howell

CENTER FOR THEOLOGY AND PUBLIC POLICY
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Washington, DC 20016
363-3088

+*Alan Geyer
Robert McCan
Brigid O'Malley
Ronald Pasquariello
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797-8106

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Washington, DC 20002
546-3202

+*Ron Hanft
+Renee Baad
+Louise Bowman

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

777 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
212/661-3856

+*Edna McCallion

CLERGY AND LAITY CONCERNED

198 Broadway
New York, NY 10038
212/964-6730

*Blaise Lupo & John Collins
+Mark Harrison

-EPISCOPAL CHURCH

110 Maryland Avenue, NE, #510
Washington, DC 20002
547-7300

+*William L. Weiler
Elouine Dalyai

-FRIENDS COMMITTEE

ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION
245 Second Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
547-6000

+*Edward Snyder
Nick Block
Ruth Flower
Steve Linscheid
Frances Neely
Ted Zuern

HAITIAN REFUGEE PROJECT

110 Maryland Avenue, NE, #108
Washington, DC 20002
544-7475

+*Sue Sullivan

IMPACT

100 Maryland Avenue, NE, #502
Washington, DC 20002
544-8636

+*Robert Odean

INTERFAITH COALITION ON ENERGY

236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, #409
Washington, DC 20002
546-5200

+*William H. Millerd

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Washington, D.C.--(LC)--The White House has been asked to arrange a meeting between President Reagan and national bishops and church and synagogue leaders.

This was reported by Dr. Charles V. Bergstrom, executive director of the Office for Governmental Affairs of the Lutheran Council in the USA, following a session at the White House with Mrs. Elizabeth Dole, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison. Bergstrom arranged the meeting for five members of the Washington Interreligious Staff Council (WISC), of which he is former chairman.

Bergstrom said that President Reagan "has the ear of the Moral Majority and other right-wing fundamentalist groups and needs to get the input of leaders of mainline Protestant, Catholic and Jewish groups as well."

"We pointed out," Bergstrom said, "that the Moral Majority is a lobbying office, not a church, and that our organization represented a point of view based on actions of church conventions." WISC is composed of 38 churches and Jewish organizations.

The group told Mrs. Dole and her deputy, Diane Losano, that their religious bodies differ with "right-wing fundamentalists" on a number of issues, such as prayer in the public schools, jurisdiction of the U.S. Supreme Court and the voting rights bill.

"The White House early on had wanted to have three contact people -- one for Catholics, one for Protestants and one for Jews," Bergstrom said. "We told the administration that since we all work together, we would prefer only one person."

With Bergstrom at the July 14 meeting were representatives of the United Church of Christ, United Presbyterian Church, Joint Baptist Committee and Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

GROUP RESEARCH

Vol. 20, No. 6

June 26, 1981

New Right organizes a super coordinating group

An umbrella group, holding company, super group or -- as they are calling it -- a coordinating group of some 50 conservative leaders has been announced to influence public policy under the name of Council for National Policy.

The executive committee includes three of the top four leaders of the new right network, as they occasionally refer to themselves: Richard A. Viguerie, the fund-raising expert or "Godfather" of the new right; Paul Weyrich, head of the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress; and Howard Phillips, head of The Conservative Caucus.

Viguerie was host the next evening at a reception for the powerful new group which presented David Stockman, Director of the Office of Management and Budget in the Reagan Cabinet, an award for his efforts to cut the budget.

Among members of the new Council are Morton Blackwell, a right-wing professional staffer who is now an assistant to Reagan for public liaison; Robert Billings, a former leader of Moral Majority who is now a top official of the Department of Education; Joseph Coors, the Colorado brewer who funds right-wing causes such as the Heritage Foundation; Edward Feulner, head of Heritage; Nelson Bunker Hunt, the Texas tycoon who is also on the National Council of the John Birch Society; Reed Larson, President of the National Right to Work Committee; Edward McAteer, President of the Religious Roundtable; Bill Saracino of Gun Owners of America; and Phyllis Schlafly, head of the STOP-ERA movement and famous right-wing activist.

Many Congressmen attended the reception, along with such luminaries as T. Cullen Davis, another Texas oil millionaire who has become a born-again Christian and works with Rev. James Robison, a leader of the Christian right.

Officers are professionals

To run the new organization, the group chose two established names with administrative and cause experience. The President is Rev. Tim LaHaye of San Diego who, with his wife Beverly had been running Family Life Seminars until he went full-time with Moral Majority on the West Coast. The reverend is reported to have initiated the Council by calling his friend Davis, who called Hunt. LaHaye's wife has been active in the anti-ERA drive and in so-called pro-family issues. A recent fund-raising letter from LaHaye was a lengthy attack on "humanism," a favorite target of the right wing recently.

The Executive Director is Louis (Woody) Jenkins, a Democratic legislator from Louisiana who was defeated for the U. S. Senate. Jenkins has been Secretary and Chairman of the American Legislative Exchange Council; a Trustee of the Conservative National Committee; Director of the Conservative Campaign Committee; on the board of advisors of Heritage Foundation; a Director of The Conservative Caucus and Secretary of its Research, Analysis & Education Foundation; and on the faculty of a 1979 conference in Chicago of the National Pro-Life PAC. After the 1976 election of Jimmy Carter, Jenkins was chosen by The

Some right-wing activity of Reagan officials

Martin Anderson, Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy: A veteran of the right-wing Hoover Institution at Stanford where he prepared the report announcing the Institution's shift from solely foreign to domestic issues as well. He has also been an adjunct scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, the Washington-based sister organization, and written for the Heritage Foundation.

Rev. Bob Billings, consultant to the Secretary of Education on reorganization: The founder and President of Christian School Action, Inc. and of the National Christian Action Coalition, he is also a member of the Policy Committee of Christian Voice and was Executive Director of Moral Majority and President of the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress before joining the Reagan campaign and transition team. He has also been Chairman of the Conservative Caucus Educational and Research Foundation.

J. William Middendorf, Ambassador to the Organization of American States: Treasurer of the Draft Goldwater Committee, he was an early contributor to the American Conservative Union and a dais guest at a National Review dinner.

Daniel Oliver, General Counsel of the Department of Education: A former Executive Editor of National Review, he was Director of Research for James Buckley's successful campaign for the Senate in 1970 on the Conservative Party ticket and a director of the American Conservative Union.

Morton Blackwell, a Presidential assistant for public liaison: A veteran of YAF and the Goldwater campaign, he worked for Richard A. Viguerie, the head of the "new right," and the American Enterprise Institute, then he supported Rep. Philip Crane for President and worked for Senator Gordon Humphrey (R-N.H.). Also, he has been President of the Conservative Leadership Youth Fund.

Dr. C. Everett Koop, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Resources: Served on the boards of conservative anti-abortion groups, such as National Right to Life and Americans United for Life.

Rich Williamson, top deputy to the White House Chief of Staff: A former top assistant to right-wing Congressman Philip Crane (R-Ill.), he has been active in the American Conservative Union, which Crane once headed.

Robert C. Carleson, Policy Development Aide to the President: Former director of the California Department of Social Welfare under Governor Reagan, he carried out the "workfare" concept there and has since cooperated with the American Conservative Union and Heritage Foundation.

Wendy H. Borchardt, White House aide for recruiting women: A director of the Pacific Legal Foundation and finance committee member of the Hoover Institution.

Charles Lichenstein, public affairs staff of Ambassador Kirkpatrick at the United Nations: Formerly with the American Enterprise Institute, he was director of research in the Goldwater campaign and wrote for Nixon officials.

Dr. William Schneider, Jr., Associate Director of OMB under Stockman: A former staffer for Cong. Jack Kemp and Sen. James Buckley, he has done studies for the American Conservative Union and Heritage Foundation and is an adviser to the Institute of American Relations, a right-wing policy group.

T. Kenneth Cribb, staff assistant to the President: Formerly National Director of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, he is a trustee of the Philadelphia Society and a consultant to the Heritage Foundation.

Lyn Nofziger, Assistant to the President for political affairs: An old Reagan press spokesman and political operative, he has been a consultant to the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress and a contributing editor of Viguerie's Conservative Digest.

The administration's decision implies a more conventional and moderate course in the region than many had expected. At the same time, its likely position in those negotiations, as projected by President Reagan in an interview Friday with The Washington Post, suggests a delay in a Namibia solution and is likely to be unpopular in Africa.

The administration's decision to continue U.S. efforts toward an internationally negotiated Namibian settlement was conveyed to Nigerian Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. at the State Department Friday, according to administration sources.

Haig's disclosure is believed to be among the factors contributing to the optimism about U.S. policy in southern Africa expressed by Audu, the secretary of state's first official visitor from Africa, after the meeting.

The African visitor was told that the new administration has completed the initial phase of its far-ranging review of policy toward the continent. In this connection, several recent decisions have been made to reduce the soaring apprehensions of black African states:

- In a move related to the Namibian decision, the State Department persuaded Angolan guerrilla leader Jonas Savimbi to postpone his trip to this country for the second time in a month. Savimbi was to have arrived in New York today for a visit that

See POLICY, A12, Col. 1

S. Africa to lift black bishop's passport after U.S. speech. Page A12



North Carolina's Al Wood, right, fights Leo Raker for ball in 78-65 victory over Virginia that put Tar Heels in NCAA final against Indiana. Details, Page D1.

Teen Crime Rise Laid

By Athelia Knight
Washington Post Staff Writer

Bruce was first busted eight years ago — at the age of 9 — when he and two other boys ransacked an elementary school near his home on Capitol Hill.

Since then, he has been unable to kick the crime habit. Bruce has been arrested 30 times, convicted at least five and, law enforcement officials insist, would have been convicted on nearly a dozen more charges if it were not for a lenient policy of dropping pending charges against juveniles already convicted on other charges.

Willie, 18, has a record that includes eight arrests and seven convictions in six years. He has spent more than half that period locked up. But Willie has been arrested four times for violent crimes and was convicted of homicide at the age of 14 — for

beating a man to death robbery.

He was sentenced to life for the killing, two streets — and back in years were up.

Spurred by chronic drug traffic, lenient what social workers visitation and helplessness, ington's children are missing drugs and occasions.

Street-wise young men (their real names), too fueling the upsurge of The newest, growing el

No-Frills Academy Thrives in Fairfax

Prominent Families Lining Up to Enroll Children in Christian School

By Dan Morgan
Washington Post Staff Writer

Fairfax Christian Academy often crowds 35 or more students into a classroom, has no school teams or extracurricular activities, requires kids to bring their own lunches, seldom has a parents' meeting and charges tuition of \$1,350 a year.

But families are lining up to get their children in.

Its clientele includes such prominent parents as Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.); Richard A. Viguerie, master fund-raiser of the New Right; Howard E. Phillips, founder of the Conservative Caucus; Rep. Philip M. Crane (R-ILL), former presidential candidate, and New Right political organizer Morton Blackwell.

Robert L. Thoburn, founder, direc-

tor and headmaster of Fairfax Christian, only chuckles at the suggestion that his profit-making school is an exclusive haven for the newly influential conservative political elite — a sort of St. Albans School for the New Right.

Former liberal Democratic senator Birch Bayh sent a child to the school briefly in the 1960s, Thoburn notes, and children of Redskin quarterback Joe Theisman attended more recently.

But Thoburn is the first to agree that Fairfax Christian, by virtue of its prestigious clientele, is giving a mantle of establishment respectability to an educational "movement" that Thoburn believes could revolutionize American education.

His is one of a growing number of Christian schools that stresses funda-

mental religious values and teaches courses ranging from the story of man's evolution to economics from "Christian perspective."

The critics of this development warn that its success has been built on parental fears of forced busing and concern over deteriorating public school discipline and the ban on school prayer. They also contend that many of the fundamentalist religious leaders who promote Christian schools have a political agenda that includes wider mobilization of religion for its causes and candidates of the New Right.

Thoburn himself, in addition to three unsuccessful runs for Congress, has served one term in the Virginia House of Delegates. One of his sons,

See ACADEMIES, A2, Col. 5

plus some sharp criticism of Reagan's telephone consultation with TV preacher Jerry Falwell before the selection was announced.

The most vehement complaints about the president's hour-long telephone call to the Moral Majority leader came from evangelical Protestants. "I have been under the impression that Ronald Reagan, not Jerry Falwell, was elected president of the United States last fall," wrote Dr. Presnall Wood, editor of the Baptist Standard, official publication of 2.2 million Texas Southern Baptists.

Wood, whose weekly journal is one of the most influential in Southern Baptist circles, asked: "Why was Falwell singled out? Has Falwell's media power risen to the level where he is fast becoming the uncrowned religious pope of America?... America does not need a crowned or uncrowned religious pope, whether he be fundamentalist Baptist, Roman Catholic or Southern Baptist."

Wood's fellow Texan, Spurgeon Dunn III, editor of the Dallas-based United Methodist Reporter, said editorially he was "bothered, personally, by the type of religious folks Mr. Reagan tends to listen to Mr. Falwell epitomizes a very narrow, legalistic and not always Christian — from my understanding of the Scriptures — point of view."

Falwell has opposed the confirmation of Judge O'Connor because of concern that she would be pro-abortion. In meetings with members of Congress this week, she declined to provide specific answers to questions about her views on the Supreme Court's rulings on abortion, but said she was personally opposed to abortion.

Criticism of the president's consultation with Falwell, who gave him strong support in last fall's election, also came from R.G. Puckett, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, and from Dr. James Dunn, government affairs expert for the Baptist Joint Committee.

The appointment of O'Connor, the fulfillment of a Reagan campaign pledge to appoint a woman to the Supreme Court, brought plaudits from leaders of the National Council of Churches, the liberal interdenominational agency which has thus far found little to praise in Reagan's conservative policies.

It also brought commendations from major Jewish organizations, including B'nai B'rith, the American Jewish Congress, the American Jewish Committee and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.



JUDGE SANDRA O'CONNOR

... personally opposed to abortion

branch of Judaism in this country, split on the O'Connor appointment, with the Union of Orthodox Rabbis opposing her confirmation because of the abortion issue and the National Council of Young Israel commending the appointment.

Bishop Thomas C. Kelly, general secretary of the United States Catholic Conference, said his organization "is disturbed" by reports of the Supreme Court nominee's position on abortion, aid to nonpublic education and capital punishment. But he added he would not "pre-judge the nominee" and expressed confidence that these and other issues would be "fully clarified during the Senate confirmation process."

As a member of the Arizona legislature, O'Connor supported legislation that would restrict aiding private schools with public funds. The White House has said she supports the death penalty.

Robert Dugan, director of public affairs for the National Association of Evangelicals, applauded Reagan's appointment of a woman to the court. "That historic step was overdue," he said. But he expressed "deep misgivings about Judge O'Connor's views on abortion."

Fundamentalist preacher Carl McIntire called the nomination of O'Connor "a dark and sad day for the fundamentalists in our churches" because of her record on abortion and religious schools. "This woman is dangerous to us," he said. "Our churches throughout the land will now arise to fight the appointment

2 on Hill Call for Probe of NCPAC

By Robert G. Kaiser
Washington Post Staff Writer

Two members of Congress have asked Attorney General William French Smith to investigate actions of the National Conservative Political Action Committee that they consider illegal. One member of the House has accused NCPAC's chairman, John T. (Terry) Dolan, of attempted bribery and blackmail.

The Justice Department has not decided whether to initiate formal investigations, a spokesman said yesterday.

The charge of attempted bribery and blackmail was made by Rep. Stephen L. Neal (D-N.C.) and was based on a letter he received from Dolan. In the letter, dated last Friday, Dolan wrote:

"If you will make a public statement in support of the president's tax-cut package and state that you intend to vote for it, we will withdraw all radio and newspaper ads planned in your district. In addition, we will be glad to run radio and newspaper ads applauding you for your vote to lower taxes."

The federal statute regarding bribery of public officials makes it illegal to give or offer "anything of value to any public official . . . for or because of any official act performed or to be performed . . ."



REP. STEPHEN L. NEAL
... alleges attempted bribery, blackmail

A senior federal prosecutor said yesterday that the wording in the letter was "very, very close to the line" dividing acceptable behavior from an illegal attempted bribe. The prosecutor, who asked that he not be identified and said he had no direct

familiarity with the matter, added that the Justice Department would have to conclude that there was a criminal intent involved to press any charges.

The second complaint against Dolan and NCPAC came from Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), who received a letter from the NCPAC chairman last month urging him to vote against a proposal to close certain tax loopholes involving "straddles." Moynihan forwarded the letter to William F. Hildenbrand, secretary of the Senate, asking if Dolan was registered as a lobbyist.

He was not, and Hildenbrand forwarded the matter to Justice Department for possible investigation.

Dolan and NCPAC are familiar with political controversy. The group has specialized in running negative radio and television ads attacking liberal Democrats. NCPAC and Dolan have been criticized by some Republicans, but in May President Reagan's political adviser, Lyn Nofziger, endorsed the group's activities.

NCPAC's commercials create "a climate of doubt" about the Democrats and are, "on balance," a help to the administration, Nofziger said.

Dolan was traveling outside Washington yesterday and could not be reached for comment.

Dr. Jerry Falwell has announced a major thrust in the 1980's to aid the nation's poor, particularly those in America's inner cities.

Speaking at Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Va., where he is pastor, Dr. Falwell said the program will involve at least two of his ministries: The Old-Time Gospel Hour and Liberty Baptist College.

Dr. Falwell said Christian people, particularly, have a special obligation to the poor. He criticized some social welfare programs, saying:

"I think most of you know me well enough to know that there is no greater enemy to the massive welfare state that we have established in this country than I am. I believe that we have generated and produced a society of professional bums and we can't blame the people, we must blame government. We have made it easier for people to obtain without working (so, now) they are not willing to obtain by working."

He also said there are 67 promises and curses in the Bible concerning Christian relationships to the poor and they can be ignored only at an individual's own peril.

Dr. Falwell said the Old Testament social security program required the people of God to take care of the poor and the needy around them. In the New Testament, he said, the Apostle Paul said if a man will not work, he shouldn't eat.

Falwell announced a 10-point program designed to meet the legitimate needs of those who are poor. It involves the establishment of a working relationship between 10 suburban, affluent churches and one inner city church in communities throughout the country. The suburban churches would provide manpower, training, help in finding jobs and money. They would also call on their members to "adopt" a poor family and see to its needs.

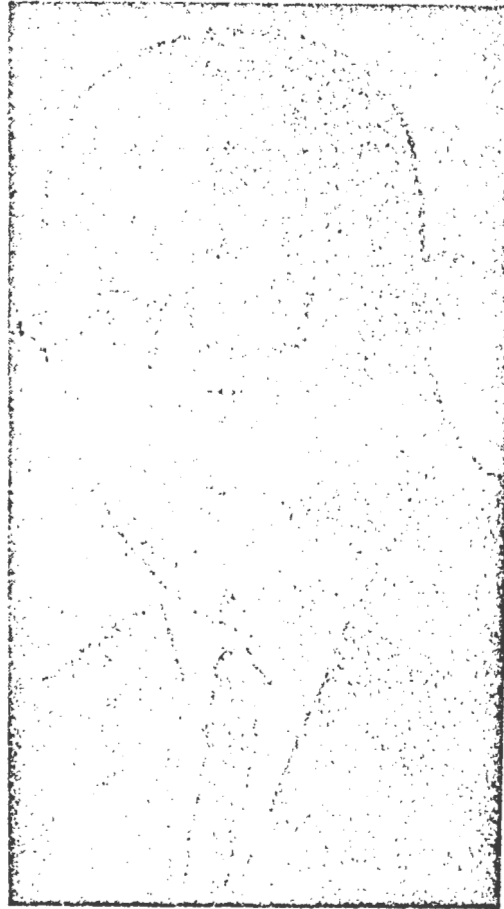
Other items on the agenda include calling on President Reagan to establish a Presidential commission on the poor, the founding of a world Christian Training Center to promote social as well as religious activity in the inner cities, assisting the inner city churches in establishing a "think tank" on the poor that would serve as an advisory group on the problems of the disadvantaged and recommend solutions for dealing with them, a docu-drama film on poverty that could be used to educate people about poverty and a national meeting of fundamentalist pastors to encourage fundamentalist church people to become "re-involved in the world."

Dr. Falwell announced that nationally-known black pastor, E.V. Hill, pastor of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Los Angeles, is designing training manuals and the program to be used by fundamentalist churches.

Falwell said liberal churches quit preaching the Gospel years ago and even their social programs have failed.

He said, "while the liberals have been talking about social action, the conservatives are now going

E. V. Hill, Outstanding Black Leader, Designs Manuals, Program For 'War' On Poverty



Dr. E. V. Hill

to do the work. While the liberals have been doing a poor job caring for the body and ignoring the spiritual needs of the poor, we are going to do both." He said you can't share the Gospel with a starving refugee or someone in the inner city without a place to live unless you have first met his physical needs.

Dr. Falwell said conservatives "have overreacted" to the social gospel of the liberal churches, "and have at times turned our hearts and our backs to those who are helpless."

"I am saying to you there is a happy medium" he said. "We don't want to join the Harry Emerson Fosdick variety, we don't want to join the National Council of Church variety, we don't want to get caught up in social reform or the social gospel. We don't want to get caught up in something that is treating the body but is ignoring the spirit."

Initially, Dr. Falwell said teams of students from Liberty Baptist College will visit Detroit, Los Angeles and Philadelphia this summer to work with the inner city poor. Dr. Falwell dispatched a team from Thomas Road Baptist Church to Kenya and Somalia to survey the refugee situation there which is among the worst in the world. He pledged his church will be sending people and aid to those in refugee camps as it has done before in Cambodia. He also said his ministry will be involved in some of the technical apparatus necessary in so large a program.

Dr. Falwell said, "You can't expect that God would bless us unless you consider the poor," who make up more than 80 per cent of the world's population.

Quoting Psalm 41, he said, "Blessed is he that considereth the poor."

New 'War on Poverty' Involves establishment of a working relationship between 10 suburban, affluent churches and one inner city church in communities throughout the country. The suburban churches would provide manpower, training, help in finding jobs and money.

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Distortions and Public Trust

Well, politics ain't beanbag, as Mr. Dooley said, and prudish punctilio over political tactics can be silly. But politics ain't beanball, either, and NCPAC — the National Conservative Political Action Committee — has, on the record, gotten to confusing hardball with beanball.

As it cranks up for the 1982 congressional campaigns, the public needs to keep a sharp eye on its propensity for mudslinging.

In a recent article Sen. Thomas Eagleton of Missouri, one incumbent NCPAC "targeted" for defeat in 1980, lists several distortions in the NCPAC campaign to discredit and unseat him. The campaign failed; and some of the distortions may not have been deliberate; but that is neither here nor there. The voters, to speak of those most at interest, deserve better.

NCPAC put it about that Senator Eagleton had voted for a \$75 million aid package for Nicaragua. In fact, he opposed that aid on three occasions and never voted for it at all. NCPAC accused the senator of voting against production of the neutron bomb.

He did no such thing. NCPAC charged the senator with voting not to build B-1 bombers. That was true, for a change. But NCPAC omitted the clarifying context. Senator Eagleton's anti-bomber vote was on a reluctant motion by Senator Stennis, a leading B-1 advocate, to delete funds President Carter had blocked by executive order. This was a parliamentary technicality, not a test of sentiment on the B-1 bomber, but what's a fundamental distinction when it might spoil the demagogic impact?

NCPAC also accused Senator Eagleton, a supporter of a separate Department of Education, of voting to "require taxpayers to support almost 18,000 bureaucrats," at a 1981 cost of \$15 billion.

Here, again, was a "fact" on which the legislative setting sheds revealing light. Whether or not you approve of a separate Department of Education, a legitimate issue, it's slimy business to cite costs its creation did not entail. As the senator notes, the department was essentially a consolidation of personnel under a new roof; and the bill "specifically provided that manpower was to be reduced by 500 from the levels of the old agency, with commensurate budget savings."

In Indiana, where Sen. Birch Bayh lost his seat last November, there was similar NCPAC

fudging of the record. Mr. Bayh, the target, recalls the circulation of a survey of farm-vote sentiment that had to do with his votes on such issues as the Panama Canal and labor reform — not with his votes on agricultural matters. Yet the survey was used so as to insinuate to farmers that Senator Bayh was their foe on farm issues.

In Oklahoma, more recently, NCPAC circulated "poll" results purporting to show that House Budget Committee Chairman James Jones, of Tulsa, supports reduced defense spending and increased social spending. In relation to the Reagan budget, that was true. In relation to the Carter budget, which is the benchmark informed people know to be at issue when 1982 cuts and increases are discussed, NCPAC's insinuation was false.

NCPAC contends, we gather, that its main business is letting voters know whether their representatives represent them. That is obviously a fair objective. But NCPAC, if the above episodes are typical, can't or won't distinguish between information and distortion.

This is not surprising when you consider the arrogant assertion of NCPAC's director, Mr. Terry Dolan, that "a group like ours could lie through its teeth and the candidate it helps stays clean." Perhaps he isn't proclaiming falsehood as NCPAC's currency, but only saying that it could be, without injuring the candidates it supports and patronizes.

The assumption is wrong. It may take time for the public to get the message, but politicians are known by the company they keep, and their integrity is inescapably colored by the quality of the support they accept. And should be. No candidate who knowingly condones lies and distortions that poison the public dialogue can evade responsibility for them.

On that point, the new chairman of the Republican Party, Mr. Richard Richards, recently aroused snarls at NCPAC when he said that unaccountable political groups can "create all kinds of mischief."

But the mischief is not that NCPAC efforts temporarily change voting balances in Congress. It is that they insult the intelligence and trust of voters who expect to make political choices on the basis of real, not false, issues. This is fundamental. Every time that trust is deliberately violated, government by consent dies an inch or two.

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A Statement on Religion and Politics

Issued by the Lutheran Council in the USA on behalf of
The American Lutheran Church, The Association of
Evangelical Lutheran Churches and Lutheran Church in America.

Endorsed by LC/USA General Secretary John R. Houck,
ALC President David W. Preus, AELC President William H. Kohn
and LCA President James R. Crumley Jr.

The American Lutheran Church, The Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches and Lutheran Church in America firmly disagree with Christians or coalitions of Christians who plan political action under any guise of religious evangelism, worship or revivalism--or "in the name of Jesus." These partner churches in the Lutheran Council support pluralism and freedom of all people in the political process in the United States and maintain that pushing for total agreement on moral issues is not the same as advocating for legislation which will enhance the common good. "Religious grounds" should not be used as the exclusive yardstick for determining the quality of candidates for political office.

As leaders of Lutheran church bodies, we strongly discourage members of Lutheran churches from joining or supporting movements which confuse church-government relations and distort the churches' advocacy mission in the political world. We support parish pastors and church leaders who do not endorse such movements.

As Lutherans in the U.S., we recognize that an increasingly complex society has produced growing interdependence and interaction among groups, persons and resources in the governmental, economic and voluntary sectors. The government's responsibilities to maintain equity and order have led both the churches and the state into greater contact and, at times, into tension. As governmental bodies seek to perform their roles and the churches seek to fulfill their missions, each needs to be aware of the other's purposes, principles and methods. In their endeavors, both the churches and the government have the task of formulating and clarifying position statements and guidelines for implementation and application when appropriate.

Lutherans acknowledge the twofold reign of God, under which Christians live simultaneously. God is ruler of both the world and the church. The church is primarily the agency of the Gospel in the new age of Christ, while the state is primarily the agency of the Law in the old age of Adam. Given the balance of interests and differing responsibilities of the churches and the government in God's world, the Lutheran churches advocate a relationship between the churches and the government which may be expressed as "institutional separation and functional interaction." Both the churches and the government are to delineate and describe the proper and responsible extent of their functional interaction in the context of God's rule and the institutional separation of church and state.

In affirming the principle of separation of church and state, Lutherans in the U.S. respectfully acknowledge and support the tradition that the churches and the government are to be separate in structure. As the Constitution provides, government neither establishes nor favors any religion. It also safeguards the rights of all

persons and groups in society to the free exercise of their religious beliefs, worship, practices and organizational arrangements within the laws of morality, human rights and property. The government is to make no decisions regarding the validity or orthodoxy of any doctrine, recognizing that it is the province of religious groups to state their doctrines, determine their politics, train their leaders, conduct worship and carry on their mission and ministries without undue interference from or entanglement with government.

Lutherans in the U.S. affirm the principle of functional interaction between the government and religious bodies in areas of mutual endeavor, so that such interaction assists the maintenance of good order, the protection and extension of civil rights, the establishment of social justice and equality of opportunity, the promotion of the general welfare and the advancement of the dignity of all persons. This principle underscores the Lutheran view that God rules both the civil and spiritual dimensions of life, making it appropriate for the government and the churches to relate creatively and responsibly to each other.

Lutherans hold that their churches have the responsibility to describe and clarify to their members and to society the mission of the Lutheran churches and to determine, establish, maintain and alter the various forms through which that mission is expressed and structured. The distinctive mission of the churches includes the proclamation of God's Word in worship, in public preaching, in teaching, in administration of the sacraments, in evangelism, in educational ministries, in social service ministries and in being advocates of justice for participants in the social order. According to Lutheran theology, the civil government's distinctive calling by God is to maintain peace, to establish justice, to protect and advance human rights and to promote the general welfare of all persons.

It is a misuse of terms to describe government and politics as godless or profane, because God rules both the civil and the spiritual dimensions of life. Thus it is unnecessary and unbiblical for any church group or individual to seek to "Christianize" the government or to label political views of members of Congress as "Christian" or "religious." It is arrogant to assert that one's position on a political issue is "Christian" and that all others are "un-Christian," "immoral" or "sinful." There is no "Christian" position; there are Christians who hold positions. Government under God employs reason and power for social justice, peace and freedom.

To describe one group's political position as "The Christian Voice" and one movement's political agenda as a movement "for Jesus" is wrongly judgmental. It is also an affront to Jewish and other religious advocates whose religions hold social justice as a social form of love of neighbor. Devout Christians and Jews agree and disagree between and among themselves regarding political decisions and can agree and disagree with nonbelievers. Advocacy for social justice is part of the mission of the churches according to Lutheran theology. Such advocacy may often bring disagreement on issues and votes as to how to strive for justice.

So we challenge members of Lutheran churches as evangelical Christians to worship and pray as Christian congregations. All persons need forgiveness. We also challenge all citizens and corporate religious groups to participate in the process of decision-making for the common good, and we encourage cooperation with other religious and voluntary associations in this work of advocacy.

1. Mr. John H. Hume, General Secretary
Lutheran Council on Public Affairs
300 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10010
212-681-1111

January 14, 1981

Ms. Elizabeth H. Dole
Office of the President Elect
1226 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20270

Dear Ms. Dole:

First of all I want to congratulate you on your appointment by President-Elect Ronald Reagan to be his Assistant for Public Liaison. I am sure you will find this a challenging opportunity which will bring you in contact with varied groups and organizations. Please let us know of any way we can assist you.

Enclosed, is a brochure which describes our office. We serve on behalf of the Lutheran church bodies through their cooperative organization, the Lutheran Council. Also included is a list of the Leaders of these National Church bodies which are part of the Council. There may be times when you would want to contact them as well as our office concerning information or invitations to meetings and briefings. There are over 30 other church-government offices which work together here in Washington.

I understand that you are a good friend of Ruth Wittecar. Her husband George and I served together for several years on a national church committee for the Lutheran Church in America.

I would appreciate very much an opportunity to meet briefly with you.

Sincerely yours,

Charles V. Bergstrom
Executive Director
Office for Governmental Affairs

CVB:PMB

1. Dr. John R. Houck, General Secretary
Lutheran Council in the USA
360 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10010
212/532-6350
2. Dr. William H. Kohn, President
The Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches
5229 West Capital Drive
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201
414/445-1656
3. Bishop David W. Preus, General President
The American Lutheran Church
422 S. Fifth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415
612/330-3100
4. Bishop James R. Crumley
President, Lutheran Church in America
231 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10016
212/481-9648
5. President J.A.O. Praus
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
500 N. Broadway,
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
314/231-6969

Dole

February 24, 1981

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Attention: Ms. Sally Hartwick

Dear Ms. Hartwick:

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Mrs. Dole requesting a meeting to talk about the work of the Lutheran churches. There is also a list of national Lutheran church leaders who should receive invitations to the special briefings for church presidents, etc.

I will be happy to talk with you about this meeting.

Sincerely,

Charles V. Bergstrom
Executive Director
Office for Governmental Affairs

CVB'RLB
Enc.

February 24, 1981

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Dole:

I am writing on behalf of the officers of the Washington Interreligious Staff Council. This is a cooperative organization of 37 church groups that serve in governmental relationships. It includes all the major or mainline denominations and judicatories.

I served as chairman last year and this year's chairman is the Rev. Paul Kittlaus of the United Church of Christ.

We would like to sit down with you to talk with you about our work and about some of the issues that concern us. The meeting could be of the executive committee, or more preferably the directors of all those offices that could attend such a meeting.

Please feel free to call me for additional information or about arrangements.

Sincerely yours,

Charles V. Bergstrom
Executive Director
Office for Governmental Affairs

CVB'RLB

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 24, 1981

Mr. Charles V. Bergstrom
Executive Director
Office for Governmental Affairs
Lutheran Council of the USA
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Suite 2720
Washington, D. C. 20024

Dear Mr. Bergstrom:

Thank you so much for your recent letter congratulating me on my appointment as President Reagan's Assistant for Public Liaison. I am indeed looking forward to this challenging new opportunity and to the exciting days ahead.

I appreciate your passing along to me the brochure which describes the work of the Lutheran Council. I look forward to working with you and other members of the Council in the days and months ahead.

Again, I appreciate your kind words and for your offer of assistance.

With all best wishes.

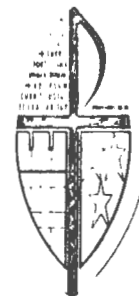
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Dole". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

LUTHERAN COUNCIL IN THE USA

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Suite 2720
Washington, DC 20024
202 / 484-3950



WASHINGTON INTERRELIGIOUS STAFF COUNCIL

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES

June Totten
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 544-3400

AMERICAN ETHICAL UNION

Raymond Nathan
4242 East-West Highway
Chevy Chase, MD 20015
652-0020 (202)

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

Tartt Bell
1822 R Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 483-3341

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

Marc Pearl
1522 K Street, NW, Room 636
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 638-3999

BAPTIST JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

James Dunn
200 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 544-4226

B'NAI B'RITH

Warren W. Eisenberg
1640 Rhode Island Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 857-6545

B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN

Edna Wolf
1640 Rhode Island Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 857-6628

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Garnett Day
222 South Downey Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46206
(317) 353-1491

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

Richard Rathbun
910 - 16th St., NW
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 833-3848

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Ronald Hanft
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 546-3202

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

William Weiler
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 547-7300

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Edward Snyder
245 Second St., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 547-6000

JESUIT SOCIAL MINISTRIES OFFICE

Gaspar LoBiondo, SJ
1717 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 462-7008

LUTHERAN COUNCIL IN THE USA

Charles V. Bergstrom
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, #2720
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 484-3950

MARYKNOLL FATHERS AND BROTHERS

Edward R. Killackey, MM
1325 Otis Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017
(202) 526-4560

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Delton Franz
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 544-6564

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

Robert Dugan, Jr.
1430 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 628-7911

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Matt Ahmann
1346 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 785-2757

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

James Hamilton
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 544-2350

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

Miriam Salkind
1346 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 296-2588

NATIONAL INTERRELIGIOUS SERVICE BOARD
FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

Warren Hoover
Washington Building
15th and New York Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 393-4868

NETWORK

Carol Coston, OP
806 Rhode Island Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20018
(202) 526-4070

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE US

George Chauncey
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 543-1126

REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

Laura Mol
1707 Columbia Road, NW
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 265-2580

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Gary Ross
General Conference
6840 Eastern Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20012
(202) 723-0800

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA

Dan Polish
2027 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 872-1337

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

David Saperstein
2027 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 387-2800

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

Robert Alpern
100 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 547-0254

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Paul Kittlaus
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 543-1517

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,
BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

Acting General Secretary
100 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 488-5628

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,
WOMEN'S DIVISION

Joyce Hamlin
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 488-5661

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE USA

Mary Jane Patterson
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 543-1126

US CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

James Robinson
1312 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 659-6606

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCHES

R. Adam DeBaugh
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 543-2260

WASHINGTON OFFICE ON AFRICA

Jean Sindab
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 546-7961

WASHINGTON OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA

Joe Eldridge
110 Maryland Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
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AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

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Washington, DC 20006
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