

The great energy debate

by Jon Stewart

SAN FRANCISCO, (PNS) — The twin issues of energy and the environment are emerging from the campaign rhetoric of the presidential sweepstakes as among the central problems facing the nation — and the candidates.

On both the Republican and Democratic fronts, campaign aides are busily drafting and issuing position papers on such matters as nuclear energy, oil imports, synthetic fuel development, natural gas deregulation, stripmining, and offshore oil drilling.

Those issues, they agree, will largely shape our future lifestyles, economy, employment patterns and even foreign policy. They may also play a role in determining who occupies the White House in 1977.

Toward that end the Washington, D.C.-based League of Conservation Voters has prepared an indepth evaluation of each candidate's declared position and voting record on fourteen key energy and environmental issues. The candidates are rated from A to F on each issue.

The League, a non-partisan organization composed of representatives from such groups as the Sierra Club, the Isaac Walton League and Friends of the Earth, actively supports favored candidates. It claimed thirteen congressional victories out of seventeen candidates it actively supported in the last congressional elections. It clearly has political clout, particularly among the hundreds of thousands of voters who belong to its affiliated institutions.

A preview of the League report — soon to be released — reveals that Democrats Morris Udall and Jimmy Carter will share the top honors. Each is rated "outstanding" on both energy strategy and environmental principles.

At the other end, President Gerald Ford and Alabama Governor George

nuclear plant construction.

Carter is particularly well-informed on the nuclear power issue, having done graduate study as a nuclear engineer.

"When Carter talks about safety hazards, types of plants and disposal problems he knows what he's talking about," says League Chairperson Marion Edey.

Both candidates have also opposed uncontrolled stripmining. Udall was floor manager for the stripmining bill in the Senate, and Carter says stripmining is "not a logical approach to meeting energy requirements."

Carter and Udall are also on record as supporting greater federal control and participation in the setting of oil import quotas and domestic oil and gas exploration. They share the belief that oil companies should not own other fuel sources, such as uranium and coal.

Both have expressed varying degrees of opposition to the vertical integration of the major oil companies, saying they would split the wholesale and retail ends of the business away from production and refining.

Alternate fuel sources, such as geothermal and solar, would be assigned greater priorities than at present by both.

Wallace share the dubious distinction of "hopeless" ratings. Former California Governor Ronald Reagan does slightly better with an overall "bad" score.

In between, with ratings of "fair" to "poor," come Fred Harris, Senator Henry Jackson, Senator Hubert Humphrey and Sargent Shriver, in declining order.

The more recent entries into the campaign, such as Senator Frank Church and California Governor Edmund Brown, have not been evaluated.

One key issue for the League is nuclear power.

Both Carter and Udall are opposed to rapid development of nuclear power, though neither support a moratorium on

Carter and Udall.

The League gives its two favorites high scores for being independent of either the big unions or the corporations, while most of the other candidates line up on one side or the other.

Carter and Udall's policies contrast sharply with those of their Republican opponents, particularly in the areas of nuclear power, federal controls over gas and oil, and public participation in energy development.

Ford favors rapid expansion of federal offshore leasing and oil drilling; massive federal subsidies for corporate development of synthetic fuels and the breeder reactor; nullification of significant portions of the Clean Air Act; a freezing on auto emission standards; and the removal of federal controls over oil pricing.

Ford has also pushed for deregulation of natural gas and tax incentives for the energy corporations. He is on record as opposing public energy enterprises in federal territories, and his administration has lobbied against all attempts to break up the oil companies. He twice vetoed the federal stripmining bill.

Ford will find little to attack in the energy policies of his Republican opponent, Ronald Reagan. The only significant difference to date is Reagan's plan to turn federal programs over to the states where, experience teaches, they may be more vulnerable to the power of industry.

Reagan, like Ford, supports full scale development of nuclear power. He would push development of Western coal, uranium, oil shale and other energy sources, giving federal subsidies and tax incentives to private developers.

As Governor of California, Reagan opposed the landmark coastal initiative, which set strict standards over coastal development. However, even his critics agree that his record is strong on water pollution.

Senator Henry Jackson is ranked in the

League report as only "fair to poor" due to his overall energy policies, but even his staunchest critics agree that he has a strong record on the environment. Jackson virtually created the National Environmental Policy Act and the Council on Environmental Quality. He sponsored the stripmining bill and authored the Land Use Planning Bill. He also claims principle credit for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, set up to purchase lands for national parks and other public preserves.

Jackson is acknowledged to be the most powerful man in Washington on energy policy, by virtue of his position as chairman of the Senate Interior Committee. But it is on energy issues that he rakes his critics. He is an ardent proponent of nuclear power and supports a \$6 billion federal subsidy for private development of synthetic fuel.

Edey says that Jackson would be "at once more destructive, and better, than Humphrey."

The non-candidate from Minnesota has shown little interest or activism on the major energy issues. Though he has supported greater research into solar power since 1962, he also voted in favor of funding the Clinch River demonstration breeder reactor and spoke in its behalf. He co-sponsored federal land use legislation in 1975, but his votes on the stripmining bill were conspicuous by their absence.

Overall, Humphrey is viewed by the League as a "business as usual" candidate on energy issues, except when they bear directly on labor and the economy, his real concerns.

Governor George Wallace, who shares the bottom rating with Ford, has been closed-mouthed on energy and environmental issues to the point of creating a policy vacuum. He has made almost no public statements on the issues and refuses to respond to questionnaires.

Mel Toran: Success story

Mel Toran credits Portland State University's Operation Plus for giving him the opportunity to go to college. Out of school for fifteen years, married, and a father; Toran heard about the Operation Plus program and decided to go to college.

Now, five years later, Toran is preparing to graduate from the University of Oregon School of Law.

Toran was a high school graduate, but his high school record was poor and he had not developed good study habits. Without Operation Plus which enables underachieving students who have the capacity to do college work to be admitted to Portland State University, Toran probably would not have been accepted by the school.

During his Freshman year, Toran received counselling, tutoring and financial aid, and during his sophomore year was provided financial aid. He graduated from Portland State University in three years and was admitted to the University of Oregon School of Law. Toran, who is one of six Blacks who will graduate from Oregon's law schools this year, recommends law as an opportunity for young people. "I really want to emphasize the

need to seek graduate degrees and to go into professions, rather than stopping with a B.S.," Toran said, relating that the goal of many students is merely to graduate and not to gain an education that will give them a career.

Models are important for young Black children, he said. "One reason I went to school was because of my son. I wanted to be a model for him."

Toran hopes to attend Georgetown University, where he will study agency law. This involves laws and regulations that govern the operation of government agencies and is a relatively new and complicated field of law. Then he plans to go into private practice so his talents can be of benefit to the community.

Bill Wilkinson, director of Operation Plus, is seeking applicants for the program. Prospective students must need the three services offered — tutoring, academic or personal counselling, and financial aid; be capable of doing college work; and fit low income criteria.

Toran also credits his wife, Milhelmina with helping him in his education. The couple has two children, Melvin Jr., age eight, and Michael, age five.

Asthma camp scheduled

Oregon's first summer camp for children with asthma, Camp Christmas Seal, will be operated by the Oregon Lung Association at Camp Colton, Clackamas County, August 22nd through 29th for children nine to thirteen.

John D. Minor, M.D. of Eugene, camp medical advisor, says that the purpose of the camp is to provide a normal camping experience for the child with asthma whose health has made it impossible for him to fit into a regular camping program.

"Our Goal," he says, "is to see a Camp Christmas Seal graduate, in time, fit into a regular camp. It will also provide a chance for the child to be with others like

himself and to lose that feeling of being different."

The camp will feature around-the-clock medical supervision, special diets for children with food allergies and careful scheduling of children on special medications. Otherwise, Dr. Minor promised such regular camping activities as arts, crafts, swimming, hiking, fishing, games, cookouts and campfires.

Fee for the eight days is \$75. Camperships, based on need, are available. Potential campers must have both medical and parental approval before being accepted. Enrollment is limited. Those wishing application blanks or more information should call the Oregon Lung Association.

FBI tipster plays mystery role

by Steve Long

A former associate of the underground Emiliano Zapata unit — already identified as an FBI informant — may also have been an agent provocateur working with the FBI, sources close to the unit have told PNS (Pacific News Service).

Judy Stevenson, 28, was identified last month by the FBI as the source of information which led to the arrest of six members of the New Dawn Party. FBI special agent in charge Charles Bates announced that all of those arrested were linked to the underground Emiliano Zapata unit.

The Zapata unit, a prime target of the FBI for the past year, has claimed credit for bombing five San Francisco Bay Area Safeway stores and a Berkeley bank.

Now, some members of the New Dawn party believe Stevenson was a paid agent provocateur trying to lead New Dawn members into rash actions.

They note that after one New Dawn meeting Stevenson suggested the group plant bombs inside Safeway stores to blow up non-United Farm Workers grapes. Such an action, say these

sources, would have been a drastic departure from the usual practice of detonating bombs outside stores to avoid injuries to workers.

Later, Stevenson phoned a friend, who was not a member of the group, and asked if he could obtain dynamite for her.

Stevenson's past is strikingly similar to that of Sara Jane Moore, the FBI informant turned revolutionary who shot at President Ford last fall in San Francisco.

Like Moore, Stevenson moved quickly from one revolutionary group to another. In the past year she was associated with the American Indian Movement, the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, and the Venceremos Brigade. Three months ago she became affiliated with the New Dawn party in Berkeley.

The FBI has admitted in an affidavit that Stevenson kept them informed of the movements of the alleged New Dawn-Zapata members. When six members moved into her Richmond, California, home in February, she gave authorities permission to search the house.

Two SWAT teams and heavily armed

FBI agents raided the house, arresting all six inhabitants, and confiscating 150 pounds of explosive materials.

The FBI will neither confirm nor deny that Stevenson was paid to inform.

However, it has been learned that Stevenson told a close associate she had a "very good friend" in the FBI who reportedly told her to phone "if she ever needed anything."

Members of the New Dawn party believe that Stevenson, like Sara Jane Moore, fabricated an elaborate past which she believed would ingratiate her to left activists.

She told associates that her father was an "agent" whom she suspected had been in the CIA. She said her father also taught Indians at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, and that she had lived there and in a small Mexican village.

Her most bizarre tale, say associates, was that from the age of sixteen to twenty she had lived in Honolulu as the wife of a mafioso who ran all the gambling and prostitution on the island of Oahu. She knew, she said how to lead a life of crime.

Bargain hunting: Prices drop

The United States sold the Soviet Union 301,198 metric tons of corn, about 11.9 million bushels, raising total Russian grain purchases from 1975 U.S. crop to 13.4 million metric tons. A metric ton is 2,204.6 pounds.

The sales are, however, significantly less than the almost 20 million metric tons sold during the Nixon seller cut years. This somewhat reduced pressure on the food supply in the U.S. coupled with a collapse of our economic prosperity of the Kennedy-Johnson years, has permitted some bargains to be found in the market place.

The United States Agriculture Department reported bumper crops last fall and upped a report on planting intentions that indicate an even bigger harvest this year. USDA published a planting survey suggesting that corn acreage will rise by 3.7 percent to 80.8 million acres which could easily produce a crop of 6 1/4 billion bushels.

The U.S. and Canada will control most of the world's exportable grains having a bigger percentage of global reserves than the Middle East has oil. The Soviet Union is the most "destabilizing" factor because of its massive shortfall.

However, the increase in crop production has already presented bargain buys for the family bread basket. The feed lots are filling with cattle which are now feed

cheap grain, which means lower priced choice meat will be available later this year.

Beef liver has already dropped ten percent in price. Last year's apple crop was a record breaker, up thirteen percent over 1974. This translates to a fourteen percent reduction in the cost of apples, applesauce, etc.



J. ALVIN WAKEFIELD

Avon head chosen

J. Alvin Wakefield has been named general manager-home office of Avon Products, Incorporated, the world-wide cosmetics company. Mr. Wakefield, 37, previously was director-home office operations. He joined Avon in 1973 as manager-employee relations and was named director the following year. Avon, headquartered in New York, is the world's largest manufacturer and distributor of cosmetics and toiletries with sales for 1975 of \$1,295,000,000. Its products are sold directly in the home in the United States and eighteen other countries.

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