

Kennedy Planning Cut in Number of Ranking White House Officials

Clark Clifford Says Aide Job Will Be Dropped

Palm Beach, Fla.—President-elect John F. Kennedy plans a marked reduction in the number of ranking White House officials when his administration takes office next Jan. 30, his adviser on governmental transition problems reported Monday.

Clark M. Clifford, a Washington attorney who has represented the President-elect in dealing with the Eisenhower government on orderly transition of control, also said after a long conference here Monday that Kennedy intended to abandon the White House job of the assistant to the President.

No Powerful Official

The post of the assistant to President Eisenhower is now occupied by Maj. Gen. Wilton B. Parsons who has been Clifford's counterpart in transition discussions. Before Parsons, the post was held by Sherman Adams.

Clifford told reporters Kennedy wanted no powerful official between him and his staff. By abolishing the post, Clifford said Kennedy felt this also would bring him into closer contact with his cabinet officers.

Clifford arrived late Sunday from a series of Washington conferences with representatives of President Eisenhower on the orderly transition of government. This is a problem that involves not only getting new people into key jobs, but getting the current job-holders out.

Before Clifford had been in town more than a few minutes, he handled an important chore for Kennedy—receiving from the Louisiana Legislature a hot political potato involving civil rights.

Clifford met the delegation at their hotel, listened to their explanation of the resolution and urbanely promised to present the matter to the president-elect. Then he drove to Kennedy's seaside winter establishment where he was an overnight guest.

Kennedy, according to his aides, held long and intensive conference with Clifford about his transition discussions with Maj. Gen. Parsons.

Reporters were curious about the selection of Clifford to represent Kennedy in the face-to-face dealings with the Louisiana delegation instead of the president-elect turning the job over to one of several close aides already named to the new White House staff, such as Kenneth C. O'Donnell or Theodore Sorensen.

Acting Press Secretary Donald M. Wilson said only that Clifford was "one of Senator Kennedy's leading advisers." Asked if Clifford was in a position to speak for Kennedy on a matter of basic federal policy pertaining to the judiciary, Wilson said he was not.

Clifford, who will be 54 years old on Christmas Day, is an old hand at Democratic politics, and the White House where he served as special counsel to President Truman until 1950 when he set up a lucrative private law practice in Washington.

Election Margin Cut to 197,609

Washington — Votes cast for the two major candidates in this year's presidential election appeared Monday to have been more evenly divided than ever before.

As the unofficial tabulation of the Nov. 8 balloting neared completion, the percentage by which Sen. John F. Kennedy led Vice President Richard M. Nixon in popular votes stood Monday at 197,609, a fraction below the record low set in the 1884 election.

Not until all the votes are officially tabulated next month will it be known whether Kennedy's percentage margin actually was the smallest in history.

With reports in from all but 120 of the nation's 168,264 precincts and only a small number of late-counted absentee ballots still to be tabulated, the United Press International's count Monday gave:

Kennedy—34,026,623.
Nixon—33,829,614.
Others—448,388.



CONFERENCE HELD—President-elect John F. Kennedy, left, confers at Palm Beach, Fla., his vacation headquarters, with Clark Clifford, his liaison man with the present administration. (UPI Telephoto)

They'll Do It Every Time By Jimmy Hatlo

BULLGRABY, THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE, CERTAINLY SEEMS TO BE THE MAN FOR THE JOB...

BUT HIS FRAU WOULDN'T SECOND THE MOTION—ASK HER HOW FUSSY HE IS ABOUT HIS OWN HOUSE...

"HMM—CLEAN THE DRAPES—BACKS OF CHAIRS SOILED—REMEMBER TO HAVE THE FLOORS SCRAPED—CHECK THE HEATING..."

"OH, PORTER—EMPTY THE ASH TRAYS—JUST THE DOORSILLS..."

"WILL YOU PULL-LEEZE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE ROOF? DO I HAVE TO CRAWL UP AND FIX IT? AND THIS ROOM—LOOK AT IT..."

"KEEP YOUR BUSTLE ON, KIDDO—I EXPECT TO RUN INTO A PLUMBER FRIEND OF MINE ANY DAY NOW—WHASSA MATTER WITH THIS ROOM? QUIT BUGGIN' ME, WILLYA?"

"HANK AND I HAD TO GO TO BELSON, WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT-ELECT'S WASHINGTON, D.C."

Washington Ball Club Has More Attention Than Kennedy

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Washington Correspondent

Washington — The country is waiting for the state of the Union message President Kennedy will deliver and to see what the first hundred days of his new Administration will mean to the nation.

But this city is more anxiously waiting for Kennedy's delivery of the first pitch at Griffith stadium to see what the baseball season will bring from the brand new team the nation's capital will have.

If Dr. Gallup were to poll the local citizens, chances are more would admit to being interested in the lineup of players who will take their positions in the local ball park this spring than the names of the politicians who will sit around the cabinet with John F. Kennedy.

The reason for this odd imbalance of proper values is that the country has had much better representation from any Administration you can name than Washington has had from its baseball teams over the years.

When Calvin Griffith moved his tattered second division warriors out to Minneapolis a month ago, there was no wave of indignation over the sudden departure of the Washington Senators ball club. There was a sigh of relief, for with this move came the promise of a new club.

Possibility of Change

No one knew who would organize the new club, much less who would play on it or how well it would do in the American league standings. The point is no one cared half so much about these things as they did about the possibilities of a change for the better.

It was time for a change. The local ball club, despite such hefty homerun hitters as Harmon Killebrew, the strong boy from Idaho, was floundering well out of the pennant race, a symbol of local shame and discontent. Not since the deep depression days has the city had a winner. Not since Walter Johnson has it had a red hot player that hasn't fallen into anonymity before his press clippings were yellow with age.

Where People Stay

It is sometimes said that this is a bum baseball town, just because of its peculiar

makeup of people. There is something to this. Washington is the place where people stay when they "never go back to Pocatello," as the late Dick Neuberger once wrote.

The new Kennedy Administration and the congressional offices may draw new citizen workers from as far as Nome or Honolulu; but the chances are better than 100 to 1 that these citizens will remain in Washington for many years, long after their service for the government has ended. They will always talk "home" in terms of where they came from, but they won't go back. The capital strange black magic has cast its spell over them.

This makes for a great mass of citizen residents of this city who don't think of this as home. They are transient-minded, if not actually transients. They may even vote back home and pay taxes there. But they live here.

Somebody Else's Burden

To many of these persons, the Washington ball team is somebody else's burden. They still root for the home team, which has probably done better than the Washington team anyway.

Others think a winning baseball team would turn this into a good baseball town. This place is swarming with politicians always looking for a winner. Politicians avoid losers like the black plague.

There will be added interest to the new team, headed by the chief of the Federal Aviation Administration, Gen. Elwood Quesada, a popular as a member of the Eisenhower Administration. If he flops, maybe the Kennedy family will keep us diverted with touch football games on the White House lawn.

Cloud-Seeding at Nyssa Planned

Nyssa, Ore. — The Owyhee Irrigation District is planning to do something about the weather next month.

Manager Paul House of the district's north board of control, said cloud-seeding operations would begin Dec. 1 in an attempt to extract the maximum moisture from winter storms.

He said 25 silver-iodide generators will be located in the Owyhee watershed area in Idaho, Oregon and Nevada.

The generator operators will be notified by meteorologists at Salt Lake City and Winnemucca, Nev., when storms are moving across the area so the crystals may be injected into the air about 30 minutes to an hour before the

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Public Official in South Seen Greatest Danger To Peace

Atlanta—UPI—The Southern Regional council said today the greatest danger to law and order in the south is a public official, caught off guard by trouble, trying to meet the new problems with old, unassessed ideas.

The warning came in an analysis of police handling of racial violence in Chattanooga, Tenn., Montgomery, Ala., and Little Rock, Ark., by George McMillan, a well-known South Carolina writer.

McMillan made the report entitled "Racial Violence and Enforcement," at the request of the council, an organization of white and Negro southerners formed in 1944 to advance "equal opportunity for the south's people."

The report describes the basic need of good police work as "the support of elected officials and community leadership, expressing a clear cut community respect for law and order."

Arm of White Race

"For too many years, in the south," it continues, "the police were assumed to be an arm of the white race to keep the Negroes in their place. Where this attitude lingers, there is scant chance for the orderly resolution of racial controversy."

The reports lists three main points:

1. "Negroes in the south are prepared to take overt steps to change their status, even at the risk of personal safety."
2. "Negroes may demonstrate in any southern town. None can now count on immunity."
3. "Traditional southern police attitudes are not likely to be adequate for dealing impartially with the young generation of Negroes committed to the methods of non-violence. They have forced a reversal of roles on the southern police officer; now, to maintain law and order, he must protect the non-violent Negroes from the whites. And, he must do it quickly."

The report describes three actual episodes, each with a different type of violence which can occur in the south. Chattanooga's riot at the time of the student sit-in demonstrations, although not in dangerous proportions, was for the police primarily a task of clearing the streets and allowing tempers to cool and good sense to prevail."

Acted as Guardians

Montgomery's riot—"Where the police, in the name of preventing 'trouble' acting in their traditional role of guardians of a segregated society, crushed a Negro demonstration, in effect doing their job. Little Rock's second school desegregation episode — "A story of police resistance to a planned effort by a mob to supersede the law."

The report comments that recent disorders in Jackson-

ville, Fla., had elements of all three of the situations studied.

"To prepare for riots—as Jacksonville did not—even to discuss the possibility, is distasteful. Yet not to do so is unrealistic.

"In the continuing racial crises of the south, the police have two basic responsibilities: to enforce the laws with absolute impartiality; and, secondly, to maintain a climate of public order in which constitutional liberties can be freely expressed, by white men or Negroes, by integrationists or segregationists."

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