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Campaign Files

Box CP15

Inouye's campaigns: 1980: Press (2 of 2)

Senator Daniel K. Inouye Papers Campaign files, Box CP15, Folder 7 http://hdl.handle.net/10524/62786

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CARTER/MONDALE PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE, INC. 1413 K STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

February 26, 1980 For Immediate Release

Hawaiian businessman, Stuart T. K. Ho, today was named Finance Chairman of the Carter/Mondale campaign for the state of Hawaii by Evan S. Dobelle, National Finance Chairman for the Carter/Mondale Presidential Committee.

Ho, 44, is president and director of Capital Investment of Hawaii and on the Board of Directors for Aloha Airlines, Bank of Hawaii, and Bishop Insurance Agency. He is also active in many community organizations, serving as a director of the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, the University of Hawaii Foundation, and The Asia Foundation.

Ho is a former member of the State House and chairman of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. He is now on the Governor's Advisory Council on China Affairs and the U. S. Army Civilian Advisory Group.

Other members of the Carter Committee in Hawaii are Minoru Hirabara, Mary Blanco, Dolly Yamamoto, James Gary, Jessica Kirk, Rosalie Loomis, Linda Luke, Dr. Terry Rogers, Mr. Alvin Shim, Myron "Pinky" Thompson, and Lynn Watanabe.

For further information: Linda Peek, Scott Widmeyer 202/789-7306

STUART T.K. HO

Born November 18, 1935, Manila, Philippine Islands. Graduated from Punahou School (1953), Claremont Men's College (BA, 1957), and University of Michigan School of Law (JD, 1963). U.S. Army, 1958-60. Admitted to the Hawaii Bar, 1964; Deputy Corporation Counsel, City & County of Honolulu, 1964; with Proskauer Rose Goetz & Mendelsohn, New York City, 1964-65; vice president to president and director, Capital Investment of Hawaii, Inc., 1965-present.

Elected to Hawaii House of Representatives, 1966-70 (majority floor leader, 1968-70); delegate to Constitutional Convention, 1968; member, Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, 1971-74 (chairman, 1972-73); member, State Commission on Legislative Salaries, 1971, 1975.

Director, Aloha Airlines, Inc.; Bank of Hawaii; Bishop Insurance Agency, Ltd.

Director or Trustee of Oceanic Institute, Inc.; Hanahauoli School; Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific; The Asia Foundation; Claremont Men's College; University of Hawaii Foundation.

Member, Governor's Advisory Council on China Affairs; U.S. Army Civilian Advisory Group; SRI [Stanford Research Institute]-Hawaji Advisory Committee.

Married Mary L. Lee, June 17, 1961. Three children: Peter, Cecily, Heather.

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CARTER COMMITTEE - HAWAII

HIRABARA, Mr. Minoru, CHAIRMAN 1646 Glen Avenue Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786 808-621-6534 Res.

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CHING, Mrs. Dolly Yamamoto Vice President Bank of Hawaii Financial Plaza of the Pacific Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 808-537-8111 Ofc.

DODS, Mrs. Diane (NO ADVERTISING PREFERRED FOR THIS MEMBER) 2667C Tantalus Drive Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 808-537-4428 Res.

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Real Estate

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

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Attorney-former Inouye staff

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Presently (February, '80) enroute back to University of
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808-523-6200 Ofc.
One of five trustees for Bishop Estate
Former Administrative Assistant for Governor Burns
Active with Hawaiian groups

* *******

WATANABE, Mrs. Lynn Manildi 62 Puiwa Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 808-595-6843

Housewife- wife of Jeff Watanabe, attorney and on Inouye Comm. for Re-election

CONGRESSIONAL INSIGHT

The weekly newsletter analyzing the pressures, people and politics that shape Capitol Hill decisions

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Washington January 4, 1980 Volume IV, Number 1

Dear Subscriber:

Lots happening...in a week that Congress is not in town. Legislative angles on Iran, Afghanistan are numerous. But first:

• Members of Congress are hearing some surprising things back home.

We've been talking to as many senators and representatives as we can track down during the recess...finding what voters are saying to them about turmoil in the Mideast...as well as problems at home...inflation, energy.

First, they're learning that Americans are bullish on America.

One Northeast Democratic senator told us people in his state have been exhibiting more pride in their country than he has ever seen before. "People seem to be in a far better mood now than a year ago, when they were mad at everything," the senator said. We hear the same from other members.

Economic worries temporarily take a back seat to foreign policy problems, most we talked to found. Few voters are raising specific questions about the imperiled SALT treaty...but there is a general feeling that the U.S. should take a firmer stand militarily. However, that does NOT extend to reviving the draft. Constituents are very cool to talk of conscription.

An oft-repeated concern: getting tough with unfriendly countries.
"I think people believe we've run out of bluffs." a Southern senator says.

Patience is NOT wearing thin with Carter's handling of Iran We hear that from all we talk to...including those of every political stripe. That could change tomorrow...or next week. But for now it indicates the GOP may be misreading the public mood by opening up against Carter's policies.

Many WISH for stronger action...but recognize dangers to hostages.

Afghanistan has tended to supplant Iran as the center of attention.

Some lawmakers believe that if Carter takes strong steps against the Soviet Union, he can buy more time for his "patience" policy on Iran.

That, of course, is the optimistic side...but optimism is the reigning view.

At home: the voters are bewildered, frustrated about inflation.

They're pessimistic about government finding a cure any time soon.

However, few members sense the ANGER present in recent years.

Harder times are foreseen, especially in aging NE industrial towns.

On energy: frustrations over continued rising prices for fuel.

Some blame OPEC for hikes. .others stick to faulting oil companies.

Other signals that members are receiving from their constituents:

-- Widespread realization finally of U.S. dependence on foreign oil.

-- Yet, reluctance to make major sacrifices for energy conservation.

-- Willingness to sacrifice SOME...as long as all share the burden.

(See p. 4 for an outlook on Congress' energy agenda for 1980.)

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• Don't count the SALT treaty out yet .the final bell hasn't sounded, despite Carter's dramatic request to delay consideration for the time being.

There's plenty of reason to go along with common wisdom that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has doomed chances for Senate approval of the arms control pact. Most head counts put the margin so slender that a shift of one or two votes seems certain to doom the treaty ... and many reason that the Afghanistan flap would swing at least that many. Political columnist David Broder summed up the prevailing feeling in Washington: that only Carter and his spokesmen still hope the treaty can be salvaged. Here's the other side:

Timing of the invasion helped offset some of its adverse impact.

It came during a recess. Critics of SALT were not in a position to use the Senate floor as an instantaneous national forum for renewed treaty attacks.

More important: Delay now gives SALT supporters time to develop a defensible position on the treaty in light of developments in Afghanistan.

Basic argument has been that the treaty is in the best interests of the United States, regardless of changing Soviet-American relationships.

By getting tough with the Soviets, Carter could build credibility he needs to revive the treaty later this year and pull it through the Senate Trick will be to make public believe the pact doesn't depend on detente for success ..and that the U.S. won't have to trust the Soviet Union to comply.

However....

If things don't work out for Carter and the pact DOES go belly up. .

Junking of SALT will lead to billions more in defense spending.

The only question is how much more Congress will decide is enough Here are some of the parameters under discussion on Capitol Hill:

The Pentagon projects a \$30 billion increase for strategic weapons over the next 10 years...after inflation. That's the figure used by Defense

Secretary Harold Brown as most likely in the absence of a new SALT treaty.

Some hawks call for vastly more. \$20 to \$50 billion PER YEAR for the next decade to bring the United States back into parity with the Soviets. But chances of Congress approving higher spending on that scale are meager.

Where will the money go? Brown has been vague about specifics. But based on our discussions with defense experts and members, here are some of the candidates...places where more money could be channeled fairly quickly, and where it would have an immediate impact on the U.S. strategic posture:

- -- Increase production of F-15 fighters earmarked for defending the continental United States from attack by the Soviet Union's Backfire bomber.
- -- Accelerate building of new weapons systems...such as the cruise missile. Some doubt whether a fresh infusion of funds would speed things up very much. Cruise production is already thought to be going at a fast pace.
- -- Improve the command communications system...to make sure the vast electronic network would continue functioning throughout the first warning of a nuclear strike, and the first round of retaliation by U.S. nuclear forces.
 - -- Increase readiness of B-52 bombers and missile-armed submarines.
 -- Accelerate civil defense planning, such as evacuation of cities.

With more money Congress could look at more ambitious projects.
There's already talk of reviving the shelved B-1 bomber proposal.
Other possibilities include increasing production of the Navy's
Trident submarines (current commitment is to build 9 to 12 more); and an expansion of the M-X mobile missile system to compensate for the likelihood that the Soviets, without SALT, would increase their number of warheads

Trade sanctions against the Russians are a foregone conclusion.

However, most have a price tag attached.. or other complications.

Here are some of the trade ramifications as seen on Capitol Hill:

The United States currently enjoys a hearty trade surplus with the Soviets...exporting \$1.45 billion during the first half of this year, while importing only \$238 million. It's one of the few favorable balances the U.S. has; however, Carter will find support for efforts that he's likely to make.

China will easily win most favored nation status early this year.

The Soviets can forget about MFN. even though they have made great strides toward satisfying American objections to their immigration policies. Some 50,000 persons, including prominent dissidents, left Russia last year.

Restrictions on industrial, high technology equipment are likely.
Computers and oil and gas development gear...drilling and boring
materials...are the major items that the Soviets want and the U.S. can deny.
Carter will have to press Western allies to support similar trade
restrictions. U.S. businessmen have been outraged in the past over losing
Soviet contracts to French and West German competitors...owing to stricter
U.S. government standards for granting export permits for advanced equipment

Agricultural products are much less susceptible to restrictions. Wheat and soybean sales are important to U.S. farmers...whereas the Soviets could easily find replacements on the world market if exports were cut back.

• Amidst all this, Carter's stock is still rising on Capitol Hill.

Daniel Inouye spearheads a Carter support drive in the Senate.

The Hawaii Democrat has taken a lead in rounding up members who are willing to help the president — both with legislation and in his campaign.

At least 10 senators have agreed to openly rally behind Carter.

Inouye and Walter (Dee) Huddleston (D Ky.) are trying to get more to join.

In addition to them, the group includes Joe Biden (Del.), Spark Matsunaga (Hawaii), Lawton Chiles (Fla.), John Melcher (Mont.), Robert Morgan (N.C.), Lloyd Bentsen (Texas), Herman Talmadge (Ga.) and Donald Stewart (Ala.).

Some will make campaign appearances for Carter if they are asked.

They'll also be available to respond to criticism of Carter by his opponents during the campaign. permitting Carter to remain above the fray.

Another function: They'll support White House positions on the floor of the Senate...and in their private cloakroom conversations with colleagues.

The group draws the line at criticizing Kennedy, however. Many count Kennedy as a friend...and they have no intention of picking fights with him.

The group coalesced well before Carter's comeback in the polls.

It began with a conversation between Inouye and Carter last September, when the president was lagging behind Kennedy in the polls by almost two to one. At that time Inouye said he could think of "at least a dozen" colleagues who supported Carter...and the senator disputed newspaper reports that Kennedy was under heavy pressure in the Senate to challenge Carter for re-election.

Carter and the 10 senators held an unannounced meeting at the White House in December. Carter stressed his determination to stay out of the campaign arena while there were American hostages in Iran. Members of the group agreed to help however they could, including making campaign plugs.

Another White House meeting is planned soon...and Inouye expects by that time the roster of Carter's Senate supporters will have lengthened.

• Turning now to probable congressional action on energy this year.

It appears 1980 will be a light year for legislation. .after 1979

leftovers are cleared away...windfall profits, energy board, synthetic fuels.

Congress seems content to let market forces work to raise prices

of crude oil, and thus encourage American consumers to conserve on fuel use.

Americans used almost 10 percent less gasoline in November than in the same month in 1978. .a surprising drop in consumption in the last months of 1979, when the average gasoline price shot above \$1 per gallon.

Economists have long considered gasoline demand "inelastic," meaning largely unresponsive to gradual increases in prices. They thought the demand would decline only if prices went up suddenly by 50 cents or \$1 per gallon.

Lower consumption dampens talk of gasoline taxes or oil import fees. Attitude is, why bother with taking politically unpopular steps if the same objective of cutting back on use of fuels can be accomplished without them.

Here are some major items on the agenda .. for discussion at least:

Gasoline taxes: Putting a hefty tax on gasoline at the pump is an old idea...in fact, it led to the sacking of John Sawhill as President Ford's energy czar when Sawhill pressed the notion. (He's now the No. 2 energy man.)

Some administration officials are proposing a 50-cent gasoline tax to Carter...but the president hasn't been very enthusiastic. He tried to get congressional approval of a gasoline tax in 1977 and 1978, but failed badly.

Oil import fee Carter could put a fee on imports without going to Congress. Like a gasoline tax, the fee would increase prices at the gasoline pump, and presumably encourage consumers to conserve. The extra government revenues would be returned to the public through tax cuts or other means ...as they would under most current proposals for imposing a gasoline tax.

Carter isn't likely to impose fees without being sure Congress is on his side. Even though he doesn't need congressional approval, angry members could always go to the floor and vote to take away his power to impose fees

Other ideas on the drawing board...with greater chances of success:

Help for refineries. Under price controls, cheaper domestic oil has worked as a "subsidy" for refiners, helping them compete with refineries in other countries where labor and plant costs are cheaper. As domestic price controls are lifted, U.S. refiners will lose that edge. They want government aid. Otherwise, some say they'll be forced to close...and that, they argue, would make the U.S. dependent on foreign refiners as well as oil producers.

Coal conversion: an administration effort to put teeth into a 1978 law and force electric utilities to switch from oil and natural gas to coal.

<u>Nuclear energy...</u>the wild card of the energy deck this year. Those who push nuclear energy as a cheap replacement for oil and gas have been boosted significantly by the crisis in Iran and general anxieties over the continued availability of Mideast oil. But two major hurdles stand in the way of an all-out effort to increase the nuclear power capability of the United States: safety considerations and the problem of waste disposal.

Key members, like Rep. Morris Udall (D Ariz.), remain unconvinced that the safety and waste problems are anywhere near satisfactory solution.

Result: It looks like a legislative stalemate over nuclear power.

Sinçerely,

Volume IV, Number 1 January 4, 1980

Editor, Congressional Insight

Editor: Donald Smith Reporters: Kenneth B. Dalecki, Eric Ruff