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(complete writethru _ UPI interview with Albosta)<

By GR GORY GORDON=

WASHINGTON (UPI) _ Rep. Donald Albosta, D-Mich., said today his House panel has turned up evidence that "will point pretty strongly" toward CIA Director William Casey as the 1980 Reagan campaign official who got an advance copy of President Carter's briefing papers.<

Albosta said the panel has found "a very credible witness" who bolstered testimony from White House chief of staff James Baker that, while he served in the campaign, Casey gave him a copy of the Carter briefing book. Sources identified the witness as a woman who serves as a close aide to Baker.<

Albosta told United Press International a 2,400-page subcommittee report, to be released this afternoon, reveals the witness's testimony and concludes the papers were "government property." He said the panel has established "that federal crimes were committed" in the passing of the briefing papers and "in several areas."<

Albosta also assailed the "forgetfulness" of numerous top Reagan aides who could not remember where they got the briefing papers.<

For those reasons, he said, the panel is calling on Attorney General William French Smith to seek appointment of "an independent counsel" _ a special prosecutor _ to determine who was responsible.<

"I think that the report will point pretty strongly _ with documentation, and the documentation being sworn testimony _ toward William Casey," Albosta said. "There's no question about that."<

He cautioned, "We have no way to accuse (Casey) outright. We have recommended the appointment of an independent counsel so that the whole question can be resolved between Baker and Casey and a whole lot of other people _ at least to identify the innocent ones."<

The report concludes that investigators could not identify the source of the papers on the Carter side, according to persons familiar with the report.<

Casey, according to the sources, told the panel in a sworn affidavit that he does not remember ever seeing the briefing papers and numerous other documents.<

A CIA spokesman said Casey "has not read the report and will have no comment until he has read it."<

Deputy White House press secretary Larry Speakes also declined immediate comment.<

He said, however, that President Reagan has "full confidence in Casey."<

"That's the last full confidence statement we'll make," Speakes said. "We're not going to play that game."<

Reagan will appear on the same platform with Casey Thursday when he dedicates an addition to CIA headquarters at Langley, Va. ht<

Sources said Republican subcommittee members opposed the investigation from the start and that Reps. Benjamin Gilman, R-N.Y., and Dan Crane, R-Ill., criticize it in a minority report as a waste of more than \$150,000 and an unfair indictment of the integrity of several key figures.<

Told that some Republicans on his subcommittee question the report's conclusions, Albosta said in a television appearance today, "I've read their (Republican) minority report and I believe it more than ever substantiates the full committee's report."<

Asked on the CBS "Morning News" if Casey is a liar, Albosta said he would not go that far. But he said, "I think Mr. Baker's testimony is good testimony and it is substantiated by a very credible witness."<

The report also raises questions about the denial of Paul Corbin, a longtime Democratic political consultant, that he provided the Carter material to Casey, sources said.<

Albosta also said "it's pretty evident" from the evidence that there was an organized effort on the part of the Reagan campaign to obtain various documents from the Carter White House and campaign.<

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Sources said the report focuses on minutes from a Sept. 12, 1982, "deputies meeting" at which Casey allegedly told his staff he "wants more material from the Carter campaign and wants it circulated."

According to the sources, the report questions Casey's denials that he sought inside information from the Carter side, noting he already had been provided with some Carter documents prior to the September meeting.

The Reagan strategists were particularly concerned that Carter might spring an "October surprise" — such as winning freedom for the U.S. hostages in Iran — and gathered numerous Carter administration documents pertaining to Iran.

According to sources, the report describes at least one instance in which the Reagan campaign was tipped about negotiations for release of the hostages. Investigators suspect the GOP campaign tried to prematurely release the information about the hostages to upset Carter plans to use the issue to buoy his re-election chances, the sources said.

The sources said that Chicago TV station WLS broadcast a story about an exchange of hostages for spare military parts on Oct. 15, 1982, the same day Reagan's foreign policy adviser, Richard Allen, wrote a memo saying he had learned of such negotiations. Allen identified the source in the memo as "an unimpeachable source" who obtained information from "ABC-XYZ."

The sources said Allen identified the tipster to investigators as John Wallach of the Hearst Newspapers, and "ABC-XYZ" as a code name for Secretary of State Edmund Muskie. Muskie told investigators he never released any classified information to Wallach, and Wallach confirmed the same, the sources said.

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(complete writethru _ released House report Reagan aides lied about debate papers<

By GREGORY GORDON=

WASHINGTON (UPI) Lacking hard proof, a House panel declared today that "the better evidence" from its 10-month investigation implicates CIA chief William Casey as the 1980 Reagan campaign official who got a pirated copy of President Carter's debate briefing papers.<

In a 2,400-page report, the subcommittee headed by Rep. Donald Albosta, D-Mich., charged Casey and other Reagan campaign officials made "organized efforts" to obtain confidential documents from the Carter campaign.<

It said the sources of some documents were traced, but that investigators could not prove how the briefing papers reached the Reagan campaign because "at least one Reagan-Bush Campaign aide _ and perhaps more" lied about their recollections.<

The Post Office and Civil Service subcommittee specifically questioned the credibility of Casey, who was Reagan's campaign manager and who has denied ever seeing Carter's debate briefing papers until the controversy broke last summer.<

The panel said it found corroboration for the sworn testimony of White House Chief-of-Staff James Baker, who recalled receiving the briefing book from Casey.<

Baker's executive assistant, Margaret Tutwiler, "has stated under oath that Baker in essence told her before the Carter-Reagan debate that he had received Carter debate briefing material from Casey," the report said.<

"Although Tutwiler is admittedly a loyal Baker aide, the subcommittee finds her a credible witness who provided significant support for Baker's testimony," it said.<

The panel, however, said it could not establish who on the Carter side leaked the document.<

"The subcommittee finds that the better evidence indicates that Carter debate briefing material probably the 'Big book' (the draft Carter briefing papers) and the 'Mondale papers' _ entered the Reagan-bush Campaign through its director, Casey," the report said.<

It said Casey might have gotten the briefing papers from longtime Democratic political consultant Paul Corbin, but that "the evidence also suggests that Casey may have received Carter debate briefing materials from other sources."<

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Eds: First 11 grafs new, picking up 7th graf pvs, "Mr. Casey. We anticipate moving in advance another lead, FOR RELEASE at 2 p.m. EDT, based on an advance copy of the report. Timing of the lead is unclear; we will advise you when prospects are firmer.<

By DAVID GOELLER=

Associated Press Writer=

WASHINGTON (AP) - House investigators have concluded that CIA Director William Casey obtained some of the Carter administration documents that reached President Reagan's 1980 campaign, according to sources familiar with the House probe.

These sources said the report names Casey as one of several Reagan campaign officials involved in an organized attempt to obtain Carter administration documents, including material on Americans then held hostage in Iran.

But the 2,400-page report by the Post Office and Civil Service human resources subcommittee, being released later today, says the investigation could not identify who in the Carter camp supplied the documents, according to the source.

The report does say that the investigators found credible evidence that a crime had been committed in the transfer of the Carter papers, said the sources, who requested anonymity.

Last year, White House Chief of Staff James A. Baker III told House investigators that Casey, then Reagan's campaign director, gave him Carter documents, including a briefing book used to prepare Jimmy Carter for a pivotal presidential campaign debate against Reagan.

Interviewed today on the "CBS Morning News," the committee chairman, Rep. Donald Albosta, D-Mich., said, "There is a corroborating witness to Baker's testimony and Mr. Baker has said Casey gave him that material, so it sort of directs or points toward Mr. Casey."

At the White House, meanwhile, deputy press secretary Larry Speakes declined to comment on the report. "We haven't received the report so there's not much I can say."

Speakes said Reagan "has full confidence in Casey. And that's the last 'full confidence' statement we're going to make. We'll let you know if there's any change. We're not going to play that game."

Asked if the president had instructed his campaign staff not to accept any material from the camp of his political rival in 1984, Speakes said, "I don't know whether any of them (material) would be worthwhile or not. I don't know that we need any of it."

Speakes said he doubted Reagan had asked to see a copy of the committee's report, but probably would be given some details about it.

Casey repeatedly has said he cannot recall seeing any Carter papers during the campaign.

"Mr. Casey will have no comment until he has read the report," Dale Peterson, a spokesman for the CIA chief, said Tuesday night.

On Tuesday, subcommittee chairman Donald I. Albosta, D-Mich.

On Tuesday, subcommittee chairman Donald P. Albosta, D-Ill., released a letter from the panel to Attorney General William French Smith urging him to immediately appoint a special prosecutor to investigate the case.

The Democrat-controlled panel said the special prosecutor, permitted under the 1978 Ethics in Government Act, should "pay particular attention to the questionable and flatly contradictory statements made to the subcommittee during the course of its investigation."

The letter, signed by Albosta, said the recommendation was "made completely independent" of the May 14 order of U.S. District Judge Harold H. Greene directing Smith to seek appointment of an independent counsel.

"The subcommittee has had access to significantly more material than Judge Greene utilized to make his conclusion that there was specific and credible evidence of a crime," the letter said.

Justice Department spokeswoman Judith Pond said the department had no comment because "we haven't gotten the letter yet."

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals has stayed Greene's order pending legal arguments in an appeal brought by the Justice Department, which maintains that the judge's order is unconstitutional.

The subcommittee told Smith that a special prosecutor should be named in order "to fully resolve the pending issues in this matter."

"The independent counsel would conduct additional investigation into the possible crimes committed, evaluate the evidence ultimately discovered and make an independent, objective decision as to prosecution," the panel wrote.

Smith announced in February that officials had concluded after an eight-month FBI probe that there was no need for a special prosecutor because there was no credible evidence of any violations of criminal law.

However, Greene ruled in a 31-page opinion that only an independent counsel could reach this conclusion.

The subcommittee said it did not make its recommendation "lightly," but only after a "thorough" investigation involving thousands of documents, interviews with more than 300 people from the Reagan and Carter camps and sworn affidavits from more than 60 of them.

In a related development Tuesday, the two George Washington University law professors who brought the case resulting in Greene's order said they would try to speed up the appeals process.

John F. Banzhaf III and Peter H. Meyers said the effect of the stay granted by the appellate court was to delay any independent investigation until after the November election.

"Ronald Reagan has just pulled off the greatest cover-up since Watergate," Meyers said at a news conference.

"We are not going to stop fighting and we are not going to sit around and wait until that September deadline," Banzhaf said, referring to appeals court order that legal arguments be concluded by Sept. 28.

The law professors said they would ask the entire U.S. Court of Appeals to reconsider the stay of Greene's decision and hear arguments on the issue of the stay within two weeks.

They also said they would seek to broaden the mandate of independent counsel Jacob A. Steir, named to investigate issues raised by the nomination of White House counselor Edwin Meese III to become attorney general, to include the Carter papers matter.



news

From

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES,
COMMITTEE ON POST OFFICE
AND CIVIL SERVICE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Representative Don Albosta, *Chairman*

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FOR RELEASE:
Wednesday, May 23, 1984

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Micah Green, Staff Director

HUMAN RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ISSUES REPORT ON BRIEFING PAPERS INVESTIGATION

Washington, D.C. -- The Subcommittee on Human Resources today publicly released the report on its investigation into the unauthorized transfers of information from the Carter Administration during the 1980 presidential election, concluding in part that an Independent Counsel should be appointed to determine whether anyone should be prosecuted for the possible crimes identified by the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee also revealed that statements made by James Baker III regarding how he obtained Carter debate briefing materials, were corroborated in a sworn affidavit by a credible witness. "The better evidence indicates," the report states, "that Carter debate briefing materials entered the 1980 Reagan Bush campaign through its Director, William J. Casey and that Casey provided Carter debate briefing materials to James A. Baker, III."

The Subcommittee recommended in its report that Independent Counsel should investigate the "questionable and flatly contradictory statements made to the Subcommittee during the course of its investigation." This recommendation was sent by Subcommittee Chairman Don Albosta (D-MI) to Attorney General William French Smith, inviting the Attorney General to have his staff receive a complete briefing from the Subcommittee on the information accumulated and analyzed during the course of the investigation.

In recommending the appointment of an Independent Counsel, the Subcommittee differed sharply with the conclusion of the Department of Justice that there is "no specific credible evidence of a federal crime."

The Subcommittee conducted the investigation to discover the facts surrounding allegations that surfaced last June that the 1980 Reagan Bush campaign had obtained a copy of President Carter's debate briefing book, prior to the October 28, 1980 debate. In commenting on today's release, Albosta said, "Last summer, the vast majority of Americans wanted to get to the truth of what happened in this matter. The Subcommittee conducted an exhaustive investigation in search of all the answers."

"While many answers were found," Albosta continued, "many questions still remain. Only an Independent Counsel [formerly Special Prosecutor], with the power to convene a Grand Jury, can effectively resolve the remaining conflicts."

The Subcommittee also concluded that the Carter and Mondale briefing materials which were found in Reagan Bush campaign files last June, were property of the Federal Government. The Subcommittee disagreed with the Department of Justice conclusion that "[n]o government documents are among the briefing materials that were obtained by the Reagan campaign." The Subcommittee made this conclusion based, in large part, on the sworn testimony of both President Carter's White House Counsel and Deputy Counsel, that their official opinion in 1980 was that such materials, because they defend a policy of the Administration, could be produced on Government time and property and by Government employees. The report additionally concludes that those materials were likely removed from the offices of the National Security Council.

"Identifying the debate materials as government property and showing that the information most likely came from the National Security Council is most troubling," Albosta said. "If an opposing campaign could obtain a very closely held document out of one of the most secure areas of the White House, I shudder to think what types of information our nation's adversaries can get," the Chairman added.

The Subcommittee also concluded that persons in the Reagan Bush campaign organization engaged in organized efforts to obtain from the Carter Administration, and from the Carter Mondale campaign, information and materials that were not publicly available. The Subcommittee based this conclusion on a number of documents and information it found in Reagan Bush campaign files, which were transferred in an unauthorized fashion.

All documents and sworn statements referred to in the Subcommittee's findings are included in the Appendix to the Subcommittee report.

CHRONOLOGY OF SUBCOMMITTEE INVESTIGATION

- June 15, 1983 Subcommittee letters to Mssrs. David Stockman, David Gergen, and James Baker III.
- June 20, 1983 Subcommittee letter to William Casey.
- June 23, 1983 Subcommittee receives responses from Mssrs. Stockman, Gergen, Baker, and Casey.
- June 28, 1983 Subcommittee receives a second response from David Gergen, making corrections in his first response.
- June 28, 1983 Subcommittee receives Carter documents located in the personal files of Mssrs. Gergen and Hodsoll.
- June 29, 1983 Subcommittee letters to Jeanne Kirkpatrick and Francis Hodsoll.
- June 29, 1983 Subcommittee letter to President Reagan requesting copies of White House materials handed over to the Justice Department.
- June 29, 1983 Subcommittee Chairman Albosta announces legislative oversight investigation into the facts surrounding the allegations of unethical and unauthorized transfer of property from the Carter Administration to the Reagan/Bush campaign. Subcommittee staff begins conducting preliminary, informal interviews with potential witnesses.
- July 7, 1983 Subcommittee letters to Mssrs. Edwin Meese III and Michael Deaver.
- July 7, 1983 Subcommittee letter to Fred Fielding concerning access to certain relevant materials.
- July 8, 1983 Subcommittee receives response from Jeanne Kirkpatrick.
- July 9, 1983 Subcommittee sends telegram to the curator of the Hoover Institution concerning access to the Reagan/Bush campaign files.

July 11, 1983 Subcommittee receives responses from Francis Hodsoll and Fred Fielding (on the President's behalf).

July 11, 1983 Subcommittee receives response from Hoover Institution indicating that the Trustees of the collection will decide on access.

July 12, 1983 Negotiations begin with White House Counsel Fred Fielding over access to the Hoover files.

July 14, 1983 Subcommittee adopts formal guidelines for the objectives and procedures for the investigation.

July 18, 1983 Subcommittee receives responses from Mssrs. Edwin Meese III and Michael Deaver.

July 20, 1983 Subcommittee receives letter from Fred Fielding rejecting an offer made for limited access to Hoover Institution files. The letter made an unacceptable counter offer, but reiterated the President's offer of access to all materials the FBI had.

July 22, 1983 Meeting with Subcommittee investigators and Associate Attorney General Lowell Jensen to discuss access to the FBI's information.

July 27, 1983 Access to the FBI materials is granted to the Subcommittee.

July 29, 1983 Subcommittee begins review of FBI materials.

July 29, 1983 Subcommittee reaches agreement with the Trustees of the Reagan/Bush campaign collection at the Hoover Institution, for Subcommittee access to relevant files and materials at the Institution.

August 4, 1983 Subcommittee investigators begin search of designated Hoover Institution files.

August 11, 1983 Subcommittee receives final response from Fred Fielding to letter of July 7th.

August 11, 1983 Formal written agreement reached with Justice re: material.

August 12, 1983 Letters sent to several former Reagan Campaign aides requesting additional files.

August 13, 1983 -
April 1984 Subcommittee investigators continue interviewing individuals and reviewing relevant files.

November 16, 1983 Public hearing date announced by the Subcommittee Chairman.

November 22, 1983 -
December 19, 1983 Subcommittee investigators review FBI interview reports.

January 18, 1984 Chairman postpones indefinitely public hearings on the investigation. Instead the Subcommittee will receive sworn statements from relevant persons.

January 18, 1984 -
May 15, 1984 Subcommittee receives sworn statements and begins writing the report of its findings.

May 17, 1984 Subcommittee approves report.

May 23, 1984 Subcommittee report publicly released.

May 23, 1984 Chairman Albosta introduces ethics legislation implementing report recommendations.

BACKGROUND MATERIAL
TO ACCOMPANY
THE REPORT OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

The Report of the Subcommittee on Human Resources, entitled "Unauthorized Transfers of Nonpublic Information During the 1980 Presidential Election," represents the end product of a nearly eleven month Congressional oversight investigation. The report describes all aspects of the inquiry, with a full presentation of the findings, as well as numerous conclusions and recommendations. Attached for the benefit of the reader is a brief chronology of the subcommittee's investigation.

In addition to the report itself, Subcommittee on Human Resources Chairman Don Albosta (D-MI) has written to Attorney General William French Smith, seeking his concurrence with the Subcommittee's recommendation for the appointment of an Independent Counsel to resolve the pending issues in this matter.

Also, Chairman Albosta today has introduced legislation, embodying the legislative recommendations contained in the body of the report.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Executive Summary

The report contains a concise Executive Summary that will allow the reader to quickly understand the basic findings and conclusions of the subcommittee. The Executive Summary first deals with the debate briefing book matter, then moves to other information that was discovered by subcommittee investigators. Finally, the Executive Summary briefly describes a few of the legal recommendations.

Chapter One: Origin of the Investigation

The first two sections are primarily background. Chapter One fully describes the events that led up to the announcement of the subcommittee's inquiry and the adoption of objectives and guidelines for the investigation. This chapter includes allegations that were made in the public record about the briefing book matter, "intelligence operation and october surprise groups," and other allegations.

Chapter One also describes the initial work done by the Subcommittee on Human Resources in this matter. Starting with the June 15, 1983 letters from Chairman Albosta to James A. Baker III, David Stockman, and David Gergen, Chapter One describes the public record through the approval of Subcommittee guidelines on July 14, 1983.

Chapter Two: Investigative Procedure

Chapter Two details the process followed during the course of the Subcommittee's investigation. This chapter describes the Subcommittee's guidelines, the interview process, and the obtaining of sworn affidavits from witnesses. This chapter also outlines, in great detail, the negotiations between White House Counsel Fred F. Fielding and the Subcommittee over access to certain documents maintained at the Hoover Institution Archives.

Finally, Chapter Two describes the efficient utilization of Subcommittee resources to conduct this investigation. The cost of the investigation is also discussed. At no time during the course of the investigation did the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service go beyond its 1983 budget allocation. This was achieved because the Subcommittee utilized existing resources wherever possible.

Chapter Three: Organized Efforts to Obtain Non-public Materials and Information

Chapter Three of the Subcommittee report discusses, in detail, documents and other items obtained by the Subcommittee through its numerous file searches and further research, which the Subcommittee believes demonstrate an organized effort by the Reagan Bush campaign to obtain materials and information, not publicly available, in an unauthorized manner. This chapter is distinguished from Chapter Four, which discusses the briefing materials prepared for President Carter for his October 1980 debate with Governor Reagan.

The subject of Chapter Three may be divided into two main parts:

- 1) Discussion of documents and other items which the Subcommittee believes were obtained by the Reagan Bush campaign in an unauthorized manner from the Carter Administration or the Carter Mondale campaign, and the Subcommittee's findings on each piece of information.

- 2) Discussion of the Subcommittee's findings on materials and information concerning the "October Surprise", a code name used by the Reagan Bush campaign to describe events related to the Iranian hostage situation, and, more specifically, the possible release of the hostages.

Chapter Three begins with an explanation of comments attributed with Campaign Director William J. Casey who, during a meeting of the deputy campaign directors on September 12, 1980, stated that he wants "more information from the Carter camp and wants it circulated." This comment was found in a memorandum of the meeting from Robert Garrick to Edwin Meese III. Chapter Three shows that material had reached Casey prior to this September 12, 1980 meeting, and that nonpublic material from the "Carter camp" entered the Reagan Bush campaign subsequent to those comments.

With respect to its conclusion that persons in the Reagan Bush campaign organization engaged in organized efforts to obtain information and materials from the Carter Administration and Carter Mondale campaign that were not publicly available (see

Executive Summary, p. 3), the Subcommittee presents in Chapter Three numerous documents and other items, such as telephone messages and memoranda, which were obtained by the Subcommittee from files of the Reagan Bush campaign at the Hoover Institution and campaign files retained by individuals, which were voluntarily made available to the Subcommittee upon request.

The Subcommittee believes it was prevented from answering all questions raised by certain documents it obtained, because of the professed failure by witnesses to recall certain critical facts. In some instances, the lack of recall was not credible. However, the Subcommittee believes that its conclusion regarding an organized effort in the Reagan Bush campaign is sufficiently substantiated by the documents found in files to which it was granted access, and statements made to the Subcommittee by witnesses about these materials.

For the purpose of discussing the information and materials in the most orderly fashion, Chapter Three outlines the organization of the Reagan Bush campaign, discusses the effort of each component of the organization which was engaged in information gathering, and sets forth the Subcommittee's findings on the fruits of these efforts. The Subcommittee attempted to research the source of each document to the fullest possible extent, and presents in Chapter Three the relevant statements made by all individuals associated with a particular document. Each document discussed in Chapter Three may be found in Appendix IV, on the referenced page.

Chapter Four: Carter Debate Briefing Materials Found in the Reagan Bush Campaign

Chapter Four is divided into two sections. The first section describes the production of the debate briefing materials in the Carter White House, and the various possibilities of how those materials left the domain of the White House. There were four basic sets of documents that make up the "Carter debate briefing materials." The Foreign Policy "Big" book and the "Mondale papers" are described in detail, and the Subcommittee concludes that these materials, which were found in Reagan Bush campaign files in 1983, were likely removed from the offices of the National Security Council.

There is a complete explanation of how the materials were treated by government employees in the Carter Administration. Additionally, the statements of both White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler and his deputy, Michael Cardozo, are discussed, to indicate that the position of that office in 1980 was that the briefing materials were government property.

Chapter Four then describes who in the Reagan Bush campaign possessed and had knowledge of the existence of Carter debate materials in the Reagan Bush campaign headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. This chapter will indicate that the materials were fairly widespread in the Reagan Bush campaign, and that numerous conflicts exist between the accounts of various persons.

Chapter Four also shows that the Reagan Bush campaign actually utilized the Carter briefing materials in preparing

Governor Reagan for the 1980 Presidential Debates. David Stockman testified that he used the material to prepare for his role as the Carter stand-in at debate rehearsals. Also, debate book coordinator, Frank Hodsoll, indicated in a memorandum to his attorney in 1983 that the Reagan debate briefing book was changed in a few instances to reflect information contained in the Carter materials.

Chapter Four also makes a conclusion as to which of the Carter materials the Reagan Bush campaign actually obtained. The Subcommittee believes, based on credible testimony, that the Reagan Bush campaign received not only the Foreign Policy "Big" book and the "Mondale papers", but also the final, condensed foreign policy book, and some version of the domestic briefing materials.

The conclusions reached by the Subcommittee on who in the Reagan Bush campaign had originally obtained the Carter briefing materials is presented at the end of Chapter Four. It is here that the Subcommittee concludes that the best evidence indicates that the Reagan Bush campaign obtained the briefing materials through its Director, William Casey.

Chapter Five: Legal Conclusions

This chapter of the Subcommittee report outlines relevant statutes and regulations that are applicable to the facts discovered during the course of the investigation. This chapter begins with a survey of ethics laws and standards of conduct for

Federal employees. Criminal laws are then discussed in detail. Statutes particularly focused on by the Subcommittee are 18 U.S.C. 641, dealing with conversion of Federal property and 18 U.S.C. 1001, dealing with false statements made to a Government employee during the course of official duties.

Chapter Five then describes the Ethics Act, and the requirements thereunder. Included in this section is a detailed review of the case law governing the appointment of an Independent Counsel under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978. It is in this section of the report that the Subcommittee states, and supports, its conclusion that an Independent Counsel should be appointed to resolve the remaining questions and conflicts in this matter.

Chapter Five then reviews the ethics programs in the Federal Government, and includes in the appendix responses from various Agency Ethics Officials on the ethics program in their respective agencies.

Finally, Chapter Five outlines recommendations that the Subcommittee has made regarding ethics laws. Legislation is being introduced today by Chairman Albosta, implementing many of those recommendations.

Appendixes

- 1) Letters and Correspondence
- 2) Debate Briefing Materials
- 3) Affidavits
- 4) Documents
- 5) FBI Laboratory Reports
- 6) Legal Memoranda and Agency Ethics Responses

Throughout the body of the report, references are made to the appendixes by referring to an Appendix Number (e.g. App. IV) and then a page number. The reader should refer to that stated page number to find the referenced document.

LEGISLATION TO AMEND
THE ETHICS ACT AND CRIMINAL LAW
BASED ON THE INVESTIGATION BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE
ON HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today to strengthen the Ethics in Government Act and to extend Federal criminal law to prevent theft of confidential campaign documents and information.

The Subcommittee on Human Resources, which I chair, has just issued its Report on the Unauthorized Transfer of Documents and Information from the Carter Administration during the 1980 Presidential Election Campaign. The Subcommittee recommends in that Report that the Ethics law and programs be improved and that Congress make it a crime to steal campaign documents or information not available for public release. This extension of the criminal law was also recommended by the Senate Watergate Committee in 1973.

In June of 1983, it became known that the Reagan Bush campaign had received a copy of President Carter's briefing book. Shortly after that, Richard Allen, Mr. Reagan's former National Security Advisor, told the press that during the campaign, he had received copies of private, confidential reports intended for President Carter's National Security Advisor, Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski. It seemed fairly clear even then that if any Federal employee handed over these documents, that employee would probably have been acting in violation of the Standards of Conduct, and possibly in violation of the Federal criminal law as well.

During The Subcommittee's investigation, we reviewed the process used by agencies to teach individuals about the Standards of Conduct when they go to work for the Federal Government. Most of the scores of persons asked were not familiar with the specific regulations that forbid the misuse of government property or information. The Subcommittee urged better ethics education in the Subcommittee Report of May 16th, 1983 on the bill to reauthorize the Office of Government Ethics. In its review of agency ethics programs, the Subcommittee was unable to detect a uniform improvement in ethics education. Therefore, this bill would require mandatory briefings for all federal employees and officials on the requirements of the Ethics Act and the regulations establishing standards of conduct.

Other improvements in the Ethics Act also appear necessary. In the Subcommittee's May 1983 Report, the Subcommittee suggested

a better system of publishing advisory opinions issued by the Office of Government Ethics so that individuals could have a better idea of how the laws are applied. There has apparently been no improvement in that system. In its review of the ethics programs, the Subcommittee found that there exists no uniform or centralized system of determining how the ethics regulations have in fact been applied in different agencies. Therefore, this bill would require that summaries of actual case histories be compiled and published to provide a reliable guide as to how the standards are applied.

The Subcommittee has noted that the current Director of the Office of Government Ethics is somewhat reluctant to suggest changes in the law in spite of the fact that the role of the office as required by law is not always clear. The current act directs him to recommend changes in certain areas of the law when needed. In order to gain the full benefit of the expertise of the OGE, this bill requires a full review of the ethics programs every four years. The Director's reports to the Congress will be timed to permit changes in the program before the Presidential transition period.

As noted in the Subcommittee Report, an act which violates the Standards of Conduct may also violate the criminal law. Furthermore, the Standards only apply to Federal employees. The Subcommittee's review of current law (primarily 18 U.S.C. §641) indicates that theft or knowing conversion or knowing receipt and use of government documents and confidential government information is already punishable under federal law when the parties involved are acting for their own gain. However, federal law does not cover those who steal or attempt to take confidential documents or confidential information from a candidate for federal office. Other law that may apply to such thefts varies from state to state. The Subcommittee felt it was appropriate for federal law to cover such federal campaign abuses in a more uniform and dependable way. Therefore this bill would establish a penalty of up to \$50,000 and five years in jail for the theft or attempted theft from a campaign or knowing receipt and use by a campaign of another campaign's confidential information.

This bill embodies the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Human Resources. We have bipartisan agreement that the ethics laws should be strengthened. The Subcommittee intends to take up this legislation soon.



news From

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES,
COMMITTEE ON POST OFFICE
AND CIVIL SERVICE
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FOR RELEASE:
Wednesday, May 23, 1984

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HUMAN RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ISSUES REPORT ON BRIEFING PAPERS INVESTIGATION

Washington, D.C. -- The Subcommittee on Human Resources today publicly released the report on its investigation into the unauthorized transfers of information from the Carter Administration during the 1980 presidential election, concluding in part that an Independent Counsel should be appointed to determine whether anyone should be prosecuted for the possible crimes identified by the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee also revealed that statements made by James Baker III regarding how he obtained Carter debate briefing materials, were corroborated in a sworn affidavit by a credible witness. "The better evidence indicates," the report states, "that Carter debate briefing materials entered the 1980 Reagan Bush campaign through its Director, William J. Casey and that Casey provided Carter debate briefing materials to James A. Baker, III."

The Subcommittee recommended in its report that Independent Counsel should investigate the "questionable and flatly contradictory statements made to the Subcommittee during the course of its investigation." This recommendation was sent by Subcommittee Chairman Don Albosta (D-MI) to Attorney General William French Smith, inviting the Attorney General to have his staff receive a complete briefing from the Subcommittee on the information accumulated and analyzed during the course of the investigation.

In recommending the appointment of an Independent Counsel, the Subcommittee differed sharply with the conclusion of the Department of Justice that there is "no specific credible evidence of a federal crime."

The Subcommittee conducted the investigation to discover the facts surrounding allegations that surfaced last June that the 1980 Reagan Bush campaign had obtained a copy of President Carter's debate briefing book, prior to the October 28, 1980 debate. In commenting on today's release, Albosta said, "Last summer, the vast majority of Americans wanted to get to the truth of what happened in this matter. The Subcommittee conducted an exhaustive investigation in search of all the answers."

"While many answers were found," Albosta continued, "many questions still remain. Only an Independent Counsel [formerly Special Prosecutor], with the power to convene a Grand Jury, can effectively resolve the remaining conflicts."

The Subcommittee also concluded that the Carter and Mondale briefing materials which were found in Reagan Bush campaign files last June, were property of the Federal Government. The Subcommittee disagreed with the Department of Justice conclusion that "[n]o government documents are among the briefing materials that were obtained by the Reagan campaign." The Subcommittee made this conclusion based, in large part, on the sworn testimony of both President Carter's White House Counsel and Deputy Counsel, that their official opinion in 1980 was that such materials, because they defend a policy of the Administration, could be produced on Government time and property and by Government employees. The report additionally concludes that those materials were likely removed from the offices of the National Security Council.

"Identifying the debate materials as government property and showing that the information most likely came from the National Security Council is most troubling," Albosta said. "If an opposing campaign could obtain a very closely held document out of one of the most secure areas of the White House, I shudder to think what types of information our nation's adversaries can get," the Chairman added.

The Subcommittee also concluded that persons in the Reagan Bush campaign organization engaged in organized efforts to obtain from the Carter Administration, and from the Carter Mondale campaign, information and materials that were not publicly available. The Subcommittee based this conclusion on a number of documents and information it found in Reagan Bush campaign files, which were transferred in an unauthorized fashion.

All documents and sworn statements referred to in the Subcommittee's findings are included in the Appendix to the Subcommittee report.

LEGISLATION TO AMEND
THE ETHICS ACT AND CRIMINAL LAW
BASED ON THE INVESTIGATION BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE
ON HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today to strengthen the Ethics in Government Act and to extend Federal criminal law to prevent theft of confidential campaign documents and information.

The Subcommittee on Human Resources, which I chair, has just issued its Report on the Unauthorized Transfer of Documents and Information from the Carter Administration during the 1980 Presidential Election Campaign. The Subcommittee recommends in that Report that the Ethics law and programs be improved and that Congress make it a crime to steal campaign documents or information not available for public release. This extension of the criminal law was also recommended by the Senate Watergate Committee in 1973.

In June of 1983, it became known that the Reagan Bush campaign had received a copy of President Carter's briefing book. Shortly after that, Richard Allen, Mr. Reagan's former National Security Advisor, told the press that during the campaign, he had received copies of private, confidential reports intended for President Carter's National Security Advisor, Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski. It seemed fairly clear even then that if any Federal employee handed over these documents, that employee would probably have been acting in violation of the Standards of Conduct, and possibly in violation of the Federal criminal law as well.

During The Subcommittee's investigation, we reviewed the process used by agencies to teach individuals about the Standards of Conduct when they go to work for the Federal Government. Most of the scores of persons asked were not familiar with the specific regulations that forbid the misuse of government property or information. The Subcommittee urged better ethics education in the Subcommittee Report of May 16th, 1983 on the bill to reauthorize the Office of Government Ethics. In its review of agency ethics programs, the Subcommittee was unable to detect a uniform improvement in ethics education. Therefore, this bill would require mandatory briefings for all federal employees and officials on the requirements of the Ethics Act and the regulations establishing standards of conduct.

Other improvements in the Ethics Act also appear necessary. In the Subcommittee's May 1983 Report, the Subcommittee suggested

a better system of publishing advisory opinions issued by the Office of Government Ethics so that individuals could have a better idea of how the laws are applied. There has apparently been no improvement in that system. In its review of the ethics programs, the Subcommittee found that there exists no uniform or centralized system of determining how the ethics regulations have in fact been applied in different agencies. Therefore, this bill would require that summaries of actual case histories be compiled and published to provide a reliable guide as to how the standards are applied.

The Subcommittee has noted that the current Director of the Office of Government Ethics is somewhat reluctant to suggest changes in the law in spite of the fact that the role of the office as required by law is not always clear. The current act directs him to recommend changes in certain areas of the law when needed. In order to gain the full benefit of the expertise of the OGE, this bill requires a full review of the ethics programs every four years. The Director's reports to the Congress will be timed to permit changes in the program before the Presidential transition period.

As noted in the Subcommittee Report, an act which violates the Standards of Conduct may also violate the criminal law. Furthermore, the Standards only apply to Federal employees. The Subcommittee's review of current law (primarily 18 U.S.C. §641) indicates that theft or knowing conversion or knowing receipt and use of government documents and confidential government information is already punishable under federal law when the parties involved are acting for their own gain. However, federal law does not cover those who steal or attempt to take confidential documents or confidential information from a candidate for federal office. Other law that may apply to such thefts varies from state to state. The Subcommittee felt it was appropriate for federal law to cover such federal campaign abuses in a more uniform and dependable way. Therefore this bill would establish a penalty of up to \$50,000 and five years in jail for the theft or attempted theft from a campaign or knowing receipt and use by a campaign of another campaign's confidential information.

This bill embodies the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Human Resources. We have bipartisan agreement that the ethics laws should be strengthened. The Subcommittee intends to take up this legislation soon.

CHRONOLOGY OF SUBCOMMITTEE INVESTIGATION

- June 15, 1983 Subcommittee letters to Mssrs. David Stockman, David Gergen, and James Baker III.
- June 20, 1983 Subcommittee letter to William Casey.
- June 23, 1983 Subcommittee receives responses from Mssrs. Stockman, Gergen, Baker, and Casey.
- June 28, 1983 Subcommittee receives a second response from David Gergen, making corrections in his first response.
- June 28, 1983 Subcommittee receives Carter documents located in the personal files of Mssrs. Gergen and Hodsoll.
- June 29, 1983 Subcommittee letters to Jeanne Kirkpatrick and Francis Hodsoll.
- June 29, 1983 Subcommittee letter to President Reagan requesting copies of White House materials handed over to the Justice Department.
- June 29, 1983 Subcommittee Chairman Albosta announces legislative oversight investigation into the facts surrounding the allegations of unethical and unauthorized transfer of property from the Carter Administration to the Reagan/Bush campaign. Subcommittee staff begins conducting preliminary, informal interviews with potential witnesses.
- July 7, 1983 Subcommittee letters to Mssrs. Edwin Meese III and Michael Deaver.
- July 7, 1983 Subcommittee letter to Fred Fielding concerning access to certain relevant materials.
- July 8, 1983 Subcommittee receives response from Jeanne Kirkpatrick.
- July 9, 1983 Subcommittee sends telegram to the curator of the Hoover Institution concerning access to the Reagan/Bush campaign files.

July 11, 1983 Subcommittee receives responses from Francis Hodsoll and Fred Fielding (on the President's behalf).

July 11, 1983 Subcommittee receives response from Hoover Institution indicating that the Trustees of the collection will decide on access.

July 12, 1983 Negotiations begin with White House Counsel Fred Fielding over access to the Hoover files.

July 14, 1983 Subcommittee adopts formal guidelines for the objectives and procedures for the investigation.

July 18, 1983 Subcommittee receives responses from Mssrs. Edwin Meese III and Michael Deaver.

July 20, 1983 Subcommittee receives letter from Fred Fielding rejecting an offer made for limited access to Hoover Institution files. The letter made an unacceptable counter offer, but reiterated the President's offer of access to all materials the FBI had.

July 22, 1983 Meeting with Subcommittee investigators and Associate Attorney General Lowell Jensen to discuss access to the FBI's information.

July 27, 1983 Access to the FBI materials is granted to the Subcommittee.

July 29, 1983 Subcommittee begins review of FBI materials.

July 29, 1983 Subcommittee reaches agreement with the Trustees of the Reagan/Bush campaign collection at the Hoover Institution, for Subcommittee access to relevant files and materials at the Institution.

August 4, 1983 Subcommittee investigators begin search of designated Hoover Institution files.

August 11, 1983 Subcommittee receives final response from Fred Fielding to letter of July 7th.

August 11, 1983 Formal written agreement reached with Justice re: material.

August 12, 1983 Letters sent to several former Reagan Campaign aides requesting additional files.

August 13, 1983 -
April 1984 Subcommittee investigators continue interviewing individuals and reviewing relevant files.

November 16, 1983 Public hearing date announced by the Subcommittee Chairman.

November 22, 1983 -
December 19, 1983 Subcommittee investigators review FBI interview reports.

January 18, 1984 Chairman postpones indefinitely public hearings on the investigation. Instead the Subcommittee will receive sworn statements from relevant persons.

January 18, 1984 -
May 15, 1984 Subcommittee receives sworn statements and begins writing the report of its findings.

May 17, 1984 Subcommittee approves report.

May 23, 1984 Subcommittee report publicly released.

May 23, 1984 Chairman Albosta introduces ethics legislation implementing report recommendations.

BACKGROUND MATERIAL
TO ACCOMPANY
THE REPORT OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

The Report of the Subcommittee on Human Resources, entitled "Unauthorized Transfers of Nonpublic Information During the 1980 Presidential Election," represents the end product of a nearly eleven month Congressional oversight investigation. The report describes all aspects of the inquiry, with a full presentation of the findings, as well as numerous conclusions and recommendations. Attached for the benefit of the reader is a brief chronology of the subcommittee's investigation.

In addition to the report itself, Subcommittee on Human Resources Chairman Don Albosta (D-MI) has written to Attorney General William French Smith, seeking his concurrence with the Subcommittee's recommendation for the appointment of an Independent Counsel to resolve the pending issues in this matter.

Also, Chairman Albosta today has introduced legislation, embodying the legislative recommendations contained in the body of the report.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Executive Summary

The report contains a concise Executive Summary that will allow the reader to quickly understand the basic findings and conclusions of the subcommittee. The Executive Summary first deals with the debate briefing book matter, then moves to other information that was discovered by subcommittee investigators. Finally, the Executive Summary briefly describes a few of the legal recommendations.

Chapter One: Origin of the Investigation

The first two sections are primarily background. Chapter One fully describes the events that led up to the announcement of the subcommittee's inquiry and the adoption of objectives and guidelines for the investigation. This chapter includes allegations that were made in the public record about the briefing book matter, "intelligence operation and october surprise groups," and other allegations.

Chapter One also describes the initial work done by the Subcommittee on Human Resources in this matter. Starting with the June 15, 1983 letters from Chairman Albosta to James A. Baker III, David Stockman, and David Gergen, Chapter One describes the public record through the approval of Subcommittee guidelines on July 14, 1983.

Chapter Two: Investigative Procedure

Chapter Two details the process followed during the course of the Subcommittee's investigation. This chapter describes the Subcommittee's guidelines, the interview process, and the obtaining of sworn affidavits from witnesses. This chapter also outlines, in great detail, the negotiations between White House Counsel Fred F. Fielding and the Subcommittee over access to certain documents maintained at the Hoover Institution Archives.

Finally, Chapter Two describes the efficient utilization of Subcommittee resources to conduct this investigation. The cost of the investigation is also discussed. At no time during the course of the investigation did the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service go beyond its 1983 budget allocation. This was achieved because the Subcommittee utilized existing resources wherever possible.

Chapter Three: Organized Efforts to Obtain Non-public Materials and Information

Chapter Three of the Subcommittee report discusses, in detail, documents and other items obtained by the Subcommittee through its numerous file searches and further research, which the Subcommittee believes demonstrate an organized effort by the Reagan Bush campaign to obtain materials and information, not publicly available, in an unauthorized manner. This chapter is distinguished from Chapter Four, which discusses the briefing materials prepared for President Carter for his October 1980 debate with Governor Reagan.

The subject of Chapter Three may be divided into two main parts:

- 1) Discussion of documents and other items which the Subcommittee believes were obtained by the Reagan Bush campaign in an unauthorized manner from the Carter Administration or the Carter Mondale campaign, and the Subcommittee's findings on each piece of information.

- 2) Discussion of the Subcommittee's findings on materials and information concerning the "October Surprise", a code name used by the Reagan Bush campaign to describe events related to the Iranian hostage situation, and, more specifically, the possible release of the hostages.

Chapter Three begins with an explanation of comments attributed with Campaign Director William J. Casey who, during a meeting of the deputy campaign directors on September 12, 1980, stated that he wants "more information from the Carter camp and wants it circulated." This comment was found in a memorandum of the meeting from Robert Garrick to Edwin Meese III. Chapter Three shows that material had reached Casey prior to this September 12, 1980 meeting, and that nonpublic material from the "Carter camp" entered the Reagan Bush campaign subsequent to those comments.

With respect to its conclusion that persons in the Reagan Bush campaign organization engaged in organized efforts to obtain information and materials from the Carter Administration and Carter Mondale campaign that were not publicly available (see

Executive Summary, p. 3), the Subcommittee presents in Chapter Three numerous documents and other items, such as telephone messages and memoranda, which were obtained by the Subcommittee from files of the Reagan Bush campaign at the Hoover Institution and campaign files retained by individuals, which were voluntarily made available to the Subcommittee upon request.

The Subcommittee believes it was prevented from answering all questions raised by certain documents it obtained, because of the professed failure by witnesses to recall certain critical facts. In some instances, the lack of recall was not credible. However, the Subcommittee believes that its conclusion regarding an organized effort in the Reagan Bush campaign is sufficiently substantiated by the documents found in files to which it was granted access, and statements made to the Subcommittee by witnesses about these materials.

For the purpose of discussing the information and materials in the most orderly fashion, Chapter Three outlines the organization of the Reagan Bush campaign, discusses the effort of each component of the organization which was engaged in information gathering, and sets forth the Subcommittee's findings on the fruits of these efforts. The Subcommittee attempted to research the source of each document to the fullest possible extent, and presents in Chapter Three the relevant statements made by all individuals associated with a particular document. Each document discussed in Chapter Three may be found in Appendix IV, on the referenced page.

Chapter Four: Carter Debate Briefing Materials Found in the Reagan Bush Campaign

Chapter Four is divided into two sections. The first section describes the production of the debate briefing materials in the Carter White House, and the various possibilities of how those materials left the domain of the White House. There were four basic sets of documents that make up the "Carter debate briefing materials." The Foreign Policy "Big" book and the "Mondale papers" are described in detail, and the Subcommittee concludes that these materials, which were found in Reagan Bush campaign files in 1983, were likely removed from the offices of the National Security Council.

There is a complete explanation of how the materials were treated by government employees in the Carter Administration. Additionally, the statements of both White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler and his deputy, Michael Cardozo, are discussed, to indicate that the position of that office in 1980 was that the briefing materials were government property.

Chapter Four then describes who in the Reagan Bush campaign possessed and had knowledge of the existence of Carter debate materials in the Reagan Bush campaign headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. This chapter will indicate that the materials were fairly widespread in the Reagan Bush campaign, and that numerous conflicts exist between the accounts of various persons.

Chapter Four also shows that the Reagan Bush campaign actually utilized the Carter briefing materials in preparing

Governor Reagan for the 1980 Presidential Debates. David Stockman testified that he used the material to prepare for his role as the Carter stand-in at debate rehearsals. Also, debate book coordinator, Frank Hodsoll, indicated in a memorandum to his attorney in 1983 that the Reagan debate briefing book was changed in a few instances to reflect information contained in the Carter materials.

Chapter Four also makes a conclusion as to which of the Carter materials the Reagan Bush campaign actually obtained. The Subcommittee believes, based on credible testimony, that the Reagan Bush campaign received not only the Foreign Policy "Big" book and the "Mondale papers", but also the final, condensed foreign policy book, and some version of the domestic briefing materials.

The conclusions reached by the Subcommittee on who in the Reagan Bush campaign had originally obtained the Carter briefing materials is presented at the end of Chapter Four. It is here that the Subcommittee concludes that the best evidence indicates that the Reagan Bush campaign obtained the briefing materials through its Director, William Casey.

Chapter Five: Legal Conclusions

This chapter of the Subcommittee report outlines relevant statutes and regulations that are applicable to the facts discovered during the course of the investigation. This chapter begins with a survey of ethics laws and standards of conduct for

Federal employees. Criminal laws are then discussed in detail. Statutes particularly focused on by the Subcommittee are 18 U.S.C. 641, dealing with conversion of Federal property and 18 U.S.C. 1001, dealing with false statements made to a Government employee during the course of official duties.

Chapter Five then describes the Ethics Act, and the requirements thereunder. Included in this section is a detailed review of the case law governing the appointment of an Independent Counsel under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978. It is in this section of the report that the Subcommittee states, and supports, its conclusion that an Independent Counsel should be appointed to resolve the remaining questions and conflicts in this matter.

Chapter Five then reviews the ethics programs in the Federal Government, and includes in the appendix responses from various Agency Ethics Officials on the ethics program in their respective agencies.

Finally, Chapter Five outlines recommendations that the Subcommittee has made regarding ethics laws. Legislation is being introduced today by Chairman Albosta, implementing many of those recommendations.

Appendixes

- 1) Letters and Correspondence
- 2) Debate Briefing Materials
- 3) Affidavits
- 4) Documents
- 5) FBI Laboratory Reports
- 6) Legal Memoranda and Agency Ethics Responses

Throughout the body of the report, references are made to the appendixes by referring to an Appendix Number (e.g. App. IV) and then a page number. The reader should refer to that stated page number to find the referenced document.

NOON UPDATE OF WIRES

CARTER PAPERS (UPI) -- Lacking hard proof, a House panel declared today that "the better evidence" from its 10-month investigation implicates CIA Chief William Casey as the 1980 Reagan Campaign official who got a pirated copy of President Carter's debate briefing papers....The panel said it found corroboration for the sworn testimony of White House Chief-of-Staff James Baker, who recalled receiving the briefing book from Casey. Baker's executive assistant, Margaret Tutwiler, "has stated under oath that Baker in essence told her before the Carter-Reagan debate that he had received Carter debate briefing material from Casey," the report said.

Rep. Albosta said his subcommittee report reveals a witness's testimony that William Casey received a copy of Carter's briefing papers and concludes the papers were "government property," and their procurement may have been a crime. In appearances on CBS and NBC, Albosta made only general comments about the 2,400 page report that took 10 months to assemble.

(AP) -- The panel said it found "no evidence" that Reagan was involved himself in the unauthorized transfer of the briefing book and other Carter Administration documents.

(AP) -- At the White House, meanwhile, Larry Speakes declined to comment on the report: "We haven't received the report so there's not much I can say."

STOCKMAN (AP) -- David Stockman said a second Reagan Administration would have only six months to push through Congress the budget cuts needed to finish the task President Reagan began in 1981. He said the Administration has now lost the votes it needs in the House to win major budget victories.

GULF (AP) -- Iraqi President Hussein said his country will intensify the sea blockade imposed on Iran's Kharg Island and soon would be capable of destroying the port complex itself.

REAGAN/INTERVENTION (AP analysis) -- President Reagan is finding out that in the Persian Gulf as well as in Central America, even friendly governments are reluctant to call on the U.S. for military assistance to solve their problems. They will accept Uncle Sam's help -- up to a point.

IRELAND (Reuter) -- Although the great majority of Irish people will welcome the President as one of their own, opposition is growing from a minority who see the visit as a blatant pitch for the Catholic and Irish-American vote in the November election. The Irish government has refrained from any official ban on demonstrations but has openly voiced anxiety that protesters might resort to violence. Consequently, the authorities are taking no chances.

LATIN DEBT (Reuter) -- Fears that the billions of dollars in U.S. loans to Latin America could go sour have been fanned by the punishing rise in interest rates and signs that some of the region's borrowers, especially Argentina, are taking a tougher line with banks. On paper, big American banks could be wiped out if the loans go bad. European banks, by contrast, are less vulnerable.

1984 MAY 23 PM 12: 26

Noon Update Of Wires continued

LEBANON (UPI) -- Lebanon's Cabinet agreed today on a peace plan to end fighting in Beirut and PM Karami said he will brief U.N. ambassadors on Israel's "irregular and inhuman" measures in the country.

DISCRIMINATION (UPI) -- Ignoring opposition from President Reagan, two House committees today endorsed without objection a civil rights bill that would overturn a controversial Supreme Court sex discrimination ruling.

MARCOS (AP) -- President Marcos plans to add 18 appointed seats to the National Assembly, according to a document disclosed today, that would dilute the opposition's unexpectedly strong showing in recent elections.

YEN (Reuter) -- The U.S. and Japan have agreed on a draft package of measures to open Japanese capital markets and internationalize the yen, officials said in Rome today.

AFL-CIO/COLLYER (UPI) -- The AFL-CIO urged the Senate today to reject Reagan's nomination of Rosemary Collyer as the government's top prosecutor of labor law violations, saying she has a pro-employer record and little experience.

W.GERMANY (AP) -- Former Berlin Mayor Richard von Weizsaecker was elected president of West Germany today by a strong majority of the federal convention.

ELECTION (AP) -- Hart is hoping his sweep of Idaho's nonbinding preference primary (58% to 29%) provides him with a spurt of momentum against Mondale.

SMOKING (AP) -- Cigarette smoking is the primary cause of chronic, obstructive lung disease, including bronchitis and emphysema, the Surgeon General said today in his newest report on smoking.

STOCKS (AP) -- Stock prices were mixed today, bidding to stabilize after the decline that has carried the market to its lowest levels in more than a year. The Dow Jones average edged up .95 to 1,117.57 in the first hour today.

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