CIA Director McCone Leaving? A Poor Way to Improve U.S. Standing in Brazil

Easy Way for Bobby Kennedy to Prove He Can Be Liberal and Magnanimous

Now that Bobby Kennedy has been elected, one way for him to refute his critics and demonstrate liberalism and magnanimity would be to join in a protest to ABC to reinstate Lisa Howard, whom it once billed as TV's No. 1 Newswoman but has dropped for helping to organize Democrats-for-Keating. Her TV interviews with Castro and Guevara were courageous forays for better understanding. . . . There was good news in Joe Alsop's resumed column Nov. 9 (we dislike his views but are glad to see he's well again) that CIA Director John A. McCone "may have to return to California, to keep an eye for a while on his large West Coast enterprises." McCone managed as AEC Chairman and CIA Director to keep these enterprises despite conflict-of-interest laws governing both posts. But the main objection to him is that he is a Republican of far right views, who would fit better into a Goldwater government. . . .

Ambassadorial Errand Boy?

It was poor public relations for U.S. Ambassador Lincoln Gordon to accompany John J. McCloy, acting as lawyer for the Hanna Mining Interests of Cleveland, on a visit to Brazil's new military dictator President Castelo Branco in Brasilia Nov. 6. The vice president of Hanna is George H. Humphrey, Ike's Secretary of the Treasury, and a leading Goldwater supporter, who has used influence of all kinds to obtain control of rich iron deposits in Brazil. The concessions granted him 5 years ago were later cancelled June 30, 1962, by a Nationalist Minister of Mines. The cancellation is on appeal to the Brazilian Supreme Court. "After presenting Mr. McCloy," the New York Times reported meaningfully, Nov. 7, "Ambassador Gordon paid President Branco a second visit outlining the U.S. financial and economic mission to Brazil." First the U.S. supports a military coup which purges some of Brazil's leading statesmen from public life and then it brings pressure for iron deposits that Brazilians from far right to far left prefer to keep under public control. This is hardly the way to lay the spectre of Yankee Imperialism. . . .

Remember the campaign for continued underground testing

Civil Liberties Cases at The Court

The Supreme Court this week agreed to decide the constitutionality of a Landrum-Griffin Act provision which makes it a crime for a Communist to serve as an officer of a labor union. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals set aside the conviction of Archie Brown, an officer in a San Francisco local of the ILWU, on the ground that Congress could not "impose personal criminal sanctions on . . . (the) basis of political affiliations." The Solicitor General has asked the Supreme Court to overturn this ruling. The Court also said the NAACP and the ACLU could file amicus curiae briefs in support of James Dombrowski, director of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, indicted in Louisiana for subversive (i.e., civil rights) activities.

on the plea that it was required to perfect our means of detection? Since the nuclear test ban treaty went into effect, we have staged 38 tests. The official AEC run-down as of Nov. 9 shows 30 weapons tests, six Ploughshare (supposed civilian uses), one joint weapons test with the United Kingdomand one Vela (test detection). Moscow is now asking a complete ban on all tests. How can the Russians convince the Chinese to stop testing when we go on doing so? . . . Are these tests really necessary or just provocative "needling" exercises? . . . An Agence France Presse dispatch from Bonn in Le Monde (Nov. 5) reports that the West Germany government is resuming talks for a trade agreement with Red China. These were postponed earlier this year on Washington's request until after the elections. . . . We welcome the news from Moscow (New York Times, Nov. 4) that the Leningrad poet Brodsky and Boris Pasternak's friend, Olga Ivinskaya, have been released from prison by the new regime as a conciliatory gesture to Russian intellectuals and world opinion. Brodsky was sentenced to five years in jail as a "social parasite" for his non-conformist verses and the Khrushchev regime took out on Ivinskaya its displeasure with the author of "Dr. Zhivago." This sensitivity to world opinion is a welcome change from the days of Stalinism.

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