Profile: Michael Dukakis

The Democratic nominee is worse than Jimmy Carter



by Kathleen Klenetsky

If you thought Jimmy Carter was a disaster as President, there is someone even worse looming on the horizon: Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, who was crowned as the Democratic presidential nominee at the party's convention in Atlanta in July, and who has a shot at beating Republican rival George Bush in the November presidential elections.

Dukakis has been compared to Carter by many—including by the former President himself. A creature of the international reinsurance cartel and the same Harvard-linked circles that catapulted the Georgia peanut farmer into the Oval Office, Dukakis shares with Carter a psychological profile which makes him especially suited to act as the front-man for the miserable combination of economic austerity and Soviet appeasement policies which have been adopted by the American liberal Establishment.

A second Carter administration?

Like Carter, Dukakis has long served the interests of the international dope mafia—his tough anti-drug talk on the campaign trail notwithstanding.

Item: Dukakis's home state of Massachusetts has the most liberal drug laws in the nation regarding possession of marijuana and cocaine. A first-offense conviction for possession of 10,000 pounds of marijuana carries no prison sentence and no fine.

Item: Dukakis's representative to the Democratic platform committee, former Maryland Congressman Mike Barnes, belongs to the Aspen Institute's Inter-American Dialogue, which came out in 1986 and again this year urging "discussion" of the legalization of drugs.

Item: An Aspen Institute spokesman told a European journalist recently that he was confident that Dukakis would take steps to legalize drugs, once elected—a belief also held by the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, otherwise known as the "pot lobby."

Item: Dukakis's wife, Kitty, an executive board member of the New England branch of the organized-crime and dope lobby-linked Anti-Defamation League, says she's "not sure" about drug legalization. "I have mixed feelings about it. On the one hand, I think there are certain drugs that we might

think about making legal, because . . . of the attractiveness of a substance when it's illegal." Kitty was addicted to diet pills for 25 years.

Item: Pablo Escobar, kingpin of the Medellín cocaine cartel, sent a letter to Dukakis last spring praising him for his "very realistic" stand on drug control, according to the Colombian weekly *Semana*.

Like Carter, Dukakis claims to be a defender of traditional family values, but he is as depraved as Carter ever was:

Item: Dukakis, as governor, named Laurie Cabot the "Official Witch of Salem" Massachusetts. Cabot is the central figure in the "Witches League for Public Awareness," and in Wicca.

Item: According to syndicated columnist Patrick Buchanan, state legislator Dukakis introduced five bills in 1970, on behalf of pro-abortion activist Bill Baird, calling for repeal of any and all Massachusetts laws outlawing abortion, blasphemy, fornication, "unnatural and lascivious acts," and "crimes against nature," the last of which specifically prohibited sexual relations between human and animals.

Item: Dukakis has ardently backed "gay rights." His most recent contribution was to help defeat a Massachusetts bill that would have outlawed homosexual adoptions. "We have in Mike Dukakis a candidate who is instinctively supportive, who has a good record on gay rights issues, who wants our support and can win," says Jean O'Leary, executive director of National Gay Rights Advocates.

Item: Although he played up his Greek ethnic roots during the campaign, Dukakis is considered by many Greek Orthodox priests to have excommunicated himself from the church because of his support for abortion, and for having been married by a Unitarian minister.

Despite his high-tech image, Dukakis shares with Carter a rabid hatred for science and technology, exemplified by his years-long campaign to shut down the Seabrook nuclear power plant, and his recent pledge to scale down the embattled U.S. space program.

The two maintain identical commitments to economic "sacrifice" and austerity at home, and a sharp reduction in the American military presence abroad.

Robert Bowie, a former top CIA official and Establishment "insider," told a reporter last spring, that the powersthat-be had decided to give Dukakis the nomination, not because he has any of the moral or intellectual qualifications required for the job, but simply because "he knows how to take advice" and will "appoint the right people to his Cabinet." Dukakis's stable of advisers, which will supply the bulk of his Cabinet and sub-Cabinet positions, reads like a who's who of the East Coast-Harvard liberal elite, with numerous close advisers drawn directly from the Carter administration, among them, top campaign strategists Ira Jackson and Susan Estrich.

This profile is intended to be used as ammunition by those who care enough about the future of the United States to prevent Dukakis from being palmed off on the American people as Carter was. Neither the United States nor the world can afford a second Carter administration.

Dukakis: communist and/or crazy?

Several factors in Dukakis's background, by themselves, cast serious doubts on his fitness for the presidency. One of these is his family's reputed communist connections. According to several sources, two of Dukakis's uncles on his mother's side, Nicholas and Adam Bouskis, who emigrated from Greece to Haverhill, Massachusetts, were active communists who sought the overthrow of the U.S. government, and supported the communist side in the Greek civil war.

While these reports are still under investigation by *EIR* and other researchers, they are consistent with Dukakis's political history. Although his father and mother were nominal Republicans, Dukakis himself had pronounced left-liberal leanings. Reportedly on the advice of uncle Nicholas, his godfather, Dukakis attended Swarthmore College, a small, Pennsylvania school run by the super-liberal wing of the Quakers in conjunction with the Cecil Rhodes trust. While there, Dukakis became extremely active politically, heading up Students for Democratic Action (a precursor of the radical Students for a Democratic Society), boosting membership in the super-liberal American Civil Liberties Union, and inviting the likes of communist sympathizer Pete Seeger and leftist journalist I.F. Stone to campus.

While Dukakis has recently taken to portraying himself as a centrist Democrat with a healthy respect for defense requirements, there is no indication, either in his record since leaving college, or his current positions on strategic issues, that he has in any way abandoned the leftist sympathies of his youth. Indeed, as Morton Kondracke wrote in *The New Republic*, "Dukakis's foreign policy is pure McGovern. On every issue, from arms control to the Persian Gulf, he is four-square with Ted Kennedy, [Senator] John Kerry, and [Democratic Representative] Gerry Studds—which is to say, on the left end of the Democratic Party."

An even more immediate question concerns Dukakis's psychological ability to handle the responsibilities of the

presidency, especially in a time of crisis. There is a documented pattern of emotional instability, both in Dukakis personally, and in his close family relations.

In 1978, after suffering a resounding primary defeat in a bid for a second gubernatorial term, Dukakis went into an emotional tailspin that bore all the marks of a nervous breakdown. According to published accounts, including Dukakis: An American Odyssey, by Boston Globe reporters Charles Kenney and Robert L. Turner, Dukakis became nearly catatonic as a result of his defeat. Andrew Sutcliff, Dukakis's appointments secretary, recalls that the governor became "very dejected. . . . He would spend long periods sitting in his office, introspectively staring out the window." Close aide Alan Johnson described Dukakis as being "depressed and sullen. . . . He was stunned." Kenney and Turner write that Dukakis "was obviously in shock."

The same authors recount that "Don Lipsitt, also a friend and psychiatrist, says that the process of recovery was a slow one." Kitty Dukakis described the experience as "horrible," "horrendous," a "public death" and a "period of mourning." Kennedy and Turner quote Mrs. Dukakis that "her husband became so depressed, she recalls now, that 'at one point I was really worried about him.'

Dukakis was rescued from his breakdown by Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, which gave him a teaching position, helped him plot his political comeback, and supplied many of the key advisers and officials both to his second gubernatorial term, and later to his presidential campaign.

EIR is currently probing reports that Dukakis received psychiatric treatment during this period, possibly through a "therapeutic retreat" reportedly run jointly by the JFK School and Harvard School of Medicine. Another psychiatrist friend of Dukakis recently told a journalist that he could not comment on reports that he had treated Dukakis, because this would violate professional ethics.

Evidence of Dukakis's emotional instability is compounded by a history of psychiatric disturbances in his family. Dukakis's elder brother, Stelian, suffered a severe nervous breakdown while in college, when he was institutionalized for three to four months, and given insulin and shock treatment. Stelian tried to commit suicide, according to his mother, Euterpe, although the cold, emotionless Michael has blocked out all recollection of this. Christopher Lydon, a coanchor for Boston public television station WGBH, wrote a guest column for the July 21 Atlanta Constitution, which implies that Dukakis's overweening ambition to be number one in everything at all times, may have contributed to Stelian's breakdown. Quoting Euterpe Dukakis that the sibling rivalry between Michael and Stelian was "something awful," Lydon writes that Stelian "was an ace student, athlete, and school politician until Michael trumped him in every field," and observes: "Dukakis seems to have transferred into politics the same mercilessly grinding competitive energy. . . .

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He doesn't go back for the wounded."

Stelian recovered sufficiently from his breakdown to become involved in local politics in the Brookline area, the wealthy Boston suburb where the Dukakis family lived. Initially, Stelian collaborated with Michael politically, but broke with him sometime in the 1960s. At one point during this period, Stelian issued a leaflet urging voters to defeat his brother, who was running for the State house. Relations between the brothers worsened until November 1973, when Stelian was struck by a hit-and-run driver. He went into a coma, and, although he showed signs of recovery, the family, Michael included, ordered his life-supports terminated.

Meat-axe Mike

Many observers, including ardent Dukakis supporters, have pointed out that Michael's wife, Kitty, was addicted to amphetamines for decades, yet her husband claims he was unaware of her problem for most of that time.

How was this possible? Because Dukakis excels in ignoring the suffering of those around him. That fact is highlighted by his actions during his first term as Massachusetts governor (1975-78), which was so disastrous, that his fellow Democrats turned him out of office.

The self-styled "progressive, compassionate, caring" Dukakis managed to slash social spending to the point where even rock-ribbed Republicans blanched. Within months after taking office, Dukakis, boasting of his "meat axe" approach to the state's budget deficit, instituted a budget freeze, which deeply affected programs for children and the handicapped, and suspended cost-of-living increases for state employees and welfare recipients, even though the official rate of inflation hovered at 14%. He also slashed the Medicaid budget. His fiscal 1976 budget called for tossing 18,000 people off welfare, and laying off thousands of state workers. He also pushed a "workfare" program, which would have put welfare recipients to work in jobs of laid-off state and city employees at below minimum wage.

Although these actions cost him reelection, Dukakis was just heeding the dictates of those who put him into office, an elite grouping of Boston and New England financial interests known as "the Vault." Dukakis's father, Panos, a physician, apparently had a direct tie to these interests, serving as a star witness for insurance companies contesting workers' compensation claims.

As soon as he finished Harvard Law School, Michael Dukakis was offered a job at Hill and Barlow, one of Boston's most prestigious firms, where he eventually worked closely with William Weld, the alleged pot-smoker who recently resigned as head of the Justice Department's Criminal Division. (When Weld left the DoJ, he and two assistants were promptly offered jobs at another prominent Boston law firm, Hale and Dorr, where Dukakis's alter ego, Paul Brountas, has worked for 25 years.)

Dukakis built his political career in Massachusetts via a

group of "reformers" linked to Hill and Barlow and similar Brahmin institutions, which had decided to break the back of the old Irish and Italian political machines, as the first step in the eventual deindustrialization and "gentrification" of Boston and other urban areas.

After he regained the governorship in 1982—with the assistance of a manufactured corruption campaign against incumbent Gov. Ed King, which was initiated by Dukakis's old law firm pal, William Weld, by then a U.S. Attorney—Dukakis repaid his debts by helping to implement legislation which exempted major real estate speculators from property taxes. As a result, Boston was swindled out of hundreds of millions of dollars in revenues, while becoming a speculators' paradise.

In his second term, Dukakis took a somewhat more subtle approach. Instead of a meat axe, he set up a series of state economic entities, modeled on Mussolini's corporate state, which were supposed to encourage labor-government-industry "partnerships," under which labor was persuaded to take wage and benefits cuts in order to keep their jobs. One of the big "Massachusetts miracle" success stories trumpeted by Dukakis campaign literature is the growth of the Reebok company—whose big contribution to the world economy is the demise of leather footgear.

What happened to Boston under Dukakis highlights the fraud of the so-called "Massachusetts miracle" which he constantly points to (or used to, until it began to blow up in his face when the state developed a \$400 million budget deficit this spring) as one of his principal credentials for running the country.

To the extent that Massachusetts experienced any substantial real economic growth under Dukakis, it was due to the huge influx of defense contracts, especially those involving SDI research, into the high-tech Route 128 corridor around Boston—contracts which have been drying up recently because of the defense-spending cutbacks which Dukakis and other Democrats have demanded.

Aside from the spin-offs of federal defense contracts, Dukakis's "miracle" was marked by a skyrocketing infant mortality rate; a 21% rise in the tax burden; and a 13.4% loss in manufacturing jobs since 1984 (accounting for 41% of the total manufacturing jobs that have been lost in the country during that period). Most of the job creation which Dukakis brags about took place in low-paying wholesale, retail, and service sector jobs.

Dukakis's economic miracle

Dukakis threatens to bring the same combination of austerity and post-industrial idiocy that he imposed in Massachusetts to the White House. He has already made it clear that "sacrifice" will be his by-word, and that budget cutting will be the first priority. He has embraced Congress's controversial trade bill—one of whose chief sponsors was Dukakis running-mate Lloyd Bentsen—which would commit the

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United States to an all-out trade war against its allies. Dukakis's economic advisers include leading proponents of "rootcanal" economics, among them:

- Lawrence Summers, designated by Dukakis as his chief economic adviser. A Harvard professor and nephew of economist Paul Samuelson, Summers is a protégé of Martin Feldstein, who served as chairman of Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, and now acts as George Bush's key source for economic policy. Summers, who also worked briefly for the Reagan administration, describes himself as a modern Keynesian. He has set the theme for a Dukakis presidency by insisting that the chief economic problem troubling the U.S. is "overconsumption." In a recent report commissioned by Eastman Kodak chairman Colby Chandler, Summers writes: "Bringing federal budget deficits under control should be the overriding priority of national economic policy. . . . This will require consideration of spending cuts in previously sacrosanct budget areas, including Social Security, as well as a significant increse in federal tax collection. . . . [F]or the long run, serious consideration should be given to new national consumption taxes." Summers also insists that "Policymakers should recognize that a continued dollar decline is both likely and desirable."
- Robert Reich, a "new wave" economist who first came to prominence during the Carter era. An "industrial policy" proponent, Reich also sees slashing consumption as key. In his book *Tales of a New America*, he claimed that the United States suffers from "too much consumption." Reich has also said, "No way we'll achieve significant deficit reduction without a significant tax increase. The [Dukakis] campaign certainly hasn't announced a substantial tax increase, and I think there are good political reasons."
- Lazard Frères' Felix Rohatyn, who masterminded the "Big MAC" bankers' dictatorship which drove New York City into the ground in the 1970s, preaching "pain and agony." Rohatyn and another Dukakis adviser, House Budget Committee chairman William Gray, belong to the National Economic Commission, which will issue an austerity agenda for the incoming President next January. Lazard Frères has also contributed Michael del Giudice, a former top aide to New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, to the Dukakis braintrust.

Dukakis's proposals for dealing with the agricultural crisis—reducing subsidies, controlling production, and encouraging farmers to grow yuppie crops like endive—are of the same piece, as is his energy policy, (no-energy would be a better term), which proposes to do away with all nuclear power, and opposes an oil-import fee to protect the beleaguered domestic industry.

Let Moscow rule

Given Dukakis's endorsement of witchcraft, it is hardly surprising that he wishes to hand the satanists in Moscow a huge advantage. That's the only conclusion that can be drawn from his stated positions on foreign and military policy, despite his recent efforts to paint himself as a centrist. No wonder the Soviets are turning from George Bush to Dukakis, as the *Washington Post's* Gary Lee reported from Moscow July 28. Lee quoted various Soviet spokesmen, including chief arms-control negotiator Viktor Karpov, praising Dukakis for, among other things, the fact that "he has nothing but criticism for ther Star Wars program" and for representing "new thinking."

Dukakis favors a continued slowdown in defense spending, a nuclear freeze, and a test ban treaty. He has called for eliminating entire weapons systems, including the MX and Midgetman missile, the D-5 Trident missile, and the B-1 bomber. He sneers at the SDI as a "fantasy" which should be funded at no more than \$1 billion per year, and firmly backs Moscow's "narrow reading" of the ABM Treaty. An enthusiast of START and the INF treaty, Dukakis says he will build up U.S. conventional strength, under the rubric of a "conventional defense initiative," yet states that his major arms-control focus will be on reducing conventional forces in Europe—i.e., an end to effective American military presence there!

Although Dukakis personally claims to oppose unilateral troop reductions in Europe, one of his key advisers, Joseph Nye of Harvard and the Aspen Institute Strategy Group, told NATO officials in Brussels in June that Dukakis would definitely reduce the U.S. military presence in Europe. Dukakis has also gone on record favoring the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea.

Dukakis and his coterie uphold the fiction that the Soviet Union under Mikhail Gorbachov offers a golden opportunity for decreasing tensions, and that the United States should try to consolidate this relationship by making concessions to Moscow, including in the area of trade.

Dukakis's policies in other regions of the globe fit perfectly with this "appease Moscow" mentality. He bitterly opposed the U.S. Persian Gulf deployment when it was first announced, and maintains that a multilateral task force under U.N. control should replace the U.S. Navy there. He endorsed the Democratic platform's labeling of South Africa as a "terrorist state," supports imposing much harsher sanctions, and came out last June demanding an end to all U.S. aid to UNITA resistance leader, Jonas Savimbi. In Ibero-America, he backs the Project Democracy campaign to wreck the armed forces, starting with the lying campaign against Panama's General Noriega.

Dukakis's foreign and military policy advisers are drawn from the same liberal Establishment pool as were Carter's. In addition to Nye, who served in the Carter State Department, key insiders include Madeleine Albright, daughter of a Czech diplomat and a former top assistant to Zbigniew Brzezinski on the Carter National Security Council staff; Peter Tarnoff, president of the New York Council on Foreign Relations; and Albert Carnesale, a leading anti-SDI propagandist now based at Harvard.

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