Libertarians Reaching Out to Left & Right

Libertarian Party members have been active in outreach activities aimed at people from left and right who agree with Libertarians on particular issues. Libertarians have been using the opportunity to expose them to other LP positions, as well as to show how the consistency of the libertarian view ties issues together.

An enthusiastic group of Libertarians attended a large anti-war rally and march in Washington, D.C. last month. Libertarians, who brought their own signs, carried several large banners, including a large professionally-made banner reading "Libertarians Against the War." Others carried signs with slogans such as, "Read My Lips: No Death, No Taxes," "Government & Oil Don't Mix," "Peace & Free Trade," and "George Bush: The War President." Three young Libertarians wore homemade signs that were a big hit with photographers. Three-year-old Ben Richman's sign read, "Heck, No! I Won't Go!" His sister's signs read, "No War" and "Stop the Bombs."

Libertarians also were visible at this month's Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington, D.C. LNC Chair David Walter and his assistant, Don Ernsberger, attended a conference luncheon commemorating the 25th anniversary of Young Americans for Freedom, a group with a large libertarian faction in its early days and which still includes many with libertarian sympathies. The LP had a table at the gathering to reach out to libertarian-leaning conservatives.

Joseph Sobran, syndicated columnist and National Review editor (see one of his recent columns on page 3), who has been leaning ever-closer to the libertarian side, participated in a debate on the Gulf War at the conference.

Texans Elect Libertarian To River Authority Position

Libertarian Otis Walker, a 76-year-old retired rancher, was elected to a position on the San Antonio River Authority Board in a non-partisan election last month.

Roger Gary, former Texas LP chair, lost his race for a seat on the same board by three votes after his opponent, a 12-year incumbent, called for a precinct-by-precinct recount.

The board, which is responsible for pollution control, water quality, etc. for the San Antonio River, has 12 members and oversees a $20 million annual budget.

LP's Bill of Rights Committee Offers Literature, Materials

The Bill of Rights Committee has made available buttons (two styles), bumper stickers, one white paper, and three issue papers, as part of the LP's Bill of Rights project. To get more information or to place an order for the materials, please contact the LP Headquarters.

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**Libertarian candidate lights up televised debate**

Libertarian candidate Dick Boddie accused incumbent Sen. Daniel Inouye of being soft on national security and said he would have approved the use of nuclear weapons to stop Saddam Hussein.


**DEBATE: Tuskegee focused mainly on tax, budget, defense issues**

Tuskegee University President John Hope Franklin also spoke out against President Bush's tax policy.

The debate, sponsored by KABC-AM and the Los Angeles Times, was held in Los Angeles.

**Libertarian Legislation calls for growth**


**Drumbeat for draft - and echoes of oppression**

Andy Barnikol

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29, 1991

I was on the air the other night, a fellow conservative who had written a book, "The War against Tyranny," I thought it would be interesting to hear what Dick Boddie, the second candidate, had to say about the situation.

Bodie said he would have approved the use of nuclear weapons to stop Saddam Hussein.

"I think it's important to remember that our policy is based on the principle that the use of force is necessary to achieve our goals," Boddie said.

"And if that means using nuclear weapons, then so be it."

"I'm not saying we should use nuclear weapons, but I am saying that we should have the capability to do so if necessary."
Amid talk of war, area draft boards stand ready

By Andrew Herrmann

One weekend a month, an unobtrusive group of Chicagoland men meets to prepare for war—out with guns, but with paper. They are volunteer draft board members rehearsing a once-notorious ritual now faded from public consciousness. Their mission is to turn civilians into soldiers, plucking them from a pool of some 400,000 young Chicago area men who have registered for the military draft.

If Congress decides to reinstate the draft, the Selective Service System says, these 500 hostages leave Iraq, but threat of war remains; Page 9.

practice sessions will allow it to mobilize in a year to familiarize themselves with the ins and outs of draft laws and deferments. Once a month at Great Lakes, different boards meet to rehearse their role if the draft were reinstated.

Though President Bush said he believes the present all-volunteer military is large enough to meet the country’s needs in the Middle East, others are not sure.

Henry Knapp, the Selective Service’s Chairman Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) said a draft might be required, even if the United States maintains its war presence in Kuwait and during invasion.

If you were going to . . . keep [troops] there for a year or 18 months and have some meaningful rotation policy to get us the personnel we need, then you’d have to think seriously about the draft.” Nunn said on ABC-TV’s “Nightline” program last month.

Nationally, 14 million men between the ages of 18 and 26 are registered.

In a throwback to the Vietnam era, when thousands of young men watched television nervously in taverns and college dorms to find out their draft numbers, inductions again would be chosen by a national lottery, the Selective Service says.

One by one, plastic pellets containing birth dates would be drawn. Another set of numbers, 1 through 365, would be drawn and matched to birth dates. For example, a pellet containing March 31 might be drawn from the birth date barrel first. Out of a separate receptacle, a pellet might be drawn containing the number 365, putting people with March 21 as their birthday last in the draft line. The first lottery would be for men age 20.

Those with low draft numbers would be sent induction orders, requiring them to report to a processing center for physical and mental examinations. They could be inducted immediately, the Selective Service says.

Married men would not be exempt. In a change from the Vietnam era, students would not be exempt. Students would be allowed to finish their current semester, or, if in the final year of school, would be allowed to graduate before being inducted. Quotas by region, a sticking point in the ’70s, have been eliminated.

Deferred, or postponing, service would be available. Some men whose induction would result in hardship for dependents could get a postponement of service. Deferrals do carry a caveat: At most, 100 men are eligible to be deferred between ages 18 and 26, those deferred could be drafted up to the age of 23, so, Knapp, the Selective Service assistant general counsel said.

Who wouldn’t go? Conscientious objectors who oppose all waging of war, religious objectors who believe in nonviolent roles in the armed forces or in civilian jobs “contributing to the national interest,” the Selective Service says.

Statewide elected officials, including members of every state legislature and all members of Congress, would be exempt as long as they held office.

Decisions on status would be handled by local draft boards. Illinois has three appeal boards.

On college campuses, the mood is jittery, says Nick De Genova, a University of Chicago graduate student and a member of Chicago Campus Network Against War, which counts members at DePaul, Loyola and Northwestern universities.

“People are up for the draft. The Selective Service Office is the first regional contact for the Selective Service System, which staged rallies nationwide last Saturday.

One of the foremost issues is the draft窗or being drafted,” said De Genova. “There’s a sense that the military draft would flee the country rather than be drafted.

Some proponents of the draft argue that conscience would ensure a more representative cross section of citizens in the military. They charge that the present all-volunteer military has attracted members of social classes who cannot afford to go to college.

Rep. G. V. ‘Sonny’ Montgomery (D-Miss.), chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee, a proponent of a national draft, recently changed his mind on the issue.

A veteran of 35 years in the military, Montgomery said that the all-volunteer army is better educated—on average, only 66 percent of new recruits have a high school diploma, compared with 98 percent today.

The volunteer military is “filled with people who want to be there,” who present fewer disciplinary problems and are eager to serve, Montgomery said.

He ‘profoundly’ refused to register—and served 5½ months in jail

The Selective Service says 98 percent of young men between 18 and 26 required to register for the draft have done so.

Paul Jacob did not. And for that, he spent 5½ months in a federal penitentiary.

“I’m not a pacifist. I’m not anti-military,” said Jacob, 30, who was born in southwest suburban Evergreen Park. “We should have a volunteer army to defend us from attack. But I’m not interested in policing the world.”

Jacob is one of 20 men who have been convicted of failing to register since 1980. The Selective Service Act requiring registration went into effect.

Jacob was living in North Little Rock, Ark., in 1981, serving in a visible position: state chairman of the Libertarian Party. He appeared on television and in newspapers as a spokesman at registration registration.

“I was naive. I didn’t think (they’d come after you because you made a statement),” said Jacob.

“I didn’t think the government would proseme me ahead of anyone else.”

Selective Service assistant general counsel Paul Knapp said prosecution is determined by a lottery. The Selective Service uses voter registration rolls, the driver’s license lists and college admissions data to find evaders.

Though he admits that prosecution is not a high priority, publicity from cases does strike a blow to registration, Knapp said.

After being indicted, Jacob fled Arkansas and traveled the country for two years. He continued to use his real name, but he says, “I didn’t throw my, Social Security number around.”

In 1984, after marrying and becoming a father, Jacob returned to North Little Rock. After Dec. 6 of that year, the FBI came to his door and arrested him. Convicted and sentenced to five years in prison, Jacob served about six months in a minimum-security prison in Seagoville, Texas. He was pa•trolled with the stipulation that he volunteer eight hours a week to two years for five years, at one of the veterans center’s.

He worked primarily with men—of all ages. He said he meant to serve and help drug addicts. He worked primarily with mentally retarded adults, he said.

Others convicted for failure to register have received sentences ranging from house arrest for six months to the convicts’ grand¬ moth¬er’s to two years of work at a food co-op.

In the last year, Jacob has been working in Chicago on anti-tax initiatives including the Tax Accountability Amendment. Jacob said he doesn’t publicize his infraction although “it’s something I did and makes me a draft resistor.”

“I think I was part of the determination that a draft would happen,” said Jacob.

“Things get done because people do it,” he said.

He never registered.

—Andrew Herrmann