



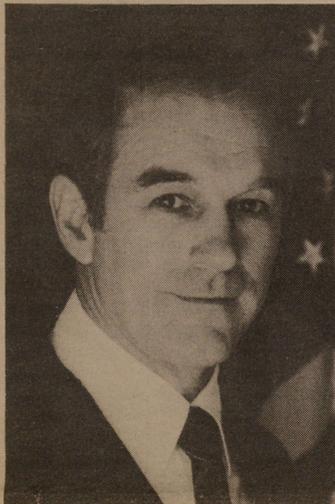
The Georgia LIBERTARIAN

Fall 1987

Vol. 15 No. 2

(404) 885-1988

A Publication of the Libertarian Party of Georgia



RON PAUL

The National Libertarian Party convened in Seattle, Washington during the first week of September and chose former four term Congressman Ron Paul as its 1988 Presidential

Ron Paul For President

nominee. Paul defeated prominent Indian rights activist Russell Means for the nomination. Though Paul ran as a Republican during his terms in Congress he nonetheless has been actively involved in Libertarian Party activities for the past 15 years.

Paul's most notable contributions while in Congress included serving on the Gold Commission which studied the possibility of putting the US on a gold standard and led to the issuance of the Liberty gold coin by the Treasury - the first issued since the 1930's. Paul was also noted for his firm stand against US military and political intervention into the affairs of other nations and was one of the few elected officials to oppose the US invasion of Grenada in 1983. He was awarded the Taxpayers Best Friend Award by the National Taxpayers' Union and was often called "the conscious of the Congress" because of his principled stands against government power and special-interest legislation.

The Paul campaign will stress the

need for a limited government, support for a new gold standard, abolition of the Federal Reserve System, withdrawing US troops from foreign countries and the Persian Gulf, and end to the income tax, and a strict respect for civil liberties in regard to sexual conduct and narcotics and abolishing the CIA and FBI, and ending draft registration.

The first major task of the Paul campaign will be to overcome the many obstacles to ballot status erected by politicians from the two older parties. This will require the collection of more than 450,000 valid signatures in the various states and will consume the bulk of the money and time available to the Paul campaign between now and early Spring. The Libertarian Party has already qualified for a position on the ballot in 15 states. The Georgia ballot drive alone will require the collection of more than 26,000 valid registered voters' signatures and will begin and be completed before the new year according to the schedule set by Paul's

campaign aids. To accomplish these goals will require hundreds of thousands of dollars, but the Paul for President Committee has already banked more than \$200,000 from campaign contributions thus far.

Paul is scheduled to be in Atlanta and Rome to meet with supporters on Wednesday, November 11. A \$25 per plate fundraising dinner will be held at Mary Mac's restaurant on Ponce De Leon Avenue (2 blocks from Peachtree Street) at 7 pm. Call Ron Crickenberge in Locust Grove at 957-6825 or the Georgia Libertarian Party offices for more information on the Paul visit at 885-1988.

Running as Paul's Vice Presidential candidate is Andre Marrou, a former 2 term Libertarian state legislator from Alaska now living in Las Vegas. Russell Means will serve as Honorary Chairman of Marrou's Vice Presidential campaign.

Contact the Paul for President Committee at 1120 Nasa Road Suite 104 Houston, Texas 77058 (713) 333-1988.

Ron Paul Denounces The Reagan Presidency

"Ronald Reagan has assumed a role like Caesar's in the Roman Empire, ignoring the wishes of Congress and resurrecting what our Founding Father's feared most: the Imperial Presidency," says former Republican Congressman Ron Paul, Libertarian Candidate for President. "That's why I want to drastically cut the power and spending of every branch of government-including the Executive."

"Believers in freedom have long recognized that a President's power, especially over foreign policy, ought to be strictly limited. In this way no one becomes tempted to assume a dictatorial role," said Paul, a former four-term Congressman from Texas, "And it's why the Constitution gives Congress, and only Congress, the power to go to war."

But Reagan has become an Imperial President, who seems to think he is somehow immune from public criticism. But as the Iranamok hearings have disclosed, Reagan's

record is disgraceful. He starts secret wars, breaks the law, supplies terrorists with guns made at taxpayer expense, and lies about it to the American people."

"In this century, the idea of President-as-Caesar has become the norm. This abandonment of our Founding Father's vision has been in large part responsible for the unconstitutional global wars, collectivist planning, inflation, and taxation that have so diminished our freedom. And both Republican and Democrat politicians have contributed to the growth of the monster State."

"The Imperial Presidency is a goal of socialism. Before 1965, socialist intellectuals used to say their Big Government agenda needed a strong president to supervise its implementation. It is not surprising, then, that Arthur Schlesinger's favorite Presidents are Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, and John Kennedy." (Continued on Page 6)

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that the State has the right to exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life — accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action— accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property — accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

PETITIONING FOR A CHOICE IN '88

by Jack Aiken

The Georgia Libertarian Party has begun its ballot drive effort to qualify candidates for the November 1988 elections. We have hired Political Research & Analysis, an experienced petition collection company, to gather the approximately 40,000 signatures needed to allow Libertarian candidates on Georgia's ballot.

Politicians from the two older parties have established these burdensome requirements as an impediment to their potential competitors. But, the Libertarian effort is organized and funded and we are fully confident that we will succeed in obtaining ballot status.

But, you can help. Money is always important. Signatures are also. If you would care to join in this effort to give Georgia voters a Libertarian choice in 1988, call party Headquarters at 404-885-1988 and ask for petitions. We are asking for these signatures from our readers and supporters as insurance against any shortfall from our professional effort.

Signing these petitions does nothing more than place our candidates on the ballot, it does not mean you are supporting them or that you have to vote for them, it only means that you support the right for our candidates to appear on the ballot.

Please support us in this effort.



By James W. Harris

BI-PARTISANS STRIKE AGAIN: During the past Georgia General Assembly, Senator Paul Coverdell — then-chair of the Republican Party of Georgia — out-did even the best efforts of the Democrats in big-spending, big taxing proposals. Coverdell, like Lt. Governor Zell Miller and many other legislators, called for an increase in the gasoline tax — specifically, a three-cent-per-gallon, five year, increase. Coverdell also proposed to increase the state sales tax by one cent for three years at the same time.

Coverdell's scheme, which thankfully was not implemented, would have lifted a total of **1.35 billion dollars** out of the pockets of Georgians — including the poor and low-income, who are hit particularly hard by these kinds of taxes.

Once again, this year's General Assembly showed hard-pressed Georgia taxpayers their true "choice" in current state politics: pro-tax increase Democrats or pro-tax increase Republicans. Such bi-partisan ganging up on Georgia taxpayers calls to mind the observation made a few years ago

PEACH STATE PARADE: Notes On Georgia Politics

by novelist Rita Mae Brown: "The difference between the Democrats and the Republicans is the difference between syphilis and gonorrhea."

SODOMY LAW UPDATE: Last issue we reported on the outrage and injustice of Georgia's monstrous sodomy law, and the urgent need for its repeal. Unfortunately — but predictably, given the tyrannical mindset of state Democratic and Republican legislators — a proposal to eliminate the law failed even to reach the floor of this year's General Assembly. Even a proposal to decriminalize **heterosexual sodomy** — a mean-spirited bill that would have left gays, the main focus of the sodomy law, still victimized — failed to pass.

This latter bill was offered by Rep. Billy McKinney (D-Atlanta). McKinney withdrew his proposal after a few weeks, citing massive opposition.

Some of this opposition, understandably enough, came from the gay community. However, McKinney also reported heavy opposition to his bill from conservative religious organizations — groups who, incredibly enough, actively lobbied for the idea that the government should dictate the behavior of married couples in their own bedrooms! These of course, are the same groups who are continually yammering about the need to get government off our backs...

Meanwhile, the Georgia Supreme Court a few months ago upheld the lower court conviction of a heterosexual couple arrested for violation of the sodomy law.

And in Columbus, television station WLTZ dropped the "Ask Doctor Ruth" show, featuring sex therapist Dr. Ruth Westheimer. The station management — noting that Dr. Ruth often gives advice on sexual acts that are illegal under the state's sodomy law — cited fears that carrying the program could be a violation of Georgia law. After all, Dr. Ruth is giving instruction and encouragement on committing "crimes"...

Are we to be spared nothing?

EDUCATION REFORM: Our favorite justification for a government program in this year's General Assembly came from Sen. Bill English (D-Swainsboro). During a debate over the proposed 2,400 mile "developmental highways" boondoggle — to be financed with a substantial rise in the gasoline tax — English urged support for the idea, saying "I represent seven rural counties, and we have children who have grown up and have never seen a highway being built."

Very touching, Senator. But wouldn't it be cheaper to send these kids on a field trip or something?

ANOTHER FREEDOM LOST: Every time someone proposes allowing Georgians the freedom to gamble with their own money on horse racing, various lobbying groups and anti-freedom state politicians let loose with cries of outrage. Listening to these Ayatollahs, you might think that no horse has ever been raced in Georgia before.

Actually, though, legal gambling on horse racing was common here during the 19th and early 20th century, and was extremely popular. In fact, Columbus, Georgia achieved national recognition around the turn of the century, when a world record was established on a track there.

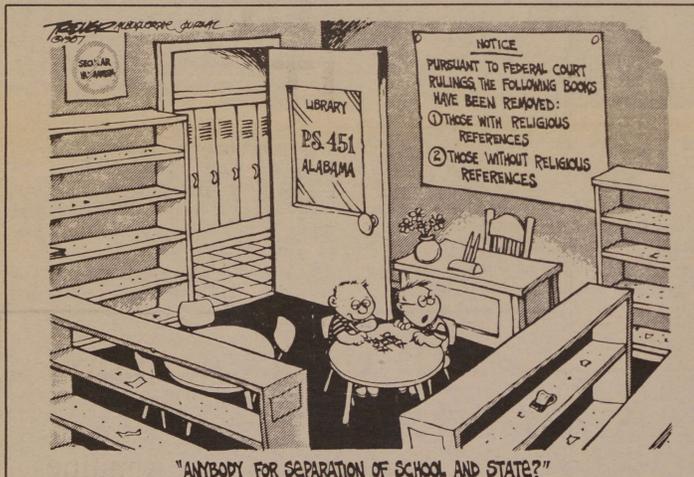
So what happened? Well, early in this century a coalition of ministers and "concerned citizens" pressured politicians to outlaw the sport. These publicly-pious forces then pressured law enforcement officials to strictly enforce such laws. (Sound familiar?) Such tactics soon made horse racing — and far more importantly, the right to engage in such activities — a thing of the past.

This would no doubt outrage the Founding Fathers, many of whom were fond of the sport. And the story serves as yet another reminder of just how much oppression we take for granted today, and how much freedom we've lost in so many different ways over the years.

THREE CHEERS FOR AMY: While we don't think too much of her old man, our hat's off to Amy Carter for her courageous stand against CIA crimes and atrocities in Central America. Our only criticism is that Amy was too moderate. Instead of calling for "reform" of the CIA — a tried and failed solution — she should have called for outright **abolition** of the agency.

Ever since its founding, the CIA has engaged in activities that violate the best and most basic values of our country: murder, torture, the overthrow of foreign governments, spying on innocent Americans, deceiving and betraying Congress — the list goes on and on. At times, the CIA has acted as a virtual secret government in America. Such an organization has no place in a free and open society.

(Continued on Page 5)



Yes! I like what I read and I want to:

join the Libertarian Party of Georgia. I have enclosed my membership dues (dues include subscription to *The Georgia Libertarian*.)

Regular (\$25) Student (\$15)
 Family (\$35) Sponsor (\$150) (or \$15 per mo.)

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."*

Signature _____

*Necessary for membership only.

Please make check or money order payable to,
The Libertarian Party of Georgia
1655 Peachtree Street, NE, Suite 1011
Atlanta, GA 30306

Subscribe to *Georgia Libertarian*, a publication of the Libertarian Party of Georgia. I have enclosed my subscription fee of \$5.00.

Receive more information on libertarianism in Georgia. I have enclosed \$2.00 for a packet of detailed information. I am especially interested in _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Telephone Number _____

Zip _____

Peace, commerce and honest friendship with all people,
entangling alliances with none.

—Thomas Jefferson



LIBERTY POOLS

CUSTOM GUNITE SWIMMING POOLS

WE BUILD
POOLS WITHOUT
PROBLEMS

PHONE
957-6825

THE
**POOL
PROTECTOR**

FULL LINE POOL SERVICE AND REPAIR
OPENINGS-CLOSINGS-WEEKLY MAINTENANCE-REMODELING
SPECIALIST IN ALTERNATIVE SANITATION

**SUPPORT
OUR
ADVERTISERS
THEY
MAKE
IT
POSSIBLE**



*Because
Home Is A Special Place
To All Of Us...*

we are
"The Home Place"
Holiday Homes

— North Georgia's Largest Custom Home Builder —

406 West By-Pass Next to Big G Plaza
Gainesville

Open 9-7 daily
1-6 on Sunday

4250 Hwy. 20, Exit 1, Next to Buford Mall
Buford

©1987 ATHAN CORPORATION

J.D. Aiken Company

Incorporated

Life Insurance Annuities
Tax Advantaged Investments

P.O. Box 8655 404-876-0592
Atlanta, GA 30306 800-221-0265

JIM CLARKSON ENERGY CONSULTANT

404/235-2181

4 CORAL AVENUE
ROME, GA 30161



**RANKIN SMITH SR. AND KARL MARX
DISCUSS STADIUM PLANS!**

Governor Harris:

Read this before you commit 30 million tax dollars to a new stadium.

Any elected official who would like a copy of the study this article is based on will be supplied a free copy if he will call the GALP at 404/885-1988.

SOCIALIZED STADIUMS

by Robert A. Baade and Diane Carol Bast

City officials and sports team owners across the country are using the silver platter of "economic growth" to serve subsidized sports facilities to unsuspecting taxpayers. Unfortunately, the platter is actually of tin, and stadiums can leave a bitter taste.

Those who cook up stadium proposals frequently claim that sports contribute significantly to a city's economy. In Chicago, for example, it has been reported that the baseball White Sox contribute \$100 million to the city's economy each year. Such estimates, based on the assumption that every dollar spent on sports is a dollar of *new* leisure spending, are undoubtedly too high.

Our leisure "budgets" (the amount of time and money we are able to spend on leisure activities) are limited. It is likely that an afternoon we spend at the ballpark is an afternoon not spent at the theater, museum, or similar establishment. A dollar we spend on sports is a dollar we probably would have spent on some other leisure activity. In the short term, a subsidized sports stadium does not increase the total amount of leisure spending that takes place in a city; rather, subsidizing sports merely shifts spending away from other activities.

Sports stadiums are also unlikely to

promote long-term economic growth. Sports tend to encourage low-skilled, low-paid employment in the service sector of a city's economy: food and souvenir vendors, hotel and restaurant employees, and security personnel are representative of the jobs created by stadiums. A city that subsidizes such employment at the expense of higher-skilled, higher-paid manufacturing employment will find that its economy grows more slowly than the economies of cities that do not subsidize sports. Moreover, while new businesses may start up in the subsidized stadium's neighborhood, businesses will fail in other parts of the city. A new stadium, therefore, probably will not increase the total number of even low-paid jobs in a city.

The actual experience of cities with sports stadiums confirms that stadiums bring few, if any, economic benefits to the cities that subsidize them. In a study published by The Heartland Institute, stadiums and sports were found to have no positive effect on three important measures of economic growth: personal income, retail sales, and manufacturing activity. Stadiums and sports actually had a negative effect on the economies of several of the cities that were studied.

Why should taxpayers be concerned by false claims of economic benefits?

Simply because such claims are being used to make unprofitable stadium projects palatable to taxpayers who would not otherwise support them. Even when a team owner claims his new stadium will be financed entirely by private sources, past experience and market conditions should leave taxpayers skeptical.

Of the total number of sports facilities constructed since 1960, only two have been financed entirely by the private sector. In fact, 71 per cent of the 94 sports facilities used by professional teams since 1953 are publicly owned.

The mismanagement of sports facilities that are publicly owned and operated has been documented often, and in gruesome detail. In Louisiana, where the state government turns over to the New Orleans Saints all Superdome revenues except a five per cent rental fee based on gate receipts, taxpayers must finance Superdome deficits of between \$3 million and \$5 million a year. Taxpayers in Pontiac and across the state of Michigan have paid more than \$11 million since 1976 for operating deficits at the Silverdome.

Private developers rarely invest in stadiums, and municipal landlords must subsidize the teams they host, because the supply of sports facilities is far greater than the demand for them.

There are already more stadiums than teams to fill them, and fully one-third of the 60 largest metropolitan areas in the country have plans for new stadiums. It is almost impossible for private developers to profit in this glutted market; in such a market, city officials must subsidize their teams in order to fend off competition from cities with empty facilities.

Municipalities will continue to offer subsidies to keep their stadiums occupied, and they will continue to defend the expenditure by claiming (against all available evidence) that a new stadium will be a catalyst for economic growth. Governors and mayors will throw their support behind one alternative site or another, in the name of "revitalizing" neighborhoods. So-called "private" stadiums will be aided by indirect subsidies offered at taxpayer expense: displaced residents will be relocated, infra-structure improvements will be made, land will be provided at below market cost, and current lease obligations at other sites will be forgiven.

So let us be wary of government officials and sports team owners offering stadiums on silver platters. If we're not, after all the rhetoric and promises and subterfuges have been exposed, we taxpayers will find we've been served a bad meal indeed.

reprinted with permission from THE FREEMAN, September 1987.

Here's How to Find Atlanta's Best In-Town Apartment Value.

Simply call 633-0566, **Harmony Properties**. We manage apartment residences in the Midtown, Cheshire Bridge and Lindbergh neighborhoods. Call us for that special apartment to suit your lifestyle.

Perhaps you're looking for a 1BR efficiency close to a MARTA line. Or

maybe you and your roommate would prefer a charming 2BR in an older building - one that has aged gracefully with proper care.

Depending on location, you can enjoy amenities like

- Hardwood floors
- Carpeting
- Air-conditioning
- Ceiling fans

So if you're new in town, or just relocating, give us a call at 633-0566. Or stop by our leasing office at 2240 Cheshire Bridge Road. Let us help you find that apartment you're looking for.

HARMONY PROPERTIES, Inc.
Member: Apartment Owners
and Managers Association

Atlanta, Georgia 30061

PEACH STATE PARADE: Notes on Georgia Politics (Continued from page 2)

If Amy's interested in taking up other important issues, we'd like to suggest one: abolition of draft registration, that evil program reinstated by her father in 1979. Many of the same young men who joined Amy in her battle against the CIA would be among the first victims of a draft should the Reagan administration finally succeed in dragging us into some insane foreign conflict.

Come on, Amy, give your friends a hand. Join the hundreds of thousands of young men and women across the country in the growing anti-registration movement.

WANTED: GLASNOST FOR GEORGIA

If anything has been proven this century, it is that government central

planning of the economy is inevitably disastrous - that it leads to poverty, waste, chaos and loss of liberty. Even the bureaucracy-clogged Soviet Union is trying to institute market-oriented reforms.

All this, however seems utterly lost on Governor Joe Frank Harris, who - in a daring endorsement of the discredited economics of the past - recently created the Georgia Growth Strategies Commission. The Commission's task, God help us, is to devise a statewide plan for "managing" - i.e., controlling at gunpoint - land use, growth, and development across Georgia. (Ironically, but predictably, most of the problems the Commission is supposed to solve were created by prior government planning attempts.)

It would be hard to imagine a scheme more likely to cause chaos, lowered incomes, and misallocation of crucial

Georgia resources. Should state-dictated property control become a reality, the entire population will soon be choking on red tape and

bureaucratic idiocy. Talk about Big Brother... Give us a break, Governor. How about some glasnost for Georgia?

A wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned - - this is the sum of good government.

Thomas Jefferson, 1801



DeKalb C.E.O. Manuel Maloof

By James W. Harris

DeKalb County's maverick chief executive officer, Manuel Maloof, deserves cheers for his recent call to explore the decriminalization of drugs.

Writing in the May 24 *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Maloof pointed out exactly what Libertarians have been arguing for years: that America's drug laws, far from protecting Americans, are in fact a source of grave danger to our property, our liberty, and our lives. The reasons, as Maloof pointed out, are simple and should be obvious to anyone.

Making drugs illegal immediately creates a black market in these drugs. Drug prices then skyrocket: an average heroin addict, for example, may well pay \$100.00 - \$300.00 a day or more for his fix. The only way such sums can be raised is by committing violent crime.

As a result, it is estimated that drug addicts - committing crimes to pay for black market drugs - are responsible for perhaps 50% or more of the violent crime in major American cities. This was shown dramatically in a recent Baltimore study, in which 243 heroin addicts were found to have committed over 500,000 crimes in an 11-year period - an average of 187 crimes per addict per year!

In short, laws banning the use and sale of drugs virtually guarantee a huge and ongoing violent crime rate. And only decriminalization will halt

Maloof Makes Sense on Drug Decriminalization

this. If drugs were decriminalized, an addict's fix would cost only a couple of dollars or so per day, instead of hundreds of dollars. The incentive for committing crimes of violence would thus be eliminated.

To halt drug-related violent crimes, we must get rid of the policy that is the true source of the problem: drug prohibition.

As Maloof also indicated, our current drug laws are imposing terrible costs upon our society in many other ways. Our judicial system is hopelessly clogged with drug-related offenses. Our prisons are filled to overflowing with offenders created by our drug policies. This has led to a dramatic decline in quality of service, while at the same time sending the cost of government skyrocketing. Taxpayers are forced to pay for increased police expenses, court costs, prison costs, new prison construction and related expenses.

Maloof might also have noted that the high profits from drugs are the lifeblood of organized crime. Decriminalizing drugs - and eliminating other victimless crime laws - would effectively destroy organized crime in America. Furthermore, the enormous profits from black market drugs are a major source of corruption for government and law enforcement officials. Removing these profits would end such corruption.

Making drugs legal would also great-

ly improve the lives of the hundreds of thousands currently addicted to drugs. It would allow them access to clean needles and syringes - thus eliminating the sharing of needles, one of the major causes of the spread of AIDS. It would allow users to purchase medically pure drugs in measured doses, thus eliminating the impurities and overdoses that are the major causes of death from drugs such as heroin. Because they would no longer be viewed as criminals, those with drug problems would be encouraged to seek medical help.

Surely this is far more humane and sensible than our present brutal and failed policies.

Furthermore, as an article in the previous *GEORGIA LIBERTARIAN* pointed out, drug laws are a grave and increasing threat to our civil liberties. The failing "war on drugs" is the major reason for the fantastic recent increase in invasive government policies and laws that are rapidly destroying our rights to personal and economic privacy. The only way that the shipment of drugs into America can even be slowed significantly is by turning America into a police state - and the war on drugs seems to be taking us right down that path.

There is another important side to this issue as well. Libertarians believe that each individual owns his or her own life - that people should be free to

live as they choose, as long as they don't use violence against others. Therefore, what an individual chooses to put into his body is ultimately his decision to make - not the government's. In this sense, drug laws are a terrible and unjustifiable invasion of an individual's basic right to self-ownership.

None of this is to deny that drug abuse is a serious problem in America. However, drug prohibition has only made this problem far, far worse - just like alcohol prohibition in the 1920's only exacerbated our country's drinking problems. America. We need to treat drug problems as we have learned to treat alcohol-related ones - as social problems, not criminal ones.

There are many more arguments one could cite in favor of decriminalization. (We'll be happy to recommend further reading to anyone interested.) But the point should be clear: decriminalization would be enormously beneficial for America. It would drastically reduce violent crime. It would greatly lower the cost of government. In numerous ways, it would lead to more freedom for all Americans.

Increasingly, liberal and conservative spokesmen are recognizing the wisdom of the Libertarian view on this issue. We applaud Maloof's wisdom and courage in taking this stand, and hope other Georgian politicians and citizens will join him.

The GALP has provided Manuel Maloof with a copy of the Pacific Institute's recently released book, *Dealing With Drugs*, easily the best work on decriminalization as a means to

deal with the drug problem. Any elected official who would like a copy can have the book for the asking by calling party headquarters at (404) 885-1988.

BREAK THE UTILITY MONOPOLY

The decades-old government and business cartel set up to provide utility services is now bringing us the inevitable results of a monopoly-regulatory system: ever higher cost; arrogant, swollen utility companies and ridiculously expensive utility investment. Rather than allowing the competitive marketplace to provide diverse, economical, customer-responsive services, the state relies on political regulation of huge state-created monopolies to provide one-of-a-kind, cost plus, no choice electricity, natural gas and telephone service. It is now apparent that the monopoly-regulatory utility system we have in place is a failure and has operated to the detriment of all consumers.

Lacking the free market rewards for efficiency, the regulatory system has caused far more resources to be consumed than necessary to provide these basic services. The excessive revenues exacted by the regulated utilities have not only given them profits beyond what they could earn in a competitive market, the money has been dissipated by inefficient operations, shifted to unregulated affiliates, provided recovery on nonproductive investments, passed through to satisfy excessive fuel contracts and consumed to preserve monopoly status rather than to meet consumer demand.

Despite claims by the apologists of regulation that the public "demands" regulation, history tells us it was the established utilities themselves who sought regulation to put an end to competition in their market areas. Until about the 1920's it was not uncommon to find several electric companies operating in a large city. New companies could enter the market and, by using newer technology, and accepting lower profits took customers from older, existing electric companies.

The established companies called this "cutthroat competition" but the

consumers loved it. So it is not hard to guess who wrote, lobbied for, and provided initial staffing for the regulatory bodies that stopped competition in the electric business. The telephone business and later cable television each have a similar history. The rationalization that regulation was put in place to protect the consumer is false; regulation came first to areas where there were competing companies rather than to areas where only one company dominated.

In return for the elimination of competition, we are assured that unselfish, economically wise and neutral politicians will protect us from the utility companies that have been made so, powerful. Rate regulation, the seeking of a "just price", a concept discredited in the middle ages, is the seriously flawed tool regulators attempt to use in protecting the consumer. Basically the utility is allowed to recover all the money it spends plus a return on its investment. This gives the utilities a compelling incentive to invest, even to over invest & that is exactly what they have done, to mind-boggling levels. The regulatory system which rewards error and cost overruns has given us nuclear generating plants which will go down in history as the worst investments in Western civilization. Nuclear technology may be scientifically sound but it has required massive Federal subsidies to exist. Additionally, utilities are spared the cost of full liability and the true cost of disposal.

These problems can only happen where sellers have protected markets and cost-plus regulated prices. An unregulated utility industry subject to competition, unable to pass through the cost of mistakes and exposed to raids by more efficient managers, would never have made the foolish investments the electric industry has in nuclear generation.

What do libertarians want to do about this sad situation? First, we must recognize that the state apparatus cannot help us. Like Frankenstein struggling to contain the monster of his own creation, the state tries to negate abuse by the utilities through the use of a system which spawned the problems in the first place. In fact, regulation has created an interest group, the politicians and bureaucrats who now enjoy their own prerogatives over this sector of the economy, and fight to preserve the status quo. The institution of utility regulation is part of the problem rather than part of the solution.

Next, we must understand that without state protection the utilities are really not so powerful — we do have alternatives. The hallmarks of telephone service in the post AT&T breakup era, have been choice and declining price in long-distance service and in the selection of telephone equipment. In the area where deregulation didn't go far enough, where we still must tolerate high prices and lack of choice is state regulated local service. Let MCI tackle Southern Bell to see if those rates will go down as fast as AT&T's did. In some areas of the country consumer co-ops can buy natural gas from a producer and pay the gas company only for transporting it. As deregulation continues a neighborhood in Georgia may soon buy its natural gas from Texas and its electricity from North Carolina.

Almost daily we are learning of alternatives to the regulated utilities. We are entering an era where efficiency is cheaper than monopoly-priced electricity. Not only is conservation a better investment than generation — it is cheaper to buy equipment that uses less power than to build the power plant to supply less efficient equipment — but conservation is also cheaper than operating a power plant that is

already built! Electricity must now compete with weatherstripping, insulation and new fluorescent lamps.

Further, a great cornerstone of regulated utility justification, the economies of scale, is no longer true if it ever was. It went like this: "Electricity is produced cheaper in large, central power plants; therefore, we must have large monopoly companies to build them." Actually, small, dispersed generating plants are cheaper. Cogeneration and small power production has seen skyrocketing growth in many areas of the country. The public is being denied the benefits of this technology only in areas where the local power company vigorously fights it, aided and abetted by the state regulatory body. The entrenched political establishment seeing its discretion in electricity matters threatened by the spontaneous growth of small generators is calling for government planning, the antipathy of innovation and free markets. The politicians are afraid that somebody somewhere might make an unregulated kilowatt-hour. If this cheaper alternative can somehow break through the regulations, then an enormous amount of traditional utility investment will be worthless.

It is not the absence of regulation that will hurt consumers; it is the continuance of regulation that promises to do so much harm. Everyone should have the right to make and sell electricity if they want to, without bureaucratic hassles.

We should not spend so much time debating how wise this or that past utility investment was or quibble over who should pay for what. Rather we should be discussing how fast we can tear down the barriers to a free and open marketplace. Let us debate which foolish law to abolish first and which power-hungry demagogue to throw out of office next.

RON PAUL TO SPEAK IN ATLANTA!

**PUBLIC INVITED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
7:00 P.M.**

**MARY MAC'S RESTAURANT
on Ponce de Leon
\$25 PLATE/FUNDRAISER
Call**

**404/957-6825
or 404/885-1988**

For Further Information

Learn More About Libertarian Views

Imperial Presidency Continued

"Wilson could have never pushed through his World Government agenda of the Federal Reserve, the income tax, and World War I if he had not assumed huge powers and subverted the Constitution in the process. FDR acted like George III, fueling the fires of war, packing the judicial branch with his henchmen, and pushing a statist agenda. Lyndon Johnson expanded foreign and domestic welfare and led us into an undeclared war that took the lives of 50,000 young Americans."

Ronald Reagan, elected on a platform of anti-communism, has done much to entrench communist influence all over the world. He gave the Soviet Union a long-term contract to buy four million tons of wheat every year at subsidized prices, costing the

American taxpayer \$100 million every year. He has underwritten bank loans to the Soviet Union of almost \$16 billion since 1981-at below prime rates."

"The Imperial Presidency is the road to total government. That's why I believe that the President's power ought to be drastically cut. So should Congress. And so should the Supreme Court's."

"Freedom, is never gained through the centralization of power in any branch of government. It is only gained, as the Founding Fathers knew so well, by taking away the government's power to rule over us. Power belongs not in Washington, D.C., but in the hands of the people."

Personal Liberty, Economic Freedom, Peace

By Gene Berkman

Libertarians advocate maximum personal freedom, and the goal of the Libertarian Party is a social environment conducive to maximizing freedom. In considering any political issue, the Libertarian takes the side of greater freedom and less government power. The American Libertarian advocates non-intervention by the government into the personal life or business activities of individual Americans, and non-intervention by the U.S. government into the affairs of other nations. This advocacy is summed up in the Libertarian Triad: personal liberty, economic freedom, and international peace.

The desire for freedom is deeply ingrained in the American people. Even the politicians who have limited or abolished one freedom after another have defended their actions as necessary to protect our free society. In recent years, voters have supported Republican candidates in the hope of real cuts in the size and cost of government. What they have gotten is a commitment by Ronald Reagan to "slow the rate of increase" of taxes and government spending.

President Reagan's inability to achieve even this modest goal has led some voters to support the Libertarian Party. Others have been unwilling to go along with the total commitment to freedom so central to libertarianism. Before you decide to support the Libertarian Party, a brief examination of several issues might show the relationship of civil and economic liberty and peaceful foreign policy. Consider taxation, the draft, foreign aid, and drug laws.

Taxes

When the government *forces* you to pay taxes, it commits an economic crime: theft. When the government forces you to provide it with information about your income and assets, it takes away your right to privacy. If the Internal Revenue Service thinks you did not pay enough and takes you to tax court, you have fewer rights than a murderer or a rapist. Taxes are a civil liberties issue as well as an economic issue.

The Draft

The draft is a tax, taken in the form of compulsory labor rather than money. If you are drafted, you lose several years of your life. You could have used those lost years to get an education, develop your career, or just earn wages. If you die in war, you pay what is called "the ultimate price." While in the military, you lose most of the personal freedoms you take for granted as a civilian. The Democrats and Republicans who propose to bring back the draft are a threat to your civil liberties and to your financial livelihood. Draft registration, like an income tax form, violates your right to privacy. Right now, if you are a young man, you can go to prison for failing to tell the government where you live.

The draft is also a foreign policy issue. The primary duty of the United States government in foreign policy is to keep this country out of war. The power to draft gives the government the power to involve this country in a war without convincing those who will have to fight. An end to draft registration, and a permanent prohibition of the military draft, will effectively limit the government's power to get us into war.

Foreign Aid

Foreign aid is one of the main foreign policy tools of the U.S. government. Foreign aid to the government of France and then to South Vietnam preceded and led to direct American involvement in the Vietnam War. Aid to repressive governments in Asia and Latin America has made the U.S. government an enemy of freedom in many countries. American aid to Israel has brought the United States close to war on several occasions.

Foreign aid is paid for with coerced tax dollars, and therefore is a violation of your economic rights. If you are philosophically opposed to repressive government, foreign aid can violate your freedom of conscience. When a repressive government or a government at war kills innocent people with weapons provided by the U.S. government, you have been made an accessory to murder against your will. Clearly, foreign aid is a question of conscience, as well as a question of economics and foreign policy.

Drug Laws

Drug laws restrict the right to produce, sell, possess, and consume certain products. They are first and foremost restrictions on free enterprise. Certain drugs; such as alcohol and tobacco, are regulated in a more lenient manner; users of marijuana and other drugs are therefore denied the equal protection of the laws guaranteed under the Constitution. Since almost all use and all purchases of drugs are voluntary, police often resort to questionable and dishonest means to arrest drug users and sellers.

The effect of these restrictions on free enterprise and civil liberties has been

to enrich organized crime and to punish millions of ordinary people because of their personal habits. After 50 years of marijuana prohibition and more than 70 years of laws against cocaine and heroin, the politicians tell us we are deep in a drug crisis. To deal with the crisis, President Reagan proposes to further limit the freedom of Americans, and to attack their personal dignity through widespread drug-testing.

To stop drugs from being imported into the United States, the government has increased military aid to Bolivia and other repressive governments, and made threats against Colombia and Jamaica. The drug crisis, once an excuse to limit civil and economic liberty in this country, is now a foreign policy question.

In *The Federalist Papers*, James Madison warned that for the would-be tyrant, "there is always a crisis" which he would use to enhance his own powers. The real crisis is that our politicians are addicted to power. Their programs give them a feeling of euphoria, but do not solve our problems.

Libertarians are for freedom. So are many conservatives and many liberals, up to a point. Conservatives want a government big enough to enforce morality, but small enough to leave their business alone. Liberals want a market-place of ideas, but are afraid of the economic marketplace. The Libertarian viewpoint is that economic and social freedoms are intimately related to each other, and that freedom and peace are short-lived if separated from each other.

Reprinted from *Libertarian Party NEWS*

The U.S. Government Subverts The Constitution

"The current PR campaign for the U.S. Constitution is phoney," says Ron Paul, candidate for the Libertarian Party nomination for President of the United States.

"This superficial celebration, which covers up the government's total disregard for what the document says, is a mockery," said the former four-term Republican Congressman from Texas.

"Just a few of the present unconstitutional infringements on our rights are:

- the Federal Reserve System, which depreciates the paycheck and savings account of every American to benefit the bankers and the politicians;
- the IRS which forces us to bare our souls and then turn over a third to a half of our income to be wasted by the politicians;
- alleged anti-drug laws which result in street crime, federal attacks on financial privacy, and the unconstitutional confiscation of personal property;
- military intervention into the internal affairs of other nations;
- an imperial presidency which operates above the law;

—a corrupt federal judiciary which fails to uphold our rights;

—attacks on our right to freely leave and enter the U.S. without being searched;

—and infringements on our ability to peacefully trade with people in other countries without tariff taxes.

"It is impossible to imagine Thomas Jefferson filling out a 1040 form, George Washington sending troops to Vietnam or Nicaragua, James Madison defending fiat paper money and the Federal Reserve System, or Benjamin Franklin condoning deficit spending and transfer payments.

"Rather than heralding the Constitution as a historic document, shouldn't we demand adherence to it?"

"At the voting booth Americans supposedly have two choices. But thanks to the Republican monopoly, neither major party respects our Constitution. That is why I am running for President of the United States on the Libertarian Party ticket. I want to see the Constitution celebrated and observed every day, not just every two hundred years."

"Here lies hope for a shattered nation."

Winnie Mandela

Groundswell

The Libertarian solution to the South African Crisis

For more information Write:

Groundswell

1800 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Affiliated with Groundswell, South Africa

Free The Atlanta 1500

By Carla M. Dudeck

Over 3,000 Cuban men and women are waiting in U.S. prisons and jails for officials of a federal agency to decide their fates. The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) alone will determine whether or not release of these detainees is "in the public interest." INS will also determine what the public interest is. No one outside of INS will oversee these decisions, nor will detainees be able to appeal them.

The Cuban detainees arrived here in the 1980 Mariel Boatlift, when Fidel Castro opened the port of Mariel to all those wishing to leave Cuba. Because of rumors that Castro had emptied his prisons and mental institutions, the arriving Cubans, called Marielitos because they left through Mariel, were subjected to a strict screening process. Because none of the 125,000 Cubans arrived with the proper entry papers, each was given a conditional parole into the United States. The Cubans were classified as "excludable aliens," meaning that they had not actually entered the country.

Pedro Prior-Rodriguez was mugged outside his halfway house in New York, and, as a result, lost one eye. His parole status was revoked because his medical condition required a treatment not available at the halfway house. Mr. Prior-Rodriguez spent three years in the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, a maximum-security facility that now houses 1500 Cuban

detainees. He was recently transferred to another INS facility in remote Oakdale, Louisiana. Recommended for release by various prison officials, Mr. Prior Rodriguez has no idea when he will again see freedom.

INS has total control in the decision to revoke immigration parole status. Detainees have lost parole status because they did not have a job, or because they moved from one state to another without notifying INS. Others had paroles revoked because they were charged with or convicted of crimes ranging from minor misdemeanors to more serious felonies.

The Cuban detainees are not, however, serving criminal sentences. Those who did commit crimes completed any sentence received before being taken into INS custody. They are detained by INS, ostensibly to be deported to Cuba. Since Cuba refuses to take them back, and because of their "excludable" status, the detainees are forced to wait indefinitely to see what INS plans to do with them.

One thing that INS can do is to reparole an excludable alien who cannot be deported. Over the years, many detainees were repared under the Attorney General's Status Review Plan, after going before a three-member panel for a parole-type interview. After this plan was abandoned in 1985, decisions to reparole were made by various INS district directors based on reviews of the detainees' INS

files. Unfortunately, these decisions were made without any apparent guidelines and the detainees and their families were at a loss to understand what was happening. The process, in addition to being haphazard, was very slow. Additionally, several INS officials are under investigation for taking bribes in exchange for releases.

Julia Martinez and her husband Gerardo Mansur pleaded guilty in 1983 to possession of one ounce of marijuana. They were given one to three years of probation as a sentence, but were picked up by INS when they checked in with the probation officer. Their two small children were taken from them. Gerardo spent three years in the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary before being transferred to Arizona last fall. He was repared last month by the district director in Phoenix. His wife, who is under a different jurisdiction, received a letter from her district director that stated that she was "clearly a danger to society." She remains in prison in Lexington, Kentucky.

For years, the INS has perpetuated the myth that all the Cuban detainees are violent and dangerous. In turn, the public has shown little concern over the detention of human beings without due process. The INS has shown a blatant disregard for the individual rights of the more than 3000 human beings held in over seventy facilities around the coun-

try. The agency has not proven in any way capable of making fair decisions about the detainees, yet it retains total control over their lives.

Under a new review plan which has been announced by INS as the solution to the problem, each detainee will have his or her file reviewed. Some will have interviews with a two-member panel. No one will know the guidelines used to determine whether or not to reparole detainees. No one will oversee the decisions. The detainees will not have the right to appeal decisions. After seven years, one would think that America could arrive at a fairer solution. The only fair solution would be individual fair hearings with all the elements of due process, and in front of an impartial body outside of INS.

The Coalition to Support Cuban Detainees works to educate the public and elected officials about the plight of the Cuban detainees. Our goal is individual hearings for each detainee. Please write your legislators and express your concern that the detainees are treated fairly. Join our monthly vigil in front of the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, 601 McDonough Blvd., S.E.

Contact the Coalition to Support Cuban Detainees at 377-0701, P.O. Box 935, Decatur, GA 30030.

The Libertarian Party of Georgia

1655 Peachtree Street, NE
Suite 1011
Atlanta, Georgia 30306

RON PAUL TO SPEAK IN ATLANTA!
PUBLIC INVITED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
See page 1 and page 6 for details

The Monthly Meeting

Western Sizzlin' Steakhouse
5938 Buford Highway
7:00 Meal 7:45 Program

November 18

TBA

DECEMBER

Time/Date/Location TBA

Christmas Party

January 20

KEN SALLADINE

"Separation of Church and State"

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 262
Atlanta, Georgia

Address Correction Requested

Mr. David K. Kelley
Libertarian National Committee
301 West 21st St.
Houston, TX 77003



**The Georgia
LIBERTARIAN**

is the official newspaper of the Libertarian Party of Georgia. Opinions and articles contained herein do not necessarily represent official Party positions unless so indicated.

Jack D. Aiken, Chair
Ron Crickenberger, Vice Chair
Carole Ann Rand, Treasurer
Toby Nixon, Secretary

Distribution This Issue
11,000 inserted in Southline
3,000 mailed

(404) 885-1988