



LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

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1-900-4-LIBERTY

LP Offers "Voice on Capitol Hill" Service To Opponents of U.S. Role in Middle East

The Libertarian Party began operation March 1 of a "900 Number" phone line to assist opponents America's role in the Middle East in making their views known to their congressional representatives.

A letter to their representatives, stating opposition to continued U.S. military occupation in the Persian Gulf and urging officials to do what they can to bring all U.S. troops home, will be summarized to callers, who will

then have the opportunity to leave their names and addresses and have a copy of the letter sent to their congresspersons in their names.

The 900 line will be used by the LP to facilitate communication and create publicity for the LP's position on a changing assortment of prominent and timely issues. The messages will be changed at least monthly.

"We hope this will urge many Libertarians and others who sympathize with our positions on certain issues to come forward and make their views known," said Nick Dunbar, LP National Director. "There are many people who won't sit down and write a letter, but they're not happy with what's going on."

In addition to the letter service, the 900 number offers callers a "Legislative Hotline," which will inform callers of important legislation before Congress and let callers know what action they might take to influence the legislation. Callers can also join the LP, hear a summary of current LP projects and activities, and get information on "Campaign '91-'92" (ballot access, campaign, and election results).

The service is being publicized primarily to Libertarians and organizations that have exhibited libertarian sympathies on particular issues. The call costs \$1.95 per minute and is billed to the caller's phone by the local phone company.

VIPs Top Convention Program

Georgia LP To Host NatCom, Regional Meeting in Atlanta

Atlanta sounds like the "place to be" April 26-28, when the Georgia LP will host a National Committee meeting, hold its own state convention, and host a regional LP meeting—featuring an impressive line up of speakers from across the country.

Speakers include economist Walter Williams, financial advisor Mark Skousen, LP presidential nominee contenders Andre Marrou & Dick Boddie, Libertarian radio personality Gene Burns, National Rifle Association Vice President J. Warren Cassidy, and syndicated columnist Bill Shipp. For further details, contact Jack Aiken at (800) 221-0265.

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10/24/90

Olson offers voters an alternative

Libertarian candidate says his goal is to let people know there is a choice

by Don Kazak



Chuck Olson

Candidate Chuck Olson knows he is not going to wake up on Nov. 7 to find out he's been elected to Congress. He also wasn't elected to the state Assembly or Senate when he ran in the past.

Olson is on the ballot as the Libertarian Party candidate for California's 12th Congressional District seat, now occupied by Stanford University law professor Tom Campbell. According to a recent Campbell campaign poll, Olson will receive 2.5 percent of the vote next month.

So why is Olson bothering to run? "To let people know there is an alternative," he said of his candidacy and the Libertarian Party. "The lesser of two evils is still evil," he added, referring to the Republican and Democratic parties.

Olson is a 34-year-old Palo Alto resident who works for a computer software company. His previous campaign bids were for the Assembly in 1980; for Tom Lantos' congressional seat in 1982; and for Becky Morgan's state Senate seat in 1988.

Olson said he's been interested in the Libertarian Party ever since he's been politically aware, which he dates back to his high school days when he read the Ayn Rand novel, "Atlas Shrugged." That cult-favorite extols the pro-capitalist, anti-government stance now popular with the Libertarian Party. Libertarians may disagree over how much government is needed, but they agree that we have way too much interfering with our lives these days.

A Swarthmore College graduate, Olson became involved with the Libertarian Party at Stanford University during Ed Clark's campaign for governor in 1975. Olson was a graduate student in biology then.

"The vast majority of people are

fed up with the two parties," he said. "A lot of them don't even bother to become educated" on the issues.

Admitting that his party's task is "a very long-term battle" to gain respectability and power, Olson notes that the Libertarian Party is strongest in Alaska, where three of its members have been elected to the state legislature.

The main goals of the party are to lower taxes and lower government spending. Olson said that Libertarians may differ over the details, but all of them pretty much agree that government should be used to protect people's rights, which means funding for courts, police and national defense.

Olson says he endorses the use of income tax credits to help finance private-school education. "Public schools are a protected monopoly, like the Soviet system," he said. "It's not surprising that the quality

is so low. There should be a separation of the state and education."

Libertarians often are politically closer to Republicans than Democrats, but Olson takes specific issue with Campbell on a couple of points. One is Campbell's support of President George Bush's Persian Gulf policies; Olson says that diplomatic means should be used to end the crisis. Consistent with Libertarian Party principles, Olson also is opposed to the economic sanctions against Iraq backed by

"Public schools are a protected monopoly, like the Soviet system. It's not surprising that the quality is so low."

—Chuck Olson

the United Nations. "Any sanctions should be private, not governmental," he said.

He also challenges Campbell's support of the government's war on drugs. "It's a repetition of what we experienced during the alcohol prohibition" of the 1920s, he said. If drugs were legalized, it would reduce the power of organized crime and reduce police corruption, Olson said.

Olson also noted that most campaign reform attempts to limit speaking really are violations of free speech. That's why, early in the campaign, he said he wouldn't take part in any campaign spending agreement negotiated by Campbell and Democrat Robert Palmer, even though he plans to spend no money on the campaign while Campbell and Palmer both have well-financed campaigns.

It's the Libertarian way. "I am a serious candidate," Olson said. "If elected, I will serve."

The Columbus Dispatch

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Saturday, January 26, 1991 ■■ Page 5A

Barbaric actions are un-American

Please stop thinking I'm un-American because I demonstrate for peace in the Middle East. Does being an American mean killing innocent people in a foreign land? I don't think so. Some of our nation's greatest leaders were advocates of peace.

Thank God that we live in a country where our rights are clearly defined by our Constitution. Our nation was founded upon the principles of freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, etc. Why am I considered un-American because I am exercising these rights?

If our constitutional rights or our homeland were threatened, I would be the first to join the fight. But a foreign war for questionable motives is an entirely different story. We are the greatest country in the world. But unfortunately, by our involvement in the Middle East wars, we are proving to the world that we are barbarians, unable to solve problems in any other manner than by killing each other. Now that's un-American.

Dena L. Bruedigam
Columbus

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA, TUCSON

opinion

Thursday, February 7, 1991

Arizona Daily Wildcat

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Libertarians call for end to Bush's 'crusade'

Open Letter
Libertarian Student Network

George Bush recently sent out a condescending letter to the campus newspapers of America to ask for student support of his terrible war. Bush wants his war to be "different" from Vietnam. By this he means that he wants to carry out his imperialist crusade for a "New World Order" without the student uprisings and protests of the 1960s. Fortunately the outrage and protests against Bush's war far exceed anything which occurred at the beginning of Lyndon Johnson's war.

Bush claims to be outraged by Saddam Hussein's pillaging of Kuwait. Yet, he has nothing to say about China's invasion of Tibet, South Africa's invasions of neighboring countries or his own invasion of Panama. The Kuwait invasion only outrages Bush because of the role of certain oil companies in the region which hold an enormous influence on U.S. policy. In any event, nothing in the U.S. Constitution authorizes the U.S. government to take on the role of 911 to the world. Moreover, Kuwait is a wealthy enough country that it could have defended itself — if its subjects had thought the Kuwaiti dictatorship worth defending. If every man, woman and child over the age of, say, 11 had owned an automatic assault rifle, Hussein's thugs would have gotten nowhere. Instead Kuwait depended on a standing army, an army which fled to Saudi Arabia as soon as they received Hussein's phone call that the Iraqi troops were on their way! Likewise, an appropriate remedy exists to defend the interests of the oil companies in Saudi Arabia. Bush and Congress could privatize a portion of the U.S.

military and allow it to hire out its services to the oil companies for the \$15 billion per year it costs to station them in the Saudi desert, a quite minor operating expense for these companies. As it is, far more innocent civilians will die and get hurt than would have in the absence of Bush's war.

Bush calls for a "New World Order." Americans familiar with the history of the 1940s and 1950s know that the "New World Order" was and is a code word of totalitarian socialists who sought and seek to impose their One True Way upon the world via the United Nations. These were and are extremely insecure people who foam at the mouth at any hint of an alternative lifestyle to the one which these authoritarians seek to impose on us all. Some of these totalitarian socialists, former senator George McGovern and columnist Alexander Cockburn for instance, already dance with glee at the new prominence Bush has given to the United Nations. This organization, created by the imperialists and warmongers of the World War II era, bears responsibility now for both the U.S. government's war against Korea and the U.S. government's war against Iraq. The Libertarian Student Network calls for nothing short of total abolition of the United Nations.

Bush claims that Iraqi control of 20 percent of the world's current oil production would wreak economic devastation on the world. I'm a graduate student in economics and I assure everyone that Bush's claim is just complete nonsense. The oil industry is highly competitive. Consumers set the prices by bidding on the oil available. Twenty percent of current output is trivial. If Hussein refuses to offer Iraqi oil at world market prices, we'll buy our oil elsewhere and other oil companies will

George Washington and Thomas Jefferson made it clear that one of the most important principles upon which this country was founded is staying out of foreign wars.

step up production. It is Bush's war which threatens our economy by putting Mideast oil in jeopardy.

Finally, Bush's claim that he is defending the principles upon which the nation was founded is nothing but a bald-faced lie. As our last great president, Grover Cleveland, pointed out, "It is the policy of Washington, of Jefferson and of Monroe — peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none." George Washington made it clear in his farewell address and Thomas Jefferson made it clear in his inaugural address that one of the most important principles upon which this country was founded was the principle of staying out of foreign wars!

I urge all of you, stand with the Libertarian Student Network and the millions of Americans outraged by the policies of the current madman of the White House. Stand with us in protest and defiance. Help us bring down this administration, end this war and bring the boys and girls home.

Terry Inman
World Director
Libertarian Student Network