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Scientists dismayed by Reagan 'mystics'

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A group of world-famous scientists intent on debunking the claims of astrologers says it is dismayed that President Ronald and Nancy Reagan use "superstition" and "mystical fortune telling" to make decisions.

The practice, said the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, harks back to ancient times when monarchs and emperors resorted to the musings of fortune tellers for advice.

"We are concerned by the apparent return to medieval superstition," the statement said. "Dozens of tests in recent years by scientists can find little, if any, evidence for astrological claims. Horoscopes have been shown under the most rigorous scientific analysis to fail completely in predicting future events."

The statement was released after reports on a forthcoming book by former White House chief of staff Donald Regan, who says Nancy Reagan regularly consults astrologers in shaping her advice to the president. Reagan, the book says, also regularly reads his horoscope. The White House later confirmed the Reagans' interest in astrology but said it did not influence any policy decisions.

"If the United States is to continue its leadership in scientific research, it is vital that the public have a clear understanding of the difference between science and pseudoscience, and that decisions be based on the real world without resorting to mystical fortune telling and other primitive forms of prognostication," the scientists' group

What is astrology?

The Associated Press

Long before "What's your sign?" replaced "Come here often?" as a lounge lizard's opening line, people sought their fortune in the stars, planets and signs of the zodiac.

Astrology assumes that the planets and stars, in some way, predict or rule the lives of humans.

Soothsayers searched the skies for omens in Babylon of the 18th century B.C., but what is now known as astrology developed during the Hellenistic period from the 3rd century B.C. to the 3rd century A.D., according to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

The World Book Encyclopedia says that astrological forecasts, or horoscopes, are based on four elements: the Earth, the planets, the zodiac — the 12 signs that divide up the heavens and comprise an astrological year — and 12 "houses," or elements of personality associated with 12 imaginary divisions of the Earth's surface.

Astrology assumes the Earth is the center of the solar system.

"Newtonian physics eradicated a belief in astrology among the educated. The practice of the now pseudoscience continued among nonintellectuals in the West, gradually losing contact with its rich tradition and becoming more and more fraudulent," the encyclopedia says.

But popular interest in astrology grew after newspapers began printing horoscopes in the 1930s.

Nazi leader Adolf Hitler is known to have consulted astrologers, as did his deputy, Rudolf Hess, who was captured on a bizarre peace mission to England in 1941. Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick, head of the British Foreign Office in 1941, said that Hess was "a simple, stupid" person whose astrologer had told him he would bring peace.

said.

Paul Kurtz, chairman of the committee, said he released the statement to counter publicity about astrology following disclosure of the Reagans' interest.

"We ask the White House to confirm to what extent astrologers have been advisers of presidents," Kurtz said in the statement. "The public has the right to know who these astrologers are and what recommendations they have made. We

ask that their claims and alleged authorities be subjected to scientific scrutiny."

The scientists' committee critically analyzes assertions by astrologers and by persons claiming unusual powers or perceptions. Members include Nobel laureate F.H.C. Crick, two-time Nobel laureate Murray Gell-Mann, noted psychologist B.F. Skinner, and authors Issac Asimov and Carl Sagan.

Andrew Fraknoi, an astronomy

professor at San Francisco State University and a member of the committee, said astrology has been put through vigorous scientific analysis dozens of times and has never been found to have validity.

Fraknoi said that in one test two scientists examined more than 3,000 predictions by astrologers and found that they were correct less than 10 percent of the time.

Astrologers, said Fraknoi, regularly use the positions of the Uranus and Neptune in making predictions, even though those two planets were not even discovered when the concept of astrology was established in ancient times.

Fraknoi said astrologers claim they make predictions based on the position of planets against a background of star constellations, using methods developed by ancient observers.

Yet, he said, the Earth's position has shifted so that constellations no longer are in the same relative viewing positions.

"In effect, all of the constellations have moved," said Fraknoi. "This puts the signs of the Zodiac off by one whole sign."

The astrology concept that a person's future is shaped through some unexplained mechanism by the position of the stars and planets at the moment of birth also has been attacked scientifically, he said.

He said a researcher checked groups of men who re-enlisted in the Marine Corps. Based on astrology, he said, such a group would be motivated by the same or similar zodiacal signs. Yet, said Fraknoi, "there was no trend whatsoever." The signs were randomly distributed.

MIAMI, FLA.

NEWS

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Reagans' stargazing surprises religious right

Combined Miami News Services

Reports that President Reagan's schedule may have been influenced by first lady Nancy Reagan's frequent consultations with astrologers came as a surprise to Southern leaders of the Religious Right.

Members of several conservative Christian groups — which were an important part of Reagan's political power base in 1980 and 1984 — said yesterday they don't want to be too quick to judge Reagan.

But they also said astrology is an inappropriate and un-Christian method for making decisions.

"I think it would be a sensitive issue with the general public," said the Rev. Dan Ireland, a Southern Baptist minister and executive director of the Alabama Citizen's Action Program, a religious lobby. "I'm sure everyone would have concerns about a leader who feels compelled to consult with mysticism prior to making major decisions.

"By far the largest number of Southern Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists and mainline Christians would be thumbs down on astrology. I wouldn't say it was ordained of God. I think it is a man-manipulated thing."

The president's version to the uproar was quick.

"No policy or decision in my mind has ever been influenced by astrology," he said yesterday.

Reagan did not deny consulting astrologers, who make forecasts based on the belief that the heavenly bodies form patterns that can reveal a person's character or future.

Asked if astrology played a part

Churchill used astrology to get U.S. into WW II, historian says

Associated Press

LONDON — Winston Churchill once used an astrologer to try to get the United States to enter World War II by predicting that Nazi Germany would lose the war.

"Churchill never used an astrologer personally but he once used one politically," said Martin Gilbert, the Oxford University historian who has just finished the eighth and final volume of Churchill's biography.

In the summer of 1941, when Britain was desperate for the United States to end its neutrality, he said, "a convention of astrologers in the United States dominated by pro-German groups had predicted the victory of Hitler in the war, which was clearly a good reason for America staying out of it."

"Learning of this, Churchill at once dispatched to the States the astrologer Louis De Wohl who proved from the same constellation of stars and moons and whatever else astrologers use that Hitler would, in fact, lose," he said.

Gilbert said this brought "much discomfort to those who claimed otherwise" but it didn't bring the United States into the war. That happened after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

The White House acknowledged yesterday that Nancy Reagan consults astrological forecasts to help plan President Reagan's activities. The disclosure came after former chief of staff Donald Regan reportedly wrote in his forthcoming book that Mrs. Reagan consulted astrologers to determine the timing of presidential activities.

in his schedule, Reagan quipped, "You know I'm still looking for the fellas that tell me every day what I'm going to be doing."

The first lady, meanwhile, is not about to drop her longtime interest in stargazing, an aide says.

For the Reagans, it was the latest bit of gossip about their private lives to emerge from a recent spate of kiss-and-tell books. Former chief of staff Donald

Regan, forced from his job last year after clashing repeatedly with the first lady over the president's schedule, has reportedly written that Mrs. Reagan consulted astrologers to help arrange the president's activities.

On Capitol Hill, House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas, was asked what he thought about the Reagans using astrologers. He replied with a grin: "It's all right with me. I'm glad he consults somebody."

NATIONAL NEWS

Astrology has some evangelics upset with Reagan

By April Witt
Staff writer

Ronald Reagan has been one of their earthly champions, so some evangelical Christian leaders were dismayed Wednesday at reports that the president and his wife seek guidance from the stars as well as from heaven.

Astrology, many evangelicals believe, is satanic.

"It's heresy, there's no question about that," Brian O'Connell, a spokesman for the National Association of Evangelicals, said after published reports this week that Nancy Reagan is an astrology aficionado. "The Scriptures are very clear on that."

"How do you put a scream down on paper?" said Dr. Robert Grant, director of Christian Voice, the Washington-based lobbying group, when asked for his reaction.

"I thought we had gotten past the time of tea leaves and looking at spots on the liver of sacrificed goats, but that is not the case."

I would be utterly aghast if it became known that decisions of national import were made on the basis of astrological charts."

Former White House chief of staff

Reagan speaks of a power from space

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A day after an uproar about the use of astrology at the White House, President Reagan said Wednesday that he often wonders what would happen if the Earth were invaded by "a power from outer space."

Reagan made the comment during a question-and-answer session after a Chicago speech in which he credited the Soviet Union with making progress on human rights.

He spoke of the importance of frankness and for a desire for peaceful solutions, and went on to say that there have been "about 114 wars" since World War

II, including conflicts between smaller nations.

"But I've often wondered, what if all of us in the world discovered that we were threatened by an outer — a power from outer space, from another planet," Reagan said.

"Wouldn't we all of a sudden find that we didn't have any differences between us at all, we were all human beings, citizens of the world, and wouldn't we come together to fight that particular threat?" the president asked.

The comment drew applause from members of the National Strategy Forum, a non-partisan group that specializes in foreign policy and national security issues.



President Reagan

Stresses frankness and peace

Donald T. Regan alleges in a forthcoming book that the first lady used astrology charts and astrologists to determine the timing of presidential speeches and travel.

Earlier this week, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater treated the allegations as a joke. But he confirmed that Nancy Reagan had consulted an astrologer on the president's travel and scheduling.

President Reagan denied Tuesday that astrology had ever influ-

enced his presidential decisions, but sidestepped questions about astrological influences on his schedule.

The controversy is disturbing to evangelical Christians who believe ardently that man should look to God for guidance, not to the stars, the sun and the moon.

"It's a concern for any Christian if the reports are true and accurate," said Kenneth Hemphill, pastor of First Baptist Church of Norfolk. "I don't think dabbling in astrology or

the occult is anything to be made light of. It is very serious and opens one to powers that are beyond oneself and I would consider them to be demonic."

The Rev. George Colston, pastor of Bethel Assembly of God in South Norfolk, was similarly disturbed.

"President Reagan and his wife have given the impression to people, especially to evangelicals, that they are Christians, and Christians are not supposed to have anything

to do with (astrology)," he said. "It's devilish, satanic and demon-inspired. So we are kind of disappointed."

"If it's true, we would certainly consider it extremely foolish and without any foundation whatsoever," Carl Bieber of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Virginia Beach said. "That's no different than Caesar plucking the entrails of a chicken to figure out what's going to happen on the Ides of March."

Evangelicals base opposition to astrology on the Bible, which prohibits it in several passages, Hemphill said.

The Old Testament book of Isaiah, in Chapter 47, says that "the fire" shall burn "the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators."

Deuteronomy says that people who have "served other gods, and worshipped them, either the sun, or moon, or any of the host of heaven, which God has not commanded, should be stoned to death."

Many evangelicals, however, said they are inclined to forgiveness.

"There is a lot of love by the evangelicals for Ronald Reagan, so instead of being angry with him, they are worried he's a little misguided," said Ann Kincaid, an evangelical Republican who coordinates M.G. "Pat" Robertson's Republican presidential campaign in Virginia.

"I feel like nobody has ever told Ronald Reagan that astrology, palm reading, numerology are all dabbling in the occult," she said. "Now, I think there will be a number of evangelicals who will seek an audience with him to try to explain that. . . . Certainly, there is not going to be a mass mutiny."

Americans love to make fun of White House occupants

WASHINGTON (AP) — What the killer rabbit was for Jimmy Carter and the bump on the head was for Gerald Ford, the signs of the Zodiac may become for Ronald Reagan.

Americans love to make fun of the occupants of the White House, and the president and first lady Nancy Reagan have just given them an excuse.

Actually, not much of an excuse is needed. Almost anything will do.

Lyndon Johnson was subjected to endless jokes just for pulling up his shirt and showing his scar from gall bladder surgery. Abraham Lincoln was a figure of

fun because of his habit of telling tall stories. Even Richard Nixon, not much of a stand-up comic, drew guffaws for dressing up White House guards in goofy uniforms.

Once in a while, though, something happens that strikes the public funny bone with special impact.

For Carter, it all started on a spring afternoon in 1979 when he told some of his aides, gathered on the Truman balcony of the White House, about his encounter with a swamp rabbit as he fished in a pond on his farm in Georgia.

Carter said the animal was

hissing and gnashing its teeth and seemed intent on climbing into his boat. The commander in chief said he took action by splashing water at the rabbit with his paddle to shoo it away.

Carter's press secretary, Jody Powell, who was in the group on the balcony, later wrote, "Had I been doing my job, I would have stopped the president at that moment, pointed out the dangers to him and his administration if such a story ever got out, and sworn him and all within reach of his voice to secrecy."

Instead, Powell told the story, several months later, to a reporter, Brooks Jackson of The

Associated Press. Jackson wrote a lighthearted column about it, and the fat was in the fire.

"It was a nightmare," said Powell. "The story ran for more than a week. The president was repeatedly asked to explain his behavior at town hall meetings, press conferences, and meetings with editors."

The former press secretary had his own tongue in cheek when he wrote that account, but it is certainly true that the enraged rabbit added a new facet to the folklore of the president from Plains.

Ford inadvertently broke into comedy one rainy day in Salz-

burg, Austria, as he walked down the steps of Air Force One on arrival for an international meeting with one arm around his wife and the other holding an umbrella.

Two or three steps from the bottom of the ramp, by his count, his heel caught on something. With no arm free to grab a rail, he tumbled onto the tarmac, then jumped to his feet, unhurt.

"From that moment on, every time I stumbled or bumped my head or fell in the snow, reporters zeroed in on that to the exclusion of almost everything else," Ford complained in his White House memoirs.

Not only that, but Johnny Carson made jokes about the subject on his late night television show and comic Chevy Chase practically made a career out of mimicking Ford.

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The St. Joseph News-Press/
Thursday, May 5, 1988)

The School District of St. Joseph, Mo., will accept sealed bids for District and Sports First Aid Supplies until 2:00 p.m., May 19, 1988 in the Business Office, 925 Felix Street, St. Joseph, Mo. at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after said time will be returned unopened. Specifications are on file in the Business Office. The School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any irregularities.

DONALD R. KELLY
School District of St. Joseph

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2 Charlotte Astrologers Do City's Chart

Gabrielle Hardman

Characteristics: Charlotte is a Scorpio city (a two-faced sign that can be good or bad), so both religion and sin, churches and escort services prosper here.

Because the moon is in Libra (the sign represented by scales), it is a physically attractive city. A Mercury-Venus conjunction in the chart means it is an aesthetic town and it tries to show that image, but pornography also thrives here because of the Scorpio influence.

It is ruled by the Mafia planet (Pluto), so there is a tendency for clannishness, where citizens are either insiders or outsiders. People who live here for a while develop that clannishness.

It is influenced by Mars (the military planet), so racing is popular, as is country-western music.

Charlotte is a very conservative city. It has independent strength; the economy is good here even when it isn't in other places.

Charlotte's chart is partially ruled by the show-business planet, Neptune. It has half of its houses in games or pleasure, showing potential for any aspect of entertainment, including sports.

It also is a city with half its houses in medicine, and could excel in that area.

Charlotte's education house is interested in practical things, which might limit courses at UNC-Charlotte, but also make it a natural place for Central Piedmont Community College.

People who live in a Scorpio town experience crisis over and over. Those who move here with a problem can solve it. It's a good place to develop a career, but not to stay a long time. Those who come with marriage problems may find their marriages break up.

Long-Term Predictions: August 1984 through 1995 is a time of change for Charlotte. During the 18 months beginning in February 1989, Charlotte will rise to national prominence, perhaps through its new NBA franchise. Scorpio usually is not a team player, preferring to stand out individually. But the astrological change begun in 1984 has brought in outside money and new interests that will help enlarge Charlotte. The population will quadruple by 1995.

Coliseum: Because ground was broken in a

See GABRIELLE Next Page



Lucy Wright

Characteristics: Scorpio is Charlotte's sun sign, with Leo, a sign of royalty, rising. Royalty is the way the city wants to present itself to the world. But there is intense, hidden sexual energy here.

Neptune is in its first house. That can mean disillusion, allusion or spirituality. Charlotte is open to philosophical, spiritual ideas. Truth is important here.

Charlotte also is a veiled city: There are undercover government crises and hardships we haven't heard about yet.

The city is slow to change, but preparing for a transformation. It is cautious and does its homework before changing. Yet there is an impatience, with projects started but not completed.

It is a progressive city struggling with southern aristocracy. It wants to be liberal and open, to encourage people to come in. There is an effort to link with other cities to exchange ideas, foreign sister cities as well as places like Raleigh.

The divorce rate is high now with relationships ending and beginning, and not just in marriage. Corporations and partnerships are going through this, too.

Charlotte's Libra moon makes it a city that believes in fair play, that attracts attorneys and counselors. The people are willing to look at both sides of issues, but there are things going on behind the scenes that no one suspects, and these will come out.

Long-Term Predictions: As Pluto crosses the sun's path in December, there will be a transformation that will unfold over two or three years. A death and a rebirth. The outcome will be cleansing, though the transition may seem like hell.

Things that have been buried will come to the surface. There will be an increased crime rate, bizarre crimes, great scandals and a change in the police force. There may be medical breakthroughs. The foundations — government — of the city will change.

That excess sexual energy will come to the fore, and Charlotte will have to get its values clear.

There will be a change in education — maybe the busing fight — that is not pleasant, and will intensify.

There will be a change in finance, a restructuring of banks and lending institutions, with fine-tuning com-

See LUCY Next Page

Zodiac experts say more and more people are turning to astrology. Story, Next Page.

What's your sign, and what do astrologers say it means about you? Story, Page 27A.

For 5,000 Years, World Leaders Have Reached For The Stars

By JOHN VAUGHAN
Staff Writer

The theory that movements of the stars and planets influence human affairs is at least as old as the Assyrian culture (3,000 B.C.).

Astrologers have fallen in and out of favor since then. But their contention, bogus or legitimate, that they can foretell events or interpret planetary influences has attracted the attention of famous people throughout history. Here are a few:

- The Roman Emperor Augustus (63 B.C.-A.D. 14) had his horoscope printed on Roman coins. The practice was dropped when Roman rulers began to fear their rivals might learn, from the horoscopes, the most auspicious time for a coup d'etat.

- Astronomy and astrology were important influences in the poetry of Dante Alighieri (1265-1321) and Geoffrey Chaucer (1340-1400). Chaucer took the trouble to cast horoscopes for some of his characters in

"The Canterbury Tales."

- Famed seer Nostradamus (1503-1566) was physician and court astrologer to three French kings. Nostradamus supporters contend he prophesied the rise of English leader Oliver Cromwell, the birth of Napoleon Bonaparte and the precise date of the end of World War II. His prophecies are still studied.

- U.S. financier J. Pierpont Morgan (1837-1913) consulted astrologer Evangeline Adams to help him decide the timing of his investments. In a celebrated 1913 court case, Adams succeeded in having anti-astrology laws taken off the books in New York City.

- President Warren G. Harding's wife, Florence, consulted Madam Marcia, a popular Washington astrologer, who correctly predicted that the president (1865-1923) would not live out his term. Madam Marcia informed the first lady that President Harding was "sympathetic, kindly . . . perplexed over financial affairs" and involved "in many clandestine love

affairs." At the time, the president reportedly had two affairs going — both with women from his hometown of Marion, Ohio.

- President Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945) consulted astrologers on several occasions, and had his own astrological chart fixed to the top of a coffee table in the White House.

- Adolf Hitler (1889-1945) reputedly consulted astrologers while preparing the German invasion of Poland and other military campaigns. British intelligence prepared Hitler's astrological chart and used it to predict the advice Der Fuehrer was thought to be receiving from his astrologers.

- Psychologist and philosopher Carl Jung (1875-1961), an early associate of Sigmund Freud and founder of analytical psychology, employed an astrologer on his clinical staff in Switzerland. Jung used the horoscopes of patients to get an initial understanding of their personalities.

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First Lady 65 Won't Give Up Astrology

WASHINGTON (AP) — Disclosures that President Reagan and his wife consult astrologers have opened them to taunts from Congress and criticism from scientists, but the first lady isn't about to drop her longtime interest in stargazing, an aide says.

"She doesn't think that there's anything wrong with it. It doesn't control policy and it doesn't control their lives," Elaine Crispen, the first lady's press secretary, said Tuesday.

For the Reagans, it was the latest bit of gossip about their private lives to emerge from a recent spate of kiss-and-tell books. Former chief of staff Donald Regan, forced from his job last year after clashing repeatedly with the first lady over the president's schedule, has reportedly written that Mrs. Reagan consulted astrologers to help arrange the president's activities.

The president's reaction to the uproar was quick.

"No policy or decision in my mind has ever been influenced by astrology," the president said Tuesday.

Reagan did not deny consulting astrologers, who make forecasts based on the belief that the heavenly bodies form patterns that can reveal a person's character or future.

Asked if astrology played a part in shaping his schedule, Reagan quipped, "You know I'm still looking for the fellas that tell me every day what I'm going to be doing."

Presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, after acknowledging the first couple's interest in astrology, said he believes his own horoscope "when it says I am destined to meet a beautiful woman and fall madly in love and get rich."

"It's all so silly," Mrs. Crispen said of the barrage of queries that inundated her desk. "Don't you read your horoscope?"

In response to reporters' queries, Fitzwater acknowledged Mrs. Reagan has had an interest in astrology "for some time," and that it was heightened by the March 30, 1981, assassination attempt against her husband.

"She was very concerned for her husband's welfare, and astrology has been a part of her concern in terms of his activities," he said.

Both he and Mrs. Crispen said the first lady had dealt with a friend involved in astrology who "was helpful to her" after the attempt on the president's life.

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65 How Presidents Make Their Decisions

"It's all right with me," said Jim Wright, the House Speaker and Texas Democrat. "I'm glad he consults somebody."

Tongue firmly in cheek, Wright was referring to President Reagan's newly divulged fascination with astrology, which history says Hitler and Julius Caesar also used in planning their strategy.

Since these three leaders had very diverse aims, it's impossible to make a judgment whether heeding the position of the planets is a good or bad influence.

For sure, though, nearly everyone wants to know how presidents make their decisions. Wives often are suspected of having undue influence. Or a chief of staff. Or poker-playing cronies. Or a "kitchen Cabinet."

Suspecting wives of undue influence is not necessarily an expression of sexism. Since unlike vice presidents, they are not elected, the suspicion usually carries a suggestion of a "glitch" in the democratic process.

The same is true of chiefs of staff and friends of presidents.

Sherman Adams is supposed to have done a lot more than keep administrative order in the White House for Dwight D. Eisenhower, although the revisionist view is that Ike really was running things.

Critics of Andrew Jackson, 160 years ago, questioned his practice of sitting around the kitchen stove with old friends and swapping ideas with them. The critics probably did not care much for this first common-man president anyhow.

Curiously, in the case of Jimmy Carter, the critics wished he consulted more with Washington wise men instead of old friends from Georgia. Toward the end, Carter turned more to people like Clark Clifford and Lloyd Cutler. So the critics found other things to complain about.

Vice presidents, on the other hand, generally are not considered all that useful to the man in the White House.

Presidents tend to look elsewhere for advice.

Like to the stars.

And that raises questions in an age that prizes reason and science.

What did astrology do for Reagan?

According to one unverified account, the treaty banning U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range nuclear missiles was signed exactly at 1:33 p.m. last Dec. 8 at the insistence of Mrs. Reagan, who evidently also fancies astrology.

Her influence on the President has been a matter of persistent speculation inside the Beltway ever since the Reagans moved into the White House more than seven years ago.

It may be no coincidence that the astrology story originates with Donald Regan, the former White House chief of staff whose relations with Mrs. Reagan were not considered very warm.

What motivates Reagan — for instance in making a speech accusing the Soviets of aggression and another two weeks later praising their human rights reforms? Maybe Mrs. Reagan, the stars, his own convictions and sense of history.

It's hard to say.



July 17: Now a team, Bush and Reagan bring the 1980 convention to a triumphant close.

At 8:05, Reagan announced to no one in particular, doesn't Ford "realize there is no way in the world I can accept? What kind of presidential candidate would I be in the eyes of the world if I were to give in to such demands?" It seemed odd that despite his instincts, Reagan did not call a halt to the talks. It seemed odd, too, that so many of those who felt uncomfortable about the deal remained quiet.

Just before 8:30, Meese reported progress: Ford had modified his demands and now wanted to be "chairman" of the National Security Council. The notion should have been rejected outright, as the President is the head of the N.S.C. A few minutes later, Anderson and Deaver rejoined Ford in the suite, and Deaver told Reagan Ford would like to speak to him on the phone. At 8:55, Reagan went into his bedroom to change. He returned five minutes later, reporting that Ford had told him that Kissinger "now made himself out" of the running for secretary of state. It was clear that Ford and Greenspan had thrown themselves out of anything.

At 9:30, Sam Donaldson was reporting that Ford would go to the arena with Ford in a matter of hours, reinforcing speculation about the ticket, and at 9:45, Cronkite announced that Ford and Kissinger were meeting with Reagan's representatives. At 9:50, Meese came into the suite and said, "We're wanted upstairs" in Ford's suite.

At 10:05, former Treasury Secretary William Simon, and Reagan and I sat with him in a room. Simon, who had been mentioned as a vice-presidential candidate, was determined to stop Ford in its tracks, which was surprising since he had served in Ford's cabinet. "Ron, take me to see Ford," he told Reagan. "But under no circumstances take Ford. If you did that, you'd be compromised, and you know it." Simon, a man to mince words, left; he had made a strong impression on Reagan.

At 10:45, Casey and Meese returned to the suite to present the latest version of the deal. "It's

'I can't take him,' Reagan said of Bush. "That 'voodoo economic policy' charge, and his stand on abortion are wrong."

kind of hard to describe how it would work in practice," Meese began. "The president will nominate the secretaries of state and treasury, with the veto of the vice president. The vice president will name the director of the Office of Management and Budget and the national security adviser with the veto of the president. It boils down to a mutual veto power." In this version, Kissinger, "taken out" as secretary of state, would run foreign policy from the vice president's office.

At that late hour, despite its obvious and fundamental flaws and without any sort of backup plan, our side seemed determined to try to make this constantly changing arrangement work. It was almost surreal: how could a president limit his constitutional powers and prerogatives by allowing a vice president to veto his choices?

Just before 11, Nancy Reagan and the Reagan children came in to watch the convention roll call. At 11:13, Montana put Reagan over the top, and there was jubilation. At the moment of triumph, though, the negotiators were not present; they remained upstairs, locked in discussions. Meanwhile, the convention was drawing to a close — if the Ford talks went on much longer, and failed, there would be no way to heal the disappointment. Over the course of the preceding hour, I had told Hannaford, Anderson and Nofziger that a channel had been opened to Bush and that Bush was on board with the platform. Hannaford then began to argue that the logjam had to be broken. He collected Deaver and Nofziger at the entrance to the suite and mounted the stairs to tell the negotiators that a decision was needed.

At 11:25, the negotiators returned; Casey reported that "the answer is probably no." Five

minutes later, Ford, accompanied by Barrett, entered the suite to talk with Reagan, and we left the room. The two men spent a few minutes alone, and at 11:35, Ford departed. We rushed back into the room, and Reagan said: "I have to say the answer is no. All this time, my gut instinct has been that this is not the right thing. I have affection and respect for Ford. He said he would go all out to help." There was complete silence.

Reagan glanced around and asked those assembled — a group that included Casey, Meese, Wirthlin, Hannaford, Deaver and me — "Well, what do we do now?" There was no immediate response. No one offered an alternate plan. No one tossed out a name. Expecting instant opposition, I ventured, "We call Bush." Once more, silence. Reagan again looked at each of us; hearing no objection, he said, "Well, let's get Bush on the phone."

At precisely 11:38, the phone was in Reagan's hand; though they barely knew each other, Rea-

gan dove right in. "George," he said warmly, "I would like to go over there and tell them that I am recommending you for vice president. Could I ask you one thing — do I have your permission to make an announcement that you support the platform across the board?" We could hear Bush agreeing at the other end. Reagan then left for the convention center where, shortly after midnight, he took the podium to praise Ford and then to announce his running mate, George Bush.

And so it came to pass that Ronald Reagan averted what would have been a disaster for his candidacy and the Republican Party. The following morning, Ed Meese called us together and declared the official line should be that the process of selecting a running mate had been orderly and measured and that there "never was a deal with Ford" for the vice presidency. Technically, he's right, since no deal was ever consummated.

Months later, while on the campaign plane, I asked Deaver what was in his mind as he sat in those discussions. He thought for a moment and said, "Look, I'm a guy from Sacramento, Calif., and there I was sitting at a negotiating table with Henry Kissinger, and Kissinger had negotiated with Mao." Astonished, I waited for something more, then asked, "And so, that's it?" He looked at me as if I didn't understand and said, sharply: "Of course that's it. I was sitting right there!"

For his part, Kissinger, no stranger to balky negotiations, later told *The Washington Post* that "if it had been possible for both the principals to go to bed, sleep on it, meet again in the morning, we could have wrapped up this thing in two hours in the morning," adding, "that's how close it was." And I believe him. ■





LIEUTENANT GENERAL COLIN L. POWELL, U. S. ARMY
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

Lieutenant General Colin L. Powell was appointed Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs by President Reagan effective January 2, 1987. He had been Commanding General, Headquarters Fifth Corps, Frankfurt, Federal Republic of Germany, since June 1986. He was promoted to Lieutenant General on July 1, 1986.

General Powell was born in New York City on April 5, 1937 and was raised in the South Bronx section of New York. He graduated from the City College of New York (B.S., 1958) and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Regular Army through the ROTC program at CCNY.

After finishing Infantry Officer's Basic Training, and Airborne and Ranger schools, he was assigned to the 2d Armored Rifle Battalion of the 48th Infantry in Gelnhausen, Germany, where he served as a platoon leader, executive officer, and rifle company commander. He returned to the United States in 1960 and served as a rifle company commander and battalion adjutant at Fort Devens, MA. General Powell went to Vietnam in late 1962 and served as an Advisor to an infantry battalion in the 1st ARVN Division.

Upon completion of the Command and General Staff College in 1968, General Powell returned to Vietnam serving as an infantry battalion executive officer and the Assistant Chief of Staff, G3 of the 23d Infantry Division. In 1971, General Powell obtained a Master of Business Administration Degree from George Washington University. He then joined the Army Staff as an Analyst in the Office of the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff of the Army. In 1972, General Powell was selected to be a White House Fellow and served his fellowship year as Special Assistant to the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget in the Office of the President.

In 1973, he assumed command of the 1st Battalion, 32d Infantry, in Korea. Upon his return to the United States, he served as a Manpower Analyst in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs). Upon completion of the National War College in 1976, General Powell assumed command of the 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, KY.

In 1977, General Powell returned to Washington to serve in the immediate office of the Secretary of Defense. Over the next three years, he served as Senior Military Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense. For a brief period in 1979, General Powell served as Executive Assistant to the Secretary of Energy.

In 1981, General Powell became the Assistant Division Commander for Operations and Training of the 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Carson, CO. In 1982, he was appointed Deputy Commanding General of the United States Army Combined Arms Combat Development Activity at Fort Leavenworth, KS. In July 1983, General Powell returned to Washington to serve as Senior Military Assistant to Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger.

His military awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Soldiers Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Purple Heart. General Powell received the Secretary of Energy Distinguished Service Medal in 1979.

General Powell is married to the former Alma Vivian Johnson. They have three children, Michael, Linda and Annemarie.

January 20, 1987

CHEYENNE, WYOMING

WYOMING EAGLE

M - 9,369

MAY 14 1988

85

Scripture Lashes Astrology But It May Be Different Now

NEW YORK (AP) — Astrology and other strategies presumed to predict the future are sharply denounced in the Bible, but the ancient star-gazing system has evolved somewhat over the centuries.

In its modern popular form, which reportedly has been used by Nancy Reagan, it has little to do with religion, but scholars say it still has ramifications that can turn it at odds with biblical faith.

"A lot of people today regard it as kind of an innocent pastime," says the Rev. Page Kelley, an Old Testament scholar of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

"They don't put much store in it. I put it in the same category as reading fortune cookies in a Chinese restaurant. But if peo-

ple really take it seriously as a scheme for ordering their lives, the old objections become valid again."

GRAND FORKS, N.D.

HERALD

MAY 14 1988

E - 36,925

S - 38,754

Report: Seers advised Bush as VP

Associated Press

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Five years before White House stargazing became front-page news, a Georgia congressman claimed that Ronald Reagan consulted astrologers before selecting his running mate, a TV station reported Friday.

WEAR broadcast a videotape of a speech given here April 30, 1983, by Democratic Rep. Larry McDonald, describing how George Bush was selected as the vice presidential nominee at the 1980 Republican convention.

"Mr. Reagan and his wife both are very avid followers and believers" in astrology, McDonald told a meeting

of the conservative John Birch Society.

"And guess what these seers of the horoscope had to say? That Mr. Reagan would be the nominee and that the Republicans could win the White House only if Mr. Reagan selected George Bush as his running mate."

Reagan selected Bush only days after the meeting with the astrologers, said McDonald, who was killed five months after the speech in the crash of Korean Air Lines Flight 007, which was shot down by the Soviets.

The Reagans' interest in astrology was detailed last week in a book by former White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan.

St. Louis Post Dispatch, Wednesday, May 4, 1988, Page 1A

WHITE HOUSE STARS FOLLOW THE STARS

By Lawrence M. O'Rourke

Post-Dispatch Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON - A White House spokesman confirmed Tuesday that Nancy Reagan follows astrology and checked horoscopes when evaluating events scheduled for her husband.

But President Ronald Reagan said that "no policy or decision in my mind has ever been influenced by astrology."

Asked whether his schedule had been shaped by astrology, the president said Tuesday, "You know, I'm still looking for the fellows that tell me every day what I'm going to do."

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater confirmed Mrs. Reagan's use of astrology the day after the first report on the subject was made by former White House Chief of Staff Donald T. Regan.

An aide to Mrs. Reagan said she had consulted astrologers about ideal dates for public appearances by her husband out of concern for his safety.

According to sources, Regan will say in a book that will soon be published that Mrs. Reagan also consulted astrologers to determine the timing of speeches by her husband and announcements.

According to one published report, astrology was used to determine the timing of the ceremony at the White House in December at which Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed their agreement to control medium-range nuclear missiles.

"I don't know in any detailed sense" if that is true, Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater said that he did not know whether the president had consulted with astrologers but that Reagan had mentioned "lucky numbers" in speeches and had referred to Abraham Lincoln's ghost living in the family quarters on the second floor of the White House.

The Washington Post reported that an unidentified administration official had said the president was aware of Mrs. Reagan's use of astrology and approved of it. Fitzwater said he had no knowledge of the accuracy of the official's statement.

Reading from notes at his daily briefing for reporters, Fitzwater said, "It's true Mrs. Reagan has an interest in astrology. She has for some time, particularly following the assassination attempt (on the president) in March of 1981. She was concerned for her husband's welfare, and astrology has been a part of her concern in terms of his activities."

A White House official said the Reagans were braced for a round of comedic references to astrology.

On Capitol Hill, House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas, said any use of astrologists [sic] by the Reagans is "all right with me. I'm glad he consults somebody."

Assistant Majority Leader Tony Coelho, D-Calif., said, "We should check whether (astrologer) Jeanne Dixon recommended a veto of the trade bill."

Meanwhile, Joyce Jillson, an astrologer in Los Angeles, said the president had "used astrology throughout his career, using astrology to pick his inauguration and other big events," including news conferences.

"They're usually during a full moon. He chooses those times to do it," Jillson said, according to The Associated Press. Jillson's daily horoscopes are distributed to more than 100 newspapers and are read on radio.

The Reagans regularly consult astrologers, Jillson said.

Jillson said she had been to the White House and "spent a lot of time" there after the assassination attempt on Reagan.

"There was talk that I did charts for all eight (vice presidential) candidates. I don't deny that. I determined the only winnable choice was George Bush," Jillson said.

She said the president had set some events according to the phase of the moon and the signs of the zodiac, the basis for horoscopes. The president, born of Feb. 6, is an Aquarius. Mrs. Reagan, born on July 6, is a Cancer.

In his autobiography from 1965, "Where's The Rest of Me?" the president said that Carroll Righter, an astrologer who died Saturday in Los Angeles, was a good friend of the Reagans. Reagan also said in the book that he and his wife consulted their horoscopes every day.

Fitzwater said he did not know whether Jillson had met with the Reagans at the White House or had offered her advice through any other means. "I wouldn't be surprised if we start hearing from all kinds of astrologers because of this," Fitzwater said. He said they would be "coming out of the walls."

Fitzwater said the Reagans were displeased by the accounts of their use of astrology. "They both feel it's unfortunate and a distraction and hardly relevant to the business of government," Fitzwater said.

Lyn Nofziger, a former White House aide and longtime associate of both Reagans, said the president liked to read his horoscope and "laughed about it and kidded about it, but I have never seen him take the stuff seriously."

Astrologer warned Reagan of UFO invasion

National Examiner, May 31, 1988

A TOP astrologer convinced Ronald Reagan that a UFO invasion from outer space was a distinct possibility, the EXAMINER has learned.

Amazingly, the warning from renowned star seer Carroll Righter persuaded Reagan to seek the recently signed arms control agreement with the Soviet Union, according to a veteran freelance journalist.

"Righter said the president believed we and the

By LEONARD SANDLER

Russians would have to work together to fight off the alien invaders," explained the journalist, who extensively interviewed Righter shortly before

the 88-year-old astrologer died in April.

The well-known Righter, who wrote several books on astrology plus a syndicated daily column for 166 newspapers around the world, said he

told Reagan that a reading of heavenly bodies persuaded him that a UFO attack could very well occur before 1993.

"Reagan and I have spoken often over the years, and he takes what I say very seriously," Righter disclosed to the reporter.

"I could tell he was very impressed by my warning. He was silent for several minutes, then began thinking out loud over what to do to meet the threat."

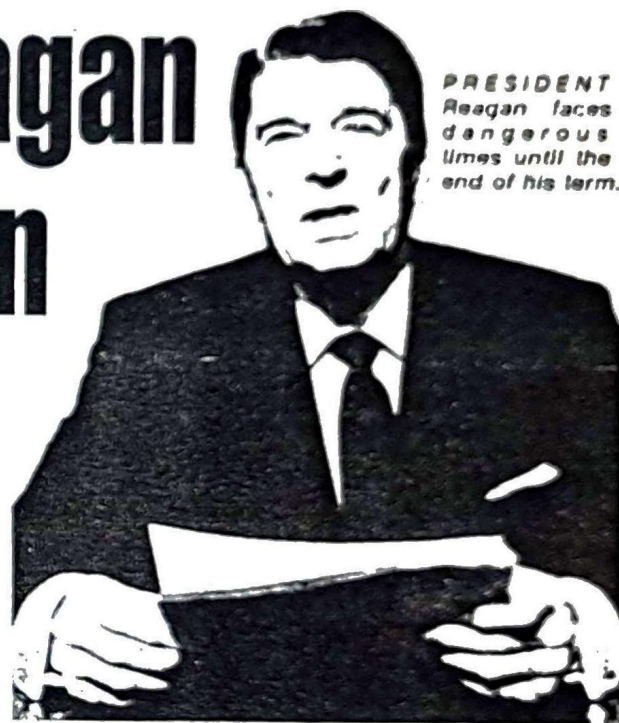
One idea Reagan said he would seriously consider was turning Star Wars from a defense against the Soviet Union to a planetary shield against alien forces.

"He told me he might be willing to share Star Wars data with Gorbachev, if it meant saving the Earth from outside beings," Righter revealed.

Reagan recently added fuel to the uproar over the use of astrology at the White House by disclosing publicly that he often wondered what would happen if the Earth were invaded by "a power from outer space."

"I've often wondered what if all of us in the world discovered we were threatened by a power from another planet," Reagan said in Chicago.

"Wouldn't we all of a



PRESIDENT Reagan faces dangerous times until the end of his term.

sudden find that we didn't have any differences between us at all, we were all human beings, citizens of the world, and wouldn't we come together to fight that particular threat?"

Meanwhile, fallout continues from the revelations by former White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan that the president and his wife hardly made a move or decision without consulting California-based astrologer Joan Quigley.

Regan says Nancy Reagan's interest in astrology became serious after the assassination attempt on the president in 1981. After that, no public appearance or travel was planned without Quigley's approval.

"At one point," writes Regan in his sensational book *For The Record* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich,

1988), "I kept a color-coded calendar on my desk (numerals highlighted in green ink for 'good' days, red for 'bad' days, yellow for 'iffy days') as an aid to remembering when it was propitious to move the president of the United States from one place to another or schedule him to speak in public or commence negotiations with a foreign power."

Regan said he told Vice President George Bush about Nancy Reagan's dependence on astrological advice.

Bush listened with surprise and consternation on his face before exclaiming: "Good God. I had no idea," Regan discloses.

But as the EXAMINER reported in our world exclusive of September 7, 1982, Bush owes his current position in the government to Reagan's fascination with astrology.

We said Bush was

We said Bush was tapped for the vice presidency in 1980 because Los Angeles astrologer Joyce Jillson decided that Bush, a Gemini, was best suited to be the running mate for Reagan, an Aquarian.

Reagan

Kitty Kelly

TV talk show host
astrologer Jean Quigley introduced to Nancy by Marjorie

Reagan declared his belief in astrology to the newly elected President of Brazil in 1985, telling him they had compatible zodiac signs and therefore their two countries would have the best of relations 493 "Nancy Reagan - The Unauthorized Biography, Simon & Schuster N.Y. 1991

called dog lucky, carried good-luck coins in his pocket every day, Abraham Lincoln's ghost in ^{unpublished} White House P493

copy P. 490.

Dennis Thomas ^{Don} Reagan aide letter?

used L.A. Astrologer ^{he} Carroll Righter & Jeanne Dixon Ed Helin → Reagan since 1949-50
Sybil Luck, a witch and astrologer to Reagan as governor

"The law prescribes that at midnight it is the end of the present present administration. I hate to be a pessimist, but accidents may happen. I don't want anything to interfere." P. 148. on swearing in as Governor

Dravce had said Reagan got into it first and Nancy followed 235

see "Stargazing Wars" William Safire NYT May 9, 1988

U.S. which, ultimately, could threaten the country's position as a technological power. . . . The manifest widespread desire to reject rationality and substitute a series of quasirandom beliefs in order to understand the universe does not augur well for a nation deeply concerned about its ability to compete with its industrial equals. To the degree that it reflects the thinking of a significant section of the public, this point of view encourages ignorance of and, indeed, contempt for science and for rational methods of approaching truth. . . . It is becoming clear that if the U.S. does not pick itself up soon and devote some effort to educating the young effectively, its hope of maintaining a semblance of leadership in the world may rest, paradoxically, with a new wave of technically interested and trained immigrants who do not suffer from the anti-science disease rampant in an apparently decaying society.

—Physicist Tony Feinberg, in *New Scientist*, May 19, 1988

It's the thought that we are very small and the universe is very big and we don't have much control of mysterious forces from beyond. I think people want a larger degree of certainty than they can find through conventional channels and if someone will give them the answers, they will take them.

—John Mosley, Griffith Observatory, quoted in the *Los Angeles Times*, May 23, 1988

In every carefully controlled experiment or statistical analysis [for astrology] of which I am aware, either the results are negative or nonreplicable.

—Astronomer Roger Culver, Colorado State University, quoted in the *Los Angeles Times*

It is a very hard fight. People want to believe in it. And there is nothing you can say to dissuade them.

—Physicist Shawn Carlson, University of California, quoted in the *Los Angeles Times*



. . . The Astrologers Comment

I advise them [the Reagans] when to be careful. I don't make decisions for them. . . . An astrologer just picks the best possible time to do something that someone else has already planned to do. It's like being in the ocean: you should go with the waves, not against them. . . . I know his [President Reagan's] horoscope upside down, but I don't know him. I deal with Nancy.

—Joan Quigley, San Francisco astrologer, quoted in "The First Lady's Astrologer," *Time*, May 16, 1988

I can't deal with that question [of why the planets should care about press conferences and the Contras].

—Barbara Somerfield, director, National Astrological Society, *Wall Street Journal*, May 12, 1988

Astrology is used by people in Washington, campaign managers, politicians, to see if a candidate has the astrological mettle to make it to the top.

—Astrologer Joyce Jillson, "Nightline," May 3, 1988

Astrology is a major influence in your life. It's not your only one. We do have environment, and we do have heredity. It's not the only influence. However, it's a major influence, and it's something that astrologers don't predict futures, they help create futures.

—Henry Weingarten, New York Astrology Center, "Nightline," May 3, 1988

Astrology does say that you look at the pattern of a moment and you read the instructions. . . . The idea is that if you can study the patterns—and what I find ironic about scientists being so aggressively antagonistic, often, to astrology, is that it is a language that does say we are all part of one pattern. Astrology is the meaning of the patterns. . . . The tremendous hunger in the world . . . is a tremendous yearning for meaning. . . . Astrology is the language that poses these questions, and that also gives each person a unique, individual . . . set of instructions to fulfill. . . . It is not dealing with a fixed future model. It is not fortune-telling. It is how do you grow as a human being.

—Caroline W. Casey, astrologer, "Nightline," May 3, 1988

People have the view that Ronald Reagan was a little out to lunch to begin with and that this is another manifestation of his frivolity. . . . Reagan discredits astrology because of the low level of his intellect and awareness. If it had been Henry Kissinger, it would have been another story.

—Ronald G. Rubin, New York City astrologer, quoted in the *New York Times*, May 19, 1988

HERE ARE excerpts concerning astrology in the White House from Donald Reagan's book, *For the Record*.

Virtually every major move and decision the Reagans made during my time as White House chief of staff was cleared in advance with a woman in San Francisco who drew up horoscopes to make certain that the planets were in a favorable alignment for the enterprise.

Nancy Reagan seemed to have absolute faith in the clairvoyant powers of this woman, who had predicted that "something" bad was going to happen to the president shortly before he was wounded in an assassination attempt in 1981.

* * *

Although I had never met this seer—Mrs. Reagan passed along her prognostications to me after conferring with her on the telephone—she had become such a factor in my work, and in the highest affairs of the nation, that at one point I kept a color-coded calendar on my desk (numerals highlighted in green ink for "good" days, red for "bad" days, yellow for "iffy" days) as an aid to remembering when it was propitious to move the president of the United States from one place to another, or schedule him to speak in public, or commence negotiations with a foreign power.

* * *

Before I came to the White House, Mike Deaver had been the man who integrated the horoscopes of Mrs. Reagan's Friend into the presidential schedule. . . . It is a measure of his discretion and loyalty that few in the White House knew that Mrs. Reagan was even part of the problem [waiting for schedules]—much less that an astrologer in San Francisco was approving the details of the presidential schedule. Deaver told me that Mrs. Reagan's dependence on the occult went back at least as far as her husband's governorship, when she had relied on the advice of the famous Jeane Dixon. Subsequently, she had lost confidence in Dixon's powers. But the First Lady seemed to have absolute faith in the clairvoyant talents of the woman in San Francisco. Apparently, Deaver had ceased to think there was anything remarkable about this long-established floating séance. . . . To him it was simply one of the little problems in the life of a servant of the great. "At least," he said, "this astrologer is not as kooky as the last one."

* * *

There was no choice but to humor the First Lady in this matter. But the president's schedule is the single most potent tool in the White House, because it determines what the most powerful man in the world is going to do and when he is going to do it. By humoring Mrs. Reagan we gave her this tool—or more accurate, gave it to an unknown woman in San Francisco who believed that the Zodiac controls events and human behavior and that she could read the secrets of the future in the movement of the planets.

* * *

A full month after the president's release from the hospital, his schedule was still a dead letter because Mrs. Reagan's "Friend" had not provided a list of auspicious days. The whole month appeared inauspicious for the president.

FOLLOWING are excerpts from selected political commentators on the use of astrology in governmental decision-making:

David Brinkley: The daily astrological charts are precisely where, in my judgment, they belong, and that is on the comic page.

George Will: I don't think astrology belongs even on the comic pages. The comics are making no truth claim.

Brinkley: Where would you put it?

Will: I wouldn't put it in the newspaper. I think it's transparent rubbish. It's a reflection of an idea that we expelled from Western thought in the sixteenth century, that we are in the center of a caring universe. We are not the center of the universe, and it doesn't care. The stars' alignment at the time of our birth—this is absolute rubbish. It is not funny to have it intruded among people who have nuclear weapons.

Sam Donaldson: This isn't something new. Governor Ronald Reagan was sworn in just after midnight in his first term in Sacramento because the stars said it was a propitious time.

Will: They [horoscopes] are utter crashing banalities. They could apply to anyone and anything.

Brinkley: When is the exact moment [of birth]? I don't think the nurse is standing there with a stopwatch and a notepad.

Donaldson: If we're making decisions based on the stars—that's a cockamamie thing. People want to know it.

—"This Week" with David Brinkley, ABC Television, Sunday, May 8, 1988, excerpts from discussion on Astrology and Reagan

The reported resort to astrology in the White House has occasioned much merriment. It is not funny. Astrological gibberish, which means astrology generally, has no place in a newspaper, let alone government. Unlike comics, which are part of a newspaper's harmless pleasure and make no truth claims, astrology is a fraud. The idea that the stars gets a hearing in government is dismaying.

—George Will, Washington Post Writers Group

Astrology is the sheerest hokum. This pseudoscience has been around since the dawn of the Chaldeans and Babylonians. It is as phony as numerology, phrenology, palmistry, alchemy, the reading of tea leaves, and the practice of divination by entrails of a goat. No serious person will buy the notion that our lives are influenced individually by the movement of distant planets. This is the sawdust blarney of carnival midway.

—James J. Kilpatrick, Universal Press Syndicate

A serious public debate about the validity of astrology? A serious believer in the White House? Two of them? Give me a break. What stifled my laughter is that

Joan Quigley
C/O Carol Publishing Group
600 Madison Avenue
New York, NY
10022 USA

August 17, 2000

Dear Ms. Quigley,

I read with interest your book which recounted your advise given to Mrs. Reagan and the President. I appears that history will show your advise was correct.

I would like to know if UFOs ever came up in your discussions with the Reagans. I am writing a manuscript that has an appendix dealing with the Presidents and UFOs. As well as astrology, Mr. Reagan was very interested in UFOs and had at least two sighting prior to being President. Like astrology, very little has been said about the subject because of the way that it would play in the press. I know you clearly understand this.

I hope you can help. I have two e-mails which might make it easier to answer my request.

- gcameron@cc.umanitoba.ca
- sqquishy@altavista.com

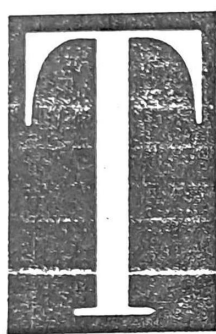
Thank-you.



Grant Cameron
649 Silverstone Ave
Winnipeg Manitoba
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HIS TURN

The Former White House Chief of Staff on Astrology, Arch Villains, and Nancy Reagan's Unexamined Life



he best-kept secret of the Reagan administration, zealously guarded by all the president's men with the tacit collaboration of most of the media, was not the existence and pervasive influence of the first lady's astrologer but the haunting suspicion that not too many people loved and admired Nancy Davis Reagan . . . and vice versa.

Now Mrs. Reagan has published a book that tells the whole world why.

In this extraordinarily revealing gloss on one of the most photographed and least examined of public lives—this amazing autobiography notwithstanding—Mrs. Reagan and her collaborator, William Novak, seem to have striven for a Hollywood studio biography. Instead, they have produced a classic of inadvertent confession. Very sadly, and most of all, this book gives aid and comfort to those who still believe that Ronald Reagan never should have been elected president in the first place. It will surely trouble and disappoint many who remember him as one of the best.

"There's a wall around him," Mrs. Reagan explains. "He lets me come closer than anyone else, but there are times when even I feel that barrier." It seems to this reviewer, however, that rather than break it down, she joined him behind that barrier in a world of their own making. She seems incapable of understanding how her words and deeds might seem selfish, hypocritical, and, indeed, even frightening to those on the outside.

Few would suggest that she hasn't succeeded in accomplishing the ambition she articulated as a contract player at MGM—"to have a successful marriage." She has worked so hard to achieve an ideal union with her husband, she says, that her stepchildren and even her own children sometimes felt excluded. She makes no

apology for that, or for the essentially isolated life that the two have chosen to live together—and for a compelling reason.

After being told by Librarian of Congress Emeritus Daniel Boorstin at a dinner party: "We have never had a presidential couple like the two of you, and that alone is an important historical fact," the president replied, "You know, if Nancy Davis hadn't come along when she did, I would have lost my soul." In the context of his wife's story, an understanding of the president's remark is clear.

The *leitmotif* of this book is the indispensability of Nancy Reagan to the presidency, indeed to the personality, of Ronald Reagan.

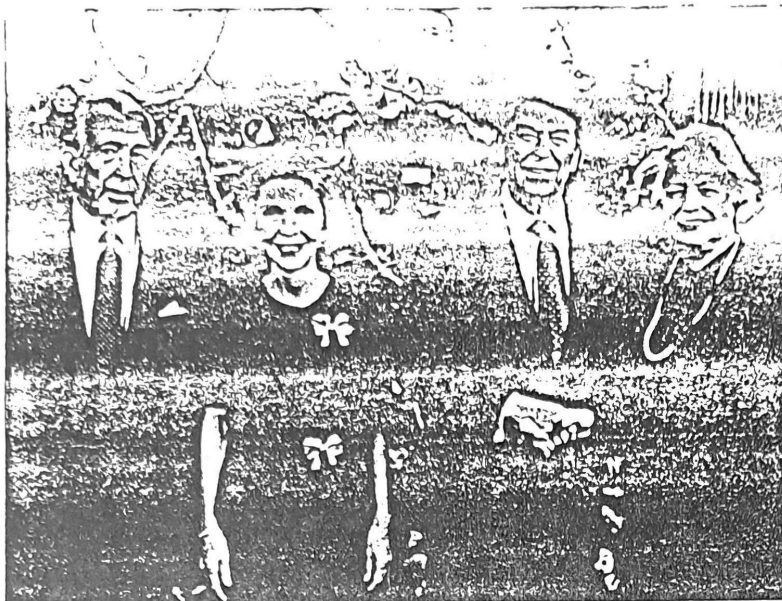
Mrs. Reagan reminds us that "... so many people underestimat[ed] Ronnie for so long," and "people find it hard to believe that such a nice man could be effective, and that he could also be tough when he had to be." But never fear. As she points out more than once, Nancy has the qualities that her husband lacks.

While he tends to believe the best of people and has trouble firing incompetent aides or those who have caused, or might cause, embarrassment to the president, she has "strong instincts about people, and I'm a good judge of character."

He does not, however, often seem to heed her advice in time. When Nancy was trying to get the president to fire this reviewer as chief of staff, Reagan was reluctant to do as she asked. In frustration, she cried, "I was right about Stockman. I was right about Bill Clark. Why won't you listen to me about Don Regan?"

By Mrs. Reagan's own account, most of her suggestions were about personnel. Judging from a rogues' gallery of presidential aides and others whom she runs through the wringer of William Novak's word processor, the Reagans must never have felt

By
Donald
Regan



Peace on Earth, Goodwill Toward Men: the Regans and Reagans—Donald, Nancy, Ronald, and Ann—once shared a seasonal photo opportunity.

the lack of lively back and forth regarding her "suggestions."

Time and again, this reader was struck by the lack of gratitude expressed by the former first lady to those people who helped her husband get to the White House and bring about the Reagan Revolution. If they were as bad as all that, one wonders how they helped Ronald Reagan to change the nation's moral climate, its social goals, its foreign and domestic policies, and its perception of itself in more profound ways than any but the greatest of his predecessors.



lthough I am clearly the front-runner for the office of arch-villain, almost nobody besides George Shultz meets the author's rigorous, not to say mystifying, standards of loyalty, performance, and discretion. She savages some of the president's strongest advisers.

Jim Baker is dismissed with these words: "Although Jim did a lot for Ronnie, I always felt that his main interest was Jim Baker." Besides, "He also cultivated the press assiduously—perhaps too much, because he leaked constantly." That ought to give Jim a chortle, coming from a first lady who may sometimes have arranged to communicate with her husband through stories planted in the *Los Angeles Times* and who says that she counted among her best friends in Washington Kay Graham and Meg Greenfield of the *Washington Post* and columnist George Will.

What of Ed Meese, the dogged California loyalist who devoted the heart of his career to

She finds it
difficult to say
thank you—a pity
because dozens
of able, hard-
working people
were devoted
to Ronald and
Nancy Reagan.

Donald Regan served as Secretary of the Treasury and White House Chief of Staff in the Reagan administration. Today, he is an author, lecturer, and financier.

Reagan? Sorry! Ed was just *too* conservative. He gets belittled by such terms as "jump-off-the-cliff-with-the-flag-flying conservative." If that isn't enough, he also "made a series of [unspecified] mistakes which embarrassed the presidency," and he was disorganized and "weakened both the Justice Department and the presidency."

Al Haig, Reagan's first Secretary of State, is described as "Ronnie's biggest mistake in the first term." In spite of the fact that Haig identified the foreign-policy objectives of an administration that was almost totally inexperienced in such matters, we learn only that "he was too power-hungry . . . obsessed with matters of status . . . had a prickly personality and was always complaining that he was being slighted."

Bill Clark, another loyalist from California (also of the jump-off-the-cliff kind), "was another bad choice, in my opinion. I didn't think he was qualified for the job [of deputy secretary of State]—or his subsequent position as national-security adviser." He struck Nancy "as a user . . . but Ronnie liked him, so he stayed around longer than I would have liked."

Bill Casey? Poor Bill: "As if we didn't have enough to deal with that month, William Casey collapsed in his office."

Though Nancy Reagan solicits our sympathy about inappropriate public discussion of the president's digestive system and her own mastectomy, she does not hesitate to gossip about Bill Casey's fatal brain tumor and to speculate about its effect on his mental powers. She suggests, for example, that Bill's illness may have caused memory loss and bad decisions about the time the Iran-*contra* diversion was being formulated. Presumably, the fact that her stepfather was a neurosurgeon makes her expert on such matters.

It apparently never registers with the former first lady that in writing these views she damages her husband and his presidency. After all, these were Ronald Reagan's choices, made after close consultation with his financial and political supporters and friends in California; he must have thought that they met his own standards.

She finds it difficult to say thank you—a pity because dozens and dozens of able, well-meaning, hard-working people were devoted to Ronald and Nancy Reagan and to the country, and served them both well.

Although I was not the only Reagan associate to be frog-marched through the media to a chorus of falsehood and innuendo orchestrated by anonymous sources who wanted to separate us from the president, my recollection of my bi-



zarre experience is still quite green. So are its lessons. Nevertheless, I want to take this occasion to say that if the "inside" material about everybody else is as full of holes as it is on me, *caveat lector!*

What we have here are Nancy Reagan's views of what she thinks happened, or wants us to think happened. It is impossible in a magazine that weighs only a couple of pounds to list all the stretchers, but I offer two:

Mrs. Reagan seems to think that I built a patio for myself at the White House that the government paid for. But that's not an accurate account.

The patio outside the chief of staff's office is located over a large National Security Council office. Well before I became chief of staff, this secure area developed a leak (the wet kind), and plans were made to fix it. It was decided to renovate the NSC space at the same time, but the existing patio and the president's patio would have to be destroyed in the process to get at the space below. An architect's plan to restore both patios and enlarge the president's was approved by all those then involved, and the actual work didn't start until months after I arrived at the White House. This vastly expensive project succeeded—and thus became the only instance in the annals of the administration in which a leak was actually plugged.

I did decide to have some chairs and a sofa in my office re-covered and to put in new drapes. Nancy Reagan's version notwithstanding, I paid for *this* out of my own pocket. I did not enlarge the office, nor did I use a paid interior decorator. My wife, in fact, chose the fabrics and colors.

I understand it came as a surprise to Richard Nixon that he "called to say that if Ronnie wanted him to talk to Don about resigning, he would." In her narrative many of Nancy's calls at that level seem to be incoming, but memoirs and life do not always match perfectly.

As might be expected, I read *My Turn* with more hindsight and also with a greater sense of anticipation than most readers will bring to it. I was pleased to note, then, that Mrs. Reagan has confirmed the accuracy of every important point in my book, *For the Record*. Where we differ in our versions of events, it is often though not always (see above) a matter of interpretation.

What she cannot understand is why I did it—that is, why I revealed that the president's schedule and therefore his life and the most important business of the American nation was largely under the control of the first lady's astrologer. Frankly, I hesitated before putting this astounding fact into the historical record. I certainly did not "take this information . . . and twist it to seek . . . revenge."

The fact is, I wrote about astrology because it was an essential truth about the way the Reagans operated.

My description of White House life in my period as chief of staff would have made little

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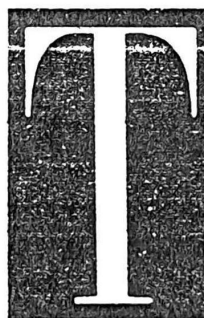
sense if I had omitted it. All those schedule changes, when laid out in black on white pages, would have looked downright senseless in the absence of an explanation.

Would that there had been some other explanation—but there wasn't. Astrology was it. It was a daily, sometimes hourly, factor in every decision affecting the president's schedule. Nancy Reagan says "unequivocally" that "Joan [Quigley]'s recommendations had nothing to do with policy or politics—ever. Her advice was confined to . . . Ronnie's schedule, and to what days were good or bad. . . ."

But he—or in this case she—who controls the president's schedule controls the workings of the presidency. It is the national chart of influence.

Although using an astrologer "never struck [her] as particularly strange," she concealed her consultations from her husband, the staff (with the exception of Michael Deaver and, later, Bill Henkel and me), and the Secret Service.

What a shock it must have been to the agents, who so carefully guarded the president, to learn that a total stranger—to them—knew not only intimate details of presidential movements but could actually set the time of these moves! Surely they would think that posed a security risk. In retrospect, I think the nation owes Ms. Quigley a vote of gratitude. She really seems to have been interested in nothing but astrology. "Nobody was hurt by it—except, possibly, me," writes Mrs. Reagan.



his self-portrait limns a misunderstood mother/wife/friend, who underneath all the misunderstandings and misinterpretations is loyal and kind and loving—a simple-hearted woman who hungers for affection only to find rejection.

She suggests that the sadness of her private life—the shooting, the bouts of cancer, the deaths of her parents, added to the frustration, controversy, and demands of public life—would drive most people to do and say much more than she did.

"Don't criticize me . . . until you have stood in my place," she writes. Many readers may reflect that others have borne similar burdens with less happy outcomes.

Most people in her circumstances—including, I believe, Ronald Reagan—would count their many blessings, put their hurt and fear behind them, and go on with a new appreciation of life. Not all are lucky enough to head west and enjoy their golden years together.

Nancy Reagan and Donald Regan both have written for the historical record. Others will no doubt do the same; and to that end, history, that greatest of all polygraphs, will make its judgment. I am comfortable with that. □

SUN.	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	2 10:15 Mtg. w/Italian F. M. Giulio Andreotti 11:30 Mtg. w/R. Wirthlin 12:00 Issues Lunch 1:15 Greet Penn State Football Team 2:00 Senior Advisors Briefing 4:30 Taping Session ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	3 9:30 GOP Cong. Leadership Meeting 1:30 Mtg. w/Heroes of Train Accident 1:50 NSPG Meeting 4:00 DPC Mtg ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	4 9:30 Bi-Part /House Cong Mtg. 1:00 Mtg. w/Sen McClure & Mark Hatfield 1:30 Mtg. with Secy Shultz ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	5 7:35 Depart for Natl. Prayer Bkfst. 9:45 Arrive at WH 10:00 Mtg. w/P.M. Oral of Turkey 12:00 Lunch with VP 2:00 Cabinet Time 3:00 Personnel Time 3:30 Presentation of Painting ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	6 President's B'Day Senate President's Day Recess 10:45 Dropby Private Sector 11:15 Mtg. w/David Abshire 1:30 Mtg. with Secy Shultz ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	7 12:06 Radio Talk ON WASHINGTON, D.C.
8 ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	9 11:30 Dropby Brfg. on Welfare Reform 12:00 Issues Lunch 1:20 Photo w/Dennis Conner and Crew 1:30 Congratulate Winners of America's Cup 3:45 Receive Annual Report from Boy Scouts of America 4:00 Mtg. w/Sec Weinberger 4:30 H Hold ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	10 11:00 NSPG Mtg 1:30 Address Leadership of the Amer Legion 4:00 Presentation of Diplomatic Credentials ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	11 11:15 Attend Panel Discussion on Welfare Prog 1:15 Mtg. w/Tower Commission 2:00 Mtg. with Secy Shultz ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	12 Lincoln's B'Day House President's Day Recess 11:00 NSC Time 1:30 Address Students re Abraham Lincoln 2:00 Cabinet Time 4:00 Personnel Time 4:30 Admin Time Approx 8:55 Depart for Drop by Eagles Dinner (B-Tie) Approx 10:00 Arrive at WH ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	13 11:00 Mtg. with Welfare Reform Experts 12:00 Lunch with VP 1:30 Mtg. with Secy Shultz 2:30 Greet NY Giants TN* To Camp David ON CAMP DAVID	14 Valentine's Day Camp David ★ 12:06 Radio Talk ON CAMP DAVID
15 TN* Camp David ON CAMP DAVID	16 Washington's B'Day Holiday (President's Day) TN* Camp David N Aft Return to WH ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	17 Senate Reconvenes 9:30 GOP Cong Leadership 11:00 NSC Time 1:00 Dropby Mtg on Competitiveness 2:00 Kick-off Competitiveness Initiative 4:30 Taping Session ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	18 House Reconvenes Bi-Part. Ldshp-Comp. Mtg. 11:00 Brfg for Shamir Visit 11:30 Mtg. w/P M Shamir of Israel 12:15 Lunch w/P M Shamir 1:30 Depart Stmt 2:00 Mtg. w/Secy Shultz ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	19 Tower B'd Report 12:00 Lunch with VP 2:00 Cabinet Time 4:00 Personnel Time 4:30 Admin Time ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	20 PINK 11:00 NSC Time TN* To Camp David ON CAMP DAVID	21 TN* Camp David ★ 12:06 Radio Talk ON CAMP DAVID
22 TN* Camp David TN Aft Return to WH N 7:30 Dnr f/Nation's Governors (B-Tie) ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	23 AM Address Nation's Governors 12:00 Issues Lunch 5:00 H Hold ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	24 9:30 Bi-Part Cong Leadership 11:00 NSC Time 2:00 Cabinet Time 4:30 Farewell Party f/Pat Buchanan DUAL Address ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	25 1:30 Mtg. w/Secy Shultz ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	26 12:00 Lunch with VP 2:00 Cabinet Time 4:00 Personnel Time 4:30 Admin Time Press Conference ON WASHINGTON, D.C.	27 11:00 NSC Time TN* To Camp David PINK ON CAMP DAVID	28 TN* Camp David ★ 12:06 Radio Talk ON CAMP DAVID
						Proposed & Tentative For Administrative Use Only T Tentative N First Lady ★ Away from White House Reprinted at the Ronald Reagan Library

The President's aides feverishly study the polls, and it often seems that events—developments in Central America, or in relations with the Soviet Union or Congress, or in environmental policy or the economy—are viewed as more important for their political implications than for themselves. In April, the aides put out polls and counterpolls dealing with the political effect of the President's series of speeches having to do with arms and the Soviet Union: his speech in Orlando on March 8th, before the National Association of Evangelicals, in which he inveighed, in the name of religion, against the Soviet Union ("an evil empire") and the nuclear-freeze movement; his televised address designed to gain support for his military budget, which ended with a coda calling for the development of defensive weapons systems in outer space (and immediately became known as his "Star Wars" speech); and his speech suggesting that he would be more flexible in the talks with the Soviet Union on the deployment of intermediate-range nuclear weapons in Europe. (In Orlando, the President also attacked secularism and, in the name of religion, government regulation and "social engineers," at the same time that he defended his Administration's regulations requiring that parents be informed if their teenage daughters are receiving birth-control prescriptions from federally subsidized clinics—"the squeal rule"—and a twenty-four-hour hot line in hospitals to report failures to make efforts to keep handicapped newborn infants alive. Though these are obviously sensitive issues, on which people may disagree—both regulations have been struck down by federal judges—the President does not seem to recognize his own contradictions.) These speeches, followed by the President's approach to dealing with the Republicans on the Senate Budget Committee—who responded by handing him a major defeat—divided the President's advisers as never before. One adviser said to me, "Focusing on defense the way we did was probably the third most serious blunder we have made in the two years-plus we've been here." The two other serious blunders, he said, were the Administration's proposals, early in 1981, to revise Social Security, and its inability to extricate itself from the problem through the 1982 election; and a cluster of issues involving race, including the failure to endorse an extension of the Voting Rights Act until it was a foregone conclusion in Congress, and the move to reverse the policy forbidding tax exemptions for private schools that discriminate.

That move was bad enough to begin with, and was further bungled as the Administration tried to recover. Both of these earlier mistakes, the adviser said, involved the question of "fairness"—one of the points on which the Administration is most vulnerable. An analysis done for the Reagan White House indicated that the fairness issue hurt the Republicans in the 1982 elections more than the economic issue or the arms-control issue did. Presidents often run into their most serious difficulties with the public when initial misgivings about them are reinforced. During the 1980 election, Richard Wirthlin, Reagan's pollster, advised the Reagan campaign of the importance of Reagan's coming across as "non-ideological" and "peace-oriented." Besides fairness, another issue on which Reagan has been on shaky political ground since 1980 is dealing with the Soviet Union. Questions about Reagan's instincts and his capacity in this area plagued his campaign for the Presidency, and they have plagued his Presidency, and some of his advisers feel that his recent actions have underscored them. One adviser says, "Any time you show Reagan on television talking about missiles, it doesn't help."

The very fact that the President's defense speech instantly became known as his "Star Wars" speech indicates what went wrong. The coda became the focal point, and it was quickly known in Washington that few of the President's aides were even aware of this planned excursion until shortly before it was taken, and that several of those who were thought it a poor idea, on both tactical and substantive grounds. Tactically, it diverted attention from the President's plea for his defense budget, and also made it appear that Reagan might be off on a new and different kind of arms race. Substantively, many people who have lived in the world of defense theory, where the idea of constructing a system in outer space to destroy missiles has been around for some time, simply do not find it plausible. Even some of Reagan's most hard-line defense officials tried to dissuade him from talking about it in the speech. The President offered the vision of a world in which offensive weapons would be made obsolete and unnecessary. After the logical flaw in his reasoning had been pointed out—that unless both the United States and the Soviet Union developed such defensive systems simultaneously, a destabilizing situation could ensue—Reagan, in an interview with some reporters, ventured the thought that an American President might offer to give the tech-

nology to the Soviet Union, a proposition that the Soviet Union was unlikely to accept at face value. And Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Defense, in various appearances, zigged and zagged on the question of whether such a defensive system could work against low-flying cruise missiles and bombers. When I asked one Administration official how thought through the President's proposal had been, he replied, "I'd put it somewhere between a cocktail napkin and a menu." (He was referring, of course, to the famous "Laffer curve," the theoretical underpinning of supply-side economics, which its author, Arthur Laffer, first drew on a cocktail napkin.) When the Presidential commission appointed to come up with a plan for the disposition of the MX missile met on the day after the speech, Alexander Haig said jokingly to his fellow commission members, a number of whom were baffled as to why the President had made the proposal, and in such dramatic terms, "Don't worry, gentlemen. It's just another of the President's fireball speeches."

People familiar with defense theory have been privy to some defensive-system proposals that they find fairly wacky. The President seemed to be going along a path laid out by Edward Teller, whose ideas are greeted with somewhat less skepticism, at least in terms of the technology. But one Presidential adviser said to me that the doctrine was absurd: Would we ever give up the offense, he asked, on the ground that the defense was sufficient? And if we would not, he said, the nuclear balance would be totally destabilized. He complained that there had been talk for a year of the President's giving the defense speech that would turn the country around on defense spending, "and then, within days, we got 'Star Wars' covers on *Time* and *Newsweek*. We'd changed the subject." Another Presidential adviser, with many years' experience in defense matters, said to me shortly after the speech, "I've been in defense long enough not to believe that there is any sure Maginot Line." He added that he feared that the President's proposal would complicate things for the worse both with our European allies and in START, the strategic-arms-reduction talks with the Soviet Union. And then he sighed and said, "But now we'll all have to go out and defend the President."

This defense ran along two lines. One was that there is no reason to assume that such a system is not technically feasible; after all, people said we couldn't get to the moon, either. The logic

of this argument is that since some things that seemed technically impossible have turned out to be doable, *everything* that seems technically impossible is doable. But, as one defense expert (not a pejorative term) pointed out to me, the moon, unlike space satellites and missiles, was not an evasive target, and was not shooting back. About a billion dollars is going into defense research now—an amount that most people consider enough under the circumstances. And even if the technological problems were overcome there remained the policy questions. The fundamental question that Reagan posed—Wouldn't it be better to have a world in which the great powers could rely on defenses, and not point offensive weapons at each other?—has a simple appeal. It is the sort of question that makes those who raise doubts risk being labelled tired and negative thinkers. The same thing was true of supply-side economics: Wouldn't it be nice if we could cut taxes, and thus set off an economic boom and balance the budget in three years?

The series of speeches and the setback dealt the President by the Senate Budget Committee—which, though it is controlled by Republicans, reduced his proposed increase in defense spending from ten per cent to five per cent—set off yet another round of knife-wielding within the White House and raised new questions about the Administration's competence in dealing not only with Capitol Hill but also with the Soviet Union. The questions all stemmed from a fundamental division within the Administration over how to handle these matters and, more revealing, how to try to guide the President. The way the Administration walked into its defeat in the Senate Budget Committee tells quite a bit. From conversations with White House aides and Senate Republicans, one can see just how awry things had gone—and why. There was a failure of understanding within some parts of the White House not only of the dynamics of Capitol Hill but also of the effect of the President's actions and proposals on the public. The President, encouraged in his beliefs and his analysis of the world outside by William Clark, his national-security adviser, and by Weinberger, failed to understand that the string was running out on support for the size of his defense buildup. In the President's view, the increased resistance to giving him whatever he asked for in military funds was attributable, he often told his associates, to "the drumbeat of the press." (When Larry Speakes, the White House

implications of the events were weighed: many people believe that Reagan was, once again, lucky—that these events had happened early enough in the year that they would be largely forgotten by the time of the election. But this was not the only foreign-policy matter that the Democrats would raise, nor was the matter closed. Whatever the politics of the situation, the facts were unpleasant. Two hundred and sixty-three servicemen had died in a futile cause. And the Administration, like Administrations before it, had undertaken a feckless military mission and by saying that United States prestige was involved in its success had made that so.

On Central America, the President, in his State of the Union speech, simply called on Congress to implement the report of the commission headed by Henry Kissinger, which was transformed in the speech into “the Henry Jackson Plan.” Kissinger’s name was not mentioned. This solves two problems: Kissinger, despite his own efforts, is still not beloved by all of the President’s followers; and by naming the commission’s report after the late Senator Jackson, a Democrat, the President reaches for bipartisan support. (Jackson had suggested that the commission be established, and he was a “counsellor” to it.) The commission, though bipartisan, was dominated by foreign-policy conservatives, and its report, issued January 11th, reflected the view that the problem in Central America is an East-West struggle, though it did also say that the problems there had local origins as well. It called for large increases in economic and military aid to Central America. At the insistence of some of its members, it recommended tying aid to El Salvador to progress in human rights—a policy that the President, through a veto, had rejected last year, and continues to resist. Now the Administration has extended indefinitely the military presence in Honduras, so the military “exercises” there have just officially ended.

In another part of his speech, the President dealt with what both parties think is an issue in 1984: which candidate is equipped to lead us into the future. Pollsters offer a number of explanations of why this question of leadership for the future arises. (It could be because the pollsters ask about it.) It is suggested that Reagan has provided such a dramatic break with the past that now the question is where we go from here; that people sense that the economy is undergoing a profound change and are uneasy; that people

sense that the economic future is indeed cloudy. In any event, the President proposed, for “our next frontier,” a permanently manned space station. The President’s advisers explained that this would offer all manner of opportunities for commercial enterprise in space, for developing medicines, and so on. Echoing John F. Kennedy’s call in 1961 for putting a man on the moon within the decade, Reagan said, “Tonight, I am directing NASA to develop a permanently manned space station, and to do it within a decade.” The funding for the space station would come to a hundred million dollars in fiscal year 1985, and its total cost is officially estimated at eight billion dollars. But it is widely understood that the total cost of the project would be more on the order of twenty or thirty billion dollars. The space lab is a big new mission that NASA has been seeking for some time (the aerospace industry has been championing it as well), and for two years Stockman managed to keep it out of the budget. The President didn’t say anything in his speech about his famous “Star Wars” proposal of last year, for an anti-missile system in space, which had become quite controversial. Yet funding for it continues, though not on as grand a scale as sought by the Pentagon; the scientific community is quite divided on it on both doctrinal and technical grounds.

One of the groups that the President’s political advisers worry most about is women. The “gender gap” turned up in the 1980 election, and is believed to have grown since then. Women are affected by “the peace issue” but also by the Administration’s apparent insensitivity to their concerns, which include economic questions as well as what are called “women’s issues.” (This is not true of all women, of course, and the President’s political advisers have now developed a method of subdividing women into roughly sixty-four categories—among some of which the President gets a very high rating, and among some a very low one.) So there was a little bit for women in the State of the Union address: a statement that “in 1983, women filled seventy-three per cent of all new jobs in managerial, professional, and technical fields.” This statistic was one of a number that the President used rather loosely: it included clerical jobs in these “fields.” He also made a passing reference to “women’s rights,” and mentioned some other matters of concern to women: equal treatment in pension rights; day care; and enforcement of child-support payments. Despite all the fuss stirred up about hunger by Meese in the period just before Christmas,

education, protection of the environment, civil rights, and fairness in the tax system—but, inevitably, what made the news programs was his attacks on Reagan, including a continuing attack on the Star Wars program. Mondale was accompanied on Tuesday by Gary Hart, who made many appearances with Mondale and on his own. Hart is trying to get himself right with the Democratic Party. Edward Kennedy, too, made a substantial number of appearances on Mondale's behalf. (Behind the ostensible support for Mondale, the positioning for 1988 is on.) Jesse Jackson has fulfilled his promise to try to get out the black vote in the South. Mondale also told some steelworkers in Youngstown, Ohio, on Tuesday, that he realized that the Carter Administration had not done enough for the steel industry in Ohio—an issue Hart had used against him and then Reagan used, drawing on what Hart had said. (It also emerged in the news just after the debate that there are three American hostages in Lebanon—a fact that the American government had managed to keep pretty well under wraps and that Mondale had considered using in the debate but did not. Also, senators who examined the C.I.A. manual for the guerrillas in Nicaragua said that the word “neutralize”—which Sam Nunn, Democrat of Georgia, took to mean assassinate—was still in the manual. In the debate, Reagan had said that references to political assassination had been excised. Three Presidents, including Reagan, have signed an executive order barring the C.I.A. from participating in political assassinations, or abetting others in doing so.)

One of the oddities growing out of the debate, which received a bit of attention in the days following, was Reagan's talk about Armageddon. According to the “Armageddon” theory, which is widely held among the religious right, a passage in Revelation is interpreted to mean that the world is rapidly approaching the time when various nations, including the Soviet Union, Arab nations, African and European nations, and China will invade Israel; that their armies will be destroyed in a limited nuclear war, but a small number of Israelis will survive and will accept Jesus as Christ—they will be physically lifted from the earth and will be reunited in the air with Christ and then return to the earth and punish the unbelievers and destroy Antichrist forces in the battle of Armageddon. On the morning of the debate, a piece appeared

religious leaders over the fact that Reagan has several times referred to the theory of Armageddon, suggesting that it may have some validity. Asked about this in the debate, Reagan said that his talking about the subject was “the result of just some philosophical discussions with people who are interested in the same things.” Reagan continued, “And that is the prophecies down through the years, the Biblical prophecies of what would portend the coming of Armageddon and so forth. And the fact that a number of theologians for the last decade have believed that this was true, that the prophecies are coming together that portend that. But no one knows whether Armageddon—those prophecies—mean that Armageddon is a thousand years away or the day after tomorrow. So I have never seriously warned and said we must plan according to Armageddon.”

The polls continued to show Reagan the “winner” of the debate, but by very narrow margins. It was also reported on Tuesday that American dependents were being removed from Lebanon and the personnel being reduced, and that the new Embassy is in effect shut down. The Administration was showing signs of concern that there might be another incident before the election.

Reagan, on Monday, was looking pleased about his performance—in contrast to the last time—and he kept up the attack on Mondale. Appearing at the Rockwell International plant in Palmdale, California, Reagan stood before a model of the B-1 bomber and a large banner saying, “Prepared for Peace,” and said, “Mr. Mondale made a career out of weakening America's armed forces.” (The Carter Administration had cancelled the B-1 bomber—a move that Congress approved.) Reagan said, “If it were up to my opponent, I'm afraid Rockwell might still be building the B-25—that is, if you were building anything at all.” (The B-25 is a Second World War bomber.) Reagan's defense buildup has, among other things, helped fuel the economy and create jobs. On Tuesday, Reagan campaigned in Oregon and Washington. In Seattle, he compared Mondale's record on defense with that of the late Senator Henry Jackson, and said, “If you liked George McGovern's defense policies, you'll love my opponent's.” (Jackson did, however, support cancellation of the B-1 bomber.) Reagan said nothing on Tuesday about its being the anniversary of the bombing of the Marine headquarters in Beirut. On the following

washingtonpost.com

Nationally Syndicated Astrologer Joyce Jillson

Associated Press

Saturday, October 9, 2004; Page B06

LOS ANGELES -- Joyce Jillson, author of a nationally syndicated astrology column who divined the stars on behalf of a Hollywood movie studio, died of kidney failure Oct. 1 in Los Angeles. She was 58.

Her daily astrology column appeared in nearly 200 newspapers, including the Los Angeles Times and the New York Daily News.

As the official astrologer for 20th Century Fox Studios, Ms. Jillson was consulted on the best opening days for Fox movies. She picked the opening date for 1977's "Star Wars," which is the second-highest grossing movie ever.

In the 1970s and 1980s, Ms. Jillson made numerous appearances on television and radio shows. Besides Hollywood clients, Ms. Jillson made astrological forecasts for Ford Motor Co. and the Los Angeles Dodgers as part of her duties at KABC Radio.

In 1988, Ms. Jillson was linked to the Reagan White House after former chief of staff Donald T. Regan wrote in a book that first lady Nancy Reagan consulted astrologers.

Ms. Jillson contended that she advised Reagan campaign aides to select George H.W. Bush as Ronald Reagan's running mate in 1980. Ms. Jillson said she "spent a lot of time" at the White House after the March 1981 assassination attempt on the president. (White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said at the time that the Reagans did not know her.)

Ms. Jillson, who was born and raised in Cranston, R.I., attended Boston University on an opera scholarship and later moved to New York to begin a stage career.

She won an award as outstanding Broadway newcomer and then moved to Los Angeles to pursue a TV career.

She married Joseph Gallagher in 1969; they divorced in 1981.

Ms. Jillson was a Capricorn, but she regarded herself as a Libra because most of her astrological planets were aligned with that sign, her former husband said.

"She had a complex and very intellectual approach to astrology," he said.

Holiday Mathis, who had been Ms. Jillson's apprentice and editor since 1991, had been co-writing the astrology column for the past few months, Creators Syndicate said in a statement.

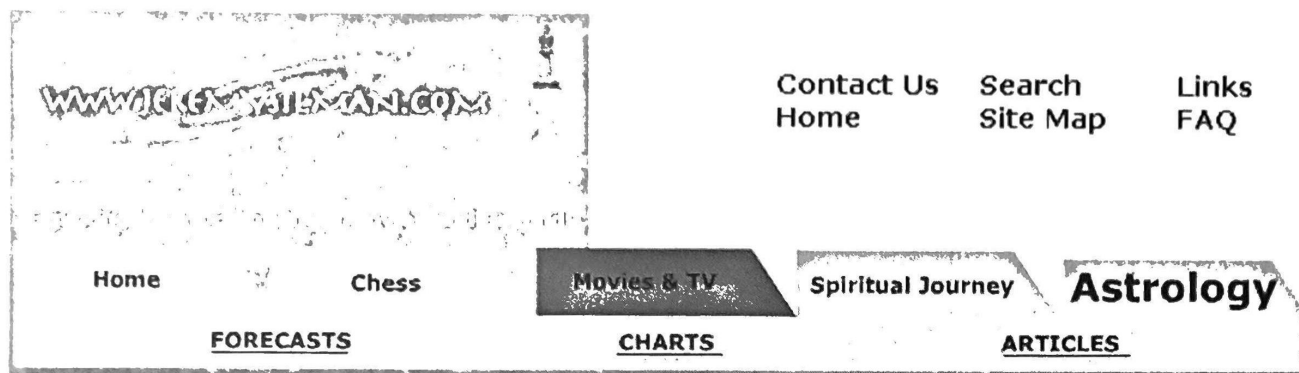
Advertisement

Ms. Jillson and Mathis wrote in advance, and the columns they prepared will run through Nov. 6. Starting Nov. 7, the horoscopes will be renamed "Horoscopes by Holiday," but their format will remain the same.

"She took something that was somewhat stodgy and made it full of life -- just as she was," said Richard S. Newcombe, president of Creators Syndicate.

Survivors include her mother.

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JOYCE JILLSON BIO



Ever since Joyce Jillson picked the opening date for Star Wars in 1977 - and the movie went on to become the highest grossing film of all time - Hollywood's celestial force has been with her. When a movie's opening date can make the difference of tens of millions of dollars, producers don't want to fool around -- all bases, even astrological ones, must be covered. But movie-opening dates are just the tip of the iceberg. It seems in the land of dreams, there's little that people don't want predicted. Actors wonder which role to take, directors ask which cast will bring home the Oscar, industry big wigs want the charts of their competition and colleagues. All arrows point to Joyce Jillson's hotline -- between her celebrity clients and her corporate advisees, she's busy as a Libra can be.

The magic age of eight is when Jillson's studies began. The well-known Boston astrologer, Maude Williams, chose Joyce as her protégé. By ten she was charting predictions on events ranging from the stock market to politics. Her knowledge of the stars helped her become one herself, as she made her way to Broadway starring in La Grosse Valise in both New York City and Paris. She landed the lead in THE ROAR OF THE GREASEPAINT, THE SMELL OF THE CROWD opposite Anthony Newley. Her performance won the Daniel Blum acting award and her beautiful singing voice was featured on the original cast album. Stage success brought her offers from Los Angeles, where she was the darling of the television series, PEYTON PLACE, for over 120 episodes. This exposure to the inner workings of Hollywood helped her understand how the astrology she used to guide her own career could be applied in an industry where timing is, well, everything.

Soon she was in front of the camera in another capacity -- an on-air star spangled advisor on such shows as ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT, MERV GRIFFIN, PHIL DONAHUE, THE TONIGHT SHOW (with both Johnny Carson and Jay Leno), THE CBS MORNING SHOW, THE TODAY SHOW, GOOD MORNING AMERICA, LIVE WITH REGIS, THE EVENING NEWS with Dan Rather and Oprah.

Numerous pictures and stories about her have appeared in TIME MAGAZINE, NEWSWEEK, U.S. NEWS and WORLD REPORT, LIFE, PEOPLE, PARIS MATCH, US MAGAZINE, TV GUIDE, LOS ANGELES TIMES, WASHINGTON POST, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, HOUSTON CHRONICLE, DALLAS MORNING NEWS, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER, NEW YORK TIMES, WALL STREET JOURNAL and FORBES MAGAZINE to name a few.

As media exposure showed people from all walks of life how astrology could help them lead more effective lives, her circle of clients expanded to different industries, including AT&T and ITT. The Ford Motor Company wanted information about a car named the TAURUS. USA TODAY put that

report about Joyce's work for Ford on the front page. Sports team owners wanted the chart done for play-off games. She was named the official astrologer for the Dodgers, and on the morning of each game she would announce on KABC Radio which team would be the winner. Her accuracy rate was 89%.

And even the White House had a few questions. So it was no big surprise when Joyce Jillson became the center of a media frenzy. With cameras camped outside her front door for seven days straight stories about her or regarding her appeared on all three major national newscasts (CBS, NBC and ABC) plus CNN and the BBC, and all three national morning shows and numerous local news programs. Banner headlines about her read: "The Astrologer Who Runs the White House." Jillson made worldwide front-page news in all major news outlets and a picture of Joyce ran on the cover of USA TODAY accompanying one of their stories.

Politics was not all that new to Joyce as she founded and funded the Women's Equalization Committee. Her grass root efforts and innovative approach to giving women more equality intrigued CBS enough to feature Jillson in a 60 MINUTES report.

After years of dealing in realms as serious as world politics, Jillson decided to spotlight the lighter side of life by making her fans -- by now more than 40 million daily -- laugh with a spin-off comedy book called REAL WOMEN DON'T PUMP GAS. It went straight to the top of the New York Times bestseller list and stayed there for 28 weeks -- a true testament to astrological release date timing at its finest. She went on to write THE FINE ART OF FLIRTING and JOYCE JILLSON'S LIFESIGNS, guides that are still readily referenced, quoted and sold in the new millennium.

Today, Joyce Jillson touches the lives and decisions of literally millions of people every day. Her syndicated daily horoscope column is published in over 230 papers nationally and 84 internationally. This coupled with a strong presence on the Internet (CompuServe's leading star-lady) makes Joyce Jillson one of the most renowned and prolific astrologers in the world -- ever. In her free time Jillson enjoys chess, Great Danes and lecturing to groups around the world. Through her travels--she's been to 86 countries--she continues to teach and demonstrate by her own living example how cosmic attunement can breed outstanding success.

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