

FROM THE desk of

"...don't LET THE TURKEYS GET YOU DOWN..."

April 3, 1994

Dear Mr. Lamb:

What an informative program last week's discussion with U.S. News and World Report's Steven Robert, Michael Barone and Gloria Borger. What a delight to hear an extended, reflective conversation. You are performing a considerable public service - certainly at least for this journalistic political "junkie" And I thank you again.

I understand you are out of town, but I think the attached release on the National Jewish Democratic Council, Clinton and Haiti will still be timely when you return. I am also enclosing a story I think you will enjoy, from my manuscript "That Reminds Me of a Story, Thirty-one Anecdotes about Life, Labor, Politics and Race". I am reminded of it because I just received a 1932, suitably yellowed, but intact copy of Huey Long's testament "Every Man a King". Got it from the 80+ retired former chief clerk at the Senate Commerce Committee under Warren Magnuson. This man, now living in Ft. Pierce, even recalls Burton K. Wheeler, the pre- WWII isolationist and "America First".

Again, thank you from a grateful viewer. May we encounter each other again at the Au Bon Pain in Union Station.

Fraternally,

• SILVER SPRING, MD 20906

National Jewish Democratic Council

NJDC PROTESTS ADMINISTRATION POLICY ON HAITIAN REFUGEES

For Release April 1, 1994

Contact: Pat Lewis
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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The National Jewish Democratic Council today stated its strong opposition to the Clinton Administration's policy toward Haitian refugees.

"We are calling on President Clinton to stand by the promises he made during his campaign to do away with the inhumane policy that exists for Haitian refugees," said NJDC Chair Monte Friedkin. "It is unconscionable to turn people away without giving them the opportunity to demonstrate that they are entitled to political asylum under our law."

The NJDC supported Clinton's election, and has been generally supportive of the Administration's policies, Friedkin said.

"It is painful to publicly disagree with someone with whom we generally agree," he said. "But after months of escalating brutality in Haiti and no signs of improvement in our policies, we feel that we have no choice."

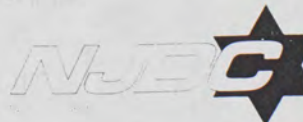
The NJDC is asking that the Administration formally adopt a policy under which no refugee is denied the opportunity to have a request for asylum heard. The Administration should move quickly to hire necessary personnel to prevent a backlog. Asylum in the U.S. should be granted to any refugee who faces political persecution at home.

"As Jews we are particularly pained by the way Haitian refugees are being treated," Friedkin said. "It was not too long ago that Jews seeking refuge were turned away from country after country. We cannot stand by and allow the same thing to happen again."

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3. "Was it Really Apocryphal?"

Huey Long, "the Kingfish", was at one and the same time, the most colorful and controversial figure on the American political scene. It is said that Franklin Delano Roosevelt, himself a commanding political presence, regarded Long as the most serious competitor for his political base.

The story goes that during his years in the United States Senate, Long reported angrily to an acquaintance, "I got a letter in my office today, and it was addressed to 'Senator Huey P. Long, S.O.B., Washington, D.C.'".

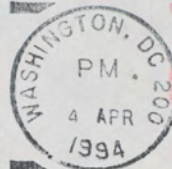
"Oh," the associate responded, "don't get mad at that, that is no insult. When they write that, the 'S.O.B.' means 'Senate Office Building'".

Huey was not persuaded. "Not when they write it about me!" he answered.

Reprint

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