

OUR SECURITY

The Department Of Defense

Gary Allen, a graduate of Stanford University, is author of Communist Revolution In The Streets; Richard Nixon: The Man Behind The Mask; Nixon's Palace Guard; and, None Dare Call It Conspiracy - a sensational new best-seller with 6 million copies already in print. Mr. Allen, a former instructor of both history and English, is active in anti-Communist and other humanitarian causes. Now a film writer, author, and journalist, he is a Contributing Editor to AMERICAN OPINION. Gary Allen is also nationally celebrated as a lecturer.

■ THE vast Department of Defense disburses scores of billions annually for the declared purpose of defending 205 million Americans against foreign enemies. As of December 31, 1971, the Department had 2,519,000 men in uniform distributed among the four major services. In addition, it employs another 2,122,000 civilians for a total payroll of 4,641,000. It is an enormous operation, and it needs to be. As a result, it requires inspired leadership and administration.

Secretary Melvin Laird

When President-elect Nixon began announcing the names of the men who would be filling the key spots in his new Administration, most knowledgeable Conservatives reacted to the proposed appointments with moans and groans. The single bright spot among committed Leftists like Henry Kissinger and Daniel Moynihan, and good grey nobodies like David Kennedy, was Congressman Melvin Laird. Conservatives could barely resist the urge to stand up and cheer.

Melvin Laird's credentials had seemed impeccable. During his years in Congress his voting record was virtually beyond reproach. And he earned the gratitude of Conservatives for having tailored the 1964 Republican platform to fit the candidacy of Barry Goldwater like a handsewn suit. But closer investigation revealed some most disturbing contradictions.

It was columnists Evans and Novak who reported on January 8, 1968, that one of Laird's closest friends is John Gardner, a member of the Establishment *Insiders'* Council on Foreign Relations, and one of the Rockefellers' most energetic advisors. Gardner created and heads a socialist organization known as Common Cause. Funded by the super-rich, it is a powerful lobby promoting collectivism with a sophistication that would have turned Karl Marx pink with envy. Laird had even boosted the radical Gardner as Mr. Nixon's running mate.

Another Laird crony, according to Peter Lisagor in the *Chicago Daily News* of July 11, 1970, is former H.E.W. Secretary Wilbur Cohen. One of the most outspoken Leftists among the Washington bureaucrats, and long the nation's chief proponent of socialized medicine, Cohen is now a top advisor to Nelson Rockefeller. He has quite a record, having affiliated himself with the Washington Committee to Aid China, officially cited as "Communist controlled"; the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, officially cited as "subversive and Communist"; and, the Washington Book Shop Association, officially cited as "subversive and Communist."

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