

confident of the wisdom of his words, they say he could perhaps end his speeches in a half hour instead of rambling on forever. If Humphrey really were confident of where he wanted

to go, perhaps he would have had more success in shaping up a disciplined staff. If Humphrey had really thought a lot about where he stood, perhaps he would be less prone to pay

so much attention to the last person to whom he listened, and perhaps he could have withstood the temptation to embrace Governor Lester Maddox on his trip to Georgia in 1966. In Win-

Committee of Scientists and Engineers Will Back Nixon

A 19-man organizing committee of scientists, engineers, academicians, and administrators has been formed to support the election campaign of Republicans Richard Nixon and Spiro Agnew. The committee, which was put together by Rear Admiral Lewis L. Strauss, USNR (Ret.), former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), is heavily weighted with nuclear energy specialists who have served in various capacities with the AEC, the Manhattan atomic bomb project, the Defense Department, and other military agencies. Five of the committee's members, including Strauss, were active in organizing support groups for the Goldwater-Miller ticket in 1964. The committee includes one Nobel Prize winner, Willard F. Libby, who is professor of chemistry at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and a former AEC Commissioner.

Besides Strauss and Libby, the committee includes Edward Teller, professor of physics at large at the University of California and associate director of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory; Lieutenant General Leslie R. Groves, USA (Ret.), former head of the Manhattan project; Henry Eyring, professor of chemistry and former dean of the graduate school at the University of Utah; Joseph Kaplan, professor of physics at UCLA and former chairman of the U.S. National Committee for the IGY; T. Keith Glennan, former president of Associated Universities Inc., the consortium that runs the Brookhaven National Laboratory, and currently assistant to the chairman of the Urban Coalition; Charles Allen Thomas, former president and chairman of the Monsanto Company; John H. Lawrence, professor of medical physics at the University of California's Berkeley campus and director of the Donner Laboratory; W. Kenneth Davis, vice-president of San Francisco-based Bechtel Corporation and former president of the Atomic Industrial Forum.

Also, Shields Warren, professor of pathology emeritus at Harvard Medical School; Jesse C. Johnson, consulting geologist, Washington, D.C., and former director of AEC's division of raw materials; Stafford L. Warren, professor of biophysics emeritus at UCLA and founding dean of the UCLA School of Medicine; Major General Harry C. Ingles, USA (Ret.), former chief signal officer for the U.S. Army; Major General Kenneth D. Nichols, USA (Ret.), former general manager for the AEC; Karl A. Wittfogel, professor emeritus of Chinese history at the University of Washington; Lieutenant General Elwood R. Quesada, USAF (Ret.), former administrator of the Federal Aviation Agency; Mervin J. Kelly, former president and chairman of Bell Telephone Laboratories; and Ralph C. Hahn, consulting engineer in Springfield, Illinois.

Strauss told *Science* that Nixon contacted him in mid-

August, about a week after the Republican convention, and asked him to form the support group. Strauss said he then "got on the phone and called people I knew—that's why some of these men have similar backgrounds with AEC or the Manhattan district." Judging from biographies published in recent editions of *Who's Who* and *American Men of Science*, at least 16 of the 19 men have served in some capacity, direct or advisory, with the AEC, the Manhattan project, or various defense agencies.

Strauss played a similar role for Goldwater in 1964, when he headed up a Goldwater Task Force on Science, Space, and the Atom. Three other members of Goldwater's task force are also on Nixon's committee—Libby, Teller, and Shields Warren. Another member of the Nixon committee, General Nichols, was a charter member of the 1964 Scientists and Engineers for Goldwater organization.

The Nixon group has been given no official title and will apparently not be called "Scientists and Engineers for Nixon," the usual form of title in recent campaigns. It is simply described as "an organizing group of citizens concerned with the relationships of science and engineering to private enterprise and the government." Strauss says the usual title was ignored because it is "hackneyed" and because the Nixon committee includes administrators and academicians as well as scientists and engineers.

The press release announcing formation of the Strauss committee indicates that the group's chief campaign theme will be that the Johnson-Humphrey administration is responsible for a "depressed state of the support of research in many institutions" in contrast with the Eisenhower-Nixon administration, which encompassed "eight years of scientific growth and productive cooperation with universities and private industry."

What role the Nixon support committee will play is not completely clear at this stage of the campaign. The press release says Strauss's organizing group is at present enlisting a nationwide committee to "advocate the election" of Nixon and Agnew and to "advise" them on the technical aspects of public issues. But the advocacy may not be especially vigorous. Strauss told *Science* the group has no plans to raise money or place advertisements unless the Nixon campaign managers decide such action would be desirable. Strauss said his group has two main purposes: (i) "to demonstrate to the public that eminent men of science respect the Republican candidates," and (ii) to provide the candidates with technical advice and position papers. Some observers suggest the committee's main function is defensive; that is, if Humphrey comes out with a group of eminent scientific supporters, as expected, Nixon can say he, too, has support in the scientific and intellectual communities.—PHILIP M. BOFFEY