

JORDAN ROLLS ON

Because of his distaste for a palace guard, Jimmy Carter has rejected advice from Bert Lance and domestic adviser Stuart Eizenstat, among others, who want him to name a chief of staff and thus bring order to an often disorganized White House. But Carter took his own approach last week by quietly increasing the authority of Hamilton Jordan, his No. 1 aide. Besides being put in charge of political and policy coordination, Jordan will now hold meetings of the senior staff as well as a "senior senior staff" of himself, Jody Powell and three other topiders. Jordan will also sit in on the Friday-morning foreign-policy breakfasts now attended by Carter, Walter Mondale, Cyrus Vance and Zbigniew Brzezinski.



Wally McNamée—Newsweek

Jordan: More clout than ever

BELL TAKES THE RAP

Attorney General Griffin Bell seriously considered resigning over the case of David Marston, the Republican U.S. attorney whose ouster from his Philadelphia post caused some sharp criticism of the Carter Administration. Though he doesn't think there was anything improper or unethical about his dismissal of Marston, Bell concedes that it was handled clumsily—and thus was a source of embarrassment to the White House. Bell didn't offer his resignation (which Jimmy Carter wouldn't have accepted anyway), but he assumed full blame for the Marston affair at a Cabinet meeting, apologizing to the President and explaining that his Justice Department staffers hadn't kept him adequately informed on the matter.



Paul S. Conklin

Bell: An apology for Carter

WAS OSWALD A SPY?

Investigative author Edward Jay Epstein's forthcoming book, "Legend: The Secret World of Lee Harvey Oswald," will make news by suggesting that Oswald was once a Soviet spy, and that the FBI and the CIA have tried to suppress this information for years. Contrary to a published report, Epstein's book doesn't claim that Jack Ruby is still alive, nor



AP

Oswald: Charges of a cover-up

does it offer any new assassination theory. Epstein believes that Oswald killed President Kennedy, but doesn't know the motive. Despite Oswald's Russian link, Epstein doesn't think he carried out the assassination on Soviet orders.

MEXICAN EXODUS

The U.S. plans to add nearly 300 guards to its Mexican border patrol to help control a burgeoning influx of illegal aliens. Even with the additional guards, about 1.5 million Mexicans are expected to slip into the U.S. in 1978, as against 500,000 to 800,000 border jumpers in recent years. More Mexicans are leaving because of their country's continuing economic slump, which is now so severe that half the work force is either unemployed or reduced to part-time jobs.

A DOVE IN THE KREMLIN

The cause of world peace gets a lift from Leonid Brezhnev in a memoir about to be published in *Novy Mir*, a Soviet literary magazine. The Communist boss contributes some reminiscences of World War II, from which he emerged as a decorated general after four years on the front. Brezhnev writes: "If I were asked today what is my main conclusion after passing through the war from its first day to the last day, I would say, 'There should be no war again. War should never occur again'."

JIMMY'S PANAMA STOP

If the Senate ratifies them in time, Jimmy Carter may deliver the Panama Canal treaties in person by adding a Panama stop to his swing through Africa and Latin America in late March and early April. Such a visit would cap the President's goodwill tour—and give him his first look at the canal, which has become a favorite subject for Carter lately. He stayed up until 4 o'clock one morning reading "The Path Between the Seas," David McCullough's book on the Big Ditch.

—BILL ROEDER with bureau reports