

# Reliable Source

By Lois Romano



BY JAMES A. PARCELL—THE WASHINGTON POST

Ed Meese with Ronald Reagan in the happier days of 1985.

## Meese's Reagan Book: Give Me a (Tax) Break

**A** Reagan loyalist till his weary end, Ed Meese would rather fall on his sword than snitch about the president's attention span or Nancy's ill humor. Which is why, he claims, Henry Holt and Co. canceled his first book contract.

Now, five years and two publishers later, comes his own version of truth—and a plea for dough to spread it around. In an unusual appeal, Reagan Cabinet member William Clark is soliciting funds for his pal (an amazing \$500,000 to be exact, and tax-deductible at that) to promote "With Reagan: The Inside Story." Since right-wing publisher Regnery-Gateway

is but a small Washington firm, Clark claims it can't afford a big promotional push. The appeal further explains, "We do not want Ed Meese's observations . . . filtered by the Dan Rathers . . ."

For \$100, you're a "Team Member." For \$10,000, a "Cabinet Associate."

But wait, there's more. You can even choose whether your money goes toward sending Ed on the road, or toward providing copies of his book to schools and libraries. And here's the tax-exempt part: Checks are to be made out to Pennsylvania think tank "Intercollegiate Studies Institute—Meese Book Fund," now headed by Meese crony Ken Cribb. Such a deal.

## WE'VE HEARD THAT . . .

■ Despite hints to the contrary, Richard Nixon won't attend the GOP convention (it would have been his first since 1972), after all. "I wanted you to know that Mrs. Nixon and I do not plan to attend," Nixon wrote Bush campaign chairman Robert Mosbacher recently.

■ Ellie and Sam LeBlond, offspring of Doro, hitched a ride north with Granddad Bush to spend Easter weekend with Dad Billy LeBlond, who lives in Vermont.

■ Dean & Deluca, the swank New York grocer, is planning its first-ever satellite shop on M Street in Georgetown by the end of the year.

■ A recent classified ad in the L.A. Times offers: "JFK 10-foot section of Elm Street Grassy Knoll Fence. Authentic, rare. \$5K. 214-942-3232." What next?

■ Brat pack actor Charlie Sheen has his own private chef.

■ Former Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bob Kerrey was gashed in his lower left leg in a car accident in Lithuania on Sunday. Kerrey, who was on a Senate Intelligence Committee trip when the collision



Sen. Bob Kerrey: Hurt in Lithuania.

occurred, was taken to a U.S. military hospital in Wiesbaden, Germany, where doctors stitched up the five-inch-deep wound. Kerrey lost part of his right leg in Vietnam War combat.