

The New Party, which is building an "exile government" here to further "the politics of participation," announced major plans yesterday for March 4: the "inauguration" of Dick Gregory as shadow President of the United States, and an inaugural address, parade and possibly a ball.

Because "we're running late," Gregory told a press conference, the schedule also will include his "State of the Union" address.

Does he intend for the events of March 4—which he considers the astrologically legitimate date for an inaugural—to be "completely peaceful?" "Very much so," Gregory replied.

The Executive Committee of the New party called the press conference, at the Sheraton-Carlton, to announce that it had elected Gregory and Dr. James P. Dixon, president of Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, as co-chairmen of the Party. They succeed Marcus Raskin of Washington.

Gregory, who has said that he ran for President while his rivals ran for sheriff last November, was asked who chose him to be the shadow President in the Nixon Administration. "I did, he said.

He and Dixon announced plans to:

- Set up a "Poor House" here to hear, and try to resolve, grievances against Federal and local governments.
- Form a "shadow Cabinet" to comment on the performance of the Administration and the "Coalition Congress."
- Present an alternative to the "military-industrial complex budget prepared by the Democratic and Republican parties, which Gregory termed "too immoral and too corrupt to govern."
- Form "new politics" groups to develop new foreign and domestic policies.

Gregory said that the "exile government" will stage its own inaugural events quadrennially until he or another New Party candidate wins the Presidency. Meanwhile, he said, he will continue to fast four days a week to dramatize hunger in the United States.

Referring to himself as a statesman who would solve major problems "from a moral

and ethical standpoint," Gregory described Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.) negatively as "a politician"—specifically, a Democrat.

Disagreeing "a bit," Raskin said McCarthy is a "private politician," a Democrat whose national constituency is not composed of Democrats and a "brave and noble man."

New Party Plans March 'Inaugural' For Dick Gregory

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By Morton Mintz
Washington Post Staff Writer



By Linda Wheeler—The Washington Post

The New Party announces plans for an "exile government." From left, outgoing Party Chairman Marcus Raskin, new "shadow President" Dick Gregory and Co-Chairman Dr. James P. Dixon, the president of Antioch College in Ohio.