

More Campaign Tricks

By William Thomas

Two press releases designed to turn voters away from Senator Hubert Humphrey were issued during last year's presidential primary—on stationery stolen from Humphrey's Los Angeles headquarters.

The latest "dirty tricks" event apparently took place a short while after a similar occurrence in the McCarthy campaign.

Interestingly, no attempt to sabotage the McGovern for President Campaign has come to light.

In the Humphrey campaign, a locked closet was pried open and the letterhead press release stationery stolen.

Harvey Englander, who did the Democratic senator's advance work, said it was assumed at the time that a campaign worker had an emergency need for stationery and opened the closet.

However, Englander said, when the staff began receiving calls about the two phony releases, they realized that a burglary had taken place.

The press release announced Humphrey's sup-

Bucher

To Retire

San Diego

Former Pueblo skipper Lloyd M. Bucher will retire tomorrow from the Navy. He said he has decided to become a free-lance writer.

The 45-year-old commander and his wife, Rose, first plan to fly to Europe for a vacation.

Bucher said he has no plans to write about the U.S. spy ship which North Korean gunboats captured January 23, 1968. "It's been written to death," Bucher told an associate.

Associated Press

Jack Chestnut, the Humphrey campaign manager, subsequently issued a denial saying that the releases were "spurious and bogus."

EFFECT

The effect of these tactics on the Humphrey campaign is well illustrated in the case of the Edith Austin who is a reporter for the San Francisco Sun Reporter, which received a copy of the Chisholm release.

She flew down to Los Angeles to confront Humphrey aides with the release and later wrote a column about it.

At the Miami Democratic National Convention, she said, the Chisholm supporters were angry when the black congresswoman endorsed Humphrey because they had "planned the Humphrey people as putting out that disgraceful press release."

ANGER

Ann Solem, Humphrey's Northern California press secretary, said they were flooded with calls from voters who were angered by the alleged Humphrey press releases — which appeared to be the intent of those who issued the releases.

About a week before the Humphrey incident, a letter was sent on McCarthy for President stationery to some of Senator Eugene McCarthy's principal supporters urging their support for Humphrey.

The Humphrey people denied having anything to do with the forgery, but it certainly did not increase Humphrey's popularity with McCarthy supporters. Ironically it was issued at the time McCarthy was declaring his support for McGovern.

Recently two of McCarthy's campaign aides have sued a host of Republican officials and Los Angeles attorney Donald Segretti for \$220,000, accusing them of perpetrating the fraudulent letter.

MAILINGS

Segretti has been indicted in Florida for putting out several bogus mailings, including one on a Senator Edmund Muskie letterhead.

There were a lot of leaks from the national headquarters in Washington, including an interoffice memorandum from Hadley Roff, one of Muskie's chief press aides at

the time, to California political editors.

In addition, several bogus letters and memoranda were put out.

None of the campaign managers in California suspected a coordinated campaign of Republican sabotage at the time, and it was only after the Watergate investigation began that they began to realize it might have happened.