

Tobacco Industry Loves Marlow Cook

By Jack Anderson

As an advertising symbol Phillip Morris, the cigarette makers, once used a bellhop who shouted from coast to coast: "Call for Phillip Morris."

Now the tobacco industry, when it needs a favor in the Senate, raises the familiar cry: "Call for Phillip Morris."

The senator from Kentucky, whose state is almost as famous for its tobacco leaf as its bluegrass, might be expected to support the tobacco interests, lung cancer notwithstanding. But Cook is positively lyrical about the ripe Kentucky leaf.

And the tobacco crowd feels the same way about him. The Tobacco Institute's top lobbyist in Washington, Frank Dryden, calls Cook "the best senator the tobacco state ever had."

Cook even transferred from the Senate Agriculture Committee to the Commerce Committee so he could battle more effectively against tobacco controls and labeling.

Once, the senator flew across the country in an attempt to save the small cigar manufacturers the embarrassment of having their commercials forced off television by an act of Congress.

So close is Cook to the Tobacco Institute that a secretary he placed on the Senate Rules Committee, Gretchen Doss, gathered documents and reports that were of interest to the tobacco industry. She mailed

these to Dryden, at the taxpayers' expense, in Cook's franked envelopes.

For this service, Dryden slipped her \$25 a month on the side. Both Cook and Dryden claim the senator was unaware of her extra-curricular efforts for the Tobacco Institute, but Doss said she cleared the arrangement in advance with the senator.

The tobacco people have shown their appreciation for Cook in many little ways. Phillip Morris occasionally makes its corporate plane available to him. Sources close to Cook say Dryden keeps the senator well supplied with liquor, cigars and football tickets.

Cook also collects a fat annual honorarium for participating in the tobacco convention. He likes to hunt, too, on an island preserve made available to him by the tobacco men.

In short, the relationship between the senator and the tobacco industry has developed into a love affair.

Footnote: both Cook and Dryden assured my associate Jack Cloherty that the favors the senator accepts are not as flagrant as our investigation indicates. Dryden said he provides no more than an occasional box of cigarettes to the senator, who said he had so little use for them that they get stale. He admitted, however, that he uses the free football tickets to take his son to Washington Redskins games.

WASHINGTON WHIRL—The U.S. Information Agency,

which is supposed to promote America, has had foreigners produce 35 TV shows in the last few years at a cost of \$109,000 . . .

At least one Watergate figure won't be asking President Ford for a pardon. He is Frank Sturgis, a member of the Watergate break-in crew who told us: "Only a guilty person asks a pardon." His Miami attorney, Ellis Rubin, agreed with Sturgis that the pardoning of former President Nixon was "the wrong thing morally" . . . President Ford's new staff chief, Donald Rumsfeld, appointed John (Fat Jack) Buckley in 1969 to be his inspection chief at the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Buckley, while in the job, served as a Watergate-era spy on the 1972 Ed Muskie campaign. . . Former Democratic chairman Larry O'Brien, in his rollicking first literary hurrah "No Final Victories," predicts a Democratic horse race in 1976 among old timers like Sens. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), and Ed Muskie (D-Maine), and younger men like Sen. Walter Mondale (D-Minn.), Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.) and Gov. John Gilligan of Ohio. . . As Watergate's first and foremost victim, O'Brien follows the case most obsessively. For the first three months after the break-in, he marveled at the press's "disinterest." The major exceptions to this were The Washington Post's Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein and Columnist Jack Anderson.

There has been all sorts of talk about Watergate reforms, but perhaps this is the most basic. A note to the Watergate maintenance office, dated Sept. 15, 1972, reads: "We would like to thank you for the quick service you provided for us this afternoon in getting a lock for our door. We're feeling much more secure."

The college fraternity Kappa Sigma has listed its most prominent newsmakers in 1974. Included were Sen. John Tower (R-Tex.), Washington Post cartoonist Herblock and actor Robert Redford. But conspicuously missing was Kappa Sig's most prominent 1974 newsmaker of all, convicted ex-presidential aide John D. Ehrlichman.

Indiana promoter Walter Dilbeck's publicized land venture with, deposed Vice President Spiro T. Agnew is not his first financial adventure with an unsuccessful politician. Dilbeck backed Sen. Vance Hartke's presidential drive in the 1972 New Hampshire primary to the tune of \$160,000.

We recently reported scandals at the Army recruiting district in Charlotte, N.C. We have now learned that the district's commander, Lt. Col. John Milani, was investigated but, according to an Army spokesman, there was "insufficient evidence" for a court-martial. The spokesman said Milani was being reassigned. Milani has consistently denied any wrongdoing.

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