



PRANKSTER DICK TUCK

TUCK TURNED DOWN

Yale University has denied a visiting lectureship in political science to Dick Tuck, Peck's Bad Boy of politics.

Tuck was refused a position, because in the words of Charles Lindblom, chairman of the department, "We had no evidence at all that this man was qualified to teach a college level course..

"We do," Lindblom continued, "have a sense of Yale quality, an idea of the richness of the diet. Cheapie courses are not offered here."

Harsh words, some think, in view of the fact that Tuck over the past 15 years has had more experience in politics than most political science professors. Tuck has served as an aide to Adlai Stevenson, John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, George McGovern, John Tunney and many other Democratic candidates. He is a creative, innovative, experienced political campaigner with a vast storehouse of practical

political knowledge.

He is best known for playing tricks on Richard Nixon.

Tuck's political pranks began in 1950 when he was a student at the University of California in Santa Barbara. One of his political science professors matter-of-factly asked him if he would like to work for aspiring Dick Nixon, who was then running for the U.S. Senate.

Tuck said yes, then promptly booked Nixon into a 4000-seat auditorium on a Friday afternoon when most students had departed for the weekend.

Less than 50 people turned up for the Nixon appearance. Tuck thereupon made a 30-minute introduction of the candidate. Half the audience walked out. In the giant vacuum, Nixon addressed a remainder of 20. When it was all over, he turned to his student advance man, reportedly muttered, "Tuck, you've made your first and last advance... at least for me."

As the years progressed, Tuck specialized in Nixon bedevilment. When Nixon ran for Governor of California in 1962, Tuck had Chinese signs planted all over San Francisco's Chinatown. After a speech, Nixon asked what the signs said. "What about the \$200,000 Howard Hughes loan to your brother?" is what they said.

Two years later when Dick Tuck decided to run for the California State Senate, he campaigned on the slogan, "The job needs Tuck. Tuck needs the job." When he was defeated his concession speech consisted of: "The people have spoken--the bastards."