

# Rich Demos Angeled

By Roland Evans  
and Robert Novak

WASHINGTON — The fact that the much-publicized trip to Laos by Rep. Paul N. (Pete) McCloskey, the Republican dove from California, was financed and arranged by liberal Democrats is a tip-off to the scarcity of genuine Republican backing for his challenge against President Nixon.

Some \$7500 to finance the

trip was raised among the same people who backed Sen. Eugene McCarthy's challenge against President Johnson in 1968. Martin Fife, a millionaire plastics manufacturer active in New York City's McCarthyite New Democratic Coalition, contributed \$3000. Another \$1500 came from Sam Rubin, a rich Wall Street operator who backed leftist causes in times past and was a McCarthy supporter in 1968.

Arranging the trip was

Charles U. Daly, McCloskey's Marine comrade in Korea who has excellent connections on the Democratic left, dating from service as a Kennedy White House aide. The actual fund-raising was helped by writer Jimmy Breslin, who escorted McCloskey to three Manhattan dinner parties one night soliciting rich reform Democrats.

McCloskey told us such tapping of Democratic funds is strictly limited to his

anti-war activities and not for his Republican challenge to Mr. Nixon. For political funding, he is now talking to multi-millionaire California industrialist Norton Simon, a nominal Republican.

Even McCloskey's political activities, however, have had a distinctly Democratic coloration so far. The anti-war rally at Providence, R.I., April 18 addressed by McCloskey had a bipartisan label but actually was put together by New York liberal

## McCloskey's Trip

Democrats under the leadership of ex-congressman Alard K. Lowenstein.

The Providence rally trotted out as a member of the sponsoring committee one Malcolm Farmer III, described as a Republican who had been campaign manager for former Gov. John Chaffee of Rhode Island (now Secretary of the Navy). In fact Farmer, a middle-level official in the Chaffee administration, was never close to being campaign manager

and always was regarded by Chaffee aides as something other than a Republican. His auto now carries Democratic bumper stickers.

The larger truth is that McCloskey has not picked up significant liberal Republican backing in his dump-Nixon campaign — not even in his home state. California liberal Republicans who strongly supported McCloskey's campaigns for Congress are heartsick over what they consider their friend's new demagoguery on the war. This includes such outspoken liberals as state Assemblyman William Bagley and John G. Veneman, Undersecretary of Health, Education, and Welfare.

A footnote: Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas, Republican National Chairman, has balked at suggestions from Nixon political operatives that he cut McCloskey down to size before next year's primaries. Dole feels it is not the role of the party's chairman to hatchet a fellow Republican in Congress, no matter what his transgressions.

Instead, anti-McCloskey hatcheting will be divided between Gov. Reagan of California and a selected group of McCloskey's colleagues in the House.