

CONSERVATION

Conservationists are pleased that conservation is becoming fashionable among politicians. Conservationists in N. California, "the most militant of the species," are jubilant over the President's decision to continue to improve Point Reyes. Conservationists see this not only as a victory for their cause but also as an encouraging sign of Administration attitudes. Murphy was praised as a prime mover in RN's shift. It appears that conservationist campaigns are growing increasingly likely to be successful. In California top Democrats vow conservation will be a major issue in the elections next year; GOP legislative leaders are pledging an "Environmental Bill of Rights" and even Reagan has recently sponsored a conservation conference. Conservationists consider Point Reyes as tangible evidence that Hickle was serious about his directive to acquire recreational lands. One active conservationist lawyer said: Hickle "may develop into one of the most significant of all our secretaries of the Interior..."

(James Bylin in 11/26 Wall Street Journal)

*E + W -*  
*is this subject scheduled for the February Governor Conference?*  
*Should we lift the cap on the Point?*  
*at this week's meeting to preempt the issue?*

CRIME

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"Liberals... are trying desperately to latch on to the 'law and order' action." Many have come to believe that crime poses a real challenge to the nation, but they also realize that it is an issue conservatives use to beat them at the polls. The depth of liberal concern is evidenced by the stress placed on it by ADA. ADA passed an anti-crime resolution, held a crime seminar and widely publicized it in their monthly publication. Yet the liberal effort to get into the anti-crime act may not be successful. "Liberal answers on crime, like most liberal answers, are extremely expensive." They call for higher taxes and "the nation doesn't yet seem frightened enough to make that kind of financial commitment." Moreover, liberal solutions seem "soft-headed." They are still coddling criminals when the public wants less coddling. They also appear to be "Johnny-come-latelies" to the crime fight. One ADA leader said, "We never should have let the issue get away from us; now I wonder if we can ever get it back."  
(Allan Otten in 11/26 Wall Street Journal)

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