Suddenly, in the wake of his activities during the Persian Gulf war, new attention has focused on Ramsey Clark. That Clark gets any attention at all, profane to say, is a phenomenon of the fact that he once served as U.S. attorney general. Thus, when he offers pronouncements that would otherwise likely be dismissed as silly, if not pernicious, they are treated by the media with a certain seriousness.

After all, it is the "former U.S. attorney general" speaking, not some radical book.

The question of Clark's personal political evolution is a mystery. How did "Tom Clark's boy," as President Johnson used to call his attorney general (Ramsey Clark is the son of the late Supreme Court Justice Tom Clark, a Texan friend of LBJ), go from heading the Justice Department — and persecuting anti-war protesters — to a mainstream, New York law firm (Paul, Weiss, Rifkind) to liberal-left Democratic Senate candidates in 1974 and 1976 to the distant political fringe?

What leads a man to travel so far ideologically? Certainly not ambition.

Clark has rendered himself a marginal personality—a curiosity on the American political scene—where he might have become a leading liberal luminary. There's also the question of just where, historically, Clark actually stands for these days — itself a highly nuanced issue.

Is it appropriate to locate him on the far left, or on the far right? John B. Judis—no right-winger, certainly—notes in the pages of the New Republic what Ramsey Clark actually stands for these days — itself a highly nuanced issue.

Is it appropriate to locate him on the far left, or on the far right? John B. Judis—not right-winger, certainly—notes in the pages of the New Republic that Clark has become "a legal K11 for a tawdry collection of accused terrorists and neo- or ex-Nazis... and has gone far beyond representing them in court." Judis, for example, deems Clark the "legal dink and testing apologist for Lyndon LaRouche" in the U.S.

But is Clark a LaRoucheite? He tells the New York Times that, if he had to guess, he'd probably agree with no more than "10 per cent of what the man [LaRouche] stands for..." And Clark goes on to insist simply that the New Republic "has a thing about me."

But there are lots of radical lawyers, many of whom take on unpleasant cases devoid of genuine political content. Yet you won't likely find William Kunstler or Arthur Kinoy defending Nazi collaborators.

Clark's hostility to American policy, at home and abroad, has to it a special character, moreover. At the outset of Desert Storm, for example, it proved necessary to hold two separate Washington demonstrations protesting American conduct in the gulf.

The Mystery of Ramsey Clark

BY ERIC BREINDEL

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Conservative Forum

Republicans for Choice, the organization whose goal is to bring the official GOP platform to bear in the upcoming national convention, had set its sights on a diplo-
dic movement as you and I know it."

short, the latter demonstration es-
sponsible for the situation advanced by Moscow: Yes, Saddam had done wrong; but Washington should have set its sights on a diplo-
matic settlement and eschewed the path of military confrontation.

Judis describes this outfit as a "neo-Stalinist...fringe group that backed [Chinese] state violence in Tian-
ness in the Soviet Union."And there's no doubt Clark's ties to the Workers World party link to this philosophy. Clark evidently describes the CIA as a "neo-Stalinist...fringe group that backed [Chinese] state violence in Tian-
ness in the Soviet Union...."

People who believe in the moral right to the Reagan coalition, the fact that George Bush won in 1988 with a strong anti-abortion plank in the Republican platform and the success of many pro-life candidates—both Demo-
crats and Republicans—in the 1990 elections, Stone asserts the GOP will lose votes unless it changes its position.

"If Schlaffly succeeds, young people,
many women, and minorities will leave the GOP," she writes. "We cannot lose these voters. We must not, I repeat not, let this happen!"

Rockefeller's ultimate conclusion? "To let
Phyllis Schlaffly win this fight would spell destruction of the Republican par-
try as you and I know it."

Schlaffly's newly formed group, the Republican National Coalition for Life, is mobilizing to preserve the par-
ty's pro-life position at the 1992 con-
vention.

Stone, incidentally, on May 7 lost the race for mayor of Alexandria, Va., to
Democratic incumbent Patricia Tice.

The U.S. Business and Industrial
Council (USBC) has announced its support of a bill (HR 2395) proposed by Rep. Craig Thomas (R-Wyo.) that calls for a complete freeze in the hiring of all federal civilian employees until a balanced budget is achieved. The bill covers all levels of personnel, including political appointees, members of inde-
pendent commissions, postal service and part-time employees. It could be
waived in time of national emergency or declared war.

"Conservative Forum" carries, on alternate weeks, Letters to the Editor and brief news on individuals activities of interest to conservatives. All correspond-
ence for this feature should be addressed to Conservative Forum, HUMAN EVENTS, 601 First St. S.E., Washington, DC 20002. Letters must be concise (500 words or less) and preferably limited to one topic. In addition, they must be signed at all times. E-mail should be sent to: conservativeforum@humanevents.com

"As a corporate citizen, we don't feel we can continue to offer borderline pornographic materials," said Randy Elliott, chairman of TCA's operations committee. A publicly held company, TCA provides cable service in Texas, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico and Arkansas.

TCA's decision did not come quick-
ly. The cable company had repeatedly
expressed its objections to MTV about its programming. It is not surprising that MTV did not respond to TCA's complaint, however. Carol Robinson, MTV's vice president for press rela-
tions, told the New York Times that
"This notion of the programming be-
ing borderline pornographic is ludic-
rous."

Immanuel Jakobovits, Great Brit-
ain's chief rabbi, is an ardent propo-
nent of bringing religion into public
education. Jakobovits believes that giving reli-
gion a more central role in the lives of
many students is imperative in order to stop society's moral decline.

"Children should not be deprived in their schooling of the opportunity for

All state schools should provide reli-
gion instruction, he said, with parents
having the option of withdrawing their children from such instruction.

Those who believe that religious in-
struction belongs solely in the home
and church have misjudged the situa-
tion, says Jakobovits.

"The major influence on the child
today is not the home, but in the
school," he says. "Furthermore, not all parents are capable teachers."

I.Q. Answers

(Answers on page 13.)

1. 1924, by Congressional statute.
2. 18.22, by Thomas P. U. Vencs 1961
3. The New York Post, in 1801.
4. Three, the Department of State, Treasury, and War. Although Washington had both an Attorney General and Postmaster General, neither of those offices were then Cabinet-level positions.
5. July 4, 1818, by an act of Congress. At that time there were 20 states.

Many parents around the country have long complained about the vulgar-
ity of much that appears on MTV, the music video cable-TV channel, but to no avail. Now, however, someone has fin-
ally responded.

TCA, a cable company in Tyler, Texas, has dropped MTV because of moral objections to some of its pro-
gamings. The first cable com-
pny in the country to do so.

As a corporate citizen, we don't feel