

World and Nation

Dukakis-Jackson rift causing concern as convention nears

Bentsen refuses to interfere with dispute

Associated Press
 Jesse Jackson called on former President Carter on Thursday to play the role of peacemaker in his pre-convention dispute with Michael Dukakis, saying, "I simply want respect and responsibility" after the long run for the Democratic presidential nomination.

At a news conference in Chicago before boarding a bus caravan to the convention, Jackson did not say what specific issues he wanted Carter to mediate. He said he was not seeking "a personal apology" for Dukakis' failure to notify him before word got out that Sen. Lloyd Bentsen had been picked for the vice presidential slot on the ticket.

While there is plenty of time to settle matters before the convention opens next Monday, Jackson's complaints could wind up threatening efforts by Dukakis and Democratic Party leaders to stage a unified, harmonious party meeting.

Vice President George Bush needled Dukakis from afar, saying he thought the governor could have shown "a little more sensitivity" toward his rival in the manner in which he announced his choice of Bentsen. Bush also went to the United Nations, where he made a high-visibility defense of U.S. actions in shooting down an Iranian airliner.

In Chicago, Jackson said he would "exercise all of our rights" at the four-day convention, and added it's an "open question" whether he will

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Lloyd Bentsen refused Thursday to be drawn into the rift between Jesse Jackson and Michael Dukakis, saying it's up to the certain Democratic nominee for president to mend fences between the two camps.

Smoothing over tensions with Jackson is "Gov. Dukakis' responsibility," Bentsen, Dukakis' choice for vice president, said.

"I know he (Dukakis) has a high regard for Rev. Jackson. I assume he'll have a meeting with Jackson," Bentsen said.

Of easing tensions and mending the rift, the Texas Democrat said, "Once again, that's a matter of communication with Rev. Jackson."

Bentsen said he had no plans to meet personally with Jackson, who learned of Bentsen's selection Tuesday from news reporters. Bentsen did, however, call Jackson Wednesday.

"It was a good conversation; it was a personal conversation," Bentsen said.

Jackson received an apology Thursday from one of Dukakis' top advisers, but said he was asking former President Carter to intercede.

On Wednesday, Jackson may have fueled the passions of those who want to run him against Bentsen, saying the floor was "wide open" on the vice presidential vote next Thursday night at the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta.

Bentsen said it was Jackson's decision to make whether to stage a floor fight over the vice presidential nomination.

Despite sending conciliatory signals to the Dukakis camp Thursday, Jackson said, "We will exercise all our rights," and he added, "We are prepared to deliberate and debate, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during next week's convention."

challenge Bentsen's nomination in Atlanta.

Carter declined comment, and Dukakis' aides sought to minimize the dispute, saying the Massachusetts governor would probably meet with Jackson when both men arrived in the convention city.

Dukakis, his nomination assured, spent the day working on state budget problems and burnishing his credentials as a governor who cracks down on drugs. The Massachusetts governor visited two state troopers shot during an undercover drug operation and signed a state law requiring tougher sentences for cocaine dealers. "We're serious about a war

on drugs in this state," he said.

Democratic Party officials held a symbolic ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the transformation of the Omni hall into a convention city, complete with a huge movable podium.

But if the hammering and sawing were nearly finished, the political maneuvering was in full swing.

Black members of Congress predicted boisterous protests at the convention over what they see as a snub to Jackson.

But some of the lawmakers also said they would try to hold a meeting with Dukakis aides or perhaps the

governor himself next week in an effort to repair the breach.

"Clearly the way Jesse Jackson is dealt with, on a personal basis, is as a monumental issue," Rep. Dellums, D-Calif., said.

Jackson's call on Carter — a Georgian who has remained generally out of the spotlight since his feat in 1980 — came as party chairman Paul Kirk and other Democratic leaders appealed for unity.

Officials spread the word that Dukakis had called Jackson on Wednesday, and a Jackson aide termed the call "a good start" at repairing relations.

World briefs

Defense bill slashes star wars request

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress sent President Reagan on Thursday a \$300 billion defense budget bill which slashes his star wars request by \$800 million and would limit his course on arms control.

The final votes in the House and Senate, with majority Democrats prevailing, came amid conflicting signals as to whether Reagan would sign the bill.

The House vote was 229-183, with 205 Democrats and 24 Republicans supporting the bill and 36 Democrats and 147 Republicans opposing it. The Senate's vote was 64-30, with 47 Democrats and 17 Republicans teamed in favor and 2 Democrats and 28 Republicans against.

Senate Minority Leader Bob

Dole, R-Kan., said at one point that "I'm not certain the president will sign this bill." But moments later, he added, "I don't think we have a clear signal about Reagan's intentions."

The bill authorizes \$4 billion for the Strategic Defense Initiative, as Reagan's five-year-old star wars anti-missile program is formally known. Reagan had requested \$4.8 billion compared to the current \$3.9 billion SDI budget.

The bill also sharply restricts spending for the space-based interceptor, the weapon planned as a first phase of an eventual SDI program. The Pentagon wanted \$330 million for the program, but the bill restricts the total to only \$85 million.

11-year-old finishes flight over Atlantic

PARIS (AP) — An 11-year-old Californian, the youngest pilot to fly the Atlantic, stepped from the cockpit Thursday with a huge grin on his freckled face. He was greeted by champagne toasts and a proud but worried mother.

"We're finally here. We made it," said Christopher Lee Marshall, weary but beaming, as he stood on the wing of his single-engine Mooney 252 aircraft at Le Bourget, the same airfield where Charles Lindbergh completed the first solo transatlantic flight in 1927.

"Mommy missed you so much. Give me a kiss," said his mother, Gail Marshall of Oceana, Calif., who waved an American flag and handed Christopher a new stuffed bear.

His old stuffed bear Charles

Lindbergh, cuddly and blue with aviator's helmet and goggles, accompanied him on the long flight.

"Charles Lindbergh was one of my heroes," the young aviator told reporters. "So we decided on this trip, then next year hopefully around the world."

He still wore his bright blue flight suit, with a baseball cap reading "Chris Marshall Tour" covering his straw-colored hair as he sipped cola at a champagne and soft-drink reception inside an airport hangar.

Unlike Lindbergh, Christopher made several stops between New York and Paris — in Canada, Greenland, Iceland and Scotland — and had company and emergency help from retired Navy pilot Randy Cunningham

Opposition pledges protest campaign

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The opposition on Thursday refused to recognize the official returns proclaiming Carlos Salinas de Gortari winner of the presidential election and pledged a nationwide protest campaign.

Final results released Wednesday night by the Federal Election Commission, a week after the polls closed, gave Salinas the victory by the slimmest margin in the 59 years the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, has controlled Mexico.

The opposition also won Senate seats for the first time, taking four out of 64.

The PRI-dominated election commission said Salinas received 9.64 million votes, or 50.36 percent, far below the 70 percent level that was the minimum victory level for the governing party presidential candidate in the past.

Cuauhtemoc Cardenas of the leftist National Democratic Front was second with 5.96 million, or 31.12 percent; and Manuel J. Clouthier of the conservative National Action Party was third with 3.27 million votes or 17.07 percent. Two minor candidates accounted for the rest of the vote.

Of 38 million registered voters, 50.3 percent cast ballots, the commission said. Government and party officials initially described the turnout as larger than the 75 percent in 1982 and blamed a heavy turnout for the slow vote count.

Cardenas, 54, son of the late President Lazaro Cardenas who is one of the most revered Mexican leaders, announced plans to tour the country next week after calling his support-

ers to a protest march Saturday in the downtown Zocalo plaza.

He said he would target regions where he considers "fraud was the most brutal and ran roughshod on our party members."

Cardenas broke from the PRI last year and united the normally fragmented left to leap ahead of the conservative National Action Party as one of the country's top largest opposition group.

Clouthier, 54, planned to start his protest rallies Thursday afternoon in Guadalajara, Mexico's second-largest city, then tour northern Mexico where his party has its strongholds until July 23.

Opposition representatives on the commission accused it of fraud and said the release of the vote totals was delayed so they could be doctored.

"It appears that there are two Mexicos," said Jorge Amador, a National Democratic Front supporter on the commission.

He said there is a modern Mexico where the federal electoral code is respected, honest results are posted and the victorious candidate is Cardenas, and a second, backward Mexico "in which the federal electoral code is not known, is not applied" and the popular will is thwarted.

Amador's aides carried into the commission boxes of ballots, some of them partially burned and others he said they found in the streets.

"It is now the task of all the competing political parties to accept the basic principle of democracy," Interior Secretary Manuel Bartlett, the commission's leader, said at the meeting. "Accept the majority verdict of the people in the terms and proportions with which it was expressed."

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