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# KAREN

## On Tuesday

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**W**hen the Nixon blacklist for White House guests became public, everyone was outraged. Now insiders say the Reagan White House has a closely held, computerized, coded list of who's in and who's not for White House events.

**Liza Minnelli** performed there Sunday evening for the tribute to songwriters Rodgers and Hart. She arrived with an entourage of about 20 people, but her manager, **Elliot Weisman** of Premier Artists Services in Florida, wasn't one of them. That's because he once served time in prison when he took the rap for a client.

Elliot's lieutenants watched Liza closely, but they received a cool reception from the White House staff. When one of them suggested **Frank Sinatra** for the **Harold Arlen** "In Performance" evening in June, the reception was very cool. He was told that it's difficult getting performers to the White House because of the list.

For example, insiders say song-and-dance man **Tommy Tune** won't be invited again during the Reagan administration because he arrived late the last time. **Gregory Hines** is also said to be blacklisted. That's because he's a registered Democrat and holds some "un-American political beliefs."

And Mr. Sinatra, who was once thought to be a Reagan pal, is No. 1 on the no list, says the insider, because according to **Kitty Kelley's** book he used the first family to rebuild respectability.

Everyone abided by the smoking ban in public buildings until the reception. During rehearsals Liza, looking very thin, sipped Diet Coke in her dressing room and slipped out onto the portico facing Lafayette Park for a cigarette break every 20 minutes.

**Vic Damone** joined her with his cigar. Vic brought his new bride, **Diahann Carroll**. **Marvin Hamlisch**, who emceed the evening, brought along newscaster **Diane Sawyer** for the rehearsals as well as the evening. Following the White House reception Marvin and Diane headed to Geppetto in Georgetown for a pizza.

**President Reagan** told his guests that during his days in Hollywood, "if you couldn't sing or dance, you were an after-dinner speaker."

**B**ob Michel, everybody's favorite Republican leader in the House, used the occasion of his 64th birthday party at the Sheraton Grand the other night to announce he'll seek a 16th term. Bob sang while his pals joined in — Rep. Tom Kindness on banjo, Roll Call Editor Sid Yudain on sax, and former Secretary of Defense Mel Laird as master of ceremonies. Liddy Dole said a few words, too. She's already filling in for Bob, whose presidential campaign is taking up great gobs of his time. Having a glamorous, in-house stand-in is an asset the other candidates don't have.

**S**uzanne Garment, the former Wall Street Journal columnist, is giving up her part-time job as ghost for husband Len's letters-to-the-editor. She's going back to writing for real money, this time at Washingtonian magazine. That must be the sign that Len has patched things up with the citymag. It wasn't long ago that he took publisher Phil Merrill to lunch at Il Giardino and before they finished the pasta course he threatened to sue unless the magazine printed a retraction for an item they ran about his client Bud McFarlane. Lawyers will do that, pulling a writ or flashing a tort like Tom Selleck with a .357 Magnum. Phil refused and stormed out of the restaurant.

Eleanor Mondale, Walter's pretty, blond daughter who tried her hand at broadcast reporting, may have more luck pursuing the commercial road to stardom instead. She's signed up to sell cars for Dodge and yogurt for Dannon.

— Karen Feld

