

# KAREN

## On Friday

---

**W**hispers were heard through the ballroom at the J.W. Marriott the other evening when a cheerful **Don Regan** arrived, wearing a hearing aid in his right ear, at the dinner paying tribute to **Mary Jane Wick**, wife of the USIA director who is traveling in Germany, and the Swedish Ambassador and Countess **Wilhelm Wachtmeister** for their volunteer efforts. The former-chief-of-staff-turned-million-dollar-author says his wife is a dear friend of the countess.

He advises everyone in official Washington to keep notes as he did. After all, it makes it easier when you get down to dictating your book. He's busy doing just that, but admitted there's one person between the word processor and himself.

He's bombarded with questions about the Reagan White House and Iran as he rides the talk circuit, but prefers the ones about business and the economy. "After all, that's what I know best." His response to questions about his relationship with the **first lady**? He laughed, "I pass those off."

Don apparently still doesn't trust the press. He engaged Canadian Ambassador **Allan Gotlieb** in a long discussion about his view of the real story, not the media version, of the Canadian summit which **President Reagan** attended a few weeks ago.

Composer **Sammy Cahn** wrote a special tribute sung by **Lisa Edwards**, wife of the congressman from Oklahoma, to the tune of "My Way," for his old pal Mary Jane, who does everything her way, "the sable fur way."

**S**eventy-one-year-old media magnate **Randolph Hearst** (that's **Patty's** papa) and tall, green-eyed brunette **Veronica de Uribe**, 40ish, plan to marry later this month at San Simeon. Veronica, a New Yorker whose mom is a Russian princess, has been married twice before, as has the publishing mogul.

**B**ob Beckel, Walter Mondale's campaign manager in '84, and Ed Rollins, the Reagan political director, assessed the '88 election for the American Association of Political Consultants the other day. "The Des Moines Register will look like the set for 'Hollywood Squares,' " said Bob, who added, "I could easier pick you a trifecta in the ninth race in Mexico City next week than a Democratic ticket."

Bob, who's writing a book and will cover the next election as a reporter, says **Bob Dole** or **George Bush** would be the strongest candidates for the Dems to run against; "a Dole-Kemp ticket is a real worry." Mr. Rollins says a ticket headed by **Gary Hart**, with **Sam Nunn**, **Chuck Robb** or **Bob Graham** in the second spot, would be competitive.

**N**ot only are current White House aides shuffling jobs, but former ones too. **Sheila Tate**, Nancy Reagan's first press secretary, is switching flackeries from Burson-Marsteller to Hill and Knowlton.

**Henry Grunwald** announced that he's stepping down as editor in chief of *Time* magazine in December, but he says, "I still have plenty of time to cause trouble before retirement." Then he plans to write a non-fiction book or two. That's because he says he's too old to attempt fiction. "Fiction is something like a screenplay, you have to attempt it when you're young."

U.S. Attorney **Rudy Giuliani** has been offered, and declined, the chairmanship of the Securities and Exchange Commission, say White House insiders. He's eyeing New York Sen. **Daniel Patrick Moynihan's** job instead.

**Big John Connally** is reportedly "down and out." He's overextended in real estate, says a pal, but "he may be able to keep half the ranch."

**W**hen **Dennis Levine**, the former managing director of Drexel Burnham Lambert who led federal investigators to **Ivan Boesky**, takes leave from prison to testify at **John Dingell's** Wall Street insider trader hearings May 6, he'll be a genuine prison specimen. When Energy and Commerce oversight subcommittee investigators first went to talk to him in the conference room at the federal prison at Lewisburg, Pa., he had only been there about 10 days. He'd already lost 11 pounds. And that's in a prison with minimum security and presumably minimum stress and maximum calories.

By the way, Chairman Dingell says to expect "surprises" at the hearings. "But the situation may be so bad," he says, "we can't straighten it out."

— **Karen Feld**