

OPERA – fiche sociographique - défense

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BA/BS	
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Carrière :

senate appropriations committee pendant plus de 20 ans.

1983 – 95 : professional staff member, senate appro Com.

1995 - 2009 : Democratic clerk puis staff director, subcom on defense, senate Appro com.

2009 – mars 2012 : staff director, Committee on Appropriations

Sources biblio/bio, articles, divers.

¹ n'est pas une formation mais un programme pour entrer dans l'armée

W. Genieys, Operationalizing Programmatic Elites Research in America, OPERA : ANR-08-BLAN-0032.

In the back room: Who's negotiating the budget deal

By Felicia Sonmez, Published: April 8, 2011

The White House and congressional leaders have been negotiating for weeks on a deal to keep the government funded – with a deadline of midnight Friday to reach a final agreement or else the government will shut down.

But while Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.), House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) and President Obama have been the public faces of the budget talks, a group of top White House and congressional staffers has been working behind closed doors on the details of a potential deal.

The Washington Post's Phil Rucker takes a look at two of the top negotiators: Barry Jackson, Boehner's chief of staff; and David Krone, chief of staff to Reid.

With thanks to WhoRunsGov, here's a take on who else is doing the negotiating -- the "guys behind the guys":

Office of Management and Budget Director Jacob Lew : Lew has been the lead White House negotiator in the talks. He served as budget director during the Clinton administration from 1998 to 2001 and was involved in the 1983 Social Security deal, the 1997 balanced-budget deal and last year's tax deal between Congress and the White House. Obama tapped him in July 2010 to succeed former OMB director Peter Orszag. (The Post's Lori Montgomery profiled Lew in February.)

White House Legislative Affairs Director Rob Nabors : A former staff director of the House Appropriations Committee and deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget, Nabors succeeded Phil Schiliro as head of the White House legislative shop in February. He was also senior adviser to former White House chief of staff Rahm Emanuel.

White House Chief of Staff Bill Daley : Daley has served as White House chief of staff since January. The brother of outgoing Chicago mayor Richard M. Daley was Bill Clinton's commerce secretary from 1997 to 2000 and later worked as an executive at JP Morgan Chase.

House Appropriations Staff Director Bill Inglee : In December, House Appropriations Committee Chairman Hal Rogers (R-Ky.) announced Inglee's appointment as the committee's staff director for the 112th Congress. Before that, Inglee was vice president for global security policy at Lockheed Martin. He also served as a staffer on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Appropriations Committee and as national security adviser to then-House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.).

Senate Appropriations Staff Director Charles Houy: Houy, who was a staffer on the Senate Appropriations Committee since 1983, was named the committee's staff director in February 2009. Before that, he served as clerk for the Senate subcommittee on defense.

Staff writers Paul Kane and Ben Pershing contributed to this report.

Source : http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/in-the-back-room-whos-negotiating-the-budget-deal/2011/04/08/AFIzKa1C_story.html Accessed 8 juin 12

5 Hill staffers to watch on Afghanistan

Posted By Josh Rogin Friday, December 4, 2009 - 9:16 PM Share

As members of Congress digest Obama's new Afghanistan-Pakistan strategy and decide how they want to weigh in, some key staffers behind the scenes will be important to watch:

Tom Hawkins - national security advisor to Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-KY

Since the Senate GOP is poised to be Obama's main source of support on implementing his Afghanistan surge strategy, how McConnell decides to proceed will be a marker for how the rest of the GOP approaches the issue. His main adviser on such matters is Hawkins.

McConnell came out with relatively strong support for the Obama plan in a conference call following the speech, only taking issue with how the administration plans to pay for the buildup (he suggested the money come from leftover stimulus funds) and Obama's July 2011 date for beginning withdrawal. McConnell has decided that GOP opposition to the timeline can wait for now. But when it does come up, Hawkins will play a role in the substance and tactics of that battle.

McConnell often delegates war policy strategy to some degree to the Senate Armed Services Committee's ranking Republican, John McCain, R-AZ, who could be the one to throw up roadblocks to implementing the withdrawal date. In McCain's shop, one player to watch is the senator's new aide Christian Brose, a former FP senior editor who works with Hawkins and others to determine the tactics and tone any Republican pushback on Obama's new strategy might take.

Paul Juola - staff director for the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee and aide to Chairman John P. Murtha, D-PA

Eventually, Obama will have to come to Congress to get his surge money. And while he's expected to eventually get it, you can be sure there will be some twists and turns along the way. When will the money be disbursed? Will it be part of the regular defense bill or a supplemental bill? What items will members add for themselves, their constituents, and their friends? A lot of these questions will get adjudicated by Juola. As director of the subcommittee, he runs the staff that actually writes the military sections of the appropriations bills. Murtha has said there would be a supplemental of at least \$40 billion. Since the surge might only cost \$30 billion, that's a lot of wiggle room to play with. Committee sources also say that Juola has the ear of the chairman and full committee when it comes to money.

That money will also have to go through the Senate Appropriations Committee, run by Hawaii Sen. Daniel Inouye, albeit after the House side has the first crack at the bill. Charlie Houy is the main man on Inouye's appropriations committee staff dealing with that issue. Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee staffer Betsy Schmid is also important.

Rick Kessler, staff director for House Foreign Affairs Committee and aide to chairman Howard Berman, D-CA.

Kessler coordinates a team of experts who are involved in every aspect of the new strategy, from regional affairs, nuclear nonproliferation, and legal issues involving the Pentagon. Berman consults heavily with Kessler's team when it comes to what questions to ask, what hearings to schedule, and Kessler's staff was huge in writing Berman's Pakistan aid bill, part of the new approach to the region. Berman himself has not yet come out in support of Obama's new strategy, saying that he's going to take some more time and think it over. You can be sure that Berman is relying on the brainpower of Kessler and his subordinates in making that decision, and that the administration will be seeking their support.

Key players on Kessler's team include David Fite, who handles nuclear issues, Daniel Silverberg, the guy who deals with the Pentagon, and Jasmeet Ahuja, a former State Department staffer who deals with South Asia.

Vance Serchuk, foreign-policy Advisor to Sen. Joseph Lieberman, I-CT

Joe Lieberman is a unique actor in the Afghanistan debate. Neither a loyal Democrat nor a Republican, he is nevertheless a reliable hawk and never shy to criticize the Obama administration when it comes to national-security matters. Isn't it interesting therefore that he has so wholeheartedly embraced Obama's new strategy, even defending to some extent Obama's explanation for setting a time frame for beginning withdrawal? Behind Lieberman's thinking is Serchuk, a smart and polished young staffer who was a research fellow at the American Enterprise Institute before transferring to Lieberman's office as a legislative assistant and now a senior advisor. AEI was where the Iraq surge idea was born and its current thought leaders, including Bill Kristol, have come out strong and unwavering in support of Obama's plan (Not all conservatives have followed along).

Some observers see Lieberman (and AEI) as hugging Obama on the Afghanistan surge in order to prep the ground for a full-on "stay the course" campaign in 2011. By embracing Obama on this now, they can point back to their support of him later when they make the case that the military mission in Afghanistan should be extended. Serchuk is aided by fellow Lieberman staffer Chris Griffin, another AEI alumnus.

Bill Monahan - counsel for the Senate Armed Services Committee majority staff and aide to Sen. Carl Levin, D-MI

Monahan is Levin's point man for Afghanistan. Levin has been against increasing combat troops, in favor of placing more emphasis on training the Afghan army. And although Levin is supporting the president's plan, he continues his call for more Afghan troops faster and isn't likely to let that issue go. Levin is also known for his tough and pointed questions for officials. His office is crucial in pushing for details of the new strategy, clearing up discrepancies, and combating lines of criticism that might come either from the right or the left. As Levin's lead on all of that, Monahan's work will surely come to have an impact. He works closely with SASC general counsel Peter Levine, another important SASC staffer to watch.

Source : http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2009/12/04/5_hill_staffers_to_watch_on_afghanistan
accessed 8 juin 2012

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Expertise: Defense

For more than 20 years, Charles Houy has worked on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Since 1995, he has been its Democratic clerk. In this position, and as a trusted advisor to subcommittee Chairman Daniel K. Inouye, (D-Hawaii), Houy is one of the most powerful staffers on one of the most powerful committees in Congress.

Houy avoids attention, however, and is known for his discretion. According to a 2007 profile in the National Journal, colleagues of Houy describe him as one who “likes to keep things close to the vest.” He has been praised on the Senate floor by both Republican and Democratic members for the long hours he has worked for the committee. Former Appropriations Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, once lauded Houy as “a consummate expert on defense issues” who, Stevens said, “is well respected by those at the Department of Defense and his colleagues on the Hill.”

At the beginning of fiscal year, the subcommittee received the president’s budget request, which called for significant increases in defense spending, but serious cuts in discretionary spending for non-security related departments. The Bush budget boosts discretionary security-related spending by 8.2 percent, and other discretionary spending by .3 percent.

Inouye has taken a particular interest in Department of Defense medical programs, which he credits for drastically decreasing combat mortality levels. But, he noted, “this means many more of our servicemembers are returning home with significant injuries,” that can take time to heal and which are often accompanied by long-term effects like traumatic stress.

“Our challenge is to respond to these new challenges and realities,” he continued. “After everything they have gone through and continue to endure, our government must ensure that we are doing everything possible on their behalf.”

In the 107th Congress, Houy was named a Stennis Fellow in recognition of his effectiveness. Nominated by a member of Congress, these fellows are senior-level congressional staff, such as committee staff directors, chiefs of staff, legislative directors, counsels, and senior professional staff. In each Congress, about two dozen staffers are selected for the program, which is operated by the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service at Mississippi State University.

Source : “Houy, Charles J.”. First Street. Last modified August 7, 2008. Consulté en juin 2012

Sources additionnelles :

First Street, Legistorm