



Parker House
Boston, Massachusetts
September 9, 1988

This season's opening New England Circle spotlights the Senators of Maine. Republican William S. Cohen and Democrat George J. Mitchell have collaborated on an important examination of a significant period in American history as members of the Select Committee on Secret Military Arms to Iran and the Nicaraguan Opposition. They co-authored an insightful book, "MEN OF ZEAL".

The Senators join New England Circle tonight not only to give their clear inside analysis of the Iran-Contra affair, but also to share with us their experience and knowledge gleaned from decades of eminent public life.

New England Circle grew out of a tradition inaugurated here at the Parker House in the 19th Century. Literary giants such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Charles Dickens, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and others, gathered regularly for meetings of the Saturday Club. Their lively informal discussions formed a tradition that New England Circle continues today.

The Circle is a forum for the discussion of social, political, educational and literary issues that could possibly foster change in our lives, our nation and our world. Men and women of different cultures, ideologies and professions are invited to share their points of view. We invite as many guests/members as we can to participate in the limited number of Circles held each year. However, once a part of the Circle, always a member of New England Circle.

During this 1988 Presidential campaign season, the bipartisan New England nature of tonight's Circle demonstrates real concern for the issues that transcend party politics. Cohen's co-authorship of the special-prosecutor law; Mitchell's concern for the environment; and their mutual concern for television coverage of politics since President Reagan's election should make for a stimulating and provocative evening.

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JEANNE CLARIZIO, *Attorney*, Portsmouth, NH
CHARLES CLEMENTS, M.D., *Director*, Human Rights Education, Unitarian Universalists Service.
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