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# 'Draft' Move Opens in Boston With Lodge Busy in Viet Nam

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By JAMES S. DOYLE  
Special to The Star

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 4.—

Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge was in war-torn South Viet Nam working for President Johnson as some old friends started a campaign to have Mr. Lodge take away Mr. Johnson's job.

When the Nation's first "Draft Lodge for President" headquarters was opened here yesterday in Mr. Lodge's hometown, it was a scene familiar to the Lowells and the Cabots and all old Lodge devotees.

There were the pretty girls with the Lodge ribbons, familiar looking and as it turned out, mostly left over from George Lodge's 1962 Senate race against Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

#### Former Aide on Job

At the center desk was Robert R. Mullen, a Washington public relations man who has known the Ambassador for 25 years, and who worked with him during the Eisenhower campaigns of 1952 and 1956.

There were plenty of press releases and bumper stickers, telephones and mailing lists, but no candidate. He was in South Viet Nam proclaiming he wanted to stay there.

Mr. Mullen wasn't worried. "As long as he stays there he will build political support. I'm

Mr. Doyle is a reporter for the Boston Globe.

not eager for him to come home. If he does, he's just another candidate" for the Republican presidential nomination.

Mr. Mullen said 12 more draft headquarters would be opened from Redding Ridge, Conn., to Albuquerque, N. Mex., within a week.

The Massachusetts quota is only 90,000 of the 1 million signatures the group hopes to gather on a petition to demonstrate to prospective delegates and to the Ambassador himself the enthusiastic support for his candidacy," according to the first press release.

There were, of course, problems. In Massachusetts Goldwater supporters had at least one hand on the party reins, since Frederic C. Dumaine, former railroad president and a backer of Senator Goldwater, is State G. O. P. chairman.

And then there was Secretary of State Kevin White's news conference scheduled for this afternoon to announce that the new Lodge group would have to close down because it was raising and spending money for a candidate without his consent, a violation of a 1954 Massachusetts law.

George H. Kidder of Concord, a Boston attorney who heads the Massachusetts Lodge group, seemed little concerned. He said he was confident the group could meet the "technical requirements" of the law Mr. White, a Democrat, was expected to refer to.

Mr. Kidder said he had been talking to William Saltonstall, the Senator's son. "He told me the Senator wanted to make it absolutely clear that if the ambassador becomes a candidate he expects to lead a delegation unanimously in support of Lodge" to the G. O. P. National Convention.

Shortly after he made the statement, Goldwater supporters announced they would open their first Boston campaign office Tuesday.

Mr. Mullen was asked if President Eisenhower blessed the movement to draft Mr. Lodge as the Republican candidate.

"He knows what we're doing and he's very happy about it," he replied.

Mr. Mullen also said he had entertained a New Hampshire delegation at the Boston headquarters, and had under consideration a plan to enter a slate of delegates favorable to Mr. Lodge in the March 10 primary there in which Gov. Nelson Rockefeller and Senator Goldwater are running.

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