



# The Reid Report

## U.S. Senator Harry Reid

Fall/Winter 1987

### Great Basin

## State's First National Park Dedicated

I was proud to have participated in dedication ceremonies for the Great Basin National Park in August, at which Nevadans and the rest of our country celebrated the founding of our nation's 49th National Park.

This ruggedly scenic area, encompassing 77,000 acres of desert-to-alpine land, is a true monument to the beauty of Nevada and I am proud to have helped create this crown jewel in the National Park system.

Not only does the Great Basin National Park preserve some of the most beautiful and scenic areas of our state, but it also is a perfect complement to the other fine recreational activities that abound in Nevada. It will attract thousands of people to our state each year, contributing enormously to our tourism and other related industries.



National Park Service Director William Penn Mott presents Senator Reid with a photograph of the Great Basin National Park.

## State Water Problems Need Decisive Action

The most critical issue affecting the future of Northern Nevada is a shortage of water, and the problem won't go away without immediate, decisive action.

That's why I sent two of my senior staff members to Northern Nevada last June to study the water problems that are plaguing that fast-growing area of the state.

What they found was a sincere willingness among the various water user groups, governmental agencies and the utilities to work together on solutions to distribution of the water from the Carson and Truckee rivers.

They also learned that three bureaus of the Department

of Interior (DOI) are divided about how the water should be distributed. This DOI divisiveness has held up the process.

Since then, Interior Secretary Donald Hodel has assured me he will submit a formal position on the issue this fall.

Once that DOI position is official, we can begin the process of negotiations and seek real solutions to the complex water problems.

This is not a simple issue. We must direct our efforts toward a workable solution that resolves Nevada's water problems and the water problems that could erupt in the future.

### Reid Named to Prominent Panel

Senator Harry Reid expanded the scope of his Senate activities recently with his appointment to the 18-member Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is better known as the Helsinki Commission.

Reid was nominated by the Senate leadership and serves with eight other senators on the board. As a legislative commissioner, he will work with representatives from 35 countries to deal with military security problems.

The commission was created in the 1950s and focuses on such issues as guaranteeing fundamental freedoms in the Soviet Union.

### Reid Helps Celebrate 'Compromise'

Senator Harry Reid was selected by the combined congressional leadership to represent Nevada at ceremonies to commemorate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution in Philadelphia in July.

He was one of 55 members of Congress -- a number that was identical to the total number of delegates who attended the 1787 Constitutional Convention -- to observe the 200th anniversary of the federal Constitution's "Great Compromise."

The "Great Compromise" established the nature of representation within the new Congress under the Constitution and ended a deadlock that had threatened to destroy the convention. The compromise provided

that states would be represented in the House in proportion to their population; in the Senate they would be represented equally.

"I was proud to represent our state at this event," said Reid, who was Nevada's only delegate to the ceremonies. "It symbolized the importance of not only celebrating our nation's history, but also of directing our country's future."

Following the meeting of the 55 delegates at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, the Senate and House conducted brief separate ceremonial sessions in their respective chambers at adjacent Congress Hall -- the meeting place of Congress between 1790 and 1800.



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# News from Congressman **HARRY REID**

NEVADANS PROTEST--Sen.-Elect Harry Reid, left, shows Department of Energy Secretary John Herrington his anti-repository letter to the President. The letter, initiated in July, opposes the location of a high-level nuclear waste repository in Nevada. Reid told the Secretary that Nevadans are patriotic and support a strong national defense, "but we've done more than our fair share." More than 33,000 Nevadans have signed the letter, which confirms they are "unalterably opposed to the disposal of any high-level nuclear waste in Nevada, now or in the future, under any circumstances." As Herrington looks at the letter and a sample of the signatures, Reid stands next to a pile of the signature sheets on his desk. Herrington will now present the letter and signatures to the President.

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