



Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, speculate on this year's presidential race.

Terry Luke, Star-Bulletin

Jimmy Carter foresees brokered nomination

By June Watanabe
Star-Bulletin writer

Former President Jimmy Carter today said that there was a great possibility for a deadlocked national Democratic convention this summer in Atlanta.

At a news conference this morning at Hemmeter Aviation's terminal on Lagoon Drive, Carter said he believes that, if by the end of May or June none of the Democratic presidential hopefuls has a clear majority, party officials and other top Democrats, including himself, would have to get together to consider what to do.

"I think one of the active can-

didates would be the likely person to come up with a negotiated nomination," Carter said.

He named New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, Georgia Sen. Sam Nunn and New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley as possible draftees.

Carter said the main consideration is to come up with a two-person ticket that could win in November.

"My preference is for one of the present (announced) candidates."

HOWEVER, THE former Democratic president declined to reveal his favorite.

"One of the misconceptions

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that the press has promoted is that we have people who are running who are not competent - who are pygmies or dwarfs.

"But the fact is we have highly competent men," several of whom would make a good president, he said.

By the end of the campaign one will emerge because of qualification, charisma and other factors, then receive the respect he deserves, Carter said.

"All the others will fade into forgetfulness," he predicted,

noting that he can't remember all the men he ran against in 1976.

Carter, 63, and his wife, Rosalynn, arrived at 6:45 this morning from Kauai en route home to Plains, Ga.

THEY WERE accompanied by developer Chris Hemmeter, Carter wearing a maile-and-ilima lei and Rosalynn with a two-strand ilima. They left a half hour later via Hemmeter's private jet after meeting with reporters.

Their "good friend," Hemmeter, who helped design the Carter Library and Carter Center in Georgia, flew with them.

While in Hawaii, Carter addressed the Young Presidents Organization at the Hemmeter-owned Westin Kauai.

Carter, the Georgia peanut farmer who was president from 1976-80, has made frequent trips to Hawaii since 1979. He was stationed here from 1948-51 as a young Navy officer and said he always "feel like we're at home" in the Islands.