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# Editorial

## Vietnam Continues To Undermine U.S. Interests

BY ROWLAND EVANS  
AND ROBERT NOVAK

### Soviet Trade: Detente Revisited?

WASHINGTON — The announcement last April 11 by White House chief of staff Donald Regan of a new Economic Policy Council to be chaired by Treasury Secretary James Baker created few ripples when it was made, but signs are multiplying that it may be the vehicle for greatly increased trade with the Soviet Union and its allies, and a lessening of national security oversight of such trade.

The new council replaces a body called the Senior Interdepartmental Group on International Economic Policy, which previously provided national security guidance for overseas trade. While the new council is ostensibly chaired by the president, Baker will run it in actual fact. The membership will also include Regan, Vice President Bush, the secretaries of state, commerce, agriculture and labor, the U.S. trade representative and the director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Notably absent are the secretary of defense, the national security

adviser and the director of the CIA — the officials currently most concerned with the national security implications of trade with the Soviet bloc. Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger raised the roof last May when planning for Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige's trade journey to Moscow on May 20 was originally placed under the new Economic Council instead of the National Security Council.

Critics claim that Baldrige had made plans for the trip — to discuss possibly strategic oil and gas equipment sales — without consulting the Pentagon. Regan heard Weinberger's objections and at the last minute shifted the planning back to the NSC. But the original circumstance does not bode well for the future.

The Reagan administration is schizophrenic about East Bloc trade. On the one hand, it is being pressured by traditional Republican constituencies — strongly represented at State, Commerce and Treasury — to relax the reins. On the other, Weinberger and the national security establishment want to halt the transfer of militarily useful

equipment to the Soviet Union. Reagan has yet to resolve the conflict over which is more important.

### BIRD'S BOO-BOO

California's Chief Justice Rose Bird already knows she is facing an uphill fight to win re-election to the top spot on the highest court in the largest state in the union next year, but she is risking a loss of support from the party's important Jewish constituency by associating herself publicly with one of the nation's leading anti-Israeli politicians, former Republican representative Pete McCloskey.

Bird's Jewish backers were simply astonished when McCloskey, a liberal Republican whose ardent support for Palestinian nationalism made him a target of national Jewish organizations before his departure from Congress in 1982 to make an unsuccessful Senate race, turned up as a major player in the Retain Bird campaign.

Bird did not help her cause any when she made a speech to a Jewish group in Los Angeles focusing on the plight of Japanese-Americans who were interned

during World War II without making any mention of the Holocaust.

California Democrats are fearful Bird could be clobbered at the polls next year by as much as two to one. That could endanger two other liberal justices up for reconfirmation, as well as other candidates on the Democratic ticket, including Sen. Alan Cranston.

### VIETNAM AND EL SALVADOR

Amid all the talk last April of "reconciliation" with Vietnam 10 years after the end of the war, there was little mention that Vietnam, like an evil spirit from the past, continues to try and undermine U.S. interests, especially in El Salvador.

According to the Defense Department, about 70 percent of the infantry weapons captured from communist guerrillas fighting to overthrow the freely elected government of President Jose Napoleon Duarte have been traced to Vietnam. Most of the captured weapons are U.S.-made M-16 or AR-15 rifles, the bulk of which

have been traced by their serial numbers to weapons shipped from the U.S. to Vietnam and captured by Hanoi.

### PACKING THE CPSC

One of President Reagan's major accomplishments in his first term was to get a Reaganite majority on the boards and commissions of regulatory agencies Congress would not let him abolish. One of those he has achieved success with is the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which even many liberals agree has a tendency to be a "national nanny." Now the agency's protectors in Congress want to undo Reaganism by legislation.

Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), whose subcommittee oversees the agency, wants to cut its size from 5 to 3. That would leave deregulator Chairman Terrence Scanlon in the minority with Jimmy Carter holdover Stuart Stalter and Reagan appointee (but liberal Republican) Sandra Brown Armstrong in control. If the bill passes, deregulator Carol Dawson would have to vacate her seat at the end of her term in October.

## Donohue This Week

# A Poison Ivy Primer

By Paul G. Donohue, M.D.

"Dear Dr. Donohue: What's the best way to treat poison ivy? — S.D."

Let's speak of prevention first. You have to be able to recognize poison ivy and its ilk. You can find pictures in encyclopedias. Remember the old adage: "Leaves of three, let it be."

Upon contact with a known culprit, wash the area within 15 minutes. If you don't, you'll get the rash. Use plain water. Soap facilitates spread of the oily resin of the plant leaves.

What if you can't get the resin off in time? You should get the stuff off your skin anyway, for you can spread the rash to other parts of your body (and to others) by contact. Same goes for pet fur and clothing. The resin can be spread that way as well.

Here's what happens next. From five to 21 days after exposure the skin turns red and itches. If it's a repeat exposure this can happen as soon as a day or two after. Directly following the redness and itch come the blisters. Their fluid is harmless and won't cause poison ivy rash on your body or anyone else's.

A fine mess you've got yourself into. Oozing blisters and a devilish rash. What now?

First, you're stuck with trying to make yourself as comfortable as possible. It's going to take one to three weeks for everything to subside depending on how much oil got on your skin.

You can relieve the itch with drying lotions, calamine or Burow's solution (a pharmacist can help you formulate the latter). When weeping (of the blisters, of course) has subsided you can begin steroid creams; the kind available over-the-counter will do. If you have a first-rate case, the doctor might want to prescribe oral steroids to quiet the inflammation. At the same time you can ask about use of antihistamine pills to

fight the itch and let you sleep.

If the plant growth is in your backyard, you'll want to get rid of it. There's only one thing worse than poison ivy and that's poison ivy in a youngster, who may itch indiscriminately and produce a secondary infection. Don't burn the plants. The resin in the smoke can be breathed in and cause throat, nose and lung inflammation. Bury the plants.

What about desensitization? It is possible, but you have to take the shots for some time, and immunity lasts only a year. Those with occupations that expose them to the plant might consider it, though.

Parkinson's disease afflicts more than 200,000 Americans, with 36,000 new cases reported annually. Dr. Donohue's booklet, "Coping with Parkinson's," is a practical patient and family guide to treatment, therapies, and drugs used for control. For a copy write to Dr. Donohue, P.O. Box 11210, Chicago, IL 60611. Please enclose a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and \$1.50 for postage and handling.

Dr. Donohue welcomes reader mail but regrets that, due to the tremendous volume received daily, he is unable to answer individual letters. Readers' questions are incorporated in his column whenever possible.

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## Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor

I am a long-time resident of the great city of Irvine who is very troubled by the recent murder of a 15-year-old girl. The person or persons who committed this horrible crime are still unknown, and are probably enjoying life right here in our little community.

What disturbs me so much is that in a conversation with one of our police officers here in Irvine, I was surprised to learn that the Irvine Police Department has not even been briefed on the facts of the case, and that apparently the murder of this unfortunate girl is rather low on the list of priorities of the Mayor (who is a candidate for re-election) and the Chief of Police.

I am told that overtime has been authorized for Irvine policemen for

a "stake out" for gasoline and battery thieves, but that no special effort at all is being spent on solving the murder of this child.

I grieve for the family of this little girl, and I also grieve for the lack of concern on the part of the city officials who will not make every effort or leave no stone unturned in order to bring this murderer to justice.

On behalf of the parents and grandparents of young girls, I hope that this letter will pressure to bear on the Mayor, the Council and the Chief of Police of Irvine to straighten out their priorities and give the officers whatever they need to solve this brutal crime and make Irvine safe again.

Agnes Moore  
Star Route  
Irvine, KY 40336



Mike Keefe THE DAILY POST

YOU, IN THE BACK—  
MOVE UP FRONT!  
AND YOU, THERE—  
PUT A LITTLE MORE  
SHOULDER INTO IT!  
OKAY... EVERYBODY  
COMFY, NOW?

## Report to Kentucky

SENATOR WENDELL FORD

U.S. Senator, Washington, D.C. 20510



### KENTUCKY'S FRIEND, TVA, BEING ATTACKED

A friend of Kentucky is under fire.

That friend, the Tennessee Valley Authority, has contributed much to the seven-state region it serves, including part of Kentucky. Many ongoing TVA programs, including coal research, hold great promise for our state.

However, TVA is being attacked by parties from outside the region who support a proposed 70 percent budget cut and want it dismantled to no more than a power-generating operation.

I was proud to join 16 other members of Congress in defending the agency recently during Senate oversight hearings of a subcommittee of the Environment and Public Works Committee. The subcommittee is chaired by U.S. Sen. Gordon Humphrey (R-N.H.) who has even referred to the 52-year-old agency as the "Tennessee Vampire Authority." He is claiming that TVA programs "have long outlived their usefulness."

I could not disagree more.

In testimony before the subcommittee, I emphasized that TVA's programs benefit the entire nation, serving as a national laboratory for trying out new ideas. A good example is the residential energy program which TVA launched in 1977. It was followed by a nationwide program by the Department of Energy and the result has been millions of dollars worth of energy savings.

Included in my testimony was an explanation of programs at Land Between the Lakes, TVA's facility which covers 170,000 undisturbed shoreline acres in Kentucky and Tennessee. Besides contribution to tourism in those states, LBL has been the home of new approaches to resource management, scientific research and education.

Furthermore, the TVA's coal demonstration project of

## dateline washington

by Hal Rogers  
5th District Congressman

Three years ago, one of my top priorities in Congress was to become a member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee. The reason was simple; there was a place where I could directly help our Fifth District on any number of issues. Fortunately, the House leadership saw fit to place me on this choice committee.

The opportunity to help our district was clearly demonstrated this past week, as the House began acting on the 1986 appropriations bills. As each bill came through the Committee and onto the floor, I was able to deal with a particular problem facing our district.

Here are some examples:

**AGRICULTURE.** One of the keys to Kentucky's agriculture, besides maintaining the tobacco price support program, is to begin developing supplemental crops. If farmers could begin growing fruits and vegetables in addition to tobacco, they could increase their farm income and ride out tobacco's rough spots easier.

In my Agriculture Subcommittee, I was able to place \$150,000 for what I call "Project: Agriculture Diversity." This program joins U.S.D.A. and the University of Kentucky in a research and marketing effort to help Kentucky establish an entire fruit and vegetable industry. By week's end, the full committee had also approved the bill, and now it moves to the

We also approved funding for the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, a burgeoning tourist area. Earlier this year, of course, we got work restarted on the Cumberland Gap Tunnel, and have now moved funding for next year through the full committee.

**COAL.** I was able to deal with two different coal issues this week. The first one dealt with freeing up an additional \$100 million for abandoned mine reclamation work. We were able to argue that the money needed to be spent, and prevented a major cut in the program which would have affected all coal states, including Kentucky. Now, Kentucky's program should be able to continue without delay.

Also, I pushed through some instructions in a bill which will encourage a new approach to selling our coal overseas. By combining financing for boilers with support for long-term American coal contracts, I am hopeful we can increase our coal exports. This effort involving the Export/Import Bank and the Department of Commerce holds great promise.

All these are examples of how important the Appropriations Committee is to the Fifth District.

## Agencies Recieves