

Congressional Closeup by Ronald Kokinda and Susan Kokinda

House passes foreign aid bill

The House completed action on the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985, the foreign aid bill, on July 11. Many of the votes reflected a seemingly odd convergence between liberals and the administration. But this, in fact, is the alliance committed to Henry Kissinger's "New Yalta" redivision of spheres of influence. The overall impact of the bill will be to reduce the influence of the United States worldwide, except in those few areas which have been left to the United States by Kissinger and his State Department friends.

Philippines

The House rejected by a vote of 125 to 279 an amendment by Rep. Gerald Solomon (R-N.Y.) that would have restored U.S. military assistance to the Philippines, assistance which would fulfill U.S. commitments to the Philippines over the use of military bases. The money had been converted to economic assistance by the House Foreign Affairs Committee which argued that this would be of greater help to the Philippines.

In reality, no amount of economic aid can counteract the destabilizations caused by the International Monetary Fund.

Solomon attempted to restore an additional \$60 million in military aid that had been entirely eliminated from a \$180 million package. Solomon said that his amendment would yield an "annual package that is consistent with the terms of the military bases access

agreement that enables our armed forces to use Clark Air Force Base and the Subic Bay Naval Base. . . . I hope that this Congress will make good on the promise given by our government to the Philippines when the bases agreement was signed in 1983."

Greece-Turkey

With no opposition raised, the House ignored the current strategic reality and accepted by voice vote an amendment by Rep. William Broomfield (R-Mich.), the ranking Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, to limit U.S. military assistance to Turkey to \$712 million, and to reaffirm a traditional ratio of U.S. assistance of 10 to 7 between Turkey and Greece.

Turkey, the major U.S. ally in the eastern Mediterranean and increasingly surrounded by hostile Soviet client-states, has been in a major military modernization program and its needs for U.S. assistance are high. Greece, on the other hand, is now a Soviet client-state, redeploying troops away from the Warsaw Pact border and against Turkey, carrying out military provocations against the Turks, allowing terrorists to operate freely, preparing to expel U.S. bases, and supporting Soviet propaganda lines.

Angola-Mozambique

The House, in a move that surprised observers unfamiliar with the State Department's "New Yalta" provision for increased U.S. presence in southern Africa, followed the Senate in repealing the Clark amendment. That amendment, which bans aid to groups fighting the Soviet-backed govern-

ment in Angola, was repealed by a vote of 236 to 185. Rep. Sam Stratton (D-N.Y.), in arguing for the repeal, said, "As long as those Cubans stay in Angola there will never be any peace there. . . . [The Angolan people will] never be able to remove the yoke of communism."

In a related move affecting the same region, the administration's proposal for \$150,000 in military aid to the government of Mozambique withstood an attempt by conservatives to delete it. Rep. Mark Siljander (R-Mich.), speaking for those conservatives who do not understand or do not go along with the "New Yalta" framework, attacked the U.S. aid as backing a "Marxist-Leninist dictatorship" which receives major Soviet, Cuban, North Korean, and East German assistance, is a police state, and engages in massive human rights violations. Liberal backers of the military aid claimed that Mozambique had "responded to virtually every one of the initiatives that the United States has put forward in recognition that their dependence upon the Soviets has yielded them very little that is economically substantial. . . ."

Kampuchea

By a vote of 288 to 122, the House voted up to \$5 million in military assistance to "non-communist" forces in Kampuchea fighting the Vietnamese occupation. Elements of these "non-communist" forces carried out mass genocide against the Cambodian population in the late 1970s. Liberal proponents of the New Yalta, led by Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-N.Y.), joined with conservatives in going beyond simply humanitarian assistance to these

groups. The administration had not even requested the military assistance, but Solarz said that Secretary of State George Shultz had authorized him to say that the administration now wanted the option to provide military assistance.

"There is no way that the Cambodians can militarily drive Vietnam out of Cambodia," Solarz said, "but they can sufficiently increase the cost of the occupation to make possible a political settlement."

Israel's Lavi project

An amendment, demanding that an administration study be done of U.S. support for the Israeli Lavi jet-fighter development program, was offered by Rep. Robert Badham (R-Calif.), then withdrawn without any House action being taken on the matter. The six-month study would have had to assess the "economic and security implications for the United States and Israel" of the Lavi program, including impact on jobs, and loss of jobs in the United States, and "comparisons of probable performance, unit cost, and delivery schedules of the Lavi and comparable U.S.-produced aircraft."

Badham complained that the U.S. support for Lavi, including FY86 and FY87 funding, will total \$1.75 billion, and yet, "No House or Senate committee has ever held any in-depth hearings to address any of these issues" of financial, trade, employment, or security implications. Badham raised the issue that the program could also further hurt the Israeli economy, and pointed out that Ezer Weizman, "the person who might be called the father of the Lavi Program . . . now opposes the Lavi Program as

being crippling to the Israeli economy."

Badham said that in a period when U.S. DoD procurement is being so carefully examined for waste, it is ironic that the Congress has not studied the Lavi project's implications.

This is the first time that anyone in Congress has suggested a look at the largely secret program, which is a project of the Sharon-linked circles in Israel to transform the Israeli economy into a drugs and weapons-based economy.

Terrorism: one step forward, one step backward

In a direct slap at State Department efforts to repaint Syria as a great friend of the United States, Rep. John McCain (R-Ariz.) House on July 10 leagues that Syria is a surrogate of the Soviet Union and an active promoter of terrorism. In his remarks, McCain pointed out:

"Syrian involvement in the worldwide terrorist network is well documented. Among the groups which are known to train and operate from Syria—the Kurds, the Armenians, all elements of the PLO, and various Shi'ite sects—are many who seek to subvert our allies, such as Turkey, and undermine the Western Alliance. . . . Syria is known to support many terrorist activities undertaken by Qaddafi and Khomeini."

McCain, who was a POW in Vietnam for many years, cautioned: "We should not forget that Syria is a Soviet client-state. . . . Syria receives virtually all its arms from them and owes them a large political debt." The congressman urged more concrete actions

from Syria before any further expressions of friendship are espoused.

The Senate's contribution to the fight against terrorism, however, was not so useful. Senators Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.),

Minn.), and others have introduced S.14 legislation to increase the funding and the authority for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to improve its counter-terrorist capabilities.

That there is ample room for improvement goes without saying, but giving money to the FBI to fight terrorism is like giving money to a wino to fight alcoholism.

While this news service has been documenting the terrorist threat to the United States, FBI Director William Webster has been insisting, on the record, that no such threat exists. The FBI is notorious for its role in covering up the larger, Soviet-directed game-plan behind terrorism.

Ironically, chief sponsor Bentsen singles out the FBI's role in foiling the Sikh assassination plot against Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi as motivation for increasing support for the FBI. Not only did Rajiv Gandhi publicly blast the FBI for its failure to give timely notification to the Indian government, but evidence exists to show that the FBI would not have moved on the assassins had it not been for local police authorities. According to sources, the FBI wanted to wait and arrest the assassins "in the act of committing a crime," and would have done so had the local police not blown the whistle.

That Senator Moynihan is a co-sponsor of this legislation is noteworthy. The former ambassador to India is one of the Sikh movements major backers in the United States.