Griffin attacks Panama treaty

Another round of ammunition, please.

Michigan's senior U.S. senator, Robert Griffin, brought the fight against a new Parama Canal treaty to Deroit this week. He came out with guns ablazing.

Griffin, long an opponent of the treaties which would give the tiny Central American country full control of the interoceanic canal by the year 2000, criticized the treaties and President Jimmy Carter's tactics in trying to win Senate

Senators were implored to put aside their own best judgment and to vote for treaty last Thursday on the ground that rejection would be a devastating we to the prestige of President Carter and the office he holds," Republican iffin told the Detroit Economic Club.

SEN. ROBERT GRIFFIN The president is weak

er and the office he holds," Republican
"The strongest argument for the
treaty was the weakness of the president," he continued.
THE SENATE last week ratified, 6832, a treaty that provides for the permanent neutrality of the 54-pear-old
canal. Carter said ratifiaction of the
treaty was vital to his crobibility as an
international leader. Donald Riegle,
the state's Democratic senator, voted
for the treaty.
Griffin said, "This prediction of devastating damage to the prestige of the
president could eventually turn out to
be a prophecy.
"If all the senators would have voted
on the basis of the way their constituents felt, the treaty would have
failed."

SEMCOG gives green light to bikeways

Bikeways are needed not only in parks, but in linear paths leading to the parks. That was one key recommendation in a regional bikeway policy plan adopted Tuesday by the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments. SEMOG'S General Assembly, representing 127 member governments in the seven-county region, adopted the blue plan without dissent. The plan is adopted the blue plan without dissent. The plan is considered the blue plan without plan for blyme, okladan, Macomb, Westletnaw, Livingston, St. Clair and Monroe counties.

"THIRTY-FIVE major recreational facilities exist within the region, each offering the opportunity for developing bleways," said the plan 5 state. "At present, five have bikeways. Kensington Metropark, Sony Creek Metropark, Metropalk and Metropark, Belle Isle and Maybury State

Betropark, Sondy Teek Metropark, Metropolitan Beach Metropark, Belle Isle and Maybury State Park.

"A second major type of recreational kleway development is linear bicycle corridors. These facilities offer the advantage of providing much greater accessibility of facilities to bicyclists than spot developments.

"One example of a regionally significant linear bikeway is the bikeway along 1-275 (in western Wayne County and Farmington Hills). When completed in August 1978, this Class I bikeway (separated from motorized traffice) will run some on miles from Novi to Monroe County.

"Another regionally significant bikeway is the partially completed route from Delhi Metropark through Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, and southeast through Washtenaw County."

RECOMMENDED for development were these even bikeways:

•Jackson to Lakeland abandoned railroad. The

state has already acquired this right-of-way, which runs through the Waterloo, Pinckney and Brighton state recreation areas.

•Penn Central abandoned railroad from Dequindre Road in Avon Township to Lake Orion.

"The Oakland County Department of Parks and Recreation is interested in developing a bikeway along this abandoned line, and it is a first priority

of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. This segment dosely parallels the Clinton River and Paint Creek, thus affording a highly scenic route and providing much stream access. . . It will afford access to four regional parks: Rochester-Utica State Recreation Area, Bald Mountain State Recreation Area, Sony Creek Metropark and Oakland's Addison-Oaks, Park."



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He said Carter made the vote a test of party loyally. And he acknowledged that some GOP leaders were trying to make the canal issue a "litmus test" of Republican loyalty.

"As I see it, this is not a partisan political issue," he said.

DEBATE ON THE second part of the canal package, which would turn the Canal Zone to Pan-arna's control by the year 2000, is expected to con-tinue for another week.

time for another week further to the commended that the treaty be rewritten to include these provisions:

"That the U.S. have the right to use military force to protect the canal, even beyond the year 2000, against any threat, including those from Panamanian terrorists.

"That the U.S. retain more control and jurisdiction in the Canal Zone than what is currently provided for by the treaty.

"That the U.S. keep the right to build another canal.

INDER THE provision of the treaty, Griffin said, United States ditizens working the canal zone until the year 2000 would be under Panamania jurisdiction. "Employees would be subject, even while performing their duties with respect to the canal, to the laws of Panama, the police of Panama and the courts of Panama, "Griffin said. "We would find ourselves," he continued, "trying to operate and maintain the canal in a foreign country, rether than in a Canal Zone under our control and jurisdiction." Griffin also criticized the treaty's wording, which so far has fostered two interpretations—a

our control and jurisdiction."
Griffin also criticized the treaty's wording, which so far has fostered two interpretations—a U.S. position and a Panamanian one.
Carter has said the treaty allows the U.S. to intervene militarily at any time to defend the canal. According to Griffin, though. Panamanian leader Gen. Ornar Torrijos told the country. "The United States is obligated to come to our defense... when we ring the bell, when we push the button."

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