

Compensation to LSD-drugged ex-GI passes to Senate

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes Dec. 1-10.

HOUSE

roll call report

'BUY AMERICAN' — By a vote of 250-197, the House adopted an amendment giving protection to U.S. manufacturers of mass transit vehicles. Buses and subway cars bought by cities with federal aid must have at least 50 percent American content and be assembled in the U.S., and a bid by an American manufacturer is the "low bid" even if it is up to 15 percent higher than a competing foreign bid. Members said during debate the measure would benefit the sole American manufacturer of subway cars, the Budd Co. of Philadelphia, and the two remaining U.S. bus builders, the General Motors Truck and Coach Division and Grumman Flexible. The amendment was attached to a mass transit bill later passed and sent to the Senate.

Rep. James Oberstar, D-Minn., the sponsor, said his measure would make it more difficult for "foreign manufacturers to come in and take jobs away from American workers, and that is what is at stake here — jobs." Opponent Bill Frenzel, R-Minn., said the amendment "will contribute to inflationary pressures, contradict free trade principles and probably not achieve expansion in the domestic industry as is intended."

Members voting yeas wanted to give

American bus and subway car manufacturers an edge against foreign competitors, even if that means higher prices.

Rep. David Bonior, D-Mt. Clemens, William Brodhead, R-Birmingham, and James Blanchard, D-Mt. Clemens, voted yeas.

William Bloomfield, R-Birmingham, voted nay.

Reps. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, and William Ford, D-Taylor, did not vote.

LSD PAYMENT — By a vote of 249-98, the House passed and sent to the Senate a bill providing a tax-free federal payment of \$625,000 to a former Army man who was given the psychedelic drug LSD without his knowledge. James R. Thornwell, now of Oakland, Calif., was administered LSD during interrogation in 1961 while Army counterintelligence agents suspected him of giving classified documents to foreign agents. He contends that his personality was altered by the experience and that he has been unable to hold a job.

Rep. Dan Glickman, D-Kan., a supporter of the payment, said: "The man

'His difficulty is that he just does not want to work,' said Rep. Harold Sawyer, R-Mich., who said there is no medical evidence that LSD causes prolonged lethargy.

has become somewhat of a — using this word in the kindest sense I can say — mental vegetable."

Rep. Harold Sawyer, R-Mich., an opponent, said there is no medical evidence that LSD causes prolonged lethargy. "His difficulty is that he just does not want to work," he said.

Members voting yeas either opposed any federal payment to Thornwell or thought the \$625,000 payment was excessive.

Brodhead, Blanchard, and Bloomfield voted yeas.

Pursell, Bonior and Ford did not vote.

'SUPERFUND' — The House passed, 274-94, and sent to the president a bill enabling the federal government to clean up areas poisoned by chemical

dumps and spills. A "superfund" of \$1.6 billion is to be established over the next five years, with \$1.39 billion supplied by the chemical industry and the remainder by taxpayers.

Supporter Toby Moffett, D-Conn., asked: "How many of these Love Canal ticking time bombs are going to have to go off and blow up in our faces before we act?"

Opponent William Dannemeyer, R-Calif., said state and local governments and the private sector should have primary clean-up responsibility and that "the federal taxpayer should be the court of last resort."

Members voting yeas favored creation of the "superfund."

Pursell, Bonior, Ford, Brodhead, Blanchard and Bloomfield voted yeas.

SENATE

CIVIL RIGHTS BILL — The Senate failed, 54-43, to achieve the three-fifths majority needed to silence a filibuster against 1980 fair housing legislation. This killed the bill to strengthen the 1968 Fair Housing Act by giving the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) power to sue those suspected of discriminating in housing

sales and rentals. HUD now can only mediate when discrimination is charged, and the Justice Department's power to sue in such instances is severely limited.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., a supporter of ending the filibuster, said that by passing the bill the 96th Congress will be remembered as "the Congress that at least redeemed the promise of fair housing for the American people."

Opponent Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, said that early next year "we will have a fair housing bill and it will be a fair bill that everyone who is in favor of fair housing can vote for."

Senators voting yeas wanted immediate enactment of the 1980 fair housing bill.

Sens. Donald Riegle and Carl Levin, both Democrats, voted yeas.

4-DAY WORK WEEK — The Senate adopted, 43-38, an amendment allowing government contractors a work week consisting of four 10-hour days. Organized labor wants to retain the existing law requiring contractors to use a five-day, 40-hour week with daily overtime paid after the eighth hour. Business lobbyists advocate the change

of four 10-hour days so that contractors do not have to pay overtime until after the 10th hour. The amendment was attached to a revenue sharing bill which was sent back to the House.

Sen. Henry Bellmon, R-Okla., the sponsor, said that "at a time when this country is faced with the need to conserve energy and improve productivity, it makes sense to allow those local working arrangements which are productive and conserving."

Opponent Harrison Williams, D-N.J., said the amendment would cause "a loss of jobs, as employers are no longer required to add additional workers to avoid overtime pay."

Senators voting yeas wanted government contractors to be able to use a four-day, 40-hour work week.

Riegle and Levin voted nay.

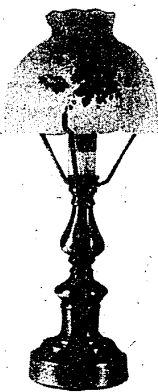
PAY RAISE — The Senate voted, 69-21, to block a pay raise proposed for members of Congress and some 33,500 top-ranking executive branch employees and federal judges. The raise for congressmen would have come from \$60,663 to \$70,000. The vote came during debate on an appropriations bill that was headed for final Senate approval.

Riegle and Levin voted yeas.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE HOME

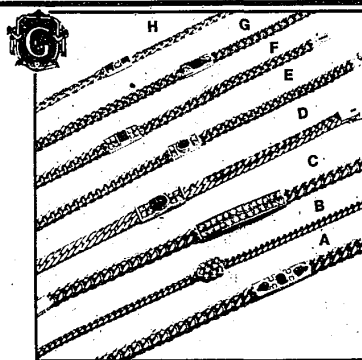
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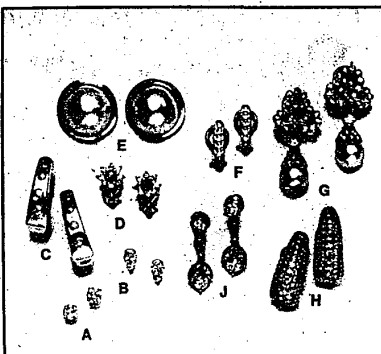
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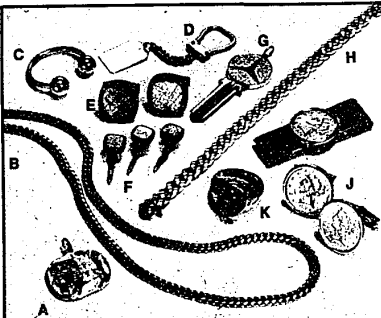
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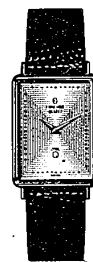
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