

U.S. halts trade preferences in SE Asia

Here's how area House members and senators were recorded on major roll call votes at the close of the 98th Congress.

HOUSE

DUTY — By a vote of 174-233, the House rejected an amendment to end the preferential trade treatment the U.S. grants to South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

The vote occurred during debate on a catchall trade bill (HR 3398) that later became law.

To help "developing" countries, the U.S. waives duties on some 3,000 categories of products imported from about 140 countries and territories, including South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Of the \$26.5 billion worth of goods the three exported last year to the U.S., about \$5.6 billion arrived duty free.

Sponsor Richard Gephardt, D-Mo.,

noted that South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong have robust economies and register trade surpluses in dealing with the U.S.

Opponent Thomas Bliley, R-Va., said removal of the three from the preferential trade list will weaken the administration's power to negotiate issues such as dumping and the manufacture of counterfeit products.

Members voting yes wanted to end duty-free trade status for South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Voting yes: Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods, William Ford, D-Taylor, Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Voting no: William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

Not voting: Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth.

COMMITTEES — By a vote of 251-158, the House tabled (killed) a resolution

rollcall report

to increase the number of Republican seats on House subcommittees.

Republicans represent about 38 percent of the 435 congressional districts. Under rules set by Democrats, they are denied 38 percent of the seats on many key subcommittees and full committees.

For example, the GOP holds only 31 percent of the subcommittee seats on the Energy and Commerce Committee. The deficiency tilts legislative decisions heavily in favor of Democrats. The GOP says it is unfairly weakened not only in subcommittee voting, but also on the staff level, where many key policy decisions are made in secrecy by unelected individuals.

No Democrat spoke on the substance of the resolution.

Sponsor William Dannemeyer, R-Calif., called existing subcommittee ratios "a tyranny of the majority" that enables Democrats "to manipulate the democratic process."

Members voting yes were opposed to the resolution.

Voting yes: Hertel, William Ford, Levin.

Voting no: Pursell, Broomfield.

enough money to secure U.S. embassies against terrorist attack.

This followed the recent bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. The certification was sought as a condition of Senate approval of a \$338 million emergency appropriation for embassy security.

The vote occurred during debate on a fiscal 1985 appropriations bill that later became law.

Warren Rudman, R-N.H., called the amendment an attempt to fix blame on the president should another U.S. embassy be bombed.

Joseph Biden, D-Del., said the bombing of the U.S. embassy in Lebanon "had nothing to do . . . with lack of money. Congress gave the president all he needed" for security.

Senators voting no favored the certification requirement.

Voting no: Carl Levin and Donald Reigle, both Michigan Democrats

TURKEY — By a vote of 51-46, the

Senate tabled (killed) an amendment pressuring Turkey into withdrawing its troops from the Republic of Cyprus.

Turkey has occupied Cyprus since 1974, delaying a United Nations declaration that Cyprus is a sovereign state. Last year it moved to establish a "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus."

This amendment sought to withhold \$215 million in U.S. military aid to Turkey until after it withdrew from the Greek-Cypriot area of Famagusta-Varosha. It was proposed to HJ Res 648 (above).

Richard Lugar, R-Ind., said the amendment would antagonize a valuable U.S. ally and "undermine the prospects for diplomatic progress on Cyprus."

Larry Pressler, R-S.D., said America "must use the only leverage we possess (foreign aid) to bring about an end to the decade-old Cyprus conflict."

Senators voting no favored withholding military aid to Turkey.

Voting no: Levin, Reigle.

SYNFUELS — The Senate rejected, 37-60, an amendment to rescind 9 billion that had been obligated to the Synthetic Fuels Corp.

Later, the Senate approved a rescission of about \$5 billion. The latter figure scales down the "synfuels" program but keeps it alive against the wishes of President Reagan and other critics.

The corporation is funding several companies in their attempts to extract fuel at competitive prices from tar sands, oil shale, coal and other sources.

Sponsor Bill Bradley, D-N.J., said that "with deficits at \$200 million annually we simply cannot afford to continue guaranteeing a few companies \$80 to \$90 a barrel of oil."

Opponent James McClure, R-Idaho, said the remaining synthetic fuels program "provides the basis for efficient private sector development. . . ."

Senators voting no wanted to retain a sizeable synthetic fuel program.

Voting no: Levin, Reigle.

New uterine exam announced

Most women no longer need to undergo an out-patient surgical procedure to have abnormal uterine bleeding diagnosed, according to a Sinal Hospital of Detroit physician.

Dr. Milton H. Goldrath, chairman of Sinal's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, speaking before the 52nd annual convention of the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recently, advocated a procedure that can save patients considerable time and money, not to mention discomfort and inconvenience.

Goldrath and his associate, Dr. Alfred I. Sherman, have successfully used a hysteroscopy with curettage on 400 patients.

With this procedure, the gynecologist views the uterus through a hysteroscope while using suction curettage to aspirate, or draw off, tissue samples from the uterine cavity. Currently, the standard procedure is a diagnostic dilatation and curettage (D and C), in which the physician has to blindly scrape the uterus to obtain a tissue sample.

Unlike D and C, an expensive hospital procedure, hysteroscopy — suction curettage can be performed as part of a patient's routine office visit and adds only five to 10 minutes to the examination time. It is calculated that the new procedure costs approximately \$1,000 less than a hospital D and C.

SENATE

EMBASSIES — By a vote of 56-42, the Senate tabled (killed) an amendment requiring President Reagan to certify that Congress has appropriated



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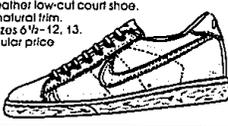
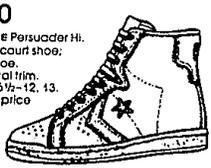
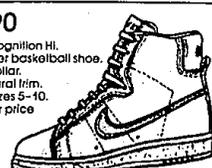
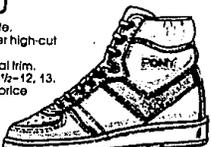
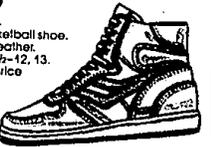
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