

# Influence-buying scandal ends quietly with questions

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — The Korean influence-buying scandal — once rumored to engulf 115 congressmen and more than a dozen senators — has ended quietly, but with questions raised on both sides of Congress about what to do the next time a scandal breaks.

The Senate Ethics Committee, created in an atmosphere of "post-Watergate morality," officially ended its first major assignment Monday with a report on Korean influence-buying that made no recommendation for discipline against any current senator.

Although the panel raised suspicions concerning Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., by forwarding evidence in his case to the Justice Department to determine if he or an aide vio-

lated the law by accepting a campaign contribution in a federal building, the harshest findings were reserved for three dead senators.

The report, leaked to the press last week, said the late Sen. John McClellan, D-Ark., failed to report a \$1,000 cash contribution from South Korean businessman Tongsun Park; and the 1972 presidential campaign of the late Sen. Hubert Humphrey, D-Minn., failed to report a \$5,000 cash contribution from Park.

The late Sen. Joseph Montoya, D-N.M., was found to have received contributions from Park while frequently consulting with him on legislative issues and continuing the association at a time "he

knew or reasonably should have known" Park was an agent of the Korean government.

The House panel recommended discipline against only three sitting members. The House upheld the committee's recommendation for a reprimand of Reps. John McFall, D-Calif., and Charles Wilson, D-Calif., for their dealings with Park, but overrode a unanimous recommendation of censure for Rep. Edward Roybal, D-Calif., and simply reprimanded him too.

Besides failing to report a \$1,000 Park contribution and converting it to his personal use, Roybal was found to have repeatedly lied to the committee under oath about the money. It was the lies that By softening Roybal's punishment, the House raised doubts about how seriously it really takes recommendations from the panel it entrusted with the unpleasant task of monitoring congressional misconduct.

But perhaps more important, it raises the question of how seriously individual members will take the ethics committee if they are called to task for misconduct in the future.



**Building a frame-up for the Bears**

Al Butt and Don Hinton, freshmen in Squadron 11, spent Monday afternoon building a spirit sign for the Texas A&M vs. Baylor football game this Saturday. After stretching a

painted sheet across the frame, the sign will be hung outside of their dorm.

Battalion photo by Karan Stewart

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# Alcohol use increases risk of cancer

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — The Department of Health, Education and Welfare reported Tuesday that 10 million Americans are now problem drinkers and that heavy alcohol consumption is "indisputably involved" in causing cancer.

"Excessive consumption of alcohol takes a terrible toll on the health, safety and happiness of millions of Americans," said HEW Secretary Joseph Califano in sending

the special report to Congress. The 138-page volume — the third such HEW document since 1971 — provided some startling statistics: —Some 10 million (7 percent) of adult Americans are problem drinkers. —More than 3 million (19 percent) of young people aged 14 to 19 have some problems related to alcohol consumption. —More than 200,000 deaths each year may be associated with the

misuse of alcohol, including half of traffic fatalities, half of homicides and one third of the suicides. —Findings now conclude that heavy drinking is connected with cancer as well as other health problems. —Alcohol is indisputably involved in the causation of cancer and its consumption is one of the few types of exposure known to increase the risk of cancer at various sites in the human body," Califano said in a re-

lease accompanying the report. "In comparison to the general population, heavy consumers of alcohol always show a marked excess of mortality from cancers of the mouth and pharynx, larynx, esophagus, liver and lung," he said. The HEW report also noted that alcohol is the third leading cause of birth defects involving mental retardation.

In financial terms, Califano said the economic toll from alcohol prob-

lems was estimated at \$43 billion in 1975, including some \$20 billion in lost production and nearly \$13 billion in medical costs. Califano told Congress HEW currently developing goals and initiatives for a national plan to curb alcohol abuse. "In the meantime, this report documents the scope of the need for action," he said.

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**Use wood, not Arab oil**  
**State provides forests**

United Press International  
MONTPELIER, Vt. — With the chill of fall comes the whine of chainsaws.

Vermont residents are heading for the forests, to slice up cords of firewood for the coming winter. They have been doing so for four years under a popular state program that grew out of the Arab oil embargo. Vermont opened up its forests to meet the challenge and allowed state residents, for a minimal fee, to cut firewood on state-owned forest land.

"It was a nickel-dime operation at first," recalled Conrad Modica of the Forests and Parks Department. "Maybe 300 or 400 cords a year." Then, as oil prices skyrocketed, more and more Vermonters started burning wood. More and more residents took advantage of the offer. The state treasury gained a windfall. But the demand for cheap, accessible firewood has now begun to exceed the supply. The popular program's days may be numbered, a victim of its own success.

"This is not a forever thing," Monica said. This year, Modica said, the harvest will be about 10,000 cords from state lands. State records show that since the program began, more than 8,200 persons have cut 44,000 cords of firewood on about 6,300 acres of state land.

Under the program, the land is marked off into individual wood lots. Each tree to be cut is sprayed with paint by a forester. The wood lots, each containing between five to 10 cords of hardwood or more, are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Those who sign up for the program, and there are always long waiting lists, can accept or reject the lot offered them.

Then the cutting begins and the racket of chainsaws is heard throughout the once silent forests. There is a lot of work between the wood lot and the fireplace, but the benefits can be ample. A cord of wood that is cut, split and delivered generally costs \$55 to \$60 or more in Vermont.

The state charges \$4 a cord for the standing trees. Of that, \$1 stays with the Forests and Parks Department to run the program; \$3 goes to the state General Fund. The legislature has given back \$50,000 for road-building in the forests during each of the past two years.

A major side benefit has been the clearing of worthless "cull" wood from state forests. Experts compare it to weeding a garden.

According to Modica, 70 percent of the stands on state property have been improved. He said a need for similar forest management programs exists on private land, which comprises more than 80 percent of the state's forests.

As the popularity of the program increased, so did the problems. Gone are the days when weekend woodcutters could drive the family station wagon up to the woodlot and haul away his load. Most of the lots now are far back the woods, high on mountainsides and accessible only by rough logging roads, which Modica said cost the state \$3 a foot to build.

In central Vermont, where the program is most widely used, available forest land now will provide only a limited supply of cut-own firewood, he said.

"The individual woodcutter will be finished after five years," he said. After that, it won't be economically feasible for the state to build roads to the lots, which will be accessible only to contractors with the proper equipment.

He urged the public to prepare for that day by forming woodcutting cooperatives and buying equipment such as bulldozers.

"We're afraid of making this a training program because we know there are limits," Modica said.

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<p><b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p>		
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