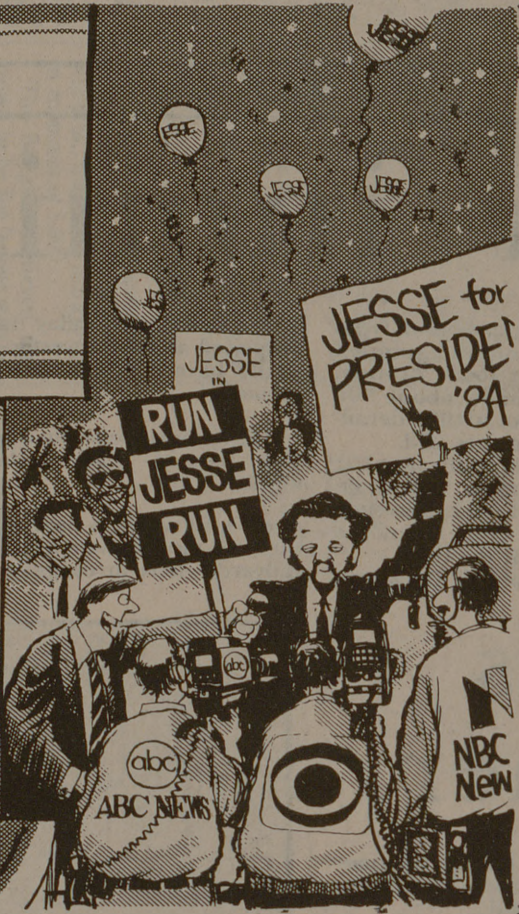


opinion

THE OREGONIAN
A DIVISION OF THE TRIBUNE COMPANY

BLACKS for FRITZ BANQUET



Asiatic travel for Deaver and a commendation for Fischer

by Helen Thomas

WASHINGTON — Backstairs at the White House:

Deputy chief of staff Michael Deaver is fast becoming an expert on Asia.

Deaver made two trips to the Far East to plan President Reagan's trip each step of the way. As soon as Reagan's trip to South Korea and Japan is over, he will hop an Air Force plane from Seoul to China to plan for Reagan's trip to the mainland in April.

The China trip is expected to be longer than the president's two-country six-day Pacific swing. He has indicated he may visit countries that were dropped from his current itinerary, including the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand.

Deaver and his wife, Carolyn, traveled to the Pacific with the president and Mrs. Reagan in 1971. As a Californian, like Reagan, he has a special feeling for the Far East.

Deaver had a shattering experience following his final trip to South Korea to put the finishing touches on arrangements for Reagan's visit.

He had breakfast with the foreign ministers and other South Korean officials on a Sunday and then flew back to Washington. President Chun Doo Hwan and members of his Cabinet flew to Burma for a visit. A few hours after he returned home Deaver was awakened to be told that the foreign minister, with whom he had breakfast, and other foreign dignitaries were killed in a terrorist blast in a Burmese mausoleum.

Deaver also recalls that when Reagan was governor of California the Japanese consul general in San Francisco was Ikichi Hara.

He said that in 1970 Hara was the only person in the Japanese government who thought Reagan would someday become president of the United States.

As a consequence, he arranged a trip to Japan for Reagan and his party as well as a meeting with Emperor Hirohito — an unprecedented event because Reagan was not a head of state.

Years passed, Hara retired from the foreign service, but when Deaver arrived in Tokyo to plan Reagan's trip, the diplomat showed up and told him, "You see, I was right."

Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, whose department includes the Secret Service, had a special word of commendation for David Fischer, the White House aide who was one of the hostages taken by a gunman at the Augusta National Golf Club three weeks ago.

All the hostages were released but not without some anxiety on their part.

In a letter to Fischer, Regan said, "Performance and courage under pressure are qualities to be admired and after the episode at Augusta you have my admiration, not only for these qualities, but also for your good judgment and fast thinking. You handled that delicate situation with great skill that helped prevent anyone from getting injured."

"As one who has seen the strength and frailties of the human spirit in times of combat," Regan said, "I thought your actions that weekend were commendable."

Regan and Secretary of State George Shultz were the only two Cabinet officials who accompanied Regan on the weekend outing.

The president and Mrs. Reagan are headed for their mountain-top ranch near Santa Barbara for the Thanksgiving holiday and annual gathering of the clan.

Like most families, the first lady stays with the tried and true menu; roast turkey with all the trimmings, corn bread dressing and giblet gravy.

Soon after they return to Washington,

Mrs. Reagan will supervise the decorating of the White House for the yuletide season. Her theme this year is secret as usual, but she is a traditionalist and is not expected to stray far from an old-fashioned Christmas tree.

Mrs. Reagan hit the jackpot in her Nielsen ratings after the showing of "Chemical People," a PBS program about drug abuse among teenagers. She appeared on the program to promote town meetings around the country where the problem was being discussed among youth and parents.

Mrs. Reagan appears to have more television exposure than any of her predecessors. Because of her training in drama and her career in Hollywood, she seems more at home in front of a camera.

She has appeared on such programs as "Different Strokes" and ABC's "Good Morning America." Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis led the way in 1961 when she took America on a televised tour of the renovated White House.

First ladies who followed her were interviewed on television from time to time, but none have been on as many programs as Mrs. Reagan.

The White House has found a way for President Reagan to run the gauntlet of reporters who are lined up on one side of the diplomatic entrance behind a rope and shout questions at him as he heads for the helicopter and a weekend at Camp David.

Secretaries, young staffers and interns are rounded up and put behind a rope on the other side of the entrance.

When Reagan comes out, he walks over to them, shakes their hands, all the time turning his back to the press, and then strides to the helicopter turning to wave and smile before he gets on the chopper.

Long-term problems not solved by farmer 'tractorcade' protests

by William Cotterell

UNADILLA, Ga. — A few years ago, farmer Tommy Kersey led "tractorcades" to the Georgia State Capitol, to President Carter's home in nearby Plains, and to Washington with the same message.

If America didn't drastically change its farm policies, the American Agriculture Movement warned grimly, the country soon was not going to have enough to eat. And when that happened, there would be a change of presidents, Congress members and state administrators.

When there was no substantial change in the agricultural economy — certainly nothing like the AAM wanted — Carter was retired to Plains and the chairman of the Senate agriculture committee was toppled.

But not much has changed for farmers under the new administration, Kersey says.

"We feel like we made most people in the country aware of the fact that the farmers have a problem," Kersey said when asked what all the tractorcades, farm strikes and protest rallies accomplished. "As far as solving any of our long-term problem, I guess we didn't."

"Something happened — we just lost our head of steam. Back in '78, Carter couldn't even hardly come home. Every time he came to Plains, we had it wrapped up in tractors."

Kersey, who grows cotton and soybeans with his father and two brothers on 3,800 acres in Dooly County, was the focal point of protests in the fall of 1978. Farmers parked their heavy equipment in the fields, posting protest signs on them with demands for price parity, and rode their tractors in traffic-strangling motorcades to Atlanta and Washington.

When Carter came home for Christmas that year, tractors filled the tiny streets of Plains — some of them locked down with their plowshares extended to keep the State Patrol from moving them. Kersey headed delegations that met with then-Gov. George Busbee and ex-Sen.

Herman E. Talmadge, who headed the agriculture committee.

Although Carter himself was in the peanut business, southern farmers turned against his administration and gave much of their vote to Reagan. Kersey said growers were with Reagan's refusal to rescind the Soviet grain embargo after the Korean Air Lines 007 jet, which killed 269 people. Reagan's administration drew criticism, however, for imposing a debt moratorium on farmers.

"The worst thing — the one thing — Reagan has done to the reappointment of Paul Volcker as Reserve Board chairman," Kersey said. "Those high interest rates are a disaster."

AAM planned a conference in Atlanta High School this weekend to organize for the 1984 election. Kersey said most farmers still support more for philosophical reasons than his administrative decisions.

"If I had to make a choice, it'd be real tough. I think a lot of people would prefer Reagan, but the choice," he said. "Deep down, I got a lot of gut feeling for Reagan. He's got a lot of gut feeling for farmers. He's got a lot of gut feeling for patriotic Americans, some of whom has the good of the land at heart. I want to see the country prosper for themselves, and I think Reagan has some gut feelings."

Kersey said the nation's food supply will be a major issue in 1984. "Food shortages" possible as early as 1984. He said a federal farm loan moratorium similar to the Deal's Debt Readjustment Act would be needed to give farmers a three-year breather while financing and equipment investments.

"I think if the consuming public had any idea of the critical situation in campus food supply, they'd panic," Kersey said. "I've heard figures thrown around that the lowest world food supply was in January of 1944, when they had a 10 percent of food reserve."

"By Jan. 1, 1984, they predict a drop down to under 60 days world food supply," he said.

Slouch

by Jim



Predicted changes in climate will affect the tourist industry

by Dick West

WASHINGTON — If, according to a couple of recent studies, we have world peace for the next 100 years or so, Earth will undergo a catastrophic warming trend that will melt the polar ice caps and flood coastal cities, among other disasters.

But if, according to two other studies, we have all-out atomic war, Earth will undergo a catastrophic cooling trend that will wipe out life forms that survived the blast.

So there you have it, ladies and gents. A "greenhouse effect" or a "nuclear winter." The choice is yours.

Perhaps it will help you decide between freezing and drowning if I point out a few negative factors not included in the long-range weather forecasts.

The warnings of climate changes ahead are largely composed of dire predictions for food production and other economic and political upheavals. What they don't cover is the potential impact of the warming trend on tourism.

We were merely tantalized with projections that by the year 2100 New York City could have a climate like Daytona Beach, Florida, you know, has a lucrative win-

ter tourist season supported largely by cold weather refugees from New York and other Northern cities.

It stands to reason that if future New Yorkers can step outside in January and get as good a suntan as they might now acquire at Daytona Beach, they aren't likely to invest huge sums in winter travel to Florida.

Overall, however, I can see a bright future for tanning lotions. Sunbathers who reside in frosty climes are going to need year-round smearings of lotions they now use only in summer.

The same rosy outlook applies to bikini sales. In the absence of nuclear war, the greenhouse effect could create a much longer season for exposing female epidermis to solar rays.

Ocean resorts, on the other hand, probably will suffer. As the seashore moves inland, vacationers may be going to the Mojave Desert to get sand in their shoes.

And what of the Daytona 500, the

stock car classic that now attracts thousands of racing enthusiasts to Sunshine State? With the track under water, will that event to combined annual auto race up Pikes Peak?

Tourists, always a hardy and plentiful lot, can learn to shift for themselves. I'm sure. Should you need something to brood about, try picturing what the next Olympic games in the next century might be like.

With such sports as downhill and bobsledding no longer practical, winter games could feature world-class competition in downhill apple-bobbing.

Hockey players can always take to the ice. But I just can't see surfers renting chalets in the Swiss Alps.

We may yet have a "nuclear winter" but in the meantime it isn't too soon to start preparing for the warming trend. I mean, if you think you've got your basement dampness now, just think what it will be like after the polar ice melts.

The Battalion

USPS 045 360

Member of Texas Press Association Southwest Journalism Conference

- Editor Hope E. Paasch
- Managing Editor Beverly Hamilton
- City Editor Kelley Smith
- Assistant City Editor Karen Schrimsher
- Sports Editor Melissa Adair
- Entertainment Editor Rebeca Zimmermann
- Assistant Entertainment Editor Shelley Hoekstra
- News Editors Brian Boyer, Kathy Breard, Kevin Inda, Tracey Taylor, Chris Thayer, Kathy Wiesepape
- Photo Editor Eric Evan Lee
- Staff Writers Robin Black, Bridgid Brockman, Bob Caster, Ronnie Crocker, Elaine Engstrom, Kari Fluegel, Tracie Holub, Bonnie Langford, John Lopez, Kay Denise Mallett, Christine Mallon, Michelle Powe, Stephanie Ross, Angel Stokes, Steve Thomas, John Wagner, Karen Wallace, Wanda Winkler
- Copy Editors Kathleen Hart, Susan Talbot
- Cartoonists Paul Dirmeyer, Scott McCullar
- Photographers Michael Davis, John Makely, Dave Scott, Dean Saito, Cindi Tackitt

The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography classes within the Department of Communications. Questions or comments concerning any editorial matter should be directed to the editor.

Letters Policy

Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in length, and are subject to being cut if they are longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for style and length, but will make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter must also be signed and show the address and telephone number of the writer.

Columns and guest editorials also are welcome, and are not subject to the same length constraints as letters. Address all inquiries and correspondence to: Editor, The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843, or phone (409) 845-2611.

The Battalion is published Monday through Friday during Texas A&M regular semesters, except for holiday and examination periods. Mail subscriptions are \$16.75 per semester, \$33.25 per school year and \$35 per full year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

Our address: The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

United Press International is entitled exclusively to the use for reproduction of all news dispatches credited to it. Rights of reproduction of all other matter herein reserved.

Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77843.

The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting newspaper operated as a community service to Texas A&M University and Bryan-College Station. Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Texas A&M University administrators or faculty members, or of the Board of Regents.