

WORLD AND NATION

Kirkpatrick planning to quit U.N. ambassador position

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.N. Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick announced Wednesday she is quitting the administration after a sometimes stormy tenure and returning to teaching and writing.

She revealed her plans following a private meeting with President Reagan. Kirkpatrick refused to say whether she had been offered a new job in the administration. White House officials also declined.

Asked if she was disappointed at not getting another top government post, Kirkpatrick said, "No. No, no, no, no, no, no."

"If I had wanted a top foreign policy job in the second term, I would have remained as U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations."

Kirkpatrick, on leave from a post of teaching government at Georgetown University, said, "I am very committed to teaching and writing and the independence that goes with that. And it's the life I intend to return to."

The ambassador said she wrote out the announcement of her resignation on the eve of her meeting with Reagan.

The President, who once lamented he did not have a job "worthy of her" outside the U.N., said last week he was ready to offer a suitable job outside the White House.

Sources who declined to be identified said it was the top post at either the Agency for International Development, the United States Information Agency or the task of revitalizing the now-moribund International Development Cooperation Agency. Kirkpatrick's associates let it be known she was not interested in those jobs.

Among those rumored as top candidates to succeed her at the U.N. are Ambassador-at-large Vernon Walters; Frank Shakespeare, head of the Board of International Broadcasting and onetime chief of the USIS; Evan G. Galbraith, the U.S. ambassador to France; and Charles H. Price II, the U.S. ambassador to Britain.

Senate Republican leader Robert Dole of Kansas suggested his wife, Elizabeth, now the secretary of transportation, as a candidate.

Analysts predict trade deficit will grow as U.S. dollar gains strength

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The United States posted its worst trading year in history in 1984—a \$123.3 billion deficit that nearly doubled the old record, the government reported Wednesday.

Both the Reagan administration and private economists predicted the trade deficit will grow even larger this year.

The Commerce Department said the 1984 deficit topped the old mark of \$69.4 billion set in 1983 and was almost three times the 1982 level of \$42.7 billion.

The growing deficits have been blamed primarily on the strength of the U.S. dollar, which since the fall of 1980 has surged upward by more than 40 percent against major currencies.

Since the dollar is not expected to drop significantly this year, most analysts expect the trade deficit will worsen further, hitting \$130 billion or more.

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige did not give a specific figure, but he said the United States could expect another "record trade deficit for 1985" because "resumed growth in the economy and the continuing impact of the dollar's rise during 1984 indicates higher imports in the months to come."

The record deficit "is a pointed indictment of the Reagan administration's hollow trade policy," said Rep. Bonker, D-Wash., chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on international economic policy and trade.

The trade deficit reflects the difference between what Americans buy in overseas goods and what U.S. firms are able to sell overseas. For 1984, imports surged 20 percent above the 1983 level while exports rose a modest 8.7 percent.

Analysts say the export level was held back by the strong dollar, which made U.S. goods more expensive on overseas markets. That same dollar made foreign goods less expensive and thus more attractive to U.S. consumers.

In December, the deficit shrank to its lowest level in the year, \$8.2 billion, compared to a November deficit of \$9.9 billion. It was the lowest monthly total since a \$1.1 billion deficit in December 1983, but analysts said the drop was an aberration which will not continue.

The strength of the dollar has been blamed in part for the record federal budget deficits, which many analysts believe have driven up interest rates in this country and attracted record amounts of foreign investment.

Collecting teddys need not be em-bear-assing

Associated Press

WISCONSIN, Eau Claire — James Benning is an arctophile.

If that's Greek to you, try this modern-day translation: lover of bears. Teddy bears, to be exact.

And if you think that's a little strange for anyone old enough to tie his own shoelaces, Benning can call upon his expertise as a professor of psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire to explain that an attraction to teddy bears is normal at any age.

"Often you get a bear or stuffed animal when you're little," he says, "and that bear represents security."

The bear comes to be "a symbol of faithfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty. Bears never tell. You can tell them secrets...and they're always there."

In scientific terms, he says teddy bears have a "solacing effect" on young and old. As troubled adults look for psychological comfort, he explains, it's only natural for them to return to their trusted childhood friend.

Bears are so deserving of Benning's professional regard that he maintains a teddy bear file, brings

bears to some classes for discussion, and delivers teddy talks to civic groups.

Among the tidbits in the expert's file:

- A book on how to make stuffed teddy bears that includes an introductory chapter on the history of the creature. The most accepted explanation has them named after President Theodore Roosevelt because he refused to shoot a cub or sickly bear that had been caught by a member of his hunting party.

- The Arctophile, a newsletter for bear collectors. It explains that arctophile comes from the Greek "arkto," meaning bear, and "philos," meaning friend or love.

- An article reporting on studies at three universities that found 80 percent of all female students and 40 percent of all male students keep a teddy bear or other stuffed animal in their room.

But Benning's interest goes beyond the professional.

"They are all unique," he explains, sitting in his campus office stuffed with books and "bearaphernalia" accumulated in his 27 years at the west

central Wisconsin university. "They have different expressions. They have a quality about them that's intriguing."

Benning traces his affair with bears to his childhood — yes, he had a teddy bear — and to the bears he and his wife, Carol, have given to their three children.

At first, Benning found himself buying "a bear here and a bear there." Now he has bears everywhere.

His campus office contains just the bear necessities: a few teddies, a bear calendar, an "anatomy of the teddy bear" poster and the like.

The rest of the professor's four to five dozen bears stay at home, where the three bears first given to his children sit in their own chairs in front of the fireplace.

Then there's the bearaphernalia. He has a bear mug, teddy trays, pens, a "bear lovers are the best" T-shirt, notepads — and a lot more.

Benning also has made 15 to 20 teddy bears of different sizes and styles. Perhaps out of respect for his furry friends, Benning doesn't sell his hand-made bears. They become gifts for family and friends.



James Benning, professor of psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, sits

with some of the teddy bears he has made. He says it's normal for adults to love teddy.

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