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Senate passes South African trade sanctions

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate, anxious to condemn the "evil of apartheid," voted 80-12 Thursday night to slap limited sanctions on racially segregated South Africa.

The lopsided roll call marked the first time the Republican-controlled Senate has recommended such action against the government in Pretoria. It amounted to a clear statement, as well, that President Reagan's low-key policy of "constructive engagement" does not go far enough in expressing American rejection of South African racial policies.

The House has approved legislation containing tougher sanctions, and the differences between the two measures will have to be reconciled before a final bill is sent to the White House.

The Senate-passed measure would ban the export of computer equipment used to enforce the apartheid laws, block bank loans to the South African government and end American commercial nuclear

assistance, in what Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., called an effort to "distance this country from the evil of apartheid."

In a last-minute change, sponsors of the bill also added a provision that calls for minting American gold coins to give collectors an alternative to the kruggerand, the gold piece minted in South Africa.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., "Every new dollar that flows from the United States to South Africa is a brick in the wall of apartheid . . . to do nothing today is tantamount to a vote of approval for apartheid."

But conservative opponents got a last-minute victory, as well, maneuvering the Senate into voting 90-2 against the tougher House version that some senators said privately they preferred.

The opponents of the measure joined Lugar, Kennedy and others in denouncing South African racial policies, but Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., said it was a "blight against the United States to take this action against an ally."

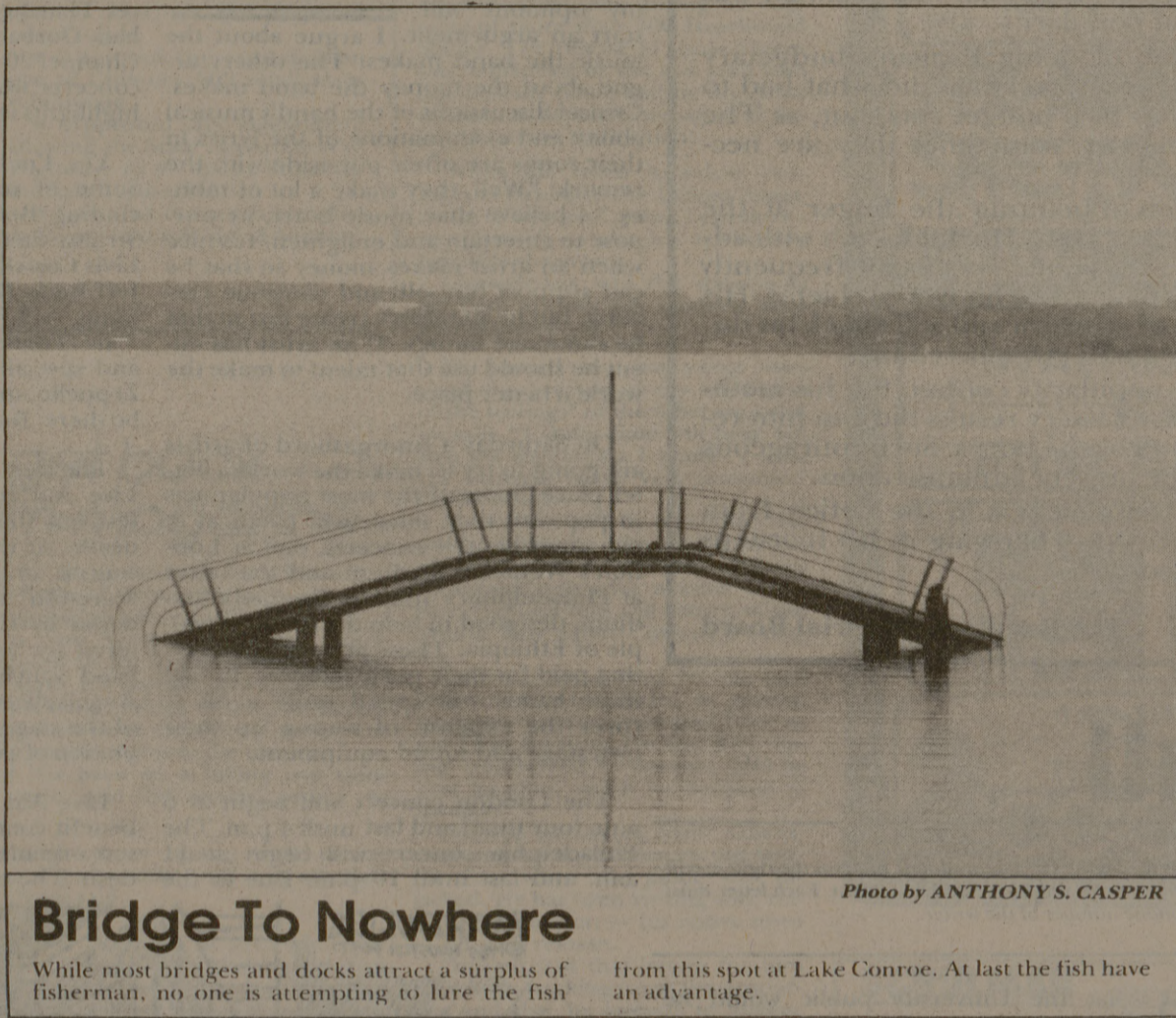


Photo by ANTHONY S. CASPER

Bridge To Nowhere

While most bridges and docks attract a surplus of fisherman, no one is attempting to lure the fish

from this spot at Lake Conroe. At last the fish have an advantage.

FAA proposes new curbs on carry-on bags

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Aviation Administration proposed regulations Thursday to limit the size and amount of carry-on baggage for airline travelers, saying passengers are hauling too many items aboard aircraft cabins.

"On both safety and security grounds . . . my instincts are to control excessive amounts of carry-on baggage," FAA Administrator Donald Engen told a group of airline representatives at a meeting to discuss the proposal.

The agency's plan would require all carry-on bags to fit into an area equal to the space beneath an average airliner seat with all baggage together measuring no more than 9 inches by 16 inches by 20 inches.

An additional lightly packed hanging garment bag — or a small soft-cover substitute bag — would be allowed on certain flights where storage space is available, but it must have soft sides, weigh no more than 20 pounds and contain no hard objects.

Currently, airline passengers are allowed to take as many items aboard an aircraft as they wish as long as the items in the view of the flight crew can be stored in a safe manner. Flight attendants and pilots have complained, however, that often the baggage is left in areas where it could hurt passengers, impede evacuation and at times even make an airplane too heavy for safe take-off.

While the FAA has acknowledged concern about the problem, the agency had not given it top priority until recent weeks when Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole, after the hijacking of TWA Flight 847 and suspected bombing of an Air-India jumbo jet, made clear she wanted the measure looked at in light of security at airports.

The question of how much baggage is being funneled through airport passenger screening stations because of increased importance, say government officials, after the FAA required additional inspection of bags that already have gone through X-ray screening in an attempt to thwart terrorist attacks.

CIA clerk, relative of Ghana leader

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The FBI brought espionage charges Thursday against a relative of the leader of Ghana and a female CIA clerk whom he allegedly wooed into turning over secrets about U.S. spy operations in the African nation.

FBI Director William H. Webster said the alleged spying over the past year and a half was unearthed by the CIA itself and that the CIA cooperated in the bureau's investigation.

In court papers, the FBI said the clerk, Sharon M. Scranage, 29, of

King George, Va., confessed her role during interrogation by FBI agents at CIA headquarters Monday through Wednesday. She was arrested Thursday morning.

The Ghanaian man, Michael Agbotui Soussoudis, 39, was arrested Wednesday night at a hotel in suburban Springfield, Va., where he had been led to believe he would have another rendezvous with Miss Scranage, the FBI said.

According to Justice Department sources, Soussoudis, a married, self-employed business consultant, and Miss Scranage, a divorced, \$22,000-

a-year clerk, became lovers in Ghana's capital of Accra in 1983.

An FBI affidavit charged that the liaison allowed the Ghanaians to obtain the names of CIA agents stationed in their country and of Ghanaian dissidents who were secretly cooperating with the CIA.

The FBI said the Ghanaians obtained a CIA report on efforts by Ghanaian strongman Jerry J. Rawlings' military government to get weapons from the radical North African nation of Libya.

And the sources, who declined to

be identified by name, said the U.S. government, based on the interrogation of Miss Scranage, believes that Rawlings, Soussoudis and Ghana's intelligence chief met with her recently in Accra and asked her to rifle classified files during her new assignment at CIA headquarters in this country.

Ghanaian Embassy spokesman Harry Marshall was away from his office and unreachable for comment.

The pair are charged with conspiracy to commit espionage, which

carries a maximum penalty of life in prison.

In separate hearings in suburban Alexandria, Va., U.S. Magistrate W. Harris Grimsley ordered both held without bail pending detention hearings next week.

Soussoudis said, "I am not associated with any intelligence service in Ghana; I am just related to the head of state, that's all."

The sources said he was either the nephew or cousin of strongman Rawlings, who took over Ghana in a military coup and now chairs its provisional national defense council.

Two charged with spying for Ghana

High Court maintains church, state separation

Associated Press

The U.S. Supreme Court, in a term featuring more church-state cases than any previous term in the court's 195-year history, has handed a setback to those hoping for greater government accommodation of religion.

In a series of church-state decisions, seven of them in all, the high court held on to the strict separationist position that has characterized most of the court's rulings for 40 years.

Experts on both sides of the intensifying controversy over church-state matters earlier had claimed a trend in court thinking that indicated more openness to religious expression in the public sphere.

They said several decisions in the previous term suggested such a shift.

But "the court did not continue the trend, so ominous last term,"

In a series of church-state decisions this term, the high court held on to the strict separationist position that has characterized most of the court's rulings for 40 years.

said a summary of the new decisions by the American Civil Liberties Union, which praised the court for returning to a strict separationist stand.

Some church specialists and Reagan administration officials who had urged a more hospitable government approach to religion were disappointed.

Chief Justice Warren Burger, in sharp dissents to three of the major rulings, said they exhibited not neutrality but "hostility toward religion."

Those key decisions came by split votes, two of them by narrow

five-to-four decisions against remedial aid to church school pupils, and by a six-to-three vote against an Alabama law for a moment of silence or prayer in public schools.

The divided opinions pointed to the possibility of future revisions or overturning of the decisions, particularly since five of the nine justices are 76 or older, some likely to give way to replacements in the near future.

At the crux of the rising number of church-state cases is the Constitution's First Amendment saying "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment

of religion, or abridging the free exercise thereof."

It's a two-edged provision, prohibiting both government "establishment" of religion as well as restrictions against it. The court battles hinge on varying interpretations of that balance.

Strict separationists — those insisting that any government arrangements favorable to religion, or even hinting it, are barred — won most of the decisions in the court's 1984-85 term that ended July 2.

In the latest rulings last week, the court threw out programs in Grand Rapids, Mich., and New York City for sending public school teachers into church schools for remedial and other enrichment courses for needy children.

The high court's slim majority held that the programs "threaten to convey a message of state support for religion to students and the general public."

Officials: Coke misread signals from consumers

Associated Press

ATLANTA — The top three officials of Coca-Cola Co. said Thursday they are bringing back the recipe that made Coke the world's most popular soft drink because they "clearly misread" the public's attachment to it.

They also denied that the return of the old formula was prompted by a failure of the 11-week-old new formula, or that the return of "Coca-Cola Classic" had been secretly planned all along.

"We're not that dumb and we're not that smart," Donald Keough, president of Coca-Cola Co., said at a news conference at the company headquarters along with Chairman Roberto C. Goizueta and Coca-Cola USA President Brian Dyson.

The officials said Coke made with the new formula will remain the company's flagship brand.

Around the country, the people who bottle and distribute Coke greeted the old new formula with a mixture of relief, disagreement and cynicism.

"We've had quite a lot of concern, a lot of calls to the plant," said John Kayajan, president of the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Cape Cod, Mass. "Now we can make everybody happy."

But Kayajan and other Massachusetts bottlers said the new Coke surpassed the old Coke's popularity in the state, and Kayajan predicted that "the new will prevail here."

"I think it's all a publicity stunt on the part of the company," said Mike Bruzzio, who checks shipments at the bottling plant in Newark, N.J.

Harvey Anderson, president of Rochester (N.Y.) Coca-Cola Bottling Corp., said that the new Coke "has done extremely well here" and the company might not go along with the new "Classic" formula. "We don't really see a need for it," he said.

The old formula for Coke, which remained fundamentally unchanged for 99 years, was replaced in April with a new taste which the company said was "smoother, bolder and rounder."

The company said then, and the officials repeated Thursday, that the new formula was consistently preferred in taste tests.

But many cola drinkers rebelled. Groups formed to lobby for the return of the old formula and Coke received thousands of telephone calls and letters.

On Monday, Coke's leaders decided to market the old formula again, Goizueta said. The decision was announced Wednesday.

Dyson said the new Coke is selling well and the company has no regrets.

However, he said the company "clearly misread some signals from the consumer" in its marketing research.

Police: bomb sank Greenpeace ship

Associated Press

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — Police said Thursday a bomb caused the explosion that sank the Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior and killed one of its crew of conservationists.

Prime Minister David Lange said the bombing Wednesday night was a "major criminal act with . . . terrorist overtones." The environmentalists said they

were determined to go ahead with a four-month anti-nuclear campaign in the South Pacific and would welcome any offer of a substitute ship from New Zealand.

Lange said his government would consider suggestions from the public that the government send a military vessel to a French Polynesian nuclear test site in place of Rainbow Warrior. He did not elaborate.

Sobbing survivors gathered at Marsden Wharf on Thursday to

gaze at the badly damaged ship, joined by a steady stream of Auckland residents offering help.

Detective Superintendent Allan Galbraith said the double explosion made a 6-by-8-foot hole in the hull of the Rainbow Warrior, which the 14-year-old Greenpeace organization used in protests of nuclear testing and dumping and the killing of whales, seals and dolphins.

An examination of the hull has satisfied us that we are dealing with a

case of sabotage and that an explosive device has been detonated on the outside of the hull in the area of the engine room," Galbraith said.

Ship's photographer Fernando Pereira was killed and Galbraith said investigators were treating his death as a homicide. Twelve other people, including two Americans, were on board during the explosions but escaped unhurt. Pereira was a Portuguese-born Dutch citizen.