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Spaghetti!Spaghetti!

U.S. moves toward lifting embargo on Vietnam trade

Page 6

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - President Clinton's administration is considering ending U.S. opposition to loans to Vietnam by the International Monetary Fund and others, Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Monday.

'It's under intensive review, and hopefully we will be having a decision on that in the near future," Christopher told a news briefing.

He was commenting on reports that senior Clinton advisers met last week and recommended a step that could lead to at least a partial lifting of the U.S. trade embargo against Vietnam.

France and other leading IMF member countries put off the loan decision at U.S. request last April. The fund has over 170 member countries. The U.S. position is most influential, but decisions are usually by consensus and some-

times by weighted voting.
The April postponement came after a Russian document surfaced that suggested Hanoi held back hundreds of U.S. prisoners of war after declaring all had been been released in 1973.

The U.S. administration later cast doubt on the accuracy of the Russian document and credited Vietnam with increasing cooperation in resolving the MIA-POW issue. Such cooperation is a U.S. condition for normalizing trade and other relations with Vietnam.

Decisions by the IMF and other international institutions to lend to Vietnam could increase pressure on the U.S. administration to permit American business to begin normal trade and investment with Hanoi.

American companies have expressed concern that overseas competitors already have got the jump on them in developing the Vietnamese market.

Bangkop



The Battalion





Wednesday, June 23, 1993

By Boomer Cardinale

THE SERIES GMAS PASTROUD

By Paul Stroud



AGGIE MAN

By Sergio Rosas









What's Up

Thursday

Career Center: is providing a Placement Center Orientation to help students learn how to use the services provided by the Career Center for career advancement. It will be held in 110 SSB at 3 pm. Please call 845-5139 for more infor-

Career Center: is also holding a Resume and Cover Letter Seminar to help students develop skill for writing resumes and cover letters. It is also held in 110 SSB, but it will

Career Center at 845-5139 for more information.

Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Aggies: will have a general meeting in Rudder 407 at 7 pm. The meeting provides a safe, positive, and supportive place for GLB's and guests. For further assistance call the Gayline at 847-0321.

StageCenter: is having a melodrama called "For Her Che-e-ild's Sake" aka "Her First False Step" directed by Wanda Daisa. It will

be at 701 N. Main in downtow Bryan on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 pm. For reservations and information call the Box Office at 823-4297.

What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Items for What's Up should be submitted no later than three days before the desired run date. Application deadlines and notices are not events and will not run in What's Up. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3313.

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'I don't want no favors or nothing

Possible half-brother says he just wants to meet Clinton Mix

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - The man who contends he is Bill Clinton's half-brother said Tuesday he is not trying to cash in on his family ties, but would be "very honored and very privileged" to meet the president.

Making a round of network television news shows, Henry Leon Ritzenthaler and his wife, Judith, said they were shocked by the media's interest in their story. "Quite frankly, we would have rather kept it in the family," she said. The Ritzenthalers said they wrote Clinton a year

ago to learn about Clinton's family history because the California man has heart trouble. That's our main reason for doing it and that's

our main goal to this day," Ritzenthaler told CNN. Clinton did not respond to the letter, but the couple said they assumed Clinton was too busy

Ritzenthaler said he would like Clinton to ac-

knowledge that they are related.

'I know he's my half-brother. I know he is in my mind, my own heart. I hope he reaches the same idea," he told CBS. "I don't want nothing from Mr. Clinton at all. I don't want no favors or nothing.

He later told CNN, "I'm not here for any personal

gains. I don't want any money out of it — just a chan to meet him and say, 'Hi.' That's all I want to do."

Clinton tried to call Ritzenthaler on Monday, b the retired janitorial service owner from Paradis Calif., was en route to New York for the television broadcasts

White House aides said they did not know if Clir ton tried again Tuesday. 'I'd be very honored and very privileged to tal

to him," Ritzenthaler told ABC Ritzenthaler, 55, says he and Clinton, 46, have the

same father: W.J. Blythe. Blythe died a few month before the future president was born, and about nir years after Ritzenthaler's birth. After Blythe died, Clinton's mother remarri

and Clinton took the name of his first stepfathe Roger Clinton. Until now, media accounts of Cli ton's humble upbringing have said he was Blythe'

Ritzenthaler became a media celebrity after T Washington Post reported Sunday that records sho Blythe married Adele Gash Coffelt in Decemb 1935, about 11 years before Clinton's birth. The co ple divorced a year later, then Ritzenthaler was bor

Travel prices decline, now time to vacation

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Imagine visiting the same vacation spot as last year, only to find that eating out costs up to 45 percent less, hotel rates have plunged and the price of getting there is down 25 percent. Think London, Paris and Milan.

Thanks largely to a sharp increase in the dollar's value, the cost of vacationing in Europe has plummeted, and industry experts predict the savings will lure American tourists in droves

An airfare war may be an added boon to travelers.

Strengthened by economic stagnation abroad and currency devaluations by European governments, the dollar has surged by up to 40 percent against European currencies from last September's lows. In the past two weeks, the dollar has rallied an additional 5 percent to 7 percent to its highest levels since mid-1991.

That means U.S. travelers will pay about 45 percent less for dinner in Rome compared with last September's prices. And a tourist class hotel room that cost \$100 a night last summer, will cost about \$70 this summer.

In Madrid, a meal with wine at a leading restaurant costs about \$55, down from \$70.

Luxury seekers in London can stay at the Dorchester Hotel for less than \$400 a night including breakfast, compared with \$542 last September. They can down a pint of beer for \$2.25 - about 75 cents less than last year.

In Finland, once one of the most expensive European destinations, a dollar now fetches about 50 percent more than it did last summer. A light meal and beverage in Helsinki runs about \$5. A one-week vacation in a farmhouse in the Finnish countryside costs as little as \$345 a person, including meals.

Some travel experts predict another saving for tourists within the next month. While last year round of fare cuts was limited to domestic ticket prices, this year's sales are expected to extend to overseas routes as well.

The cost of flying overseas has already fallen. A roundtrip flight from New York to Paris cost \$768 compared with more that \$900 last summer, and \$950 from San Diego to Madrid, down from

The combination of cheaper ai fares and other prices may help shake the United States from the travel slump triggered by the Gull War three years ago and pro longed by the stubbornly slow economic recovery.

The number of American tourists in Europe is expected to climb to as high as 7.5 million this year, an increase of 7 percent from 1992's 7 million, according to the European Travel Commission That would match the all-time record set in 1990 for U.S. travel ers to Europe.

Vol. 92

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