

WEATHER REPORT

established under the law with which the military feels most comfortable: brute force. And when it is invoked, it is the military and not the judges who have the tanks.

Lindorff quotes Harvard law professor Derek Bell as saying:

The constitutional protections we rely on are only as good as long as the factual situation is not dangerous. When the factual situation is perceived to be dangerous, either by the general public or by people in power, then you could have here the kind of thing we've seen happen in the Third World.

The strongest protection against such an eventuality is the democratic sensibility of those in power. With the likes of Reagan, Meese and Giuffrida calling the shots, however, this protection is minimal at best. Consider the fact that Frank Carlucci, the man who was meant to set things right at the NSC, wrote a Defense Department directive in 1981 that stated in part:

Normally a state of martial law will be proclaimed by the President. However, in the absence of such action by the President, a senior military commander may impose martial law in an area of his command where there had been a complete breakdown in the exercise of government functions by local civilian authorities.

And how gets to decide when this is? The fellow with the will and the tanks, of course. And there are far more of them than the handful of loonies we met during the Iran/Contra hearings.



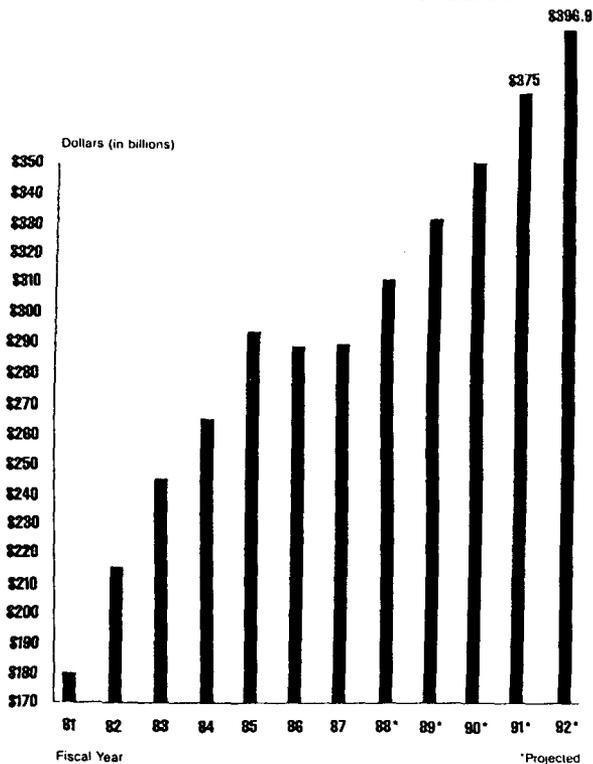
● The federal and local war on drugs, America's most ineffective moral crusade since Prohibition, may be entering its desperate stage. Having failed at interdiction, jammed jails to crisis levels in a vain attempt to stop drug use, and introduced mandatory drug testing in a massive assault on individual rights, the administration's next avenue may be a direct prosecutorial attack on users. The president's assistant on drug policy, Dr. Donald MacDonald, said recently: "I think we're ready now to start arresting users... I talked to the president. And he's cleared it. He said OK." Jack Lawn, head of the DEA, has sent a letter to the nation's governors urging more prosecution of drug users... The madness of this approach, already apparent in criminally overcrowded prisons, has ramifications far beyond the matter of how many addicts we have. For example, a major portion of our crime is directly related to national and local drug policy which keeps the price of narcotics at an artificially high level. Further, the drug moralists are so myopic that they have refused to deal with the connection between drugs and AIDS. The latest breakdown from the New York City Department of Health finds that 58% of all AIDS deaths in the city are among intravenous drug users, less than ten percent of whom are gay. The figures could be cut through such policies as giving out free syringes but the drug moralists will have none of it. Thus, our ineffective war against drugs is actually killing people — through crime and AIDS, instead of saving lives.

● A federal judge has rejected the Nuclear Regulatory(sic) Commission's effort to get the Government Accountability Project to reveal the names of 54 whistleblowers who came to GAP with information on defects at the South Texas Nuclear Project near Houston. The judge ruled that the "NRC cannot cast such a wide net when constitutional freedoms are at stake." ● The number of women imprisoned in the US has increased 138% during the past ten years according to the US Bureau of Justice Statistics.

● The nuclear industry has suffered another defeat with the closing of the LaCross nuclear power plant in Genoa, Wisc. The decision, said a representative, was purely economic: alternative sources of power now offer "a significant economic advantage over nuclear power." The 18-year-old plant had been subject to numerous citizen protests. In a statement, Public Citizen said, "Rising costs, increasing safety problems and widespread public opposition have deterred utilities from ordering any nuclear plants since 1978. As reactors get older, these same factors will likely force utilities to close existing plants, such as LaCrosse."

● A California Senate committee has approved a bill that could reduce the long wait that women at

THE REAGAN MILITARY BUILDUP



During the Reagan years, military spending has increased by over 50%, from \$180 billion in 1981 to today's \$289.6 billion. If the Reagan Administration gets its way, that figure will increase an additional 7.7%, to \$312 billion in fiscal year 1988.

-Sane World

entertainment events often endure outside restrooms. The restroom equity bill, popularly known as the "parity in potties bill", passed quickly after about a half hour testimony from women on their experiences waiting in line.

- San Francisco has agreed to pay \$35 million in special raises for women and minorities on the basis of comparable worth. This is the second biggest comparable worth settlement.

- The number of blacks in appointed federal executive branch jobs fell from 9.5% in 1980 to 4.5% in 1986.

- There were nearly 3000 mishaps at US nuclear plants in 1986 according to a new study released by the Critical Mass Energy Project. Over 150 of these mishaps were classified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as Level 1 or 2 — the most dangerous levels.

- Figures from the American Bankers Association show that women in 1985 accounted for about 44% of the officials and managers employed in US banks, compared with 26% a decade earlier. Ilze Grace, a senior vice president of Bankamerica says, "There's been an evolution in banking as predominantly female over the past ten years. Now middle management is absolutely bulging with women, to the point where I have departments that are almost all women."

- A new study of unmarried, teenaged mothers overturns the stereotype of heavy welfare dependency among this group. The University of Pennsylvania study found that among 300 predominantly black teenagers who became pregnant in the late 1960s, only 13% were on welfare more or less continuously during the follow-up study period of 1979-1984, while two-thirds received no public assistance. Only nine percent were jobless, while 60% had been employed all five years. Even more unexpectedly, the incomes of a quarter of the women placed them clearly in the middle class.

- The Center for Disease Control says that four out of the eight towns with nerve gas arsenals nearby are not ready to deal with accidents. One unprepared location is Newport, Indiana, but CDC won't name the others because it would embarrass local officials. According to Recon Network, 42% of the Pentagon's old nerve gas cannisters are stored near Salt Lake City, the rest at Newport near Terre Haute, and near Pendleton, OR, Pueblo, CO, Huntsville, AL, Lexington, KY, and Baltimore, MD.

- People for the American Way recorded 153 book censorship cases last school year, up 18% from the previous year. In about a third of the cases books were removed, restricted or modified; the censors lost about a third of the cases and the rest are still pending. Here's a list of the censors' favorite targets over the past five years:

School health textbooks: 27 cases

Books by Judy Blume: 23 cases

Catcher in the Rye: 8 cases

Of Mice and Men: 8 cases

To Kill a Mockingbird: 5 cases

- Leon Keyserling, one of the architects of America's successful conversion from World War II to a full employment peacetime economy, died in August. Keyserling's approach was in marked contrast with that of younger economists who have come to accept high unemployment as "structural." Keyserling, in speaking of his full employment ideas, would sometimes use the Titanic analogy. A contemporary economist, he said, would look at the Titanic disaster and say that the men were drowned while the women and children were saved because of the special characteristics of being a man. Keyserling offered another explanation: there weren't enough lifeboats.

- A report from the Department of Agriculture estimates that by the year 2030 we will have taken out of production farmland equal to the entire state of Missouri.

REVIEW INDEX

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- 1969-72 DC Gazette \$4.00
- 1984-86 Review/Gazette \$2.50

A world on the road

Franz Schurman

Many Americans believe that immigration is mainly an American problem. Not true by far. It is a problem, often excruciating, throughout Western Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The entire world, literally, is on the move. Settled citizens move on such a scale that thousands of airlines throughout the world day after day are clogged. Unsettled non-citizens pack up time after time and hit the roads looking for work and a place to set down.

Recently, as migrations have reached tidal wave proportions, citizens in dozens of countries have demanded that the gates be shut. Settled citizens are fearful that aliens are threatening their jobs, ruining their cultures, denaturing their countries.

The U.S. Congress passed an immigration law to "regain control of the borders." In Western Europe anyone with other than white skin is subjected to the most rigorous scrutiny at border crossings. Japan, which never allowed immigration, has mounted some of the strictest border controls anywhere.

Yet according to the Paris-based Group For Research and Analysis of International Migrations (GRAMI), the shutting of the gates is having little effect on the flows. Mexicans are still coming across the U.S. border. There are now 1.5 million Turks in West Germany, more even than a decade ago when Bonn offered generous inducements for them to return. And the trickle of Southeast Asians into "homogeneous" Japan is becoming a little rivulet as that country's economy is being crimped by a labor shortage.

The situation of Turks in West

Germany may offer new perspective on the U.S. relationship with Mexico. A quarter of a century ago, Turkey was a desperately poor country, like Mexico then. Today, both are experiencing boom and bust at the same time. Some economists believe both countries early in the next century could achieve U.S.-style living standards.

Yet at the same time, poverty is rampant and hideous. Millions of Turks live in outer city hovels, as do millions of Mexicans. In both countries villages have been emptied by peasants wanting out of the dead end of rural life. And education instituted by governments that fancied themselves as progressive have just accelerated the outflows.

In the 1950s, Adlai Stevenson Sr. coined the phrase "a revolution of rising expectations." True enough, rural economies have been disintegrating. But the other side of the coin of that "push factor" is the discontent young people feel with the hick life of a country bumpkin. And that discontent has been big enough to fuel the most vast migrations the world has ever seen.

This explains why contemporary migrations are very different from even a century ago. Then a good share of the migrants were indeed country bumpkins. Now it is the activated, educated, energetic who hit the migration road. In a sense the migrants are the best and brightest of a country's labor crop and they come into countries where the domestic labor and brain forces are unwilling to do the hard hand and head work needed by a complex modern economy.

The fact that immigrants are indeed needed accounts for the fact that immigration controls are