



The Reagan budget

by Rep. Ron Wyden

Q. On Saturday, the Administration released its budget proposals for 1983. What do you think of those proposals? Are they really a prescription for economic recovery?

A. The Administration's 1983 budget plan is remarkable for what it doesn't do as much as for what it does do.

What it *doesn't* do is address the pressing problems of high interest rates, rising unemployment and faltering industries such as housing and wood products.

There is no mention of a plan to bring the interest rates down, to create jobs or to stimulate investment in housing.

What the budget *does* propose to do is more than remarkable, it is disturbing.

The budget shrugs off its projected \$91 billion budget deficit as unimportant, even though it would be an item for the Guinness Book of

World Records. (In fact, the budget deficit could be as high as \$150 billion—and if that's not significant, I don't know what is.)

It calls for an unprecedented 17.9 per cent increase in defense spending.

And it rips the so-called social safety net to tatters by cutting funding for Medicare, for child nutrition and student aid.

This budget is not a blueprint for economic recovery in America. It is a blueprint for fiscal disaster.

•The deficit it merely shrugs off is too big.

•Defense spending is out of control.

•Cuts in safety net programs are beyond all reason.

America won't recover under this budget—it will grow sicker.

And the Pacific Northwest and Oregon will especially grow sicker because this budget contains no

housing policy, damages our water-way system and undercuts our ability to create new jobs through exports and wood products.

Q. Last week, you initiated a petition drive among House Members asking President Reagan to submit the names of his recent appointees to the Legal Services Corporation to the Senate for confirmation. Why did you initiate the drive—and what do you really hope to accomplish?

A. I initiated the drive because I firmly believe that to have a good legal services program that really ensures equal justice for all, we have to have truly qualified and committed persons serving on the Legal Services Board. Unless appointees are subjected to the public scrutiny afforded by the Senate confirmation process, there is no way to determine whether the appointees fill this bill or not.



Dick Bogle

By now most everyone knows that the tiny town of Morton Grove, Illinois, has outlawed the possession of handguns. Passage of that law has certainly buoyed the hopes of gun control advocates for passage of the Kennedy-Rodino bill in the U.S. Senate.

But one doesn't necessarily follow the other.

There are two "gun" bills facing Congress. The first bill is sponsored by Senator James McClure of Idaho and Rep. Harold Volkmer of Missouri. It would weaken existing gun laws. As one can imagine, the National Rifle Association is supporting the McClure-Volkmer bill.

Its critics say it will nearly wipe out all existing gun control legislation. But despite those charges, it lists about 58 Congressional co-sponsors in the Senate alone.

One of the bill's major critics is Michael Beard, president of the National Coalition to Ban Handguns. He says the bill would allow felons to possess and obtain firearms more easily, but turning current law inside

out and placing the burden of proof on the federal government; provide a procedural advantage to those charged with violating current firearm law; permit a return to out of state, mail order gun purchases so common before passage of the 1968 firearms laws; prevent routine searches of licensed gun dealers by enforcement agencies allowed under current law.

Naturally the N.R.A. disagrees. They believe the proposed changes would make it more, not less difficult for felons to obtain and operate firearms, and that the changes are needed to provide protection for those law abiding gun owning citizens who have suffered abuses of civil liberties in the past due to current law.

Those are the arguments and the battle in Congress is going to be an interesting to watch.

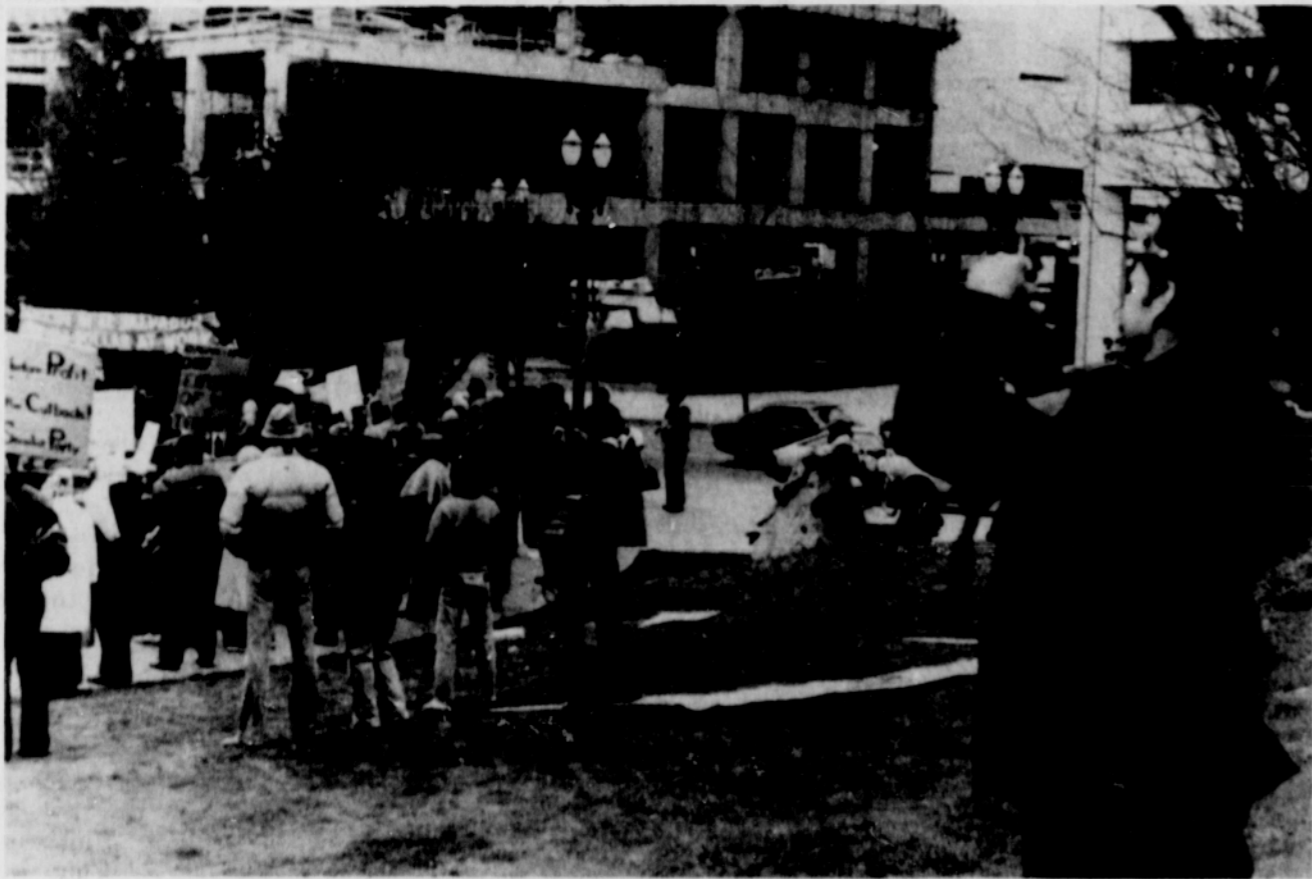
Maybe it's just the darker side of human nature for man to exploit his weaker brothers. Here it is the year 1982 and the issue of slavery is in the

news. The Federal Bureau of investigation says an operation in wealthy Beverly Hills sections of Los Angeles used fraudulent means to bring at least thirty Indonesians to Los Angeles whereupon they were then sold as indentured servants at prices of between \$1,500 and \$3,000 each.

These 30 individuals didn't just stumble into this situation. The government alleges they were recruited in Indonesia by an Indonesian national, then flown to the United States. They allegedly were sold to individuals in this country and kept in servitude for up to two years.

Some authorities are saying it's not surprising to see Indonesians finding themselves in this kind of situation. Their country is poor poor poor. It has a per capita income which is perhaps the lowest in all of Southeast Asia, in some cases less than a hundred dollars a year.

This case is expected to go to a federal grand jury in Los Angeles any day.



Portland Police Officer Knight pursues his picture taking hobby while on duty at rally protesting

U.S. military involvement in El Salvador. (Photo: Ron Richards)

The view from the left

by M. Grinen

"CUT DUARTE'S BUDGET—SEND STOCKMAN TO EL SALVADOR!"

"ATTILA THE HAIG"

—Best signs at the hastily called emergency demonstration Saturday (Feb. 6) against the Administra-

tion's plan to give \$55 million more in military aid to the Duarte regime in El Salvador.

Two to three hundred people listened to speeches and songs in Shrunken Plaza. Main points: the so-called "reformist" Duarte regime is itself fully responsible for the fascist-type terrorist squads; the Cubans are not to blame for the popular uprising, nor for its leftist character, as the movement there dates back at least to the 1930s, long before Fidel's time.

City Commissioner Margaret Strachan sent a telegram of support. Thanks Margaret—too bad you were unable to attend and have your picture taken along with the rest of us.

A uniformed, on-duty police officer, Badge No. 657 (later identified

by Central Precinct as Officer Knight) was on hand with his camera and telephoto lens, photographing the crowd. "Just a hobby," was the way this officer described his photo activity. When I asked him if he thought that the uniform, camera and lens added up to the impression that Big Brother was Watching Us, he said he was sorry I felt that way. What I should worry about, he went on, were the plain-clothes police who were taking pictures of all us Americans freely exercising our right to peacefully assemble. He was unable to point out these plain-clothes officers, of course.

The first colony to grant suffrage to women was New Jersey, which extended the vote in its 1776 constitution but rescinded it in 1807.

Street Beat

Our **Street Beat** question this week is, "How would you react to instituting a State Lottery as a means of raising revenue?"



Ty Rosenberg, Housepouse—"If it would keep my property taxes down, I agree. I think maybe the reason for the opposition in parts of Oregon is conservatism."

Mrs. Parker, instructor—"I'm against it because I'm from the mid-west and they started a lottery. The money was supposed to go into the schools and when the schools went broke everybody wondered where the money went. The school system laid off 650 teachers and that's how I got to Portland."

Cookie Willingham, secretary—"Well, I would gamble. With the State doing it I have mixed feelings about it. I don't think people have money to waste. When I get to thinking about it I don't think they should."



Mrs. Patricia Ryan, principal—"My first thought is that it would increase revenue and that would impact on the high unemployment rate. But the effects on people socially and economically, I really don't know."

Magnolia Jackson, community agent—"They need to generate revenue but I don't think gambling should be sanctioned. The reason why some Oregonians are against it is that they don't want change."



Lois Okrasinski, teacher—"I don't gamble but I wouldn't have any objections if the State were to increase its earnings from people who want to participate."

by Lanita Duke and Richard Brown

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