



Washington Hot Line

by Congressman Ron Wyden

America's cigarette manufacturers are involved in a practice that would be a good candidate for a segment of the TV show, *That's Incredible*.

Despite the well-documented health hazards of cigarette smoking, and despite disclosure requirements faced by manufacturers of all other products—from food to alcohol—cigarette manufacturers do not disclose the ingredients of their product.

That means that when you go to your local store to buy a package of cigarettes, you will not be able to find out by reading the label what that product contains.

And that means that when you're smoking those cigarettes, you won't know what you're inhaling.

The implications of this "conspiracy of silence" are two-fold. First, the public is denied its right to know. And second, the health of Oregonians and other Americans may be threatened as a result.

For all we know, cigarettes could contain arsenic. They could contain various harmful chemicals. They could, and very well may, contain chocolate—a proven carcinogen when heated to a certain degree. They could contain almost anything—but under current law, you'll never know what "anything" is by looking at a cigarette package when you buy it in the store.

And what's worse, the denial of the right to know goes beyond labeling requirements. Not only are cigarette ingredients not listed on the labels of cigarette packs, no one except the tobacco industry has any idea what they are. Even the Congress of the United States and the Department of Health and Human Services have not been able to find out what these ingredients are.

Last May, the tobacco industry and the Department of Health and Human Services reached a so-called agreement for the disclosure of cigarette additives. Yet, after ten months, no one at HHS has officially seen this list.

The truth of the matter, however, is that this agreement was a joke to begin with. First, the agreement does not require HHS to disclose to Congress or to consumers its research findings on any additive it determines poses an extreme hazard to health. Second, HHS will be informed only about the presence of those additives used by three or more cigarette manufacturers.

What this means is that if both Philip Morris and the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Companies—who combined sell close to 65 percent of all the cigarettes sold in this country—use the same dangerous additive in all their cigarettes, but no other manufacturer uses the same additive, its use would not have to be disclosed to HHS.

American consumers should not have to accept this institutional ignorance.

That's why I am pushing for strong language to be added to the Comprehensive Smoking Prevention Education Act of 1983 that will require the tobacco industry to supply to Health and Human Services a list of all cigarette additives—and that will, in turn, require HHS to report its findings on these additives to Congress.

This provision is needed because the Public Health Service has been unable to assess the relative risks of cigarette additives—particularly those in low tar and nicotine brands—because no information is available from manufacturers as to what these additives are.

Low tar and nicotine cigarettes have been touted as being safer than traditional cigarettes. But because these brands require beefed-up flavors, for all we know, these kinds of cigarettes may actually be more, rather than less, harmful.

No one would be denied the right to smoke under this provision. Yet no one should be denied the right to sufficient information on the health hazards of cigarette smoking so they can make an informed choice whether or not to smoke.

As long as I'm in Congress, I intend to do all I can to see that they have this choice.



State Senator Bill McCoy will host a series of constituent coffees in his district. The meetings are open to the public. Senator McCoy is responding to requests made by his constituents, to help better inform them of issues facing the legislature this session and to discuss topics of concern. The first constituent coffee is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 1983 at Bethel AME Church, 5828 N.E. 8th, Portland, from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

Non-Aligned supports liberation

U.S. hopes that the passage of the chairmanship of the Movement of Non-Aligned Nations from Cuba to India would soften that body's strident opposition to U.S. policies toward the Third World were dashed during the 7th Summit Conference held in New Delhi March 7th through 12th.

The assembly's first resolution was in support of the struggles of the Southwest People's Organization (SWAPO) the Palestine Liberation Organization (P.L.O.) and the liberation in South Africa and noted that denial of independence to these peoples is a threat to world peace.

The organization condemned U.S. policy of "constructive compromise" with South Africa and its public pronouncement that South Africa is an ally and friend. It called for solidarity with SWAPO and condemned the U.S. attempt to tie independence of Namibia with removal of Cuban troops from Angola. The conference called for withdrawal of South African raiders from Angola and increases support of the Angolan government.

It denounced South African border raids in Mozambique and sabotage against Zimbabwe and its mercenary attack on Seychelles. It supported Comoro Islands' right to regain control of its island, Mayotte, from the French. It supported efforts to conciliate problems in Western Sahara.

The middle east resolutions were also critical of the U.S. U.S. vetoes of United Nations efforts to halt the Lebanon invasion, its backing of Israel economically and militarily, was condemned, as was Israel's attack on Iraq's nuclear plant. Israel and the U.S. were condemned for their campaign against Syria's right

to obtain defensive weapons and a warning was given that Syria may be Israel's next target. The agreement of the Fez Conference was adopted as the plan for a lasting peace in the middle east.

The conference supported Cyprus' grant for full independence and praised Malta's plan to convene a conference on security in the Mediterranean region.

The U.S. was condemned for increasing its military presence in the Indian Ocean, supporting Mauritius' sovereignty over Diego Garcia Island, currently leased by Britain to the U.S. for a military base.

The conference also called for an end to all outside interference in Afghanistan.

The U.S. was condemned for its activities in Central America. The cause of the worsening situation in El Salvador is social and economic problems and imperialist intervention and repression, they found. They agreed on the need to halt military maneuvers and other military activity in Central America. They urged Washington to take a constructive position that would contribute to a negotiated settlement. The conference exhorted the U.S. to stop its aggression, threat and blockades against Cuba, and demanded the return of Guantanamo Naval Base to Cuba.

The underlying element in the non-aligned policy continues to be the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid and all forms of foreign interference and aggression, occupation, and domination.

The conference calls for a United Nations resolution outlawing the recruiting, financing, utilizing and training of mercenaries.

On the economic front, the Summit pointed out that the current world economic system is contrary to the basic interests of the underdeveloped nations and warned that failure to establish a new international economic order, based on equity and justice, would have political and economic consequences for all nations. The conference reiterated that the current depression is "a symptom of structural disorders that come from growing imbalanced and inequalities that are detrimental to the development prospects of developing countries."

The conference recognized that lasting peace cannot be guaranteed while there is increasing disparity among nations.

"All talks between developed and developing countries aimed at solving existing problems in world economic relations should be of universal character and should take place within the framework of the United Nations."

The conference also deplored U.S. control over the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and the inadequate representation of developing nations in their decision making. The conference deplored the increasing pressure exerted on developing nations by international financial institutions.

The conference also determined that "a stable world development and international order demands the end of the arms race and the urgent adoption of disarmament measures to release resources necessary to development."

The 60 heads of state, representing 101 nations, (the Republic of Vanuatu, the former New Hebrides Islands, joined during the summit), decided to hold the next ministerial meeting in Angola in 1985 and to select the site for the 8th Summit at that time. Consideration of holding the Summit in Iraq, which was to have been the site of the 7th Conference, will be given. The Movement will continue its efforts to resolve the Iraq-Iran conflict.

THE RED ROSE SCHOOL



Colonialism and Imperialism

This class will acquaint students with analyses of colonialism, neocolonialism, and imperialism, especially in the writings of Third-World thinkers. There will be particular focus on the use of "foreign aid" in the domination of less-developed countries, the class struggle in Africa, and the role of the Trilateral Commission. Readings from Frantz Fanon, Nkrumah, Holly Sklar, Harry Magdoff, and others. Taught by Lucien L'Oiseau, Black United Front activist and a native of Martinique. Eight Tuesdays beginning April 12, 7:30 p.m.

The Red Rose School offers classes to help us better understand our position in society and our ability to change it through social action. Other classes offered this term include *Central America Today* (Jim Story and guest speakers, 8 Mondays), *The Nineteenth Century Heroine: Rebellion and Realism* (Diane Nowski, 8 Mondays), *Politics of Food* (Margaret McCrea and Eileen Trudeau, 6 Tuesdays), *Success and Failure of the Left Since 1900* (Frank Giese, 8 Tuesdays), *Public Speaking: Mini-course* (Rose Leopold, 4 Wednesdays), *For Men Against Sexism: A Discussion Group* (8 Wednesdays), *Capitalism and the Crisis in Family Life* (Johanna Brenner and Jan Haaken, 6 Thursdays), and *Introduction to Bertolt Brecht* (Jerry Baum, 8 Saturdays at 1 p.m.). Courses are open to everyone. Tuition for one course is \$20. \$15 low income; additional courses are \$10. Those who register by mail in advance may pay \$20 (\$10 low income). No one will be excluded for inability to pay. Those wishing child care must preregister by April 4. All classes begin the week of April 11th and are held at the Friends' Hall, 4312 SE Stark (7:30 p.m. except Brecht class). Make checks payable to Red Rose School, c/o George Potratz, 5215 NE 30th, Portland, OR 97211. For more information, call 282-7812.

Extended benefits now payable

Ray Thorne, Employment Division Administrator, announced today that Oregon will begin paying Extended Benefits (EB) as of the week ending March 26, 1983. Thorne stated, "This is the 13-week program we lost in December when our insured unemployment rate fell below the federal criteria."

Due to the complex rules governing the Federal Supplemental Compensation extension and the Extended Benefit program, there will be a great many variations of impact on individual claimants.

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