

CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST QUESTION STIRS CONGRESS

Editor's note: Should a member of Congress who votes on defense appropriations be entitled to hold a reserve military commission, or is this an illegal conflict-of-interest? The problem, which is causing quite a stir in Congress, is discussed in the following dispatch by United Press International.

Washington—UPI—Should a simple change of hats be sufficient to convert Sen. Barry Goldwater and Rep. Carl Albert into Maj. General Goldwater, USAF, and Colonel Albert, USA?

The question involves possible conflict of interest and the meaning of the United States constitution. Also involved are 175 other members of the House and Senate who, with Arizona's Conservative Republican Goldwater and Oklahoma's House Democratic leader, have retained commissions in the Armed Forces reserves.

Can these citizen-service-men properly lead a double life, sandwiching drills and occasional tours of active duty between votes on weapons authorizations, defense budgets and military pay raises to which they may become entitled?

For his part Goldwater has asked the Senate Judiciary committee to look into the whole question. In that request he has been joined by Sen. Strom Thurmond (D-S.C.) who is Maj. General Thurmond in the Army reserves.

A similar study has been requested in the House by Rep. Gerald Ford (R-Mich.) who recently resigned a commission as lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve after a period of inactivity, and Rep. Richard Bolling (D-Mo.), who is the holder of a commission as an Army lieutenant colonel.

Recently published news-



SENATOR-GENERAL—U. S. Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), a major general in the U. S. Air Force Reserves, strolls along the Berlin Wall. (UPI)

paper stories (particularly in the Scripps Howard newspapers) have focused Congressional attention on the "compatibility" of Congressional office and Reserve military rank. However, Goldwater told the Senate recently that he has been arguing the issue with correspondents ever since he first became a Senator.

Article I, Section 6, of the constitution says: "No senator or representative shall, dur-

ing the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no persons holding any office under the United States shall be a member of either house during his continuance in office."

Also under the constitution, the Senate and House are the judges of their own members,

and the rulings on members in service have been uneven over the years.

In 1861, according to Goldwater's research, the House ruled that a man was "not entitled to his seat since he was mustered into the military services of the United States." Again in 1901 reference was made to a bar against active members of the military service serving in Congress.

In 1916 the House Judiciary committee decided, after a thorough study, that seats of members of the House who accepted commissions in the National Guard (there was, then, no reserve) would "at once become vacant."

Report of 1916
In that 1916 report, however, the House Judiciary committee quoted in a Supreme Court finding that federal "office" within the meaning of the constitution involved duties which are "continuing and permanent, not occasional and temporary."

Moreover, Congress, by its own action, has provided that

a member of the reserves of the National Guard is not considered an officer of the United States even when on active duty for training purposes.

Congress also has provided specifically that members of the Guard and the reserves can hold civilian government posts and collect pay from the federal government for both jobs.

The Defense Department is officially mum in the argument over the status of its capitol hill reservists. Understandably enough, however, Pentagon officials make a strong case in private for reservists in the Senate and House.

"Should a farmer serve as a member of the agriculture committee? If he owns a farm should he be required to sell his farm while serving on the committee?" one Defense Department official asked rhetorically when the issue was posed.

Others Mentioned
"Should a newspaper re-

porter or editor be required to surrender a commission they may hold in one of the reserve components? They, too, occupy a position of very great public trust and are in a position to influence legislation through public opinion," the Pentagon official said.

More outspoken is the Reserve Officers' association of the U. S. which described the conflict of interest argument as "a subtle attack upon the 'minute man' tradition" in which members of Congress are entitled to play their role.

"Those who seek to brand our patriotic reservists in Congress with 'conflict of interest' simply because they make themselves available to the nation and train to maintain their readiness, have indeed erected a straw man; for there can be no conflict of interest when patriotism is involved," the association declared in an editorial.

Is there, in fact, a conflict of interest? Conflict or no, it must be said that some of the reservists show a lively

interest in Congressional controversies which involve their respective services.

No one in Congress has been a more ardent champion of the Army's Nike-Zeus anti-missile missile than Maj. General Thurmond, who recently forced the Senate into its first secret session since World War II in an effort to effect a Nike-Zeus speed-up.

No one has been a sharper critic of the decision to phase out manned bombers from the Air Force than Maj. General Goldwater, who is also a strong supporter of the RSTO strike plane.

The list could be extended. But many Congressional observers doubt that it would prove much of anything except that many members of the Senate and the House are veterans of military service.

There is, for example, the case of Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield (Mont.), who once achieved the exalted rank of private first class in the Marine Corps and now maintains no reserve

status. With other non-active Marine veterans such as Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.), Mansfield has been instrumental in making the Marine Corps the only service with a statutory minimum strength.

The suggestion is that, in Congress as elsewhere in the U.S.

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Countries Campaign Against Chickens; Other Areas Sought

By JAMES R. CAMPBELL
United Press International

Siloam Springs, Ark.—UPI—Herbert Hoover once talked of a "chicken in every pot" and eventually this came to pass. The birds were produced so quickly and cheaply that there were not enough pots to put them in.

Europe provided the answer. Exports widened the market and raised prices at home. But then, on June 1 last year, the Six European Common Market countries upped their tariffs and the trouble began.

Now, the levies have been raised again — by about one and one-quarter cents a pound — and exports must be crammed into the domestic market at lower prices.

Why has the United States been shut out of the European poultry market? Why so much fuss over chickens?

Blames France
W. H. Simmons, chairman of the board of the American Institute of Poultry Industries (AIP), blames France, where sex — even in chickens — has become an issue.

"The French have a publicity campaign going saying our poultry is not fit to eat," he said. "For instance, ads have appeared in newspapers and magazines over there saying we put hormones in our chickens. These hormones were permissible but they were not used because they cost too much for the results you get."

"What they do is de-sex the chicken so you get more meat. The French implied we were trying to de-sex all the Frenchmen."

"That's kind of ridiculous," Simmons smiled.

England in the Act
Even England, non-market country, got into the act. English poultry men, said Simmons, have raised a cry about the possibility of getting Newcastle disease from American poultry.

"Now Newcastle disease is named after Newcastle, England," Simmons said. "Any of it we've had here we got from England. This is a health barrier which is strictly a trade barrier."

"France is the big obstacle," Simmons insisted. "By and large the German people want U.S. poultry. But a little clique of importers who bring in from nearby countries, including Iron Curtain countries, want to shut us out."

The tariff is not a world-shaking event. But Simmons believes it may be a forerunner of worse things to come for other exporters.

"We were dead after June 15 of last year," he explained. "We lost all we had gained in five years overnight."

Simmons' own firm, in the rich poultry-producing state of Arkansas (second only to Georgia), exported 6 million pounds of frozen chickens

during the first five months of 1962. It fell off to less than 1 million pounds for the rest of the year.

The Arkansas Poultry Federation said \$7,543,000 flowed into the state from exports in the first six months of 1962. After that, there was only a trickle. Arkansas exported 24,969,205 pounds during the first six months of 1962, 16 per cent of the national export and 10 per cent of the state's production.

Situation Critical
Now, scarcely one per cent goes abroad and that only on demand loads. It's getting critical, he said.

"Some producers will go broke and there will be some jobs lost until we can adjust back to a profitable market for domestic demand," he said.

Poultry is one of the few commodities produced with

Building Permits Issued for Homes

Building permits have been issued by the Medford building department to Leon L. Evans to make an addition to a warehouse at 837 South Riverside ave. at an estimated cost of \$18,000, and to Hutchins and Clarke Construction company to erect a \$10,000 residence at 1551 Miracle lane.

Hawthorne Gardens Apartments, 737 Stevens st., was issued a permit to complete construction of 45 carparks at an estimated cost of \$1,500. Don Furtick Apartments, 755 Stevens st., was issued a permit to install a lawn sprinkler system at an estimated cost of \$1,000; and to Mrs. Helen Bell to erect a duplex at 381 and 383 Benson st. at an approximate cost of \$13,000.

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