

Issue of Russian Trade Threatens Republican Split

WASHINGTON — (CQ) — Is the "wheat deal" with Russia legal?

Some Republican leaders are charging that it violates the spirit, and perhaps the letter, of the law, and they want to make an election issue of it.

But not all Republicans. In fact it now appears likely that if trade with the Soviet bloc is made an issue, Republicans would find themselves deeply split. Farm belt spokesmen and business groups have been calling for increased East-West trade.

The law in question is a "policy" statement made by Congress in 1961 that subsidized farm goods, which sell for a higher price in the United States than on the world market, should not be sold to "unfriendly" nations at the lower, world price. These are the terms on which the Soviets are buying the wheat. Otherwise, they might buy it elsewhere at the world price.

The policy statement came about in the following way: Before 1961 the Government had allowed sales of most foods to the Soviet Union on the theory that food is strictly a consumer item and would not contribute to the U.S.S.R.'s national defense. However, most foods which enjoyed export subsidies—i.e. for which the U. S. Government paid the exporter the difference between the domestic and world prices—were not allowed to go to the Soviet bloc.

Under PL 480, the law under which Government-supported surplus agricultural products are sold abroad for local currency, agricultural goods so sold may go only to "friendly" foreign nations. The law defines a "friendly country" as any but (1) the U.S.S.R. or (2) any area "dominated or controlled . . . by the . . . world Communist movement." Poland and Yugoslavia were the only Eastern European nations permitted by the Executive Branch to receive PL 480 food, under both the Kennedy and Eisenhower Administrations, on the grounds that they were not "dominated" by Russia. The PL 480 law did not restrict regular commercial sales for hard cash or short-term credits.

To unload some of the surplus foods that were piling up in Government storage bins, the Commerce Department, which administers trade licenses, announced June 22, 1961 that it would ease restrictions against exports of subsidized agricultural products. It planned to sell surplus subsidized foods to other areas of the Soviet bloc for dollars or for currency convertible to dollars.

Congress reacted by adding to the Agriculture Act of 1961 a declaration that it is "the policy of Congress" that the U.S. should "in no manner either subsidize the export, sell, or make available any subsidized agricultural commodity to any nations other than . . . friendly nations." The declaration referred to the definition of "friendly nation" in PL 480. Following enactment of the amendment, Commerce suspended its plans.

During debate on the amendment, its sponsor, Rep. Delbert L. Latta (R-Ohio) argued that selling any subsidized foods to the Soviet bloc would give bloc countries the benefit of subsidies paid by the U.S. Commodity Corp. to producers and exporters.

Because the CCC is authorized to sell subsidized agricultural commodities owned or controlled by it for export at less than the domestic price, Latta argued that under the Commerce proposal, "the American taxpayer will now (be) picking up the difference between the world price and the domestic price."

cost to the taxpayer by the amount of the world price.

Justice Department Position Before President Kennedy approved the wheat sale, he asked the Justice Department to draw up a memorandum on its legality.

In the memorandum, the Attorney General and his advisors took the position that the Latta amendment was simply a policy declaration intended to be given consideration by the Executive, but not binding upon it. They said that Congress could have taken the opportunity to embody the sense of the amendment in binding legislation.

But House Minority Leader Charles A. Halleck (R-Ind.) Oct. 10 charged that the wheat sale violates the Latta amendment. Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon called it a "major foreign policy mistake."

The following day the Republicans on the House Agriculture Committee in a joint statement also said the Latta Amendment had been violated. They added that "trading with the enemy is morally wrong" and that "the vast majority of American farmers, like the vast majority of all Americans, are unwilling to sell out a high moral principle, even for solid gold."

Other Republicans, however, aren't so sure. Sen. Milton R. Young (R-N.D.), who represents a wheat-producing state, took to the Senate floor Oct. 11 to ask where Republican leaders "got all of this authority" to make the wheat sale an issue. "This is one political parade I will not be marching in," said Young. He noted that "all over the farm belt there is widespread and strong support for this sale."

Sen. Frank Carlson (R-Kan.) called the wheat sale "the humanitarian thing to do." This schism in GOP ranks on the wheat sale reflects a general division of opinion on whether it is immoral to have any dealings with the enemy or whether a dollar earned is a dollar earned, and one which might have been a franc or a Deutsche mark at that. The United States' allies have never been as strict about trade with the Soviet bloc as has the U.S. This has been a matter of no small frustration to U.S. businessmen who are told that they cannot sell — for security reasons — where they see their European counterparts selling.

More Trade Wanted A recent meeting of U. S. businessmen convened by the White House ended with a resolution calling for more U.S. trade with the Communist bloc. The Chamber of Commerce of the U.S. has taken a similar position, arguing that "good two-way trade cements peaceful relations."

Ironically, these pressures come on the heels of a year when the don't-deal-with-the-devil theory seemed to hold sway. In 1962, there were loud outcries in Congress that the U.S. was too lax in its policies governing trade with the Soviet bloc. Congress tightened the Export Control Act which is the major law governing East-West trade, and directed the President to suspend "most-favored-nation" tariff treatment for Poland and Yugoslavia "as soon as practicable."

This meant that these two countries would no longer enjoy the tariff cuts granted by the U.S. to other nations. The Administration has not yet suspended "mfn." hopeful that Congress will reverse itself on this question this year.

And then there was the 1962 right-wing campaign against purchases from Poland and Yugoslavia. Consumers who bought Polish hams and Yugoslavian baskets were reminded that these came from a Communist regime. Sales of such goods dropped sharply.

Pressures against expanded East-West trade, therefore, are also strong, and appear to have wider backing than just immigrant groups who will never forgive the Communist regimes which took over after World War II.

There is therefore no way to tell at this juncture which way the pendulum will swing. (Copyright 1963, Congressional Quarterly, Inc.)

Geologic Study of Diamond Lake Area Is Being Completed

A geologic study of the greater Diamond Lake Recreation Area is now being completed by the Umpqua National Forest, according to Vondis E. Miller, Roseburg, forest supervisor.

A geologic brochure of the area will be published early next year which will be available to the public. Through this and other means, the multiple-use objectives in managing the national forest heritage will be realized, Miller explained.

The brochure is part of the U. S. Forest Service's visitor information service program.

The Diamond Lake area in eastern Douglas County includes Mt. Thielsen and the lake, which

are possibly the county's most popular mountain playground. Miller, through the University of Oregon Geology Department, brought Dr. William B. Purdom to the forest this summer to map and prepare a report designed to interpret happenings of the past which have produced the intriguing present-day geologic forms.

Sydney has a population of about two million or about one-fifth that of all of Australia.

The deepest known spot in Lake Superior has been recorded at 1,290 feet.

Dr. Purdom received the B. S. degree from the University of Kentucky, and in 1960, earned his Ph. D. from the University of Arizona. His experience includes a tour as mining geologist in Cuba, a summer with Shell Oil Company mapping geology in northern Alaska, another summer with Socony-Mobil Oil Company engaged in interpretive and analytic geological work in Venezuela.

For two summers he taught a geology field camp for the University of Arizona. From 1960 to 1962, he was assistant professor of geology at the University of Oregon then was employed as geologist for the Bureau of Land

Management in Nevada, before coming to the Umpqua National Forest this summer. He returned to his teaching post at the University of Oregon this fall.

Oldest Exposed Rocks Dr. Purdom's report indicates the oldest exposed rocks in the Diamond Lake Area to be between 12 million and 60 million years old. These lavas are mostly covered by the High Cascades lavas, represented by such peaks as Mt. Thielsen and Mt. Bailey. On both these peaks, the climber is rewarded with outstanding exposures of the stormy volcanic activity which occurred

between 1 and 12 million years ago.

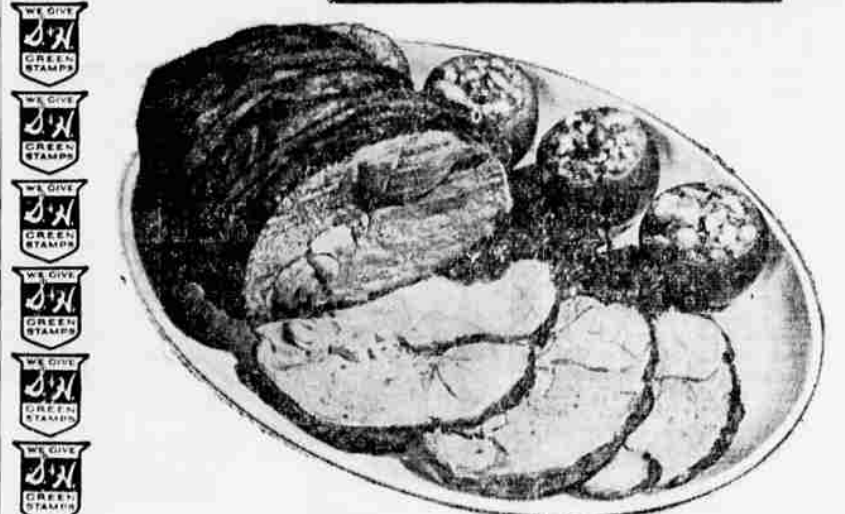
About 6,600 years ago, Dr. Purdom's report continues, a "glowing avalanche" of pumice from Mt. Mazama rushed down across Diamond Lake, moving at speeds sometimes in excess of 100 miles per hour. The avalanche snapped off trees like matchsticks, engulfing them in the flow.

From the glacier-carved slopes of Mt. Thielsen to the columnar pointing in the North Umpqua Canyon, Dr. Purdom's report reveals a fascinating history portrayed in the rocks. Unique geologic forms, such as pumice that floats, columnar

ball-like shapes), and charcoalized logs are common throughout the area. Forest visitors are invited to ask for information on the location of these phenomena.

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Interference With Allied Patrols Seen

BERLIN (UPI)—Interference with Western Allied patrols in East Berlin may be the next Communist move to restrict Western rights here.

The East Germans have opened a propaganda campaign against the tours of East Berlin made many times daily by American, British and French military sedans.

The Western Allies consider the regular patrols a sign that all of Berlin is still under four-power rule. The Russians claim this rule no longer exists.

Significantly, the propaganda attacks have coincided with Russian harassment of Western Allied convoys on the highway to the West through East Germany.